



# CortlandNEWS

*"The Good News Newspaper"*

Vol. 14 No. 3

NOVEMBER 25, 2017

SERVING THE LAKESHORE COMMUNITIES



## 5 WAYS TO GET YOUR HOME READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**W**hether you're hosting or just trying to get into the holiday spirit, preparing your home doesn't have to be daunting or expensive.

Check out these five tips for getting your home in tip-top holiday shape on any budget from the experts at Dollar General:

### Deck the Dining Table

Get your dining table holiday-ready by purchasing staple décor pieces that can be rotated throughout the year. Fill glass vases with seasonal items such as ornaments, holly, faux snow or pinecones. Add extra light and warmth to the table with a flameless LED pillar candle. Place tea lights in small vases filled with cranberries, holly and water for an inexpensive and festive way to decorate the table.

### Decorate the Tree

If you're looking for a fun way to get kids involved in holiday decorating, purchase plain ornaments for them to design with paint or pens. Clear ornaments can be filled with glitter or tinsel to create a unique look for your tree. Decorated ornaments also make great and thoughtful gifts.

Embellish your tree by adding red or burlap ribbon from the top of each side and adding a topper. Then, consider coordinating the color scheme of your tree with gifts, using those that were wrapped early as decor throughout your house.

### Deck the Front Door

Make a DIY wreath by gluing bows or pinning ornaments to a foam wreath. Designing your own door decor doesn't have to be expensive, and it will allow you to add your own personal touch to your home's entryway. Complete the look with festive outdoor lighting. Affordable options are available at such variety stores as Dollar General.

### Design a Festive Mantle

Decorate your fireplace mantle for the holidays without spending much time or money. Wrap a garland in mini string lights and hang leftover ornaments to continue the theme from your tree. Create handmade bows

to place at each end of the mantle using your choice of ribbon. If you don't have a mantle, you can create a fireplace-like space with a cluster of string lights or LED candles in a nook of your home. Then, remember to hang the stockings!

### Create a Cleaning Game Plan

The holidays can be fun, festive and messy. Create a day-by-day cleaning game plan, focusing on one area of your house at a time. This will save you stress and allow you more time to get organized. Be sure you're stocked up on all your holiday prep cleaning supplies, including sponges, microfiber cloths and wet mop refills.

Remember, getting into the holiday spirit doesn't have to break the bank. Save time and money decorating your home, so you can spend more stress-free moments with friends and family. (StatePoint)

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**Look Inside**

Advertiser Index.....2  
 Business.....4  
 Calendar.....3  
 Classifieds.....23  
 Directory.....2  
 Faith.....19  
 Finance.....17  
 Library.....14  
 School.....20

www.thecortlandnews.com

**ADVERTISER INDEX**

4 Star Diner .....20  
 Action Physical Therapy .....10  
 Advanced Podiatry .....10  
 Amerprise - Shortreed & Assoc. ....16  
 Attorney Bill Brooker.....7  
 Attorney Martin Nosich.....3  
 Auntie V's Pizzeria .....19  
 Beef 'O'Brady's .....17  
 Burkey Burkey & Scher .....7  
 Centerra .....6  
 Champion Estates Assisted Living ....13  
 Clearview Lantern Suites.....9  
 Coopers Cycle and Fitness.....3  
 Cortland Christian Church.....3  
 Cortland Lanes .....18  
 Cortland Playroom .....7  
 Cortland Rotary Club - Flags.....5  
 Cortland Rotary Club - Santa .....4  
 Country Porch Winery .....17  
 CountrySide Vet / AWL.....18  
 Daffron Auto Body.....19  
 Daybreak Music.....8  
 Dr Johnson .....10  
 Drs Najem & Lehky Orthodontics.....9  
 Edward Jones.....6  
 El Torero.....21  
 Enzo's Restaurant.....18  
 Franks Lawn .....5  
 Furniture Décor & More .....11  
 Garden Brook.....10  
 Gillette Nursing Home.....12  
 Greenwood Insurance Corner.....6  
 Harrington Hoppe & Mitchel.....5  
 Jody Sova, Northwood Realty .....7  
 JoMarie Dance .....3  
 Lake Tavern.....20  
 Lou Wollam Chevrolet .....24  
 MacKenzie Catering .....10  
 Mark Thomas Ford .....15  
 Mayflower-Wollam Insurance.....21  
 Menards.....12  
 Middlefield Bank.....11  
 Midway Garage Door.....12  
 Noble Reynolds Insurance.....14  
 Northwood / Eaton.....13  
 Oak Meadow Cremation.....4  
 Ohio Living / Lake Vista .....9  
 Petrosky Brothers .....14  
 Pizza Joe's.....22  
 Rienzi's Quality Car Care .....18  
 Santa - Foley .....22  
 Shafer Winans .....5  
 Sparkle .....7  
 The New You .....8  
 Totally Dog .....4  
 Tried & True Cleaning .....17  
 Vasilio's.....19  
 Vlad Pediatrics.....11

SEE BUSINESS CARDS ON PAGE 23

**CORTLAND CITY**

www.cityofcortland.org

Mayor	330-637-4003	<b>Police/Fire</b>	
City Hall	330-637-3916	Emergency	911
Fax	330-637-4778	Dispatch	330-675-2730
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  
 Monday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.  
 Monday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

**Parks and Recreation** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Dec. 11, 5 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

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

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"

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP**

www.bazettatwp.org

Admin Building	330-637-8816	<b>Fire - Police - Rescue</b>	911
3372 State Route 5	fax: 330-637-4588	Fire Station #11 -	
Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector		Everett-Hull Road	330-637-4136
and Cemetery Sexton	330-637-8816	Fire Station #13 -	
Road Department	330-637-8311	McCleary-Jacoby Rd	330-637-2872
Police Department	330-638-5503	Non Emergency calls	330-675-2730

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS**

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

Monday, Nov. 27, 6 p.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.  
 Monday, Dec. 11, 6 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, Dec. 11, 6 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> Lori Harris 330-847-6217
<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 Matijejevic 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 Solomon 330-637-3483	<b>SCOPE</b> Darlene Fry / Diane Jordan 330-637-3010
<b>Cortland Masonic Lodge #529</b> 330-638-3110	

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

**OUR NEXT ISSUE....DEC. 16, 2017**

Our theme will be Happy Holidays

Article Deadline by Dec. 1 • Display Advertising Deadline is Dec. 6  
 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

**CORTLAND NEWS SELF SERVE PAPER BOX LOCATIONS**

Cortland Banks

- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Top Notch Diner     | El Terrero |
| Lakeside Sport Shop | Vasilios   |

**Publisher**  
 Fox Run Publishing, L.L.C.  
 Jim Woofter  
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 330-565-2637  
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 330-727-5688

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 Sally Lane

**Local Columnists/Journalists**

- Rev. Donald P. Barnes
- Terri Barnovsky
- Jean Bolinger
- Jean A. Corliss
- Kathleen Ferris
- Thom Foley
- Kayley Frost
- Louise List
- Gerri Moll
- Mark Pilarski
- Tom Shortreed
- Jennifer J. Slywczak

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- Dick McClain
- Daynelle Sanner
- Carole Wiley

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 (330) 565-2637

[www.cortlandnews.net](http://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 NOV. 25 TO DEC. 16**

**Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules.** See pg. 2 and 7

**Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules** visit [www.lakeviewlocal.org](http://www.lakeviewlocal.org).

**Raidel Auditorium events**, various dates. See pg. 21

**American Red Cross blood donations**, various dates. [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or 1-800-733-2767.

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual holiday model train event** sponsored by the North Bloomfield Historical Society, every Saturday afternoon in December from 2-5 p.m. and every Wednesday evening from 5-8 p.m., 1893 Town Hall, 8830 Park Drive., Bloomfield. See pg. 11

**Cortland Branch Library events**, various dates, See pg.14

**Cortland Community Band Christmas concerts**, various dates. See pg. 7

**"Christmas in Cortland" concert rehearsals**, Nov. 28, 7 p.m. at Lakeview High School, Dec. 9, 10 a.m. at St. Robert.

**Johnston Senior Center offers hot meals** Monday through Friday at noon.

**"Musicians and Scholars: The Dana Family of Warren, Ohio,"** Sutliff Museum, second floor of the Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, 444 Mahoning Ave., Warren, through January 2018.

**OhioCAN Blessing Bags** project for homeless population, items dropped off at city hall. See pg. 7

**Salvation Army Angel Tree** by Cortland Police Dept., gifts for needy children, drop off police department and city hall by Dec. 8. See pg. 8

**Toys for Tots** at Cortland Fire Dept., accepting unwrapped gifts through Dec. 7, fire station, Lattin Street. See pg. 7

**Upton Association holiday events**, various dates. See pg. 10

**Youngstown Nighthawks Soccer League, Cortland League** schedule, visit <https://www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks>

**NOVEMBER**

**25 Cortland Christian Church Holiday Fair**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. See pg. 19

**25 Cortland Specialty Shops Gingerbread Walk**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. See pg. 4

**29 Johnston Senior Center presentation** on Trumbull County Senior Services and Senior Scams, 11 a.m., 5922 Warren Road, Cortland. See pg. 11

**DECEMBER**

**1 Christmas in the Square**, downtown Warren, 5 to 8 p.m.

**2 Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club craft show**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 2619 Hoagland Blackstub Road, Warren. See pg. 8

**2 Breakfast with Santa**, Lakeview High School Band uniform fundraiser, 8:30-11 a.m., Garden Brook Banquet Hall. See pg. 20

**2 Lunch with Santa & Kids**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Cortland Playroom. See pg. 5

**2,3 Lakeview High School 34<sup>th</sup> annual Madrigal Feaste and Concert**, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m., Dec. 3 at 3:30 p.m., high school cafeteria.

**3 Warren Civic Chorus's performance of Handel's "Messiah,"** 4 and 7 p.m. Blessed Sacrament Church, 3020 Reeves Road, Warren. See pg. 19

**9 Cortland Christian Church Christmas cookie sale**, 9-11:30 a.m. See pg. 19

**10 USA Dance Snowflake Ball**, Avon Oaks Ballroom, 1401 N. State St., Girard, 9 p.m. See pg. 11

**11 "Christmas in Cortland" concert**, 7 p.m., Lakeview High School's auditorium. See pg. 6



Having a bridal or wedding shower, wedding reception, graduation, fundraiser? We have the "Place" for you

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**CORTLAND ROTARY WILL HOST A SPECIAL VISIT  
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**SHORTEED & ASSOCIATES/AMERIPRISE AGAIN PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE**



Shortreed & Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., hosted its 8<sup>th</sup> annual National Day of Service. They partnered with:  
**Lakeview Schools**  
Margie Petrunia (elementary school). They collected \$783 and 1,300 food items



Jamie Brown (middle school). They collected \$2,750 and 3,700 food items  
Angela Sarko (Sr. Beta Club - high school). They collected 1,000 food items  
All donated cash and food items were given to the Cortland Area Cares Food Pantry

**Howland Schools**  
Amanda Dewberry (Inter-Act Club - high school)  
They collected 10,000 food items and collected \$2,001 and are donating \$667 to the Bolindale Food Pantry, Howland Community Church Food Pantry and Howland Tiger Back Pack Program

**Shortreed & Associates - Ameriprise**  
With the help of its clients, they raised a total of \$4,160. The practice also had a group of 16 people, comprised of team members and clients, who volunteered at the Second Harvest Food Bank. Their shift this year involved putting together five pound bags of sweet potatoes.

Dunkin Donuts and Wedgewood Pizza graciously donated food for the volunteers. Over the past eight years they have collected \$88,166 in monetary donations and 67,639 food items.

It was a special day seeing so many people come together to serve others. Shortreed & Associates hopes its collective efforts help bring some hope to peoples' lives. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day a success.

**GINGERBREAD WALK KICKS OFF HOLIDAY SEASON AND SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

Cortland Specialty Shops are excited to announce that they will be once again holding a Gingerbread Walk Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to kick off the 2017 holiday season and celebrate Small Business Saturday.

The following specialty shops have joined together to offer their unique products: Beach Bum Tanning Salon, Centerra Country Store, Country Porch Winery, Furniture Décor and More, Galleria of Arts & Antiques, Happy

Harvest Florist, Heritage Florist, Just Pizzelles, Sparkle Market, Quilter's Fancy and The Body Shoppe FIT CREW Studio.

There are many attractions being held at the Opera House including a Gingerbread House Contest, sponsored by Cortland Bank, where visitors are invited to cast their vote for people's choice.

The Opera House will also be full of vendors and pop-up shops both upstairs and downstairs. Other events at the Opera House include kids' pictures with a life-size gingerbread house, music, face painting and a few other surprises. There will also be a gingerbread house/cookie make and take station provided by TCTC's Early Childhood Education students, along with a craft station provided by Cortland Library. There will be snacks and refreshments.

Each shop will be marked with a "Gingerbread" cutout in front of its location and will be awaiting your arrival. Some shops will have specials and discounts and will be showcasing their new holiday merchandise. Be sure to stop by each location in order to be entered into a drawing to win a spectacular gift basket with donations from all shops.

Join us and get a jump on your holiday shopping in the quaint city of Cortland while supporting our "Shop Small" initiative on Small Business Saturday.

## CAMELOT CENTER AND CENTERRA PARTNER WITH A GIVING TREE

Centerra (formerly Western Reserve Farm Coop) has a Giving Tree in its store to benefit The Camelot Center. The Camelot Center is a non-profit equine assisted therapeutic riding program located in Southington. Their goal is to help people of all ages and abilities excel through their interaction with horses. Camelot Center has helped individuals with all kinds of conditions including muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, autism, Down syndrome, brain injuries and so many more.

On the Giving Tree are cards with items that can be purchased at Centerra and given to the Camelot Center. Everything on the tree is available at the store. "This is a wonderful non-profit that does so much for so many individuals with physical, mental or emotional challenges. We are excited at the opportunity to participate in this campaign" said Brian Hall, store manager.

Riders bond with the horses and learn skills of horsemanship and horse care. The benefits of therapeutic riding are too numerous to mention, but include better balance and flexibility, self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

The center is always in need of volunteers to help operate the facility. No experience is needed. They will train you to help with the horses and the riding lessons. You can be as young as 14 to volunteer and as old as you want. There is



a wide list of jobs they can use help with, from fund raising to maintenance. For more information call 330-889-0036.

Stop in at Centerra and give a gift to those that really need it. You will feel terrific about it.

## BUSINESS NEWS AND NOTES

By Thom Foley

Do you want to give your customers a different gift this year? **Auntie V's Pizza** has the best homemade Christmas cookies and pepperoni rolls. They have platters available in different sizes that include the cookies or the pepperoni rolls or, my favorite ... BOTH. And they aren't just for business gifts ... everyone loves cookies!

**Cortland Playroom** is inviting you to come to their annual "Lunch with Santa & the Kids" on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 11 - 1. There is a magic show at 11:30 and Santa arrives at noon. Cameras and videos are welcome! Call 330-637-296 for more info.

I had breakfast at **Vasilio's Family Restaurant** the other day. Oh my! If you thought their lunches and dinners were great (and they are) you should try their breakfast. Free orange juice or coffee with any perfectly cooked entrée. Hope to see you there soon! Don't forget they have party trays available for your holiday party.

Do you have budding NINJA WARRIOR in your home? **Jo Marie's School of Dance Gymnastics** is offering a 6 week \$50 special program that begins in January. In addition to physical exercise, it teaches the children, values, self-control, compassion and so much more. This would make a great Christmas gift that would create life long memories and values.

**Country Porch Winery** has great gift baskets and gift certificates for the holidays. Be sure to reserve a room for your private parties, too.

**Jody Sova** tells us that houses are selling. Give your family the gift of a new home this Christmas - Call Jody!

**Cortland Mower** is offering FREE pick-up and delivery of your yard equipment from now through Feb. 28. Take advantage of the great tune up specials they are offering.

Want to find a place that offers a great selection of take-out beers? You may be surprised to learn that **Lakeside Sport Shop & Drive Thru** has one of the largest selections of specialty beers anywhere around.

Let **Mackenzie Catering at Gardenbrook** cook your holiday meals this year. They do pick-up catering for parties of any size.

Looking for a great contractor you can trust? Call the **Petrosky Brothers**. They have a great reputation for quality work at very affordable pricing.

Don't forget that **Sparkle Market** has everything you need to make your holiday meals. No need to travel to the mall when it is all right here in town.

Make **Cortland Lanes** your holiday destination. They do holiday parties and fundraisers. Be sure to check out cosmic bowling on Friday and Saturday nights.

**Beef O'Brady's** has some great dates available for your Christmas party. They also offer gift certificates.

**Quilter's Fancy** is closed this week as they move to their new location at 225 S High St. across from Circle K. Stop in starting Dec. 4 to check out their new store at a great location.

**Furniture Décor and More** is open Sundays 11 - 3 through Christmas. Miss a day - you miss a lot!

## TOTALLY DOG OPENS IN DOWNTOWN CORTLAND

A new business dedicated totally to dogs has opened at 252 W. Main St. Appropriately enough, it is named **Totally Dog**.

Owners Dan and Kathy Schultz grew up in Cortland and both are Lakeview graduates. Recent retirees with a love of dogs, and in need of a way to keep busy, they decided to open a store, just for dogs. The couple took over a building that has served many purposes for our community, including the original hardware store and remodeled it with paint, walls and love to make it a warm and comfortable place for humans and dogs.

Totally Dog did a soft opening on Oct. 30 and are planning a grand opening for Dec. 1 through Dec. 3. They are striving to carry some of the best healthy food and treats for your pets. In the store you will find human grade dog (and cat) foods and treats, that are made in the USA. There are also puppy cakes (cake, ice cream,

cookies and Jell-O mixes for dogs). They also carry pet odor exterminator candles and Greenies in a candy cane that are ready for Christmas. The shop offers Pill Pockets and Lupine leashes and collars that are guaranteed even if chewed.

Training supplies recommended and used by the in-house trainer Karen Lutz of Elite K-9 Training and Doggy Daycare are sold here as well. Karen runs a doggie daycare in the building so your dog can get daycare and exercise while you are at work. Obedience and therapy dog classes are offered too, making this building and business a **Totally Dog** experience! In the future they are planning to offer dog party rental and informational seminar classes.

The store is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 234-244-4397 for more information.



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Looking for that special gift for that special person who has everything? Why not get them a certificate to lease a flag from Cortland Rotary.

When you lease a flag from the Cortland Rotary Club, you will get to display an American Flag on six major holidays:

- Memorial Day
- Flag Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Patriot Day (9/11)
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Your fiancée's personal belongings and liabilities are not covered automatically under your home insurance policy but in many cases, they could be if you are proactive. The wording within most standard home insurance policies provides coverage for the belongings and/or liabilities of resident relatives. Since you are not yet married, coverage would fall outside of that definition for your fiancée. Many insurance companies will however allow a resident fiancée to be listed as an insured person on your policy with your permission. If she is specifically listed then coverage would apply. It is always best to check with your local insurance



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# Merry Christmas

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## SHOP DIFFERENT THIS YEAR – SHOP LOCAL

By Thom Foley

Usually when the editor asks me to write an article she is looking for something with a little humor in it. Unfortunately, there is nothing funny about our economy right now. But there really is something you can do about it. Stop waiting for the government to help (there are two words that should never appear in the same sentence!). You often hear that you should “Buy Local” - but do you do it? Most people tend to drift off to the Evil Empire (I can’t bring myself to mention the name of that “international, anti-union, anti-woman, anti-everything I love about America company.”) Yes they have cheap prices - but it COSTS YOU to shop there. Hidden costs you don’t see.

Why should you shop local? Lots of reasons but I’ll just mention a few. Did you know that when you shop at those “Big Box” stores that only about 43 percent of what you spend stays in the community? More than 68 percent of what you spend stays here when you shop at a locally owned store or franchise. That means more jobs for the community. More money in local banks for loans. More local tax money paid to the community. More local payroll. More locally produced merchandise. More locally owned service businesses to choose from. More commercial buildings filled with businesses. I suggest you go to [www.the350project.net](http://www.the350project.net) for more information.

It is difficult to only buy American made products. Who can tell how much of a product was made here and how much elsewhere? Well there is one way to be sure you support the local community. Pick three local businesses you would miss if they were gone. DIVERT a total of \$50 every month from your “big box” spending and spend it at those local businesses. If only HALF of the employed population did this it would generate \$42.6 billion dollars for locally owned businesses.

So, you want some good local gift giving ideas? Think about these different ideas. How about gift certificates from any local business? Almost every business sells them.

Almost everybody needs a haircut. How about gift certificate from your local American hair salon or barber?

Gym or health club membership? It’s appropriate for anyone thinking about some health improvement.

Who wouldn’t appreciate getting their car detailed or washed? Maybe oil changes or repair service.

Know anyone who wants their driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter or games at the local golf course?

We have many locally owned and run restaurants -- all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn’t the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint?

Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would LOVE the services of a local cleaning lady for a day. My computer could use a tune-up, and I KNOW I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

We have GREAT local Insurance agents in town - why not pay someone’s insurance for a month or two? Buy your insurance locally rather than online from some mega corporation.

OK, you were looking for something more personal. Local crafts people spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewelry and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes. We have several great specialty shops in Cortland. Have you been to them?

Know anyone that needs furniture? We have a couple places locally that could use a little more business. Do you shop at locally owned grocery stores, apple orchards or farm markets? Great gift idea. How about some local wine from a local wine shop or winery? We have four new car dealers in town - how far do you have to travel to buy a new car?

Look through the paper and you’ll see some good local contractors. Give your family a gift and fix up the house or add an addition.

Support the small local doctor offices rather than the big out of town places. You will get a better deal on glasses and dental work at local docs than you will at those national chains.

Think about it. Only \$17 a month to each of three stores and you can make a difference. Give a gift that will be different, more personal and help our local economy. Unless you think the government is about to help us.

## CHRISTMAS IN CORTLAND... SMALL TOWN FUN!

By Carole Wiley

This year again, Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF) is excited and happy to be part of the third annual community Christmas concert, Christmas in Cortland. Two of the most exciting things about this concert are that, together, we will celebrate the birth of Christ and also that community activities like this just don’t happen anymore! Back in that wonderful decade of the 50s, life was sweet, relaxed. Communities were closely knit. People were proud of their towns and they knew many of the people who lived there. A great many of us truly enjoy living in this area because life here is often like that. This holiday concert really illustrates that small town warmth and sweetness that is missing from a metropolitan area.

Christmas in Cortland will take place Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at Lakeview

High School. The stars of the show are the members of the Cortland Community Band who come from numerous Trumbull County towns. The supporting cast is the Community Choir, also consisting of folks from Cortland, Bazetta and communities nearby. Craig Wiencek directs the band and Michelle Robbins Jones directs the choir. There will be a variety of Christmas music to enjoy. The concert ends with the audience joining the band and the choir to sing a selection of carols. Children are welcomed and even though this is a school night, the concert will end around 8:15 p.m., allowing them to get home by their bedtime. Or, they can head to the cafeteria where 1,000 cookies will be presented to sample!

The concert is free. Any donations made will be given to Cortland Area Cares. See you on Dec. 11! Merry Christmas!



## What's "news" in the City of Cortland

By Terri Barnovsky, administrative assistant

### Higher Water Usage?

Running toilets and faucets are the most frequent cause of higher water use. You can check to see if you have a leak several ways:

- Take a meter reading before you go to bed when no one will be using water. In the morning, take another reading - if there is a change, water ran through the meter overnight and you may have a leak.
- Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Do not flush the toilet. If after 15 minutes color shows up in the bowl, the toilet has a leak.
- Check to see if the water level in the tank is too high and spills into the overflow tube.

Leaky toilets can usually be repaired inexpensively, but even a small leak over several months can make a large difference in your bill.

### Opportunities to Give to our Community:

We are very fortunate to live in such a giving community where so many are willing to help others. Below are some of the opportunities that are available for you to participate in this holiday season.

### Salvation Army Angel Tree

The Cortland Police Department is participating in the Salvation Army "Angel Tree Program" again this year. Tags are available to be picked up at the city administration building. Gifts need to be returned by Dec. 8.

### Toys for Tots

The Cortland Fire Department is accepting new and unwrapped toys through Dec. 6 for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

### Blessing Bags Drive

OhioCAN (Change Addiction Now) of Trumbull County is sponsoring a service project to aid the homeless population in our area. Cold weather is fast approaching. The need is great and we can make a difference by providing a few basic necessities and comfort items.

A donation bin is located in the lobby of the Cortland Administration Building. Items can be dropped off there. OhioCAN will pick them up, assemble the bags and distribute them to those in need. A list of the items being collected can be found on the city website or call 330-637-3916 for more information.

### Dates to Remember:

- Dec. 4 - 7 p.m. - City Council
- Dec. 11 - 5 p.m. - Parks Board
- Dec. 11 - 7 p.m. - Planning & Zoning Commission
- Dec. 18 - 7 p.m. - City Council
- Dec. 25 - City Offices will be closed. Republic's trash collection will be operating on a one day delay.

## CORTLAND COMMUNITY BAND ANNOUNCES CHRISTMAS CONCERT SCHEDULE

By Sally Lane

A variety of holiday music will be performed by the Cortland Community Band in December. Favorites like "Sleigh Ride" and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" will have you clapping and tapping, along with these and many other popular songs and carols.

The first concert is at Howland SCOPE, 7 p.m. on Dec. 6. On Dec. 11, the band will pair up with the Community Choir at Lakeview High School auditorium, 7:30

p.m. to present the Third Annual LOAF Christmas in Cortland concert. Every year this concert has become larger. Donations at this concert help LOAF help others all year long.

Eastwood Mall is the site for the last concert of the season for the band, 3 p.m., Dec. 17, in the main concourse. The band has been a favorite part of the holidays at the mall for over 15 years. Come enjoy the wonderful sounds of the season!



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## THE CORTLAND OKTOBERFEST THANKS YOU!

By Daynelle Sanner

"Your life should never be what I can do for me,  
but how I can enrich it for somebody else."  
- Jarrett Hutton

This was one of the many quotes from my brother, Jarrett, which resonated in my mind for the development of 2017 Cortland Oktoberfest. How can we bring an event together for the community and beyond to "LOVE LIFE," on a greater scale? Each component of the event had a significant meaning that related to the mission of the Love Life Foundation and what Jarrett stood for and enjoyed. Through the many months of planning, finally seeing it come to fruition was surreal and brought great joy for many!

THANK YOU to each and every person who supported, contributed and attended the 2017 Cortland Oktoberfest weekend. We are very grateful and thankful for the partnership with the Cortland Lions Club, as well as every sponsor, volunteer, vendor, musician, artist, committee member, city official, community organizations, restaurants, friends, family members and patrons involved prior, during, and after this event.

The Love Life Foundation Board

is very confident that we will be able to expand the Love Life Foundation Art Scholarship and Grant Program in Jarrett's memory. As a Foundation Board, we will be involved in other community initiatives that fall within the mission of the Love Life Foundation. As a new foundation, we will always give back to the community and beyond to continue Jarrett's efforts of encouraging creativity, fostering innovation, inspiring the potential within and cultivating programs based around positivity, ingenuity, faith and his love for life. As we make those decisions as a Love Life Foundation Board, the contributors and supporters will be the first to know! We thank you again for your support of the 2017 Cortland Oktoberfest.

Once the date has been solidified for 2018, we will make an announcement. For weekly updates on how we will be paying it forward, please join our Facebook group at: Love Life Foundation, in memory of Jarrett Hutton, Instagram at #lovelifefoundationjh or our website at [www.lovelifefoundation.net](http://www.lovelifefoundation.net).

## JUDY WAID WINNER OF 'HOME OF THE BRAVE' QUILT

By Dick McClain



Craig Camens, left, veteran on the Veteran's Memorial fund committee; Renee Hoffstetter of Quilter's Fancy; and Ian McAleer, veteran on the committee, draw the winning ticket for the patriotic quilt to raise funds for the Veteran's Memorial.

Judy Waid of Cortland, was up on a ladder putting Christmas lights on a tree on Veterans Day when she received a phone call that made her very happy. The 65-year-old grandmother won the red, white and blue quilt made and donated by Quilter's Fancy to raise funds for Cortland's proposed veteran's memorial.

"It's so gorgeous, it's so patriotic," said Waid. "I had two brothers and my first husband in the military and all kinds of relatives that have put in their time fighting for our country." She bought her winning ticket at Sparkle Market. "I always support community organizations selling tickets at Sparkle," she said. Waid has two children and they live with their families in Bristol and Niles. "I will pass

this beautiful quilt down in the family," Waid said.

The quilt raised \$1,100 to benefit the Cortland Veteran's Memorial Fund. "I am so happy this beautiful quilt sewn by Renee Hoffstetter called 'The Home of The Brave' was able to inspire people to help donate to build a Veteran's Memorial in Cortland," said Cindy Oravec of Quilter's Fancy. "You can't underestimate the power of needle and thread through history for providing comfort from the cold for people through hand sewn quilts and clothing and fundraising projects that help communities. Quilter's Fancy is happy to be a part of that long, long tradition," said Oravec.

## SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

By Terri Barnovsky

The Cortland Police Dept. is participating in the Salvation Army "Angel Tree Program" this year. The program provides gifts of new clothing and toys to thousands of children who otherwise might not have anything for Christmas.

Children who are recipients of Angel Tree gifts are from families who have applied for Christmas assistance through the Social Services program of the Salvation Army. Recipients are individually screened to verify need and determine they were not served by other holiday programs.

The program provides new clothing or toys for children of needy families through the support of donors. When you pick up an Angel Tree tag, you and the Salvation Army brighten Christmas for a child in need.

Angel tree tags can be picked up at the Cortland Police Station/ Administration Building. All gifts need to be returned by Dec. 8.

We thank the Cortland community in advance for your support of this program to help children experience the joy of Christmas morning.



## OPTIMIST CLUB CRAFT SHOW

Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club annual craft show is being held Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2619 Hoagland Blackstub Road, Warren. Over 50 vendors with homemade crafts will be present. Homemade Haluski along with other foods will be available. Come and find that special gift for the hard to buy for.



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By Kathleen Ferris, Master Gardener

A few November gardening tips to keep perennial gardens and home landscapes beautiful. Clean containers and window boxes now and pack away till spring. Save the soil and use next spring as bottom filler in containers, don't waste fresh soil in the bottom of large containers.

Cut back perennial foliage from mid-October leaving 2 to 3 inches showing, except for Lavender, ornamental grasses, Russian Sage and Chrysanthemums. Prune these in spring. Since birds need food during winter months, these perennials are often left for winter interest and food; Sedums, Coneflowers, Black-eyed-Susans, Astilbes and Globe Thistle. Use any means necessary to cut back foliage, a lawn mower (raised of course), hedge trimmers, weed whacker or hand pruners. Remove all foliage from the garden. Compost foliage but not diseased foliage, especially leaves infected with mildew or aphids.

Put roses to bed now, but don't cut them back. Rather, let rose hips set to help roses harden off for the winter. The time to prune is in the early spring. Roses with long canes can have their canes tied together so they're not whipped around by winter winds and break. As the roses go dormant and drop their leaves mulch and compost can be mounded around the trunks when the soil starts to freeze. The fallen leaves should be raked away from roses, especially if they had mildew or black spot. By removing the leaves, the chance of these diseases returning next year is reduced. The spores over winter in the soil left by infected leaves.

Make time now, in November to help your Nikko Blue Hydrangeas bloom next year. They set their flower buds in late summer for the next year. Protect these buds from winter damage and late spring frosts by giving them a burlap wrap. Use chicken wire, or large garden stakes to form a cage and stuff it with chopped leaves. I like to wrap burlap around my hydrangea cages for added protection, as high as the bush and even cover the top. I leave the cages in place until the middle of May or later, depending on temperatures, no rush to uncover.

Butterfly bushes often have a rough time getting through winter in Zone 5. They can be protected the same way as Nikko Blue Hydrangeas. Cover them with chopped leaves and do not prune until spring.

A screen made from burlap, wooden stakes and a stapler or clothes pins can give protection from winter winds to shrubs susceptible to wind damage. These screens can also be used for protection from deer eating your prized flowering shrubs. Just make sure the

shrub is protected on all sides and on top.

Many upright Arborvitae benefit from a little attention before the snow flies. Circle twine around the Arborvitae, starting from the bottom to the top and tie off. This will reduce damage from snow and wind.

In December I try to remember to have an anti-desiccant like "Wilt-Pruf" on hand. When the temperature is above 40 degrees an application of an anti-desiccant on Rhododendron, Holly, Mountain Laurel, Boxwood and all broad leaf evergreens can help them avoid wind or sunburn. Especially if I am not sure the garden was deeply watered in the fall. Perennials, shrubs and trees with well hydrated roots do much better making it through the winter than those with dry and brittle roots.

Happy Gardening!  
Kathleen Ferris is a Trumbull County Ohio State Extension Master Gardener and a Cortland resident.

## HOME PROJECTS TO TRANSFORM YOUR YARD INTO A REFUGE FOR BIRDS

(StatePoint) Millions of wild birds are killed each year flying into windows, including private homes. Birds face other dangers, too, in your yard, whether they are migrating or flying locally.

Everyone, but especially those who enjoy having birds visit their yards and gardens, should take steps to make their homes a safer place for birds.

"Birds are part of a healthy ecosystem. Turning your home into a refuge for birds is good for the environment, saves lives and can add beauty to your garden," says Spencer Schock, founder of WindowAlert, a company that offers decals and UV Liquid that are highly visible to birds but barely noticed by people.

Schock is offering three home projects you can do to help protect birds.

- Do some planting: Creating a bird-friendly yard does not have to be at odds with your desire to have a beautiful garden. Plant trees, shrubs and flowers that provide birds with the nourishment and shelter they need. The good news is that there are many beautiful varieties of bird-friendly vegetation. To be a good environmental steward, opt for species native to your region.

- Make Windows Visible: Preventing birds from striking your windows is easier than you may think because birds can see certain light frequencies that humans can't.

An easy way to make your windows visible to birds in a way that won't disrupt your view outside your window is by applying UV decals and UV liquid to your windows. Consider those from WindowAlert, which are proven to effectively alter the flight path of birds and prevent window strikes. While the ultraviolet coating will look like etched glass to you, it will be quite visible to birds. For best application techniques, visit windowalert.com.

- Monitor the Cat: If you have cats that like to spend time outdoors, be sure to monitor them to prevent bird hunting. If possible, consider keeping birds safe by creating an outdoor area for your cat to roam that's enclosed. If you're handy, you may try building this area yourself, but keep in mind, read-made structures are widely available, too.

With a few simple steps, you can convert your garden and yard into a veritable safe haven for birds.



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**SEVEN HOLIDAY DRIVING TIPS**

By Officer Nicholas Gregory, Bazetta Twp. Police Dept.

In addition to the universal rules while operating a motor vehicle - do not speed, do not text and do not drink and drive, here are seven additional tips to hopefully make holiday driving more enjoyable and most importantly, safe!

1. The first step is to make sure your vehicle is operating properly. The lights, oil, tires (condition and pressure level), all those fluids underneath that hood, should all be checked by either you, or a professional before leaving.
2. Plan your route in advance and check traffic reports and weather conditions before you leave. As a backup, go old school and bring along a paper map. Even with a GPS system it's wise to bring along another option should something occur where using a GPS is not possible.
3. Follow speed limits and remember excess traffic and congestion on the roads may mean you'll have to travel below posted limits. Drive defensively and don't respond to aggressive drivers: it's far less frustrating to let an aggressive driver pass than to become aggressive yourself.
4. It sounds simple, but a good night's sleep before departing can help make the trip more enjoyable. Be sure to take regular breaks during long road trips as it can be very dangerous to drive when you're overly tired. Pull over and stop in a safe area if you are tired, or around every 100 miles or two hours.
5. Be prepared for emergencies - keep a blanket, boots, an extra pair of gloves and a flashlight in the trunk of your car. Traction mats, kitty litter or sand can be used to improve traction on icy surfaces. Also, keep the gas tank at least half-filled to prevent fuel line freezing in colder climates.
6. Don't forget to secure your home when you leave, and do not post on social media sites that you will be away. Timers to turn lights on and off can give the impression that the property is occupied. If possible, have a neighbor you trust or relative check on the house and even park a car in the driveway. Let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be there.
7. Finally, relax. Driving during the holiday season can be stressful. Frustration can lead to poor decisions and risky behavior behind the wheel. However, with the right attitude and some pre-planning it can also be more enjoyable. Remember to relax and focus on what's truly important: reaching your destination safely and having fun with family or friends.

Authorship of this column alternates between the Cortland and Bazetta Twp. Police Departments.

**FALL 2017 PHOTO CONTEST ENDING SOON**

The fall 2017 photo contest is underway for the best picture at a Trumbull County MetroParks park or property. Photos will be accepted for the fall season until 2 p.m. on Nov. 30, 2017. All the rules and regulations for the contest are posted on the MetroParks website at [www.trumbullmetroparks.org](http://www.trumbullmetroparks.org) each season. People will need to email photos to [Zachary.svette@trumbullmetroparks.org](mailto:Zachary.svette@trumbullmetroparks.org). To be eligible for the photo contest, the email must say what park and the date the picture was taken.

At the end of season, finalists will

be chosen and sent to be judged by the MetroParks Facebook fans. One photo per season will be declared the winner. Winning photos will be published on its website, via its social media outlets and in some cases, in its publications. Winners also receive a Trumbull MetroParks, Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation District and Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership prize pack.

Trumbull MetroParks, Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership are not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, incomplete entries or technical errors.



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**UPTON HOUSE HOLIDAY EVENTS**

Trustees of the Upton Association, Sandra Sarsany, Judith Sheridan and Martha Flint prepare the Upton House for holiday activities including an open house and a visit from Mrs. Claus.

On Dec. 1, from 6 to 8 p.m., Upton hosts the Christmas Open House. Each room of the home will be decorated by members of the Upton Association who spend the year searching for the perfect decorations for their assigned areas.

A story time with Mrs. Claus will be Dec. 9, 10 and 11. The cost is \$15 per child. Reservations are required and are due by Nov. 30. For reservations, visit [www.uptonhouse.org](http://www.uptonhouse.org), call 330-360-0901 or email [ecarol@twc.com](mailto:ecarol@twc.com). The Upton House is located in downtown Warren, 380 Mahoning Ave. NW.

## HOLIDAY HAVOC? CONSIDER IT HANDLED

(BPT) - The holiday season is full of magic and wonder - until your flight gets cancelled, your budget is blown and you fall ill at the worst possible time. Fortunately, staying merry despite common holiday conundrums is easier than you think with the right attitude and a few simple steps.

Here are some of the most notorious holiday hurdles, with practical advice for overcoming them and enjoying the best of the season.

### Holiday hang-up: Blown budget

The holidays can get expensive fast. Buying something for everyone on your list shouldn't put you in debt. Instead, think outside the box.

**Solution:** Organize a gift exchange where each person draws one name and buys one gift. Additionally, consider homemade gifts to cut costs, as well as experiences, like taking kids sledding or ice skating.

### Holiday hang-up: Sickness

From holiday travelers being confined in planes and trains to loved ones gathering under one room for festivities, it's no surprise that germs are rampant during the holidays. Germs are not a gift anyone wants to receive and they can quickly strip a joyous occasion of all its fun. In fact, a recent survey by Robitussin found that 68 percent of people have been sick and miserable during holiday gatherings and 24 percent have had a holiday gathering ruined because a family member was sick.

**Solution:** 'Tis the season of giving, but sharing your germs will get you on Santa's naughty list. One sick person at Christmas dinner can turn into the whole family ringing in the New Year while sick in bed. If you feel ill, be prepared with a medicine like Robitussin Severe Multi-Symptom Cough Cold + Flu, which provides relief for your worst symptoms. If you're still not feeling yourself when festivities are occurring, it's best to stay home. Try putting on comfy pajamas and binge watching your favorite holiday movies while you rest up. Sure, it stinks to miss the fun, but in the long run you're protecting others from getting sick and giving yourself the rest you need to get well again.

### Holiday hang-up: Kids get the "gimmies"

Commercialism runs high during the holiday season. Kids' wish lists seem to grow with each passing day. You want

them to focus on the "season of giving" and they want to focus on "the season of getting."

**Solution:** Show kids how good it feels to give back. There are many ways to help those in need, especially around the holidays. Try volunteering at a local nonprofit, donating gifts to a local shelter or assisting an elderly neighbor by shoveling their driveway. Be sure to encourage your kids to participate, too!

### Holiday hang-up: Travel problems

Whether it's a missed connection, delayed flight or the weather is too bad to drive, travel is difficult during the holiday season.

**Solution:** If you're stuck at home, make the best of it with a staycation. Sleep in, make yourself a big breakfast and do all the things you never get to do. Explore the fun that's available in your hometown, whether that's a trip to the museum or splurging on tickets to the local theater. Spontaneous adventures can be some of the most memorable!

### Holiday hang-up: You burned the food

Did you mess up Grandma's famous apple pie? Do your gingerbread men look a little deranged? Are your kids concerned that Santa will refuse your holiday cookies? Kitchen fails happen to even the most skilled chefs.

**Solution:** Always have a backup. An extra store-bought pie or cookies in the cupboard provide peace of mind. Plus, during the holiday crunch, avoid trying new recipes. Best to stick to tried-and-true for the best shot at success.

### Holiday hang-up: Unexpected party guests

When your cousin RSVP'd for one but ended up bringing his new girlfriend, there's no need to panic. Unexpected holiday guests can put you in a tailspin, but being flexible is all part of a memorable holiday adventure.

**Solution:** Don't stress! Now is a good time to remember the old saying, "the more the merrier!" Put out an extra table setting, grab that bottle of wine from the cupboard and slap a bow on the top for a quick gift. Savvy hosts and hostesses will plan ahead by keeping a few extra gifts on hand, so whether there's an extra child looking for a present under the tree or an adult who needs a bit of holiday magic, you're always set with the perfect present.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HOLIDAY MODEL TRAIN DISPLAY

The North Bloomfield Historical Society is presenting its 5<sup>th</sup> annual holiday model train event on every Saturday afternoon in December from 2-5 p.m. and every Wednesday evening from 5-8 p.m. in the 1893 Town Hall, 8830 Park Drive. Each year the layout has grown with new items added and now exceeds 500 square feet. This year new scale model buildings will feature Lockwood, Ohio. Lockwood was the train station where

several commercial enterprises were located. The layouts now exceed 500 square feet distributed between a summer setup and a winter landscape. The exhibit is free and everyone is welcome. Popcorn, cookies, punch and coffee are served and there will be a scavenger hunt for items in the displays and a coloring contest. It's a great way to take a trip down memory lane. Fun for children and adults alike. For more information call 440-685-4410.



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## SENIOR SERVICE PRESENTATION & SENIOR SCAMS

The Johnston Senior Center will be hosting a presentation on Trumbull County Senior Services and Senior Scams on Wednesday Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. This program will provide information on senior services that are available in the area that can help you or someone you know. The services range in programs to help you stay active to ways to receive in-home care. There will also be

a presentation from the Senior Service Unit on senior scams that will provide tips and information on ways to avoid being scammed and keeping you safe. This program is open to the public and refreshments will be available. If you would like more information please call the center at 330-924-0412. The Johnston Senior Center is located at 5922 Warren Road, Cortland.

## SNOWFLAKE BALL TO BE HELD DEC. 10

The USA Dance (Youngstown Warren Chapter #2015) Snowflake Ball is being held on Sunday, Dec. 10 from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Avon Oaks Ballroom, 1401 N. State St., Girard. The evening will feature a dinner, dancing and a show.

Enjoy a night of dancing to holiday favorites (Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Quickstep, Viennese Waltz, Polka, and Country Two Step), Latin (Cha Cha, Rumba, Bolero, Mambo, Salsa, and Merengue), Swing (East Coast, West Coast, and Lindy) and Hustle.

There will be a limited number of tickets available through Dec. 1, with advance ticket sales only. The cost is \$45 for USA Dance members, \$35 for non-members and \$35 for full time students. For those purchasing online there will be an additional charge of \$1.

Tables can be reserved for parties of six. If purchasing online, enter attendees' names in the Buy Now box. For more information contact barbasteve@aol.com, 330-502-5492 or purchase your tickets on line at [www.usadance2015.com](http://www.usadance2015.com).



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**SERVICE DEPT. RECEIVES NEW VEHICLE**



The Service Dept. of the city of Cortland took delivery of a 2017 Ford Transit Connect. The vehicle was purchased through the state of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program from Middletown Ford at a cost of \$21,852.00. This purchasing program allows the city to get the best available price without going out to bid. The

vehicle replaces a 2007 GMC Sierra pick-up truck and will primarily serve as a vehicle for water meter reading and installations. It will also be used for performing daily rounds and emergency call-outs. This style of vehicle was selected to keep tools and equipment in an enclosed environment and for better fuel efficiency.

**QUILTS HONOR VETERANS**



The Ohio Star Quilters of Howland SCOPE honored 15 veterans from Trumbull County at its monthly November business meeting. A service project for the Ohio Star Quilters, members presented patriotic quilts to four branches of servicemen. Representing the Air Force were Earl Parthmer and Jim Young, along with Joseph Conti, Ian McAleer, Bob Cameran and Paul Moore from the Marine Corp. The Army Veterans were present with seven men receiving quilts. They were Dave Moore, Roger Gardner, Bill Gore, Mike Stefanick, Robert Ferriman, Walter Morrison and Larry Dyell. From the Navy, Allen Lambing was present as well as Gary Watson from Bugle Across America.

Each quilting year, the Ohio Star Quilters choose a service project as part of their sewing endeavors. Members worked on this large project not only at the SCOPE facility but also stitching in their own homes in order to complete the quilts in time for presentation.

Any person interested in learning the art of quilting may visit the Howland SCOPE on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Visitors may attend three meetings before asked to join the membership roster. The December meeting will be the club's Christmas party. The Ohio Star Quilters also have an annual picnic in the summer, present "Quilters Day Out" each May and instruct young students in the summer for "Kid's Quilting." During the year, guest instructors are often teaching little to big projects plus giving informative tips on up to date sewing needs.

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**BETA CHI CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**



The Beta Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma celebrated its November meeting with an auction. The committee that led the event are from left, Sandy Keir, Donna Pate, Joyce Faiver, Madeline Bradford, Anna Mae Cuchna and Marilyn Johnson. Not pictured are Judy Cross and Lydia Caskey. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The next

meeting will be a joint holiday meeting hosted by the Alpha Omega Chapter of DKG, on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at Leo's Ristorante, 7042 East Market St., Warren. Social hour will be from 5 to 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The holiday committee are co-chairs Deborah Davis and Wendy Spoerr, committee members Pam Derda, Velma Woodall, Pat Shehabi, Cathi Hawn, Elaine Bernatowicz, Shirley Stocz, Libby Whetson and Diana Bauman. Photo by Roselyn Gadd.

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## Fun Holiday Tech Gift Ideas for Kids

(StatePoint) Looking for some kid-friendly tech gear this holiday season? Here are some on-trend gift ideas, featuring engaging content for kids.

### Wearable Tech

Wearable tech is a great choice for energetic kids, as it seamlessly integrates innovative technology into their active lifestyles. For even more value, consider devices that combine fun with learning.

For instance, with the Kidizoom Smartwatch DX2, they can take pictures and videos, play games, tell time and more. The durable watch features a sleek design that includes 55 customizable watch faces to help kids learn to tell time, as well as two cameras that allow children to capture everything from action videos to selfies that can be customized in the Silly Yourself app or made into new watch faces. Kids can also use the watch's motion sensor for active play challenges or to track movements. The watch features an assortment of innovative games, including Monster Catcher, which uses augmented reality to help kids find and capture virtual monsters in the real world.

### Gaming Systems

Shopping for a gaming console? Seek out family-friendly options that offer opportunities for age-appropriate or educational gaming. Some consoles even provide parental controls, so monitoring use is easy.

### Camera Fun

Little cinematographers and videographers may enjoy the Kidizoom Action Cam 180, a 180-degree rotatable camera that takes photos and videos with fun features like slow and fast-motion. It comes with accessories needed to mount it to a bike, skateboard and more while taking action shots. The all-weather, water-resistant case allows for use up to six feet underwater, perfect for swimming and splashing. For even more fun, kids can play one of three included games.

### Drones

Kids have always loved flying toys and with the technological advancements in drones, they can be had at all price points with a wide variety of capabilities. For beginners, you'll want to consider durable drones with easy controls. Just be sure to look into local rules and regulations to be sure you're flying in appropriate places that aren't restricted.

### Handheld Smart Devices

With quality content and robust features similar to those found in parents' smartphones, KidiBuzz lets children message over Wi-Fi to a parent-approved contact list. They can also push the talk button and send quick voice messages. Through the kid-safe web browser, users can visit popular pre-approved websites, and can also download Android apps. It's also a multimedia player for listening to music and watching videos. Kids can explore silly stamps, frames and photo effects and use them to capture pictures and selfies or make their own videos with the 180-degree rotating camera. The device includes more than 40 learning games and apps and its bumper and shatter-safe screen means kids can take it virtually anywhere.

Make this holiday season the most exciting one yet for kids, with great new tech gear that engages, informs and entertains.



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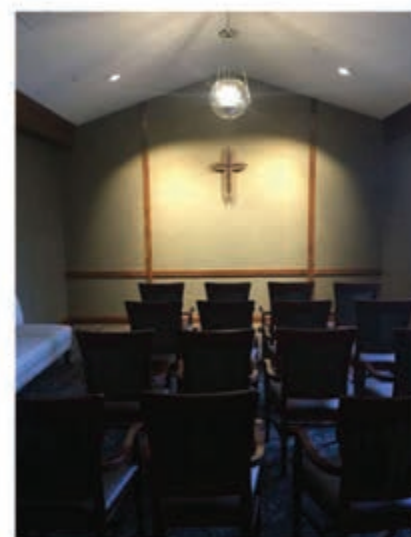
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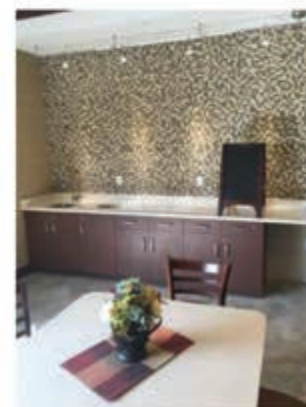
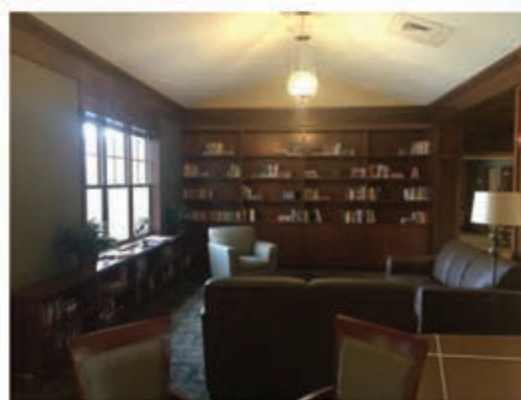


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Trumbull County's only memory care assisted living, **Windsor House at Armstrong Memory Care Assisted Living**, is Now Open. Located off Mahoning Ave. and Champion Ave., residents will enjoy the privacy of their own apartment, daily recreational and social activities, 3 fresh meals, assistance with activities of daily living, companionship of staff members and other residents, a secured outdoor courtyard and much more.

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## APPEALING HOLIDAY APPETIZERS

(Family Features) While the main course is in the oven and guests mingle in anticipation this holiday season, tide them over with simple appetizers the whole crowd will enjoy.

That sometimes tall task may be easier said than done depending on the size of your get-together, but you can make it less daunting with quick starters that incorporate dairy foods like milk, cheese and yogurt, which can serve as helpful on-hand ingredients that also provide flavor and nutritional value. Since dairy foods are readily available in many family kitchens, they are ideal for creating recipes for last-minute noshes and nibbles, especially perfect for holiday entertaining.

For quick snacks to help keep appetites at bay, try these Antipasti Holiday Skewers that have something for everyone with bits of pasta, cubed cheese, pepperoni and veggies. Or for a warmer dish perfect for a snowy holiday, this Baked Spinach Artichoke Yogurt Dip can help chase away the chill.

Other easy ways to give the gift of dairy during the holidays by incorporating it into tasty dishes include:

- Starting the day with egg casserole or a quiche made with milk and cheese.
- Sprinkling shredded cheese on steamed vegetables, casseroles or pasta dishes.
- Replacing mayo with plain Greek yogurt in tuna or chicken salads.
- Creating warm, comforting soups using milk.

### Antipasti Holiday Skewers

Prep time: 45 minutes

Yield: 16 skewers

1 package (9 ounces) cheese-filled tortellini, cooked al dente and cooled

½ cup fat-free Italian dressing

1 block (8 ounces) reduced-fat Swiss cheese, cubed

2 cups baby spinach leaves

32 pieces turkey pepperoni

3 ½ cups cherry tomatoes

16 wooden skewers, 9-10 inches each

In large bowl, marinate tortellini in Italian dressing 30 minutes in refrigerator.

To assemble skewers, start with two pieces tortellini, one cheese cube, two spinach leaves, one pepperoni slice (folded in fourths), one tomato and repeat. Each skewer will have total of four pieces tortellini, two cheese cubes, four spinach leaves, two pepperoni slices and two tomatoes.

Repeat until skewers are complete. Refrigerate until serving.

**Nutritional information per serving:** 81 calories; 2 g fat; 10 mg cholesterol; 191 mg sodium; 113 mg potassium; 8 g carbohydrates; 7 g protein.

### Baked Spinach Artichoke Yogurt Dip

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 8

1 can (14 ounces) artichoke hearts, drained and chopped

1 package (10 ounces) frozen chopped spinach frozen, thawed and drained

8 ounces plain low-fat yogurt

1 cup shredded, low-moisture, part-skim Mozzarella cheese

¼ cup green onion, chopped

1 garlic clove, minced

2 tablespoons red pepper, chopped

Heat oven to 350 F.

Combine artichoke hearts, spinach, yogurt, cheese, onion and garlic; mix well.

Pour mixture into 1-quart casserole dish or 9-inch pie plate. Bake 20-25 minutes, or until heated through.

Sprinkle with red peppers.

**Nutritional information per serving:** 179 calories; 12 g total fat; 18 mg cholesterol; 383 mg sodium; 227 mg potassium; 7 g carbohydrates; 11 g protein.

## CORTLAND BRANCH LIBRARY EVENTS IN DECEMBER

The following programs take place at the Cortland Branch Library, 578 Lakeview Dr., Cortland. All library events are free and open to the public. No reservations are required unless noted.

### Preschool Storytime

Monday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 11 a.m.

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 to 5.

### Beginners (Gentle) Yoga

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.

De-stress from the holiday hustle-and-bustle at this beginner-friendly gentle yoga class. For ages 16+. Free. The class will be led by Cortland resident Stephanie Perrine, who is pursuing her yoga teacher certification. Registration is required by calling 330-638-6335.

### Holiday Program

Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

All ages are invited to join us as we celebrate the holidays with songs of the season, a visit from Santa, and refreshments courtesy of the Friends of the Cortland Library. Starting at 5:45 p.m., children can make holiday crafts and visit with Santa, and then at 6 p.m., musician Steve Fazzini will entertain.

## STEAM BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS FOR KIDS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

(StatePoint) Add joy to the holiday season with exciting books for kids. Think about choices focusing on STEAM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) that encourage the pursuit for knowledge and offer opportunities for immersive, learning experiences.

Here are a few fun ideas.

### Ultimate Book of Knowledge

Packed with information, "DK Children's Encyclopedia" explains virtually everything! Each entry features a key topic explained in a visual way, with fun facts and cross-references, revealing the links between subjects. Covering arts, people, history, Earth, nature, science, technology, space, and the human body, this is an essential reference book for children who want to discover as much as possible about the world around them.

### Cool Coding

Kids can learn to code games and use Scratch with "Star Wars Coding Projects," a visual guide that shows readers everything they need to know to create cool computer projects, animations and games. Readers can build a game where they navigate a spaceship through an asteroid belt, as well as a jetpack simulation game. Kids can share projects with friends and challenge them to beat their scores. Each project consists of simple, illustrated steps.

### Nature Up-Close

A visual reference for kids that explores the natural world in stunning

detail, "Explanatorium of Nature," created in association with the Smithsonian Institution, is the first in a brand new book series. Through close-ups and cross-sections, exploded images, X-rays and more, the book explores everything from fruit to flies, coral to clouds, and mountains to mammals -- and is a nice tool for curious minds to find out how things work and why they exist.

### Virtual Reality

Created in association with an educational virtual reality (VR) company, "Virtual Reality," explores the history of VR and includes an app download for five VR experiences and a cardboard viewer with stickers to make it your own. Kids can come face-to-face with a T. rex, look inside a volcano, explore the Roman Colosseum, hop aboard the International Space Station and peek under the surface of a pond.

### DIY Everything

Using freely available software, "3D Printing Projects" provides inspiration and step-by-step visual instruction for simple builds and complicated pieces, from small treasure boxes to chess sets and model cars. This how-to guide covers such subjects as designing, scanning, modeling, digital sculpting, slicing and printing. Information on the 3D printing revolution and the science behind how it works is also included.

This holiday season, give the gift of knowledge and fun, with great books that explore the world.

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## TIPS TO REDUCE HOLIDAY SPENDING, WITHOUT CUTTING BACK ON CHEER

(StatePoint) Amid the merriment of the holiday season is a hard reality -- nearly six in 10 Americans don't have enough savings to afford an unexpected expense like a \$500 car repair or \$1000 emergency room bill, according to a Bank survey conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associations International.

While 83 percent of U.S. consumers are expected to spend \$1,189 this holiday season, an amount equal to or more than they spent last year, there is no reason to enter the new year in bad financial standing if you do some smart planning and spend wisely. Here are some great ways to reduce your seasonal spending, without cutting back on the cheer.

- **Know your limit.** Figure out how much you can spend on gifts, decorations, etc. Divide the total amount into a per-gift limit. If it doesn't add up, cut back the gift list or consider making a baked item or other homemade gift, or giving a gift certificate for a service you might provide, such as babysitting, car washing or house cleaning.

- **Shop wisely.** Watch for special sale days and coupons. Many online retail sites offer free shipping, discounts and other promotions during the holiday season. After the holidays, look for deep sales on wrapping paper and greeting cards to save for next year's celebrations.

- **Spend differently.** New ways to pay for items can make the task of budgeting organized and straightforward. Check out specialty e-retailers like Purchasing Power, which is offered by many employers as a voluntary benefit, and gives workers an opportunity to shop for thousands of brand name products they need now, for which they can make manageable payments over time through payroll deduction. With no credit checks, hidden fees or interest, it's a service you

may find gives you more flexibility over a traditionally expensive season.

"It's not always possible to pay for big ticket items in-full when you need them, whether you're buying a tablet for your teenager for the holidays or a family vacation package next summer," says Elizabeth Halkos, Chief Operating Officer for Purchasing Power, LLC. "We created this solution to empower people to budget more wisely, and buy the things they need, while avoiding penalty fees and ballooning interest associated with other payment options."

Ask your employer if an employee purchase program and financial wellness benefit like PurchasingPower.com is available to your workforce.

Some additional cost-friendly options for the holidays:

- **Suggest a family gift exchange.** Spare the expense and frustration of trying to find gifts for each member of your extended family. Instead, pull names from a hat and find something special for just one person. For extra fun, play "Secret Santa," keeping gift-giver identities concealed until the gift exchange.

- **Spend time together.** In lieu of gifts, bring everyone together over the holidays. Have a board game night or a day of service, such as serving meals at a shelter.

- **Enjoy the season.** There are many ways to celebrate spending little to no money. Curl up for a holiday movie marathon, bake cookies or look for free holiday concerts in your local area. Shopping malls and community centers typically offer a schedule of no-cost holiday entertainment.

For a better financial start in the new year, spend wisely this holiday season. Smart budgeting and new payment options can make it easy.

## SEVERE WINTER WEATHER: 5 WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment is stressing the importance of conducting an insurance review with an agent in advance of winter weather.

"Ohio's winter weather can be punishing, not only to your property but also to your finances, especially if you are without adequate insurance protection," Froment said. "I encourage Ohioans to connect with an insurance agent to ensure their coverage is winter ready."

Froment outlined five ways that you can avoid costly setbacks.

### 1) Review your homeowners and auto insurance and amounts with an agent.

- Most property policies generally cover structure and contents damage from wind, ice, water (but not flooding), and burst water pipes. Roof, gutter, siding and window damage -- such as from ice damming and collapse from the weight of snow -- are also generally covered. Certain circumstances and deductibles will apply.

- Vehicle damage caused by water-related events, ice, heavy snow and burst water pipes are normally covered under the "other-than-collision" (also known as "comprehensive") portion of an auto insurance policy. This is optional coverage that has to be purchased.

### 2) Review personal possessions coverage options.

- If you have a loss, actual cash value pays the value of the item the day it was destroyed. Replacement cost coverage pays in accordance with the value of a comparable item at the current market price. Renters should consider renters insurance to protect their possessions.

### 3) Ask about after the fact expenses.

- Determine if the policy pays for such things as fire department charges, temporary repairs, debris removal, trees and shrubs, personal property storage, and certain living expenses.

### 4) Complete a home inventory.

- Listing your possessions with photos and their values will prove worthwhile in a claim filing situation and help you determine if you have adequate insurance coverage. Download the free phone app myHOME Scr.APP.book or print a paper version at [www.insurance.ohio.gov](http://www.insurance.ohio.gov).

### 5) Winterize your property and vehicle.

- For your home, clean debris from gutters and downspouts, address missing shingles and overhanging tree limbs. Inspect the underside of the roof from the attic for signs of leaks. Protect against frozen and burst water pipes by maintaining adequate heat in your home and winterize your pipes.

- For your vehicle, tires should have adequate tread and air pressure. Keep the windshield wiper fluid tank filled and maintain at least a half tank of gasoline. Carry a windshield scraper and brush for ice and snow removal. Also in your vehicle, keep a snack, water, extra warm attire, blankets and a first aid kit.

If you have questions about insurance call the Ohio Department of Insurance at 1-800-686-1526. Insurance information is available at [www.insurance.ohio.gov](http://www.insurance.ohio.gov). The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness' website [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov) contains important safety information.

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<b>2017 Ford Focus SE</b> <p>#27839</p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>LEASE RENEWAL</td> <td>EVERYONE PAYS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LEASE FOR \$192 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> <td>LEASE FOR \$207 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$836<sup>00</sup></b></td> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$854<sup>00</sup></b></td> </tr> </table> <p><small>*1<sup>ST</sup> PAYMENT, TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG &amp; DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	LEASE RENEWAL	EVERYONE PAYS	LEASE FOR \$192 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	LEASE FOR \$207 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	<b>TOTAL DUE \$836<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>TOTAL DUE \$854<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>2017 Ford Fusion SE Tech Pkg</b> <p>Remote Starter, Heated Seats #27673</p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>LEASE RENEWAL</td> <td>EVERYONE PAYS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LEASE FOR \$245 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> <td>LEASE FOR \$259 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$815<sup>00</sup></b></td> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$845<sup>00</sup></b></td> </tr> </table> <p><small>*1<sup>ST</sup> PAYMENT, TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG &amp; DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	LEASE RENEWAL	EVERYONE PAYS	LEASE FOR \$245 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	LEASE FOR \$259 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	<b>TOTAL DUE \$815<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>TOTAL DUE \$845<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>2018 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB STX 4X4</b> <p>#T28060</p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>WITH F-150 LEASE LOYALTY</td> <td>EVERYONE PAYS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LEASE FOR \$347 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> <td>LEASE FOR \$369 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$850<sup>00</sup></b></td> <td><b>TOTAL DUE \$878<sup>00</sup></b></td> </tr> </table> <p><small>*1<sup>ST</sup> PAYMENT, TAXES, TITLE, 45 DAY TAG &amp; DOC FEE DUE AT SIGNING.</small></p>	WITH F-150 LEASE LOYALTY	EVERYONE PAYS	LEASE FOR \$347 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	LEASE FOR \$369 PER MO* 36 MOS 10,500 MYEAR	<b>TOTAL DUE \$850<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>TOTAL DUE \$878<sup>00</sup></b>
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<b>2016 Nissan Versa</b> <p>#7407</p> <p><b>\$11,498 PLUS TAX</b></p>	<b>2013 Ford Escape</b> <p>#7582</p> <p><b>\$12,988 PLUS TAX</b></p>												
<b>2008 F150 Crew 4x4</b> <p>#7576</p> <p><b>\$12,998 PLUS TAX</b></p>	<b>2010 Dodge Ram 1500</b> <p>#7576</p> <p><b>\$12,988 PLUS TAX</b></p>												
<b>2014 Hyundai Sonata GLS</b> <p>#7540</p> <p><b>\$13,798 PLUS TAX</b></p>	<b>2016 Hyundai Sonata</b> <p>#A7510</p> <p><b>\$14,995 PLUS TAX</b></p>												

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## JUNIOR LEAGUE HOLDING ANGEL TAG GIFT COLLECTION



GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's League's Domestic Violence awareness committee is working with Someplace Safe to bring smiles to nearly 250 clients who registered for assistance this holiday season. Stop by the Eastwood Mall and pick up an Angel Tag from the purple tree located between the Community Room and Payless Shoes near Dillards. After you purchase the gifts on your Angel Tag, simply return them to the community room. Store hours are noon until 9 p.m. through Dec. 19. Shown decorating the tree are WJWL committee members, from left, Lisha Pompili-Baumiller, Missy Forte-Parker and Chairman Mary Swift.

## THOSE WITH DIABETES AT HIGHER RISK FOR VISION LOSS, BUT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO SAVE SIGHT

More than 8 million Americans have diabetic retinopathy, according to the study, "The Future of Vision: Forecasting the Prevalence and Costs of Vision Problems," from Prevent Blindness. As the rates of diabetes cases grow across the country, so do the projected rates of diabetic eye disease, with a 35 percent increase to 10.9 million by 2032, and a 63 percent increase to 13.2 million by 2050.

The study also found that, unlike other eye diseases such as cataract, glaucoma and macular degeneration, more men than women have diabetic retinopathy. And, Hispanic populations are projected to exhibit extremely high growth in diabetic retinopathy cases. Currently, 67 percent of cases are among whites

and 17 percent among Hispanics. By 2050, projections are that 45 percent of diabetic retinopathy patients will be white and 35 percent will be Hispanic.

Diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness in adults. And, the National Eye Institute states that people with diabetes are 25 times more likely to become blind than those without diabetes.

In Ohio, nearly 285,000 adults aged 40+ have diabetic retinopathy which is characterized by patches of vision loss, cloudy vision, glare sensitivity and decreased night or low-light vision. People with diabetes are 40 percent more likely to develop glaucoma and 60 percent more likely to develop cataracts than those without diabetes. If diabetes is detected and treated early, the blinding effects can be lessened.

"Prevent Blindness urges everyone with diabetes to get an annual dilated eye exam," said Sherry Williams, president & CEO of the Ohio Affiliate of Prevent Blindness. "Your eye doctor can help monitor your vision and advise you of the necessary steps to take today to help lessen the impact that the disease may have on your sight."

Prevent Blindness offers a variety of free resources dedicated to the education of diabetic eye disease including its dedicated website, [preventblindness.org/diabetes](http://preventblindness.org/diabetes).

All people with diabetes are at risk of developing eye disease that can permanently damage their vision and even lead to blindness. However, there are steps that can be taken to help prevent diabetic eye disease, including:

- Maintaining good blood sugar, blood pressure, and cholesterol control.
- Getting a comprehensive dilated eye exam and/or obtaining retinal photographs that are examined by an eye doctor, at least once a year, or more often as recommended by the eye doctor.
- Women with diabetes prior to pregnancy should have a comprehensive dilated eye exam early in their pregnancy. The eye doctor may recommend additional exams during pregnancy.
- Keeping a healthy lifestyle that includes exercising regularly, not smoking and following a healthy diet.
- Talk to a dietitian about eating habits and a doctor before starting an exercise program.

For more information on diabetic eye disease, please call Prevent Blindness, Ohio Affiliate at 800-301-2020 or visit [preventblindness.org/diabetes](http://preventblindness.org/diabetes).



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The Confident Retirement® approach is not a guarantee of future financial results.

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### FINANCIAL MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN YOU HAVE MONEY IN THE BANK

Even people who are financially secure can fall into money traps that put their future at risk, or miss out on opportunities to further strengthen their financial position. Here are several common mistakes made by financially accomplished people – along with a few tips to counteract them.

**Overspending.** You've worked hard to get where you are. Don't abandon the budgeting strategies that helped you come this far. Give your discretionary fund a boost if you must, but continue to keep an eye on what you spend each month. You can easily fall behind in your financial goals by consistently overspending in small amounts, which add up to large sums over time.

**Not having an emergency fund.** If you earn a healthy sum each month and have money set aside in investments, you may not think you need other savings. However, having a workplace plan (like a 401(k) or 403(b) plan) or an IRA is not an emergency fund. Withdrawing funds earmarked for retirement prematurely can incur costly tax penalties, and make you lose out on potential future earnings. Instead, store away three- to-six months' worth of income in liquid savings to provide a cushion in the event of job loss, natural disaster, illness or another unexpected event.

**Prioritizing saving for college over retirement.** As the cost of a four-year degree in the U.S. continues to rise, it may be tempting to put your child's tuition ahead of your own future. Yet, boosting your retirement savings should take priority. Your child has an array of options to finance college tuition, including job earnings, merit-based

scholarships, and various loan options. When you retire, you simply won't have access to these external sources of funding if your retirement savings come up short. If you are on track with your retirement savings and want to set aside funds for your budding student, be strategic and diligent about creating a plan to achieve both goals.

**Being underinsured.** Take a critical look at what you own. How easily could you replace those items if an unexpected event occurs? Standard policies may not cover as much as you think, especially if you've recently upgraded your home or added to your art collection. Check in with your insurance agent and upgrade your coverage as needed. If you live in an area prone to severe weather, you may be able to add a rider for flood or storm damage. Bump up your life insurance if it makes sense and review your potential need for disability income and long-term care coverage.

**Failing to diversify.** You heard it a million times growing up – don't put all your eggs in one basket. If your money is tied up in your home, or if your investments are over- or under-weighted in one sector of the market, you may be on risky ground. Work with your financial advisor to evaluate your level of diversification within the context of your goals. Annual or more frequent reviews are recommended to help ensure a productive portfolio that's within your tolerance for risk.

*Column provided by Shortreed & Associates, Financial planning services and investments offered through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA & SIPC.*

### 3 WAYS PUPS CAN IMPROVE SENIORS' HEALTH

(Family Features) Furry friends can play a significant role in pet owners' lives. The old saying goes, "dogs are man's best friend," and research shows they may be more than that. In fact, they just might be the key to keeping seniors active.

According to a study conducted by the University of Lincoln and Glasgow Caledonian University in collaboration with Mars Petcare Waltham Centre for Pet Nutrition, dog owners 65 and older were found to walk over 20 minutes more a day than seniors who did not have canine companions at home.

The study documented three key conclusions:

1. Dog owners walked further and for longer than non-dog owners.
2. Dog owners were more likely to reach recommended activity levels.
3. Dog owners had fewer periods of sitting down.

"Older adult dog owners are more active than those without dogs and are also more likely to meet government recommendations for daily physical activity," said Nancy Gee, human animal interaction researcher at Waltham. "We are learning more every day about the important roles pets play in our lives, so it's no surprise that pets are now in more than 84 million households. It's great to recognize how pets can help improve seniors' lives."

Walking with your pup can help both the pet and owner get in shape. Pets can keep older adults active and even help them meet the recommended public health guidelines for weekly physical activity. According to the study, on average, dog owners more often participated in 30 minutes a day of moderate physical activity and achieved 2,760 additional steps.

However, the benefits of pet ownership go beyond physical activity. It's no secret that pets provide companionship. From reducing rates of stress, depression and feelings of social isolation, pets can play a significant role in improving people's lives, which ultimately can make pet owners happier and healthier.

Not only do pets serve as companions in their own right, studies have shown that dog owners can get to know their neighbors through their pets. Pets can even help facilitate the initial meeting and conversation, which may come as no surprise for many dog owners who have chatted with others while walking their dogs. For older adults who live alone or in a group facility, having a pet is also a great way to build relationships with others.

As senior citizens are celebrated on upcoming days that acknowledge older adults, it turns out living with a pet can be a healthy choice for seniors in more ways than one.

For more information on the benefits of pet ownership, visit [bettercitiesforpets.com](http://bettercitiesforpets.com).

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# AWL Adopt A Pet

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE



**Precious** is a 7-year-old Pit Bull Terrier mix. She was found as a stray and brought to AWL to find a new, loving home. Precious is a very sweet and loving dog that gets along well with other dogs! She was chosen to attend the next Caring Companions Training Program where she will spend nine weeks learning basic obedience. Precious will graduate on Feb. 7. She is available for pre-adoption. Her adoption fee is \$200 and includes her spay, vaccinations, heartworm test, microchip with registration and more.

**Wendy** is a 2-year-old Domestic Shorthair mix. Wendy and several other cats came to AWL from a humane case. She is a happy and friendly girl that just wants a loving home to call her own. Wendy would make a great addition to any family. Her adoption fee is \$20.17 and includes her spay, vaccinations, FeLV/FIV testing, a 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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# Tax Solutions

By Jennifer J. Slywczak

## FOUR THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT TAXES AND STARTING A BUSINESS

By Jennifer Slywczak, CPA

New business owners have tax-related things to do before launching their companies. IRS.gov has resources to help. Here are some items to consider before scheduling a ribbon-cutting event.

### Choose a business structure

When starting a business, an owner must decide what type of entity it will be. This type determines which tax forms a business needs to file. Owners can learn about business structures at IRS.gov. The most common forms of businesses are:

- Sole Proprietorships
- Partnerships
- Corporations
- S Corporations
- Limited Liability Company

### Determine business tax responsibilities

The type of business someone operates determines what taxes they need to pay and how to pay them. There are the five general types of business taxes.

- **Income tax** - All businesses except partnerships must file an annual income tax return. They must pay income tax as they earn or receive income during the year.
- **Estimated taxes** - If the amount of income tax withheld from a taxpayer's salary or pension is not enough, or if the taxpayer receives income such as interest, dividends, alimony, self-employment income, capital gains, prizes and awards, they may have to make estimated tax payments.
- **Self-employment tax** - This is a Social Security and Medicare tax. It applies primarily to individuals who work for themselves.
- **Employment taxes** - These are taxes an employer pays or sends to the IRS for its employees. These include unemployment tax, income tax withholding, Social Security, and Medicare taxes.
- **Excise tax** - These taxes apply to businesses that:
  - o Manufacture or sell certain products
  - o Operate certain kinds of businesses
  - o Use various kinds of equipment, facilities, or products
  - o Receive payment for services

### Choose a tax year accounting period

Businesses typically figure their taxable income based on a tax year of 12 consecutive months. A tax year is an annual accounting period for keeping records and reporting income and expenses. The options are:

- **Calendar year:** Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.
- **Fiscal year:** 12 consecutive months ending on the last day of any month except December.

### Set up recordkeeping processes

Being organized helps businesses owners be prepared for other tasks. Good recordkeeping helps a business monitor progress. It also helps prepare financial statements and tax returns. See IRS.gov for recordkeeping tips.

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@jenjslycpa.com](mailto:jennifer@jenjslycpa.com). To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at [www.jenjslycpa.com](http://www.jenjslycpa.com).

## FESTIVE TIPS TO SET A HOLIDAY MOOD AT HOME

(StatePoint) It's the most festive time of the year. Be sure to fill your home with the classic scents, sounds and sights of the holiday season in the following ways.

1. **Start a Holiday Cookie Tradition.** Bring the family together by baking cookies. Not only will it fill the home with a scrumptious aroma, it's a fun activity that can involve everyone. Let kids get creative and decorate their own batch. In the spirit of giving, make some extras to share with friends, neighbors, teachers, coworkers and more.
2. **Sing carols.** Carol from the comfort of home. To experience a sense of community, organize an at-home holiday sing-along. Record your performances for posterity using a MIDI recorder.
3. **Display greetings.** For a festive feel, creatively decorate your home using

your holiday cards with greetings from loved ones. String cards together and hang them in the doorway, decorate the fridge or display them on the mantle.

4. **Get into the spirit.** Frosty pine, sugar cookies, cinnamon and more. Fill your home with the spirit of the holidays using essential oils and candles of classic holiday scents. Or, keep it natural and boil cinnamon sticks with orange and cloves.

5. **Enjoy your favorite flicks.** From classic dramas to contemporary comedies, the holiday genre is eclectic. Set up a home theater and enjoy your favorite films with some hot chocolate under a cozy blanket. At your next holiday party, consider projecting movies silently while playing holiday music for an extra boost of cheer.

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## CORTLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS ALIVE AND WELL AND BUSY!

By Joyce Hall

With the coming of the winter season at CCC, the church and fellowship hall is a hub of activity. The colorful autumn season just leads into one holiday after another, and more activities.

In October, we had our yearly traditional Trunk or Treat, which is always well attended with so many happy little munchkins that love having fun. It's a tradition to have the police and fire department come to share with the children. Canine Companions were here with two beautiful dogs who are in training to eventually be a companion to a veteran or maybe someone elderly who needs the help and companionship of one of these specially trained dogs. The kids loved this and so did the adults, petting the dogs and asking many questions of the trainers.

The aroma of freshly popped corn filled the air, box after box was handed out to all who were there. Brenda Byler dressed as a clown manned the popping machine. Jeff Byler carved pumpkins and handed out a story of how we are very much like a jack-o-lantern. A Halloween story read by Pastor Curtis Miller and crafting with Amy Popichak always gathers a crowd. A ghost bean bag toss kept the kids busy, and so many members handed out treats. Great fun with the kids.

Little Lambs Closet had its debut at CCC this season at its new venue, Cortland Christian Church. Several young women who work at Cortland Bank decided to give it a try. They advertised for vendors, set up the hall, arranged all

the clothing and made the sales. Women of Cortland Christian Church also helped, learning along the way. Much to the delight of everyone, this event was well attended by vendors and buyers. This is a wonderful way to make some money on your unused and gently worn children's clothing and toys and for you as a seller to make some spending money for yourself. This event will be held again May 3-4 and in October of next year. Watch for it. [www.LittleLambsCortlandOH.com](http://www.LittleLambsCortlandOH.com).

A drug abuse program was presented by Officer Tony Villaneuva on Nov. 14. He educated those in attendance on drug abuse, how, where, when, why and what kinds of drugs to look for. This was a free event to help parents and the public understand and identify drug abuse. Drug abuse is something that affects any and all families in some way, a good friend, a neighbor, family member, etc. It was a great informative talk.

Voting day was a busy time at CCC as several precincts were here. Voting places have changed for many of us. Three precincts voted here this year. Lots of space and easy access make this a great place to vote.

Our Holiday Craft Fair plans are being finalized; crafters and vendors are busy getting their items readied for the sale that is being held on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Our annual Christmas Cookie is Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Christmas Eve service will be held on Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend this service to feel peace and the real meaning of Christmas.

## CORTLAND CHRISTIAN HOLDING CRAFT FAIR NOV. 25

Cortland Christian Church is having a Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale on Nov. 25 at the church, located at 153 Grove Drive, Cortland. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be at least 20 crafters and vendors participating. Quite a variety of items will be available for your shopping experience. Unique handmade items like stocking stuffers, items to decorate your home, teachers'

gifts, etc., will be waiting for you. A table of freshly made baked goods for the holiday parties will be available. There will also be a light lunch of soup and sandwiches.

This is a great time to buy some last minute specialty gifts or you could just be starting your shopping and this is a wonderful place to start. This is the same day as the Gingerbread Walk. It will be a good day for shopping in Cortland.

## CORTLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

The Cortland Christian Church will be holding a Christmas cookie sale on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thousands of cookies will be available including cutout and decorated sugar cookies, gingerbread

cut-out cookies, Snowball cookies, Pecan Tassies, fruit and nut kolachy, (foldover cookies), clothespin cookies and buckeyes, to name a few. Many other kinds of cookies will be available also. Come early as they go fast.

## WARREN CIVIC CHORUS PRESENTS HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The Warren Civic Chorus, under the direction of Dr Hae Jong Lee, will hold its annual performance of Handel's Messiah on Sunday, Dec. 3, with performances at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. It will be presented at Blessed Sacrament Church, 3020 Reeves Road, Warren.

Featured soloists will be Dr. Misook Yun, soprano; Emily Alcott, alto; Youngsuk Kim, tenor; and Max Pivik, bass. The chorus will be accompanied by the Warren Civic Chamber Orchestra. The

WC4 (Warren Civic Chorus Children's Choir), under the direction of Nancy Moore, will be featured again in this year's concert.

The Warren Civic Chorus, an all-volunteer group, has spent the past eight weeks preparing for this annual event. A free will offering will take place. There is ample parking and the facility is handicapped accessible. For more information visit [www.warrencivicchorus.com](http://www.warrencivicchorus.com).

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**LAKEVIEW BAND HONORS FALLEN HEROES**

By Sally Lane



Once in a while, something happens that touches our hearts in a way that moves us to a reverent silence. It doesn't usually happen at a football game, especially one that would be between two winning teams. But it did, and both communities are still talking about it.

Girard had recently lost a well-liked policeman to senseless violence. Hundreds of police officers, safety forces, community members and family from all over the county attended the funeral of Officer Justin Leo. Later that week, many from Girard traveled to Cortland for the first post-season football game of the season.

To offer condolences to the Girard

community, honor Officer Leo and other fallen heroes, the Lakeview Marching Band performed a special pre-game program. The band played a concert version of "Taps," which featured a solo by Lakeview senior trumpeter Andy Planitz. As the final note faded away, the stadium was completely silent for several moments as the crowd reflected, united in the emotions brought out by the music.

"That moment was very special and somber, and I was glad we could help to provide that atmosphere," said Lakeview Band Director Nathan Sensabaugh. "We were very happy to pay tribute and honor the fallen heroes in our area."

**LAKEVIEW BAND HOSTS BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Breakfast with Santa, a fundraiser for the Lakeview High School band uniform fund, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Garden Brook Banquet Hall with breakfast served from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Children will have a chance to visit with Santa from 9 to 10:30 a.m. A breakfast buffet will be prepared by Mackenzie's Catering which includes scrambled eggs, French toast, ham, sausage and breakfast potato.

The fundraiser is being held to raise funds for new uniforms to replace the current uniforms that were purchased in 1998.

Families are welcome to take their own pictures of their children with Santa. There will also be a lottery wreath drawing at 11 a.m.

The Lakeview Jazz Blue, Jazz White and Jazz Grey bands will be playing holiday music during the breakfast, so come out to enjoy breakfast and the music of the jazz band.

Advanced tickets can be purchased by Nov. 29. Adult tickets are \$10 and children 10 and under are \$5. Tickets may be purchased at the door for an additional \$2 each. For advanced tickets send your check, made payable to Lakeview Band Boosters, with your name, phone number and the number of adult and child tickets to Heidi Harper, 200 Myrtle Ave., Cortland. All tickets purchased in advanced will be picked up at the door. If you have any questions, contact Heidi at 330-717-4018.

**CHILDREN AT CORTLAND PLAYROOM CAST THEIR BALLOTS**

The Cortland Playroom children got to experience what it was like to vote. On Nov. 7 all the classes got to vote on different things. Mrs. Sutton's rainbow room, Miss MaryAnn's green room and Miss Carol's blue room children voted on white milk or chocolate milk. Chocolate won! Miss Jessica's orange room voted on the craft for the day, pilgrims or Indians. Indians was the winner.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO NOLI SIGNERS!

Three Lakeview seniors signed National Letters of Intent to play at three different universities in the fall of 2018. Two leaders of the Lakeview Bulldogs softball team are Avery Steiner, who signed her NOLI to play at the University of Illinois, and Tori Wells, who signed with the University of Findlay. Annie Pavlansky signed her NOLI to play basketball for the Golden Flashes at Kent State University. Congrats and best wishes!

Pictured with family members are: Avery Steiner at the Illinois table, Tori Wells at the Findlay table and Annie Pavlansky at the Kent State table



### RAIDEL AUDITORIUM EVENTS

December 4  
7 p.m.  
Middle School Choir Concert

December 6  
7 p.m.  
Middle School Band Concert

December 11  
7:30 p.m.  
Cortland Community Band and Choir Concert

December 12  
7:30 p.m.  
8th Grade Band and Choir Concert

December 14  
7 p.m.  
High School Band and Choir Concert

December 18  
7 p.m.  
3rd Grade Concert

### OHSVCA JIM MUTH SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD GOES TO FORMER LAKEVIEW COACH SCOTT TAYLOR

The OHSVCA Board of Directors unequivocally recognizes that Scott Taylor has earned recognition by the Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association as the Jim Muth Sportsmanship Award Recipient of 2017.

Taylor has been a part of the volleyball community for nearly 40 years as a player, coach and most recently a volleyball official. As a college student, he founded and played on a club volleyball program at Bethany College and was forever hooked on the game. Scott continued to play on several clubs and USVBA teams learning the skills and strategies that would serve him well in his next adventure as a coach. Scott spent 21 years coaching at all levels at Lakeview High School where he taught. As the head girls' volleyball coach at Lakeview for 17 years, his teams won 278 matches, while losing 106.

One of the most impressive characteristics about Scott's coaching was his unselfish work with area coaches in helping them build their programs. For those coaches who were new or wanted to

improve, Scott became a great resource, volunteering time and expertise in their mentoring. In addition, he played an active role in statewide coaching clinics in both organizing and presenting.

Scott's greatest impact on volleyball in Ohio has been his work with the Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association. He began his tenure in the OHSVCA as a trustee before joining the executive committee. Eventually Scott held the role of secretary, before ultimately being elected four times as president of the OHSVCA. During his eight years as president, he also played an important leadership role in the OHSVCA sponsored Elite Camp. Scott lives in Warren with his wife of 35 years, Ginny. They have raised three grown children all of whom love the great game of volleyball. Though Scott is now retired from coaching, he remains active in the sport by officiating high school and college matches while still finding time to play a pickup game or two at the local YMCA.



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The open enrollment period for individual health coverage - Obamacare - has now begun. This is the time of the year when individuals who are not eligible for health coverage through their employer may choose an individual plan for themselves and their family. There are a couple of key changes with this year's open enrollment period:

This year's enrollment period has been shortened to only 45 days. The final day that enrollments will be accepted will be Dec. 15, 2017 for coverage effective Jan. 1, 2018.

There are a lot of changes with the available carriers this year. There is only one carrier available in most counties in Ohio. If you are currently enrolled on or off the Health Care Marketplace, be sure

to verify that your carrier will continue to offer their plan into the New Year; and

There are changes in the tax credit calculations for 2018. This needs to be re-evaluated every year to make sure you are getting the most credit allowed for your income. Additionally, the funding for navigators has been reduced within Ohio. If you are looking for assistance with your enrollment choices, [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) has added a "Help on Demand" feature to the website that connects individuals with certified health insurance brokers. For personal assistance from someone in your area, be sure to seek assistance from a licensed professional health care insurance agent within the state. To find an agent in your area, go to [www.healthbenefitsohio.org](http://www.healthbenefitsohio.org)

## KENT STATE TRUMBULL RENEWS AUTOMATIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR QUALIFYING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Kent State University at Trumbull has renewed campus scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year. Graduating high school seniors who are admitted to Kent State University at Trumbull by May 1 and have a cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 or greater, will automatically be awarded one of the following scholarships:

- Dean's Scholarship, \$4,000/year, 3.8 GPA
- Gold Scholarship, \$2,000/year, 3.6 GPA
- Silver Scholarship, \$1,500/year, 3.3 GPA
- Bronze Scholarship, \$1,000/year, 3.0 GPA

These scholarships can be combined with other privately funded and honors scholarships. However, all require full-time enrollment at Kent State Trumbull for the 2018-2019 academic year (12 or more credit hours per semester). Yearly tuition at one of Kent State University's regional campuses is \$5,664.

"Because it covers more than three-fourths of my tuition, I can focus on school and not have to worry about whether or not I have the money to fund my education. In four years, I'll start my career, debt-free," said Jasmine Hickey, Dean's Scholarship recipient and 2017 Bristol High School/Trumbull Career & Technical Center graduate.

These scholarships do not require a separate scholarship application. Students who are seeking additional scholarship opportunities should complete the Kent State Trumbull Scholarship Application, which is now available. Interested students and parents are encouraged to apply early.

"This is a smart way to finance your future," said Dr. Jim Ritter, director, Enrollment Management & Student Services, Kent State Trumbull. "Many students are able to combine one of these scholarships with another and cover most if not all of the tuition for the first year."

For more information about Kent State University at Trumbull, visit [www.kent.edu/trumbull](http://www.kent.edu/trumbull).

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## Holiday Budgeting Tips for Savvy Consumers

(StatePoint) Sticking to one's budget is important all year long, but doing so during the holiday season can be especially tricky, when expenses run high and festive cheer makes it difficult to put the brakes on over-spending.

To get a better handle on your spending this season, consider the following tools and tips.

### Make Plans

Decide exactly what your plans are

this season. Will you be traveling? Will you be hosting a dinner party? What does your holiday shopping list look like? Add budget line items for all the associated expenses and put a price cap on each one.

### Add it Up

Seek out tools that help make the logistics of staying within budget simple, such as desktop and printing calculators like Casio's HR-100TMIPlus, a 12-digit printing calculator with a large, easy-to-read display. It is especially well-suited for organized budget planning, as it offers special keys for tax calculations and has two-color printing, enabling shoppers to color code positive entries as black and deductions or purchases as red. For additional information on Casio's portfolio of calculators, visit [Casio.com](http://Casio.com).

### Take Steps to Save

Make more space in your budget during the holiday season with smart strategies. Use free apps to help you score deep discounts on favorite retailers. If you're crafty or handy, consider DIY-ing certain gift items and greeting cards. Suggest a day of volunteer service at your workplace in lieu of a gift exchange.

### Don't Get Impulsive

When you're in the store aisles, it's easy to make impulse purchases, particularly during the holidays when every display is designed to make you spend. Make a shopping list and then adhere to it.

To start 2018 on the right foot, spend no more than what you intended to using tech tools and smart strategies.



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