



# CortlandNEWS

*"The Good News Newspaper"*

Vol. 15 No. 2

November 3, 2018

Serving the Lakeshore Communities



## *Giving Thanks*

### *A Hometown Thanksgiving*

By Sally Lane

**I**t is no coincidence that Thanksgiving is an autumn holiday. When Governor Bradford of Plymouth, Massachusetts, decreed a day of thanksgiving - the one our history books have named

the "first Thanksgiving" - it was in the fall of 1620. Our forefathers and mothers had worked hard the entire year, and finally the harvest was in. As a way of thanking the Native Americans for sharing their agricultural knowledge, an invitation was sent to the local tribe. Both cultures had ways of expressing thankfulness: the Puritans tended to be solemn, with prayer and perhaps some hymn singing while the Native Americans had ceremonies and dancing. Both cultures enjoyed games of skill and speed. After the opening ceremonies and the first meal, the day of thanksgiving turned into the party of the year, lasting for three days.

Now Thanksgiving is that pause before the grand finale of the year, that moment of silence when we count our blessings, like our forefathers and mothers intended. That the holiday is celebrated in the fall is a nod to our agricultural past. Before freezers and nearby supermarkets, provisions for the upcoming winter were stored in root

cellars and pantries. Our whole lives depended on agriculture, and the work was done until plowing time in the spring.

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday for so many reasons. Near the top of the list is the traditional menu, bless those Pilgrims' hearts. As long as my gang has the family's favorite stuffing and a tender turkey, they are happy. We always have mashed potatoes and gravy, too. We usually have a few dishes that bring out memories of relatives no longer with us (mom's corn pudding, Aunt Bessie's salad), but other side dishes vary as our family grows to encompass the spouses of our children, grandchildren and their favorite traditions.

We all have blessings. Most are very personal, like home, family and friends. Others are shared with our whole community. We have a wonderful community. So many people care about what happens to our town and the residents. Our churches

work every day of the year to help those in need. Our schools are full of teachers who truly love their jobs and make a difference every day in their

See **Thanksgiving** on page 12

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**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, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.  
 Monday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

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

**Parks and Recreation** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Nov. 12, 5 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**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 -	330-637-4136
Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector and Cemetery Sexton	330-637-8816	3000 Warren Meadville Rd.	
Road Department	330-637-8311	Non Emergency calls	330-675-2730
Police Department	330-638-5503		

**Bazetta Township Trustees Regular Meetings**

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

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.  
 Tuesday, Nov. 27, 9 a.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, Nov. 19, 6 p.m. - Lakeview High School Media Center (rescheduled from Nov. 12)

**Area Service Clubs**

<b>Cortland-Bazetta Historical Society and Museum</b> Sally Lane 330-638-2330	<b>Bazetta-Cortland Optimist Club</b> Charlie Harper 330-847-0114
<b>The Opera House</b> Kathy Fleischer 330-219-4884	<b>Cortland Rotary Club</b> Donna Zuga
<b>Cortland Beautification Association</b> Mary Kachurik 330-637-3098	<b>Four Seasons Garden Club</b> Becky Bucco 330-637-9115
<b>Cortland Lions Club</b> Mike Hummell 330-372-7951	<b>Friends of the Cortland Library</b> Di 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 Soloman 330-637-3483	<b>SCOPE</b> Darlene Fry / Diane Jordan 330-637-3010
<b>Cortland Masonic Lodge #529</b> 330-638-3110	<b>Cortland Opal Chapter #181, O.E.S.</b> Carla Kahler 330-856-2356
<b>Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF)</b> 330-720-9136	

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

**Our Next Issue....Nov. 24, 2018**

**Our theme will be Shop local for the holidays**

Article Deadline by Nov. 9 • Display Advertising Deadline is Nov. 14  
 Email articles to [editor@cortlandnews.net](mailto:editor@cortlandnews.net)

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

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

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

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

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

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[info@cortlandnews.net](mailto:info@cortlandnews.net)

**Editor**  
 Jean Corliss

**Graphic Designer**  
 Pam Haake

**Photographers**  
 Jim Woofter  
 Sally Lane

**Advertising Sales**  
 Jim Woofter  
 330-565-2637  
 Thom Foley  
 330-727-5688

**Featured Journalist**  
 Sally Lane

**Local Columnists/Journalists**

Rev. Donald P. Barnes  
 Jean Bolinger  
 Rev. C.R. Chapman  
 Jean A. Corliss  
 Christine Dorma  
 Kathleen Ferris  
 Thom Foley  
 Tom Shortreed  
 Jennifer J. Slywczak

**Contributors**  
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 Larry Sanfrey  
 Carole Wiley  
 Debbie Williams

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 P.O. Box 56  
 Cortland, OH 44410  
 (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. 3- Nov. 24

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).

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

Cortland Branch Library events. *See pg. 18*

"Corvettes of the Valley," National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning Avenue NW, Warren, through April 14, 2019.

"Christmas in Cortland," community concert singer rehearsals, various dates. *See pg. 12*

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

OhioCAN Blessing Bags project for homeless population, items dropped off at city hall.

Youngstown Nighthawks Soccer League, Cortland League schedule, visit [www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks](http://www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks)

## NOV.

3 "Patrick Henry: American Revolutionary Statesman," Cortland Branch Library, 11 a.m.

3 "Remembering World War I," McKinley Birthplace Home, 40 S. Main St., Niles, 1-2 p.m.

3 Trumbull Mobile Meals annual gala benefit, St. Demetrios Community Center, Warren, 6 p.m.

6 Election Day

7 Bristol Public Library presents "Clara Barton," by Carol Starre-Kmiecik, 6:30 p.m. *See pg. 18*

10 6th Annual Fast & Furriest 5K Run/Walk, Waterworth Memorial Park, Pavilion 8, off Superior Avenue, Salem, 9:45 a.m. *See pg. 12*

10 Western Reserve Masonic Lodge Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner, 216 East Main St./Rt. 88, West Farmington, 4-6 p.m.

11 Veteran's Day

11 Warren-Trumbull County Libraries closed

12 Veteran's Day (observed)

13 The Guardian Angels of Trumbull County meeting, Shepherd of the Valley, 4100 North River Road, Warren, 5 p.m.

14 "Floral Arranging in Autumn Colors," TC Agricultural & Family Education Center, 520 W. Main St., Cortland, 6 p.m.

15 Cortland Christian Church Soup and Sandwich Lunch, Fellowship Hall, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. *See pg. 16*

16 49th annual GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's League Champagne Luncheon, W.D. Packard Music Hall, Warren. *See pg. 8*

16,17 Annual Holiday Garage Sale, Upton House, 380 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. [www.UptonHouse.org](http://www.UptonHouse.org), 330-395-1840.

17 Veterans Memorial dedication ceremony, Point Park, 1 p.m. *See pg. 4*

17 National Survivors of Suicide Awareness Day, 20th Annual Candlelight Vigil, Warren Reach Center, 2609 Weir Road, Warren, 6 p.m.

17 Trumbull Mobile Meals Zumbathon, Eastwood Mall's center court, 8-10 a.m., registration 7:30 a.m. *See pg. 7*

17 Legacy Dog Rescue and Never Muzzled basket raffle, The Federal, 110 W. Federal St., Youngstown, noon-6 p.m. *See pg. 6*

20 LOAF (Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship) community Thanksgiving worship service, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 7 p.m. *See pg. 19*

22 Thanksgiving

22 Warren-Trumbull County Libraries closed

22,23 City of Cortland offices closed.

24 Cortland Christian Church Holiday Craft Fair and Gingerbread House Contest. *See pg. 19*



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## Veterans Memorial dedication planned for Saturday, Nov. 17

Ian McAleer, chairman of the 22-member Veterans Memorial Committee, has announced that the memorial dedication ceremony will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 1 p.m. at Point Park. All veterans, active military, memorial contributors, and the general public are invited.

McAleer said that over the past few weeks, the Cortland citizens have watched the progress of the memorial construction and many have commented how impressed they are with the work being done by Gilmore Designs and the various subcontractors. The end result will be a most impressive veteran's memorial that proudly displays the community's appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored veterans and their families.

"When the bronze soldier's cross and the kneeling soldier are unveiled, and the special lighting and the water feature are turned on, we hope the honored veterans and their families will sense our recognition and gratefulness for their service," McAleer said.

The dedication ceremony will involve the American Legion Honor Guard, the Boy Scouts and several public officials. The ceremony will mark the presentation of the veteran's memorial as a "gift to the city" from the numerous individuals, businesses, service clubs, veterans associations and community groups who donated

to the project as an expression of their deep appreciation for those who served.

Over 460 engraved pavers have been placed at the memorial honoring our armed forces veterans, and recognizing the major contributors. Point Park was originally dedicated as a veteran's memorial in 1999.

McAleer explained that the volunteer committee initiated the project to enhance the park and make it one of the most impressive memorials in the surrounding area -- and provide the Cortland community with a location for staging Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances.

He said that the committee is very thankful for the support and assistance from the Cortland city officials, the Cortland Community Foundation and from Gilmore Designs as the project moved from the fund raising kick-off in May of last year through the construction completion -- just 18 months later.

Including some modifications and enhancements during the process, such as the irrigation system, the final cost for the project was \$174,000. The committee is planning to continue to receive orders for engraved pavers, and the additional pavers will be placed in the memorial at a future date to be announced.

Those attending are asked to bring a lawn chair and be seated on the street, between the memorial and Cortland Mower. Walnut Street next to the memorial will be closed.

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## Homestead Trophy opens in Cortland

Cortland has another new business with the opening of Homestead Trophy. The shop is located in what is now dubbed "The Farm," the beautiful century home at the intersection of state Route 46 (Niles-Cortland Road) and state Route 305 directly across from Dunkin' Donuts. It also houses Mark's Signs and Dead Dale's Comics. Locally owned, Homestead Trophy offers custom made trophies, plaques and awards for every scholastic team sport as well as for individual activities such as hunting, archery, golf, bowling and much more. Discounted prices fit every budget and they even offer modern in-house engraving.

**CORTLAND**  
*Veterans Memorial*

Dedication on Saturday, November 17 -- 1:00pm  
 at Point Park in Cortland. (Please bring your lawn chair)  
 All veterans, active military, contributors, and public invited.

## UCFC announces strong earnings for third quarter

United Community Financial Corp. (Company) (NASDAQ:UCFC), parent company of Home Savings Bank (Home Savings), announced a net income of \$9.5 million and diluted earnings per share ("EPS") of \$0.190, a 25.8% improvement over the \$0.151 per common share reported for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2017.

## Business News & Notes

By Thom Foley

**Furniture Décor & More** is now accepting women's designer label purses, jewelry and clothing.

**Dr. Vlad** has been serving the children of this area for many years. Check out his excellent staff.

**DONT FORGOT THE WINE!** **Country Porch Winery** has carry out wine bottles or gift baskets wrapped and ready for that perfect host - birthday- or surprise gift! Did you know they are open all year round and have new fall menu items?

**Girt's Music 101** offers personal excellence in adult music lessons customized to meet individual needs and goals. [www.Music101Ohio.com](http://www.Music101Ohio.com)

Did you know that **Auntie V's Pizzeria** sells gift cards? Give the gift of GOOD!

**Cortland Lanes** is now taking bookings for your holiday party. Don't wait, they fill up fast.

Did you sign up for your Medicare supplement yet? I saw Barry Piper at **Greenwood Insurance** and he helped me get the plan best suited for me. He can do the same for you.

**Shortreed & Associates** is now named **Guidelight Financial Group**. Same great people, same great service.

Need your house sold or need to find a new home? Call **Jody Sova!**

**Noble Reynolds Insurance** is an authorized ERIE Agent. And they represent lots of other highly rated insurance companies. Go to an agency you can trust.

Need a **Santa Claus** for your work or home party this year? See the ad on who to call.

It is not too late to help **Dr. Lynn Johnson** with OPERATION GRATITUDE. The campaign collects Halloween candy and sends it our service members. All donations must be received by Nov. 5, so hurry!

**Campbell Carpet & Flooring** tells us that there is still plenty of time to have that new floor installed for the holidays. Check out all the new ideas they carry.

With the winter weather coming accidents are inevitable. If you get into a fender bender this year remember that **Daffron Auto Body** has been serving our area for over 40 years.

**Petrosky Brothers** reminds us that they remodel and renovate year 'round. So be sure to call them for that addition or remodel job you want done.

**Safer Winans Funeral Home** does preplanning. Do your family a great favor and preplan. See the experts on how to do it.

## Youngstown CityScape receives donation from Home Savings

Home Savings recently donated a check for \$12,000 to Youngstown CityScape. The funds will be used to assist with costs of "Sparkle Youngstown," which include general operating and installation of 60,000 lights for the holidays and the planting of 55 evergreen trees throughout downtown, ensuring both safety and beauty during the dark winter months.

"Our mission is to strengthen Youngstown's revitalized urban core that connects downtown, the YSU campus, and adjacent neighborhoods and getaways through strategic

partnerships in an effort to provide an attractive working and living environment," said Sharon Letson, executive director, Youngstown CityScape. "A vibrant environment, reflective of this community in its many shapes, sizes, colors and forms remains CityScape's ultimate vision for Youngstown.

"We're proud to support Youngstown CityScape as they work to revitalize the greater downtown Youngstown area," said Trish Gelsomino, Home Savings. "Working together we can truly make a difference."

## Lamppost Farm receives donation from Home Savings

Home Savings recently donated a check for \$3,400 to Lamppost Farm. The funds will be used to facilitate free education and experience for all of their customers every Saturday in their store.

"Our mission is to use agriculture to reach and teach others," said Melanie Montgomery, director of

Organizational Life at Lamppost Farm. "We facilitate growth in individuals and groups in relationship with themselves, others, the creation and the Creator."

"We're proud to support Lamppost Farm," said Trish Gelsomino, Home Savings. "Working together we can truly make a difference."

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Have a Blessed Thanksgiving




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## Having a Plan that Lasts

Monday, November 5 | 10:30 a.m.

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## \$5 Lunch at Ohio Living Lake Vista

11:30 to 1 p.m. | November 7th

Join Ohio Living Lake Vista for lunch the first Wednesday of each month! For \$5, you'll receive your choice of soup, sandwich and drink. Dessert will be available for an additional cost. Sit down to relax over lunch in our club house, or take it with you on the go.

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## Cortland firefighter/paramedic returning home after assisting with federal health response to Hurricane Michael

Todd Metzendorf, a firefighter/paramedic from Cortland, is returning home after assisting the federal medical response to Hurricane Michael as part of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). Metzendorf serves as a member of an NDMS Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT).

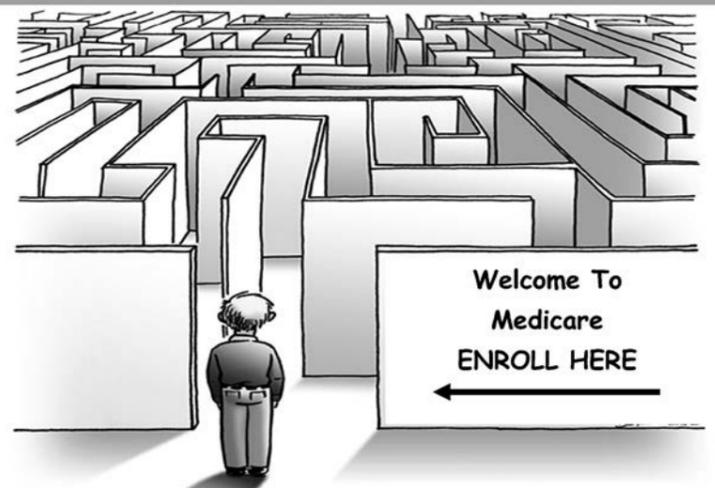
NDMS is a federal program that can support communities with medical care, veterinary care, and mortuary assistance during disasters or public health emergencies at the request of states; NDMS is among the resources made available by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR).

"ASPR moved about 400 medical and public health personnel, along with their caches of medical equipment, into impacted areas," NDMS Acting Director Ron Miller said. "Most of our DMAT personnel augmented medical care at overwhelmed emergency departments

in the Florida Panhandle. Other medical personnel coordinated with Urban Search and Rescue teams to triage people rescued or provided basic medical care for evacuees at shelters.

To date, NDMS personnel have treated more than 2,600 patients and were involved in approximately 2,140 patient transports. NDMS efforts to help residents of Florida will continue until the state no longer needs the support.

NDMS comprises approximately 5,000 physicians, nurses, veterinary staff, paramedics, fatality management professionals, and experienced command and control staff, organized into more than 70 response teams. When an emergency overwhelms local and state resources, ASPR looks to the expertise within NDMS from across the country to assist in the response. Although they hail from communities nationwide, when deployed they are federal government employees working as part of a coordinated federal response.



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## TCAP Winter Crisis Program accepting applications

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

Eligible applicants/households may qualify for WCP:

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

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

For an appointment call 1-866-747-1041. Please wait for confirmation number to secure an appointment. For anyone who cannot apply at TCAP in Warren, there are satellite sites to make application by appointment only.

- Tuesday - Niles Community Services, 401 Vienna Ave Suite 2 (Tiffany Square), Niles, Ohio 44446, 330-393-2507 ext. 227;
- Wednesday - Newton Falls United Methodist Church, 334 Ridge Road, Newton Falls, Ohio 44444, 330-393-2507 ext. 232;
- Thursday - City of Hubbard Municipal Building, 220 West Liberty St., Hubbard, Ohio 44425, 330-393-2507 ext. 260.

To apply provide:

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



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## Basket raffle for forgotten dogs

Who doesn't love a basket raffle? Even better is one that helps the forgotten dogs of the backyard! Legacy Dog Rescue and Never Muzzled are holding a huge basket raffle on Saturday, Nov. 17 at The Federal, 110 W. Federal St., Youngstown. The event will be from noon until 6 p.m., with baskets drawn promptly at 6 p.m.

Over 100 great baskets and/or gift cards will be raffled. The winner need

not be present. Come out and have lunch/dinner and a drink with friends working together to help the forgotten dogs of the Valley. Fifteen percent of all food sales will be donated back. Animal Pawtectors will have their Crystals for Critters jewelry for sale just in time for the holidays.

For more information, call Jenn at 330-719-5569 or follow the organizations on Facebook.



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

### Civic Opportunity

The city has an opening for a position on the Parks & Recreation Board. As stated in the city charter, the Board consists of five electors of the municipality not holding other public office. They shall be appointed by the Mayor, with confirmation by a majority of Council, to serve without compensation for a term of five (5) years. The Parks Board meetings are held once each month, currently on the second Monday at 5 p.m. If you have an interest in this position or any other civic opportunities, please send an email indicating your interest and qualifications to [mayor@cityofcortland.org](mailto:mayor@cityofcortland.org) or a letter addressed to the Mayor at 400 N. High St.

### Water and Sewer

The city of Cortland is excited to announce that customers may now access their water and sewer account online. You may pay your bill online, view your bill and usage as well your usage history and elect to enroll in autopay as well as e-billing.

To set up your customer account visit <https://cortlandoh.authoritypay.com>

You will need a CID (Customer ID number) and account number. You will find those numbers on your new bill. If you would like to set up an account online before you get your next bill please call us at 330-637-3916. We will be happy to give you your customer ID number and account number.

### Dates to Remember

- Nov. 5- Council Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Nov. 12 - Parks Meeting - 5 p.m.
- Nov. 12 - Planning & Zoning Commission - 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - Council Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Nov. 22 & 23 - City offices will be closed.

\* Republic Services will be operating on a one day delay due to the holiday.

The Veterans Memorial Dedication will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 1 p.m. The public is invited.

Enjoy the holiday season!

## TUBACHRISTMAS on Dec. 2

Start the holidays with a family sing-a-long tradition as "tubists" perform at the 20th Annual TUBACHRISTMAS on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. at Stambaugh Auditorium. This year a Holiday Craft Show will take place in conjunction with the event from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Come early or stay after to do some shopping and enjoy food and drink concessions.

Admission to the TUBACHRISTMAS concert is by donation to cover costs associated with in-kind use of Stambaugh Auditorium and event.

What is TUBACHRISTMAS? This year is the 45th anniversary for TUBACHRISTMAS concerts/events that are presented throughout the world. TUBACHRISTMAS was conceived in 1974 by Harvey Phillips as a tribute to his teacher and mentor William J. Bell, born on Christmas Day, 1902. Through the legendary William J. Bell, we reflect on our heritage and honor all great artists/teachers whose legacy has given us high performance standards, well structured pedagogy, professional integrity, personal values and a camaraderie envied by all other instrumentalists.

The first TUBACHRISTMAS was conducted by Paul Lavelle in New York City's Rockefeller Plaza Ice Rink

on Sunday, Dec. 22, 1974. Traditional Christmas music performed at the first TUBACHRISTMAS was arranged by American composer Alec Wilder who ironically died on Christmas Eve 1980. Wilder composed many solo and ensemble compositions for tuba and euphonium. He was a loyal supporter of every effort to improve the literature and public image of our chosen instruments. Through Alec Wilder we express our respect and gratitude to all composers who continue to embrace our instruments with their compositions and contribute to the ever growing solo and ensemble repertoire for tuba and euphonium. Harvey Phillips was also a Rotarian in his community.

For venue information and to become a craft vendor call Stambaugh Auditorium at 330-747-5175 or email [info@stambaughauditorium.com](mailto:info@stambaughauditorium.com) or visit [www.stambaughauditorium.com](http://www.stambaughauditorium.com). For TUBACHRISTMAS participation call Teresa Kirkland, coordinator at 330-219-2998 or email [teresakirkland@ymail.com](mailto:teresakirkland@ymail.com).

Limited amount of music books will be available for purchase the day of event for Tuba/Euphonium players (same book used each year). There is a \$10 participation fee each player.

## Trumbull Mobile Meals to host Zumbathon

Trumbull Mobile Meals will host a Zumbathon on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 8 to 10 a.m. at Eastwood Mall's center court. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. Entry is \$15 per participant. Preregistration is open at St. Joe's at the Mall or Trumbull Mobile Meals, 323 East Market St., Warren.

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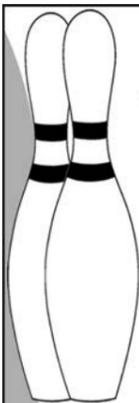
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## 49<sup>th</sup> Champagne Luncheon plans underway



Preparations are under way for the 49th annual GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's League Champagne Luncheon. Jonnah Hetzel, luncheon chairman, announced the theme "Christmas in Paradise" will be held on Nov. 16 at W.D. Packard Music Hall in Warren. Food will be catered by Aulizio's Banquet Center. Proceeds will provide funding for therapy sessions at Children's Rehabilitation Center's

"The House that Love Built." For information on luncheon raffle tickets contact Sue Smith at 330-856-7145 or Peggy Boyd at 330-856-5398.

Pictured from left are Fashion Coordinator and GFWC Ohio Director of Junior Clubs Esther Gartland, raffle Sue Smith, luncheon chairman Jonnah Hetzel, reservations Dodie Baritell, GFWC Ohio Northeast District President Karen Margala, Kelly Kelly and Renee Maiorca, reservations.

## A big career change

An interview with Chris Bolinger: From high tech product manager to devotional author

Why did a longtime product manager in the world of technology write a daily Bible devotional?

He saw an unmet need in the market.

"I spent over two decades as a product manager for tech firms such as Cisco," said Chris Bolinger, who graduated from Cortland Lakeview High School in 1982. "In that role, you're always on the lookout for prospective customer needs that your company can address."

Five years ago, after the acquisition of the Akron-based Wi-Fi company that he helped start, Bolinger decided to take a break from the tech world. But he remains a product manager at heart. "Spotting unmet needs is in my blood," he said with a smile.

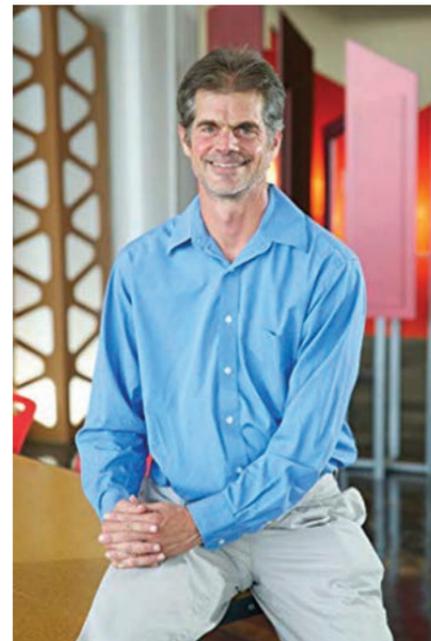
In early 2014, he formed Revitalize Ministries, which sought to provide resources and services to small churches, primarily in northeast Ohio. Success was limited, though. "The needs were there, but I found it difficult to address those needs in compelling ways," Bolinger said.

About the time he formed Revitalize, Bolinger joined a group of men who were embarking on an intensive, two-year Bible study and discipleship program offered by Christian Leadership Concepts (CLC). The CLC program strongly encourages participants to do a daily "quiet time," where you read the Bible and pray about what you've read.

"I had never done a daily quiet time," Bolinger said. "I was able to do it pretty consistently during the two years of the CLC program. After that, however, I got out of rhythm. I'd miss a day. Then two. Then three."

Bothered by his inconsistency, Bolinger went looking for resources that would help him get back on track. He found two types of resources for people who want to read the Bible regularly: Bible reading plans and devotionals.

Reading plans are designed for people who want to read the New Testament or the entire Bible in a set period of time, such as a year. The structure, goals, and milestones of a typical reading plan appealed to Bolinger, but he wasn't looking to read a lot of chapters every day. Instead, he wanted to take time to reflect on what he read so that it could have a positive impact on his everyday life. So he looked into devotionals.



Each entry in a typical devotional is a Bible verse or passage and the author's thoughts on that verse or passage. Those thoughts are designed to help you gain a deeper understanding of the verse or passage and apply it to your life.

"I was going through a rough time in my personal life, so I wanted a devotional that would help me draw strength and encouragement from the Bible," said Bolinger. "I searched for months and couldn't find a men's devotional that met my needs. I was pretty frustrated."

He decided to use the frustration as fuel. "I couldn't be the only man who wanted a devotional of daily strength from the Bible," he said, "so I decided to write one, for myself and for other men like me."

Writing a devotional was a lot different than writing articles for high tech journals, but Bolinger embraced the challenge and began to find his stride. About eight months after he started, he had a complete draft of a year-long devotional he entitled "Daily Strength for Men." Now he had to decide how to publish his book.

"Self-publishing is easy," he said, "but there are downsides. Very few self-published books reach a big audience. The vast majority have sales in the dozens or hundreds."

Knowing little about the publishing industry, Bolinger turned to his daughter Hope, who has worked as a writer, editor and literary agent while pursuing a degree in Professional Writing at Taylor University in Indiana. Hope helped her dad prepare a proposal for his book and shop the proposal to prospective publishers. After months of effort, a publisher -- Broadstreet Publishing in the Twin Cities -- bit.

On Nov. 6, nearly two years after his odyssey began, Bolinger's devotional will be on the virtual store shelves at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Christian Book Distributors, and other online retailers, including Bolinger's own site, DailyStrengthForMen.com.

Bolinger is excited about being a full-time product manager again. This time, the product is his book.

"I wrote it because I think that there are a lot of men like me out there," he said, "men who want to read the Bible more but need some help to meet that goal. I found an unmet need and addressed it."

"Now we'll find out how good a job I did."



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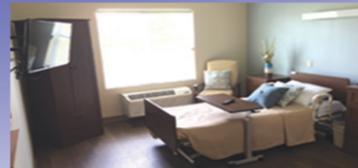
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Gardening chores are winding down. During the fall gardening season, perennial plant foliage is cut back, roses are put to bed and the bulbs for spring, summer and fall blooms have been planted. But wait, there's more. Let's talk peonies!

Along with Oriental Poppies and Japanese and Siberian Irises, fall is the recommended planting time for peonies. Late September and October are perfect planting months and if a plant must be moved, this is the time. Peonies should be settled for about six weeks before the ground freezes. Peonies planted in the spring will be fine, but experts say they just do not do as well and lag a year behind those planted in the fall.

Peonies do not like to compete with other shrubs and tree roots for food and moisture. So plant away in neutral Ph soil, with good air circulation and plenty of sun. If planting a bare root tuber, there should be 3 to 5 eyes (buds). Dig a good size hole, add some compost and set the root so the eyes face up, about two inches below the surface. Do not plant too deep, they will not bloom. Back fill and tamp down, water well. If planting a pot-grown peony, plant no deeper than it grew in the container.

Plant and forget. Peonies do not need lots of attention and spare the fertilizer. The soil should be worked before planting, mixing in a little compost and a little fertilizer, good enough. Do not bury them with mulch. Peonies need cold temperatures for bud formation. Hardy to Zone 3, there are early, midseason and late blooming varieties to extend the peony season.

The most common type of peony planted in home gardens is the Herbaceous peony that dies back to the ground each year and returns from its roots each spring. A long lived perennial, there are six flower types to choose from: anemone, single, Japanese, semi-double, double and bomb. Some are very fragrant like Festiva Maxima and Duchess de Nemour, others have no fragrance. Like most long lived perennials, it can take up to three years for them to bloom prolifically. Most herbaceous peonies will need some kind of staking or support for the heavy flower blooms in the spring.

If you do not plant peonies because of the drooping flowers and stems after a spring rain storm, Intersectional or Tree peonies may be worth adding to your garden. Tree peonies are woody shrubs with stems that continue growing year after year. They bloom early, May, before the herbaceous types bloom. Growing three to seven feet tall, tree peonies produce dinner plate size flowers and structure to the garden when the blooms are done.

They are deer resistant, thrive in horticulture zones 4 to 9 and grow slowly, adding one to six inches of new growth yearly. A tree peony should be planted deep. Start with a hole two feet deep and one foot wide. A big hole for so small a root, but tree peonies do not like to be moved.

Intersectional peonies, also known as Itoh, are hybrids created by crossing a tree peony with a herbaceous peony. They produce large tree peony type flowers on herbaceous peony type plants that die back each year and return in the spring. A mature Itoh can produce

50 or more dinner plate size blooms on strong short stems that do not require staking. They reach peak bloom near the end of the herbaceous peony bloom and can remain in bloom for 3-4 weeks. They are deer resistant, disease resistant, less susceptible to powdery mildew and botrytis blight than the parents, growing to 2.5 feet tall and 3 feet wide. An Itoh can withstand major storms without flopping over. Maybe it's time to re-visit a new/old garden favorite.

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



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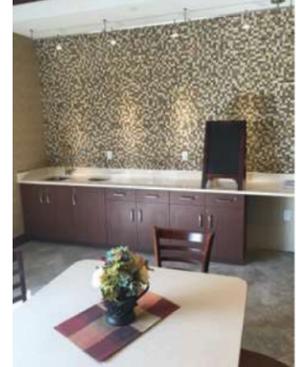
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## Four Seasons Garden Club at Oktoberfest

By Debbie Williams



As an organization, community involvement is an integral part of Four Season Garden Club. We enjoy supporting the community that has supported our club, our members and our various functions for over 50 years. The club is frequently involved in community events and most

recently we were invited to sponsor a booth at the Cortland Oktoberfest, which was a perfect fit for us.

With an abundance of gardens amongst the members, it was decided that we would sell items that in some way reflected gardening or our natural environment. Gathering material from our gardens and our neighbors, with their permission of course, and then working together as a group at the Cortland Lions Club building to assemble our decorations was fun and from all the compliments from the community, well worth the effort.

We were able to decorate our booth with almost 100 fall items for sale. There was a variety of pumpkins, large and small, orange, white and striped. Some were of the smooth variety, while others looked like they were covered in peanuts. Each was unique and allowed us to embellish them accordingly.

Members decorated many pumpkins with live succulents, acorns, pine cones and moss while others were adorned with a hodge-podge of fresh flowers. Several larger pumpkins were even adorned with dried hydrangeas, yarrow, Kimberly fern and a variety of leaves. All were distinct and hand crafted individually.

Also offered for sale were painted gourds, 4-foot painted wood ghosts and pumpkin yard decorations, Buckeye necklaces, Indian corn and homemade canned peppers. From the sale of these items proceeds raised from this event will be donated to various community causes set forth by the club.

Pictured in front of the Oktoberfest booth are from left, Ann Bakich, Debbie Williams, Kathleen Ferris, and Mary Lou Jarrett.

The flu (influenza) is caused by a virus. Flu season starts in the fall every year. This illness causes fever, headache, tiredness, cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches. It can also cause serious complications like pneumonia and death. It is very contagious and spread from person to person by coughing, sneezing or close contact.



The best way to protect yourself and loved ones from the flu is by getting a flu vaccine every flu season. Every year the flu virus changes and so do vaccines. The CDC recommends that everyone six months and older should get an annual flu vaccine. Some people are at a higher risk of serious flu complications including: pregnant women, children younger than 5 years old, people over 65 years old and people with a chronic medical condition.

Prevent the spread of flu:

- Wash your hands with warm water and soap many times during the day.
- Don't sneeze in your hands; cough and sneeze into your sleeve.
- Get plenty of sleep, drink lots of water, exercise and eat healthy foods.
- If you have a fever, cough, or runny nose stay home.
- Get vaccinated!!

To find a flu vaccine provider near you visit: [vaccinefinder.org](http://vaccinefinder.org) or call the Trumbull County Combined Health District at 330-675-2590. To learn more about the flu visit: [flu.ohio.gov](http://flu.ohio.gov).

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May 15 .....AA, GG

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## Volunteers needed

St. Vincent de Paul Society is in need of truck help. Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers can be scheduled for once a week or once a month. You must have a valid driver's license and be able to lift 50 pounds. Call 330-509-3128 for details.

## Special event becomes summer tradition for a cause

By Sally Lane

In our journeys through life, our past experiences influence us as adults. Maybe we played sports, participated in choir or band in school, then passed on those experiences in activities with our children. Family vacations may have introduced us to the ocean or mountains, camping or skiing. Everyone has different experiences, and the choices we make shape our present and future as well as influencing our children. A recent interview with Dr. Farid Naffah, after he hosted the Avamar Foundation's "An Evening Under the Stars" at his property in Bazetta, named Cadobaz, revealed a fascinating journey to Warren that has touched his heart and the lives of more than just his patients.

Born in Lebanon, Naffah has two brothers and a sister. "My mother was an award-winning actress in Uruguay. That is where I received my love of the arts and culture," he said. But war-torn Lebanon in Naffah's childhood and teenage years made changes necessary. His family dispersed. His three siblings now live in different countries. He was barely 20 years old when he came alone to New York City. The next 12 years were unbelievably busy as he completed undergraduate work at Columbia University, earned his MD from Albert Einstein College, completed two three-year residencies in internal medicine and gastroenterology, during which he also earned a master's degree in computer science. He spent four years practicing gastroenterology at the Cleveland Clinic before moving to Warren in 1992.

As Naffah's practice, called Avamar Gastroenterology, Inc., flourished, he made an important decision to construct an ambulatory surgery center dedicated solely to gastrointestinal endoscopy. Plans for the construction gave him the opportunity to give his creative passion, medical knowledge and computer skills full rein.

"Designing is my passion," said Naffah as he stood in his office on floor with inlaid marble that he designed. The Avamar Center for Endoscopy, Inc., founded in 1999, became a newly constructed building with the latest in state-of-the-art equipment. His love of music and art is reflected in the reception and waiting areas of the facility. They feature impressive art, a grand piano, and soothing music to create an atmosphere of tranquility. The entire Center and office complex overlook Avalon Golf Course.

Over the years, Dr. Naffah has published various articles and book chapters and lectured in the United States, Europe and South America. Besides English, Dr. Naffah speaks fluent French, Arabic and Spanish. His name was selected to appear in "The Best Doctors in America," but it is Warren and surrounding communities that have his heart.

When he purchased a property in Bazetta on Cadwallader Sonk Road, he was "blown away" by the beauty. "Who would have thought that there would be such a beautiful spot to become my home," he said. It took some time for him to remodel the house, landscape and build an outdoor entertainment area that includes a theater, but when it was done, he knew what he wanted to do. He named it "Cadobaz" - a name with a double meaning. The "Cad" stands for not only the first part of the location, Cadwallader, but also is an acronym for "Culture, Art and Dining" and the "obaz" means "of Bazetta." It was the perfect spot for a huge party. Not just a party, but one with a special purpose. "I am so grateful to the people in this area. They have welcomed and supported me from the time I came here, and I wanted to show my appreciation," said Naffah.



In the last several years, he has hosted events for orchestras, organizations and artists, but he has become most well-known for "An Evening Under the Stars" party. "I wanted the event to have a purpose." From observations in his practice and conversations, he knew that some of the most needy people are senior citizens who fall in the famous "doughnut hole" that cuts off payment for medicines.

In 2008, the first fundraiser took place at Cadobaz, sponsored by the Trumbull County Community Foundation. In 2010 the Avamar Foundation was created and now holds the event. In August this year, the 11<sup>th</sup> "Evening Under the Stars" had the largest attendance ever over two evenings. Over 500 people attended. It has become a summer tradition. Many people attend every year and bring more friends.

As in past years, this year's event highlighted music, an art exhibit, fine dining and hors d'oeuvres. "Brass Transit: Musical Legacy of Chicago" provided the music, and an outdoor art exhibit featured Ossie Rometo, a special unveiling of a sculpture "Cadobaz" created by Dale Johnson especially for this event. He created a Romanesque-style sculpture using a single large (multi-ton) block of Indiana gray limestone. Dining and hors d'oeuvres were catered by Michael Alberini.

All the proceeds go to the Foundation, which are then disbursed. Criteria and information to apply for assistance is available on the website AvamarFoundation.org. "None of the expenses for this party come out of the proceeds," said Naffah emphasized. The governing board is made up of volunteers, including office manager Barbara Steinbeck, who donate their time organizing and managing details. Carolyn Brown, prescription assistance coordinator, freely spends time handling the applications for assistance. "If for some reason a person is ineligible for assistance, she helps refer them to someone who can help them," said Naffah. The proceeds from this year totaled over \$100,000 and will help many people who need temporary assistance with prescriptions. Naffah added that one does not need to be a patient of Avamar to receive assistance. In the last 11 years, hundreds of applicants have been assisted.

In the 26 years that Dr. Naffah has been in Warren, he has made a difference in hundreds of lives. He said that he is forever grateful for the caring and support he receives, and he loves living here.

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## Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste pushes for no plastic bags

*New signage placed at drop sites*

As a reminder to all residents "no plastic bags" signage will be placed at recycling drop off sites in Geauga and Trumbull counties. The no bag message is just one of the ways the Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District plans to promote proper recycling. Since all recyclables are comingled they have to be separated at a material recovery facility and bags jam the sorting machinery. If you bring recyclables to the drop sites in bags, empty the bag into the bins.

Plastic bags can be recycled at local grocery or department stores where collection stations are established. The first step is to remove receipts, stickers or any other material in the bag. Then simply keep a collection bin for all your plastic bags with a #2 or #4 plastic recycling symbol on

them. Produce bags will most likely have a #4 on them because they are thinner and are made from a low-density polyethylene. Other store bags will have #2, which are made from a high-density polyethylene. If there is not a #1 or #2 on them, reuse them instead before tossing them out.

Plastic bags do not biodegrade, and are easily mistaken as food by birds and fish so it is very important to recycle them. Plastic bags are chipped into pellets and reprocessed into other items such as plastic lumber.

For more information on recycling or to request guest speakers contact Holly Carine, community outreach coordinator for the Solid Waste District at 330-675-2673 or 1-800-707-2673 ext. 102. The district's website is gottagogreen.org.

## Fall into fun at the Johnston Senior Center



The Johnston Senior Center offers various activities to keep you active and have fun. Seasonal crafts are offered several times a month. Other activities and programs that are offered weekly include, chair yoga, Uno cards, chair massages, needlework, blood pressure checks, senior exercise, free bingo, senior Pilates, computers and more. The center has a daily coffee/tea bar available to enjoy while reading the daily newspaper

or while working on the puzzle. The center is located at 5922 Warren Road, Cortland. If you have any questions about the programs offered or have any suggestions please call the center at 330-924-0412.

Members working on a fall craft include from left, Trenton Litwiler, Polli Cole, Bill Lehto, Bernice Thompson, George Shimko, Marlene Gracey, Mona Myers and Cheryl Lamsek.

## Fast & Furriest 5K benefits local animals

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 10 for the 6th Annual Fast & Furriest 5K Run/Walk at Waterworth Memorial Park, Pavilion 8, off Superior Avenue in Salem. There will be a 500 Meter Dash with your dog at 9:45 a.m. followed by the 5K at 10 a.m. All proceeds from the race will benefit Legacy Dog Rescue (LDR), which is a 501c(3) non-profit animal welfare organization helping

dogs in Mahoning and Trumbull counties and surrounding areas.

Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/oh/salem/fastandfurriest5krunwalk>. Cost is only \$25. For more information on LDR or the Fast and Furriest 5K, visit [www.ldrofohio.com](http://www.ldrofohio.com) or call Race Director Heather Pavlich at 330-406-8796.

## Christmas Concert choir rehearsals underway

By Carole Wiley

"Christmas in Cortland," our annual, free Christmas concert will take place on Monday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at Lakeview High School. The Cortland Community Band, led by Craig Wiencek, will entertain with a variety of music of the season. Also performing will be the Community Choir, led by

Michelle Robbins Jones. And as always, over 1,000 cookies made by members of Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship, will be served following the concert in the cafeteria.

Rehearsals for the choir begin soon. The schedule is as follows: Saturday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m. at St. Robert; Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 7 p.m. at Lakeview Middle School (combined band and choir); and Saturday, Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. at St. Robert.

Adding voices to the choir is always a goal. We simply are looking for people who enjoy singing! There are no professional singers, opera singers, or famous people! We only accept people who enjoy music. Give it a try! You will not regret it!

For any questions or concerns, contact me at [cwiley9@yahoo.com](mailto:cwiley9@yahoo.com) or 330-720-9136.

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Thanksgiving from page 1

students' lives. Service organizations like the Rotary, Lions and Optimists provide everything from scholarships, eyeglasses, sponsor the Street Fair, collect food and clothing, and create races and events. Don't forget to thank our police, fire department and EMTs. We have the Cortland Area Cares Food Pantry and the Cortland Beautification Association that makes our town beautiful. In the last couple of years, we have celebrated Oktoberfest, organized by the Love Life Foundation. This year we are welcoming the unveiling of the new beautiful Veterans Memorial that allows us to remember our veterans of all wars. The Cortland Bazetta Historical Society preserves our history and makes us aware of our past; and, of course, The Cortland News delivers the good news. Happy Thanksgiving everyone, and blessings to you all.

## 2018 Valley Legacy Awards Winners announced



The 2018 Valley Legacy Awards annual luncheon was held on Oct. 10 at the Maronite Center. The awards recognized 22 outstanding senior and senior advocate nominees from Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties. Winners were announced during the luncheon where eight of those people were awarded the Valley Legacy Award.

Some of their accomplishments include providing thousands of hours to military funerals and sewing dresses and teddy bears for children in need.

### Outstanding Senior Award for Community Achievement

Winners: Marjorie Dangan, Warren; Roger H. Gardner, Warren; Marilyn Stanton, Niles; Harlene Huffstetler, Niles.

### Outstanding Senior Award for Professional Excellence

Winners: Shirley Lisk, Niles; Rich Morgan, Boardman.

### Outstanding Senior Advocate

Winners: Honorable Robert N. Rusu, Youngstown; James Sutman, Youngstown.

### Cliff C. & Lillie W. Johnson Memorial Award for Time Service to the Community

Donald Patton, previously of North Jackson, presented to daughter Susan Patton-Karash.

Pictured are 2018 Valley Legacy Award winners top row from left: Rich Morgan, Judge Robert Rusu, Roger Gardner and Jimmy Sutman. Bottom row Shirley Lisk, Marjorie Dangan, Marilyn Stanton and Harlene Huffstetler.



## Adopt A Pet



Garfield would be so thankful if he found his forever home by the holidays! This handsome boy is all personality and loves to cuddle. He came to Animal Welfare League in June 2018 after he was found as a stray. Since his arrival, he has learned to enjoy the life of luxury. Garfield is a very playful boy with a fair amount of energy at 6 years of age. He is a Domestic Shorthair with beautiful orange tabby and white markings. Garfield's adoption fee is \$35, which includes his neuter, vaccinations, FeLV/FIV testing, microchip with registration and more. If you are interested in being Garfield's forever family, please visit Animal Welfare League.

The holidays are right around the corner, and they can be hectic! Nothing beats the holiday stress better than a big, goofy dog that will shower you with kisses, and Bluegrass is the dog for the job! This adorable guy came to Animal Welfare League in June of 2018 after his owner could no longer care for him. He is a 1 1/2-year-old, black and white Pit mix. Bluegrass only has three legs, but he does not let that slow him down. He still gets around with ease and is an extremely happy and loving boy. He would thrive best in a home where he is the only furry friend. Bluegrass has demonstrated just how affectionate he can be, making him a favorite of the staff and volunteers. His adoption fee is \$150, which covers his neuter, vaccinations, heartworm testing, microchip with registration and more.



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

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## SCOPE Senior Services offers free Medicare review

Open enrollment for Medicare is here until Dec. 7, 2018 and it's a confusing time to find what's new in Medicare plans.

SCOPE Senior Services offers free consultations to have your questions answered and to review changes to your health insurance for those over 65 in 2019.

"The questions that we hear from senior citizens are should I keep the same plan, or change to another carrier or will it cost more and so on? Don't be sold anything until you have checked all your options by SCOPE's trained professionals," stated Mike Wilson, director of SCOPE Senior Services.

For Medicare Part D issues or questions dealing with prescriptions, please call Debbie Zador to make an appointment at the Warren Senior Center at 330-399-8846.

For all other Medicare questions, please call Marge Haley of SCOPE at 330-766-3486.

SCOPE can provide this free Medicare consultation service at any of our senior centers located in Trumbull County. Be sure to find out about all of the new changes to Medicare card holders before the Dec. 7 cutoff. For general questions call SCOPE Senior Services at 330-399-8846.

## New Construction Could Be Yours!



New construction will be completed for the holidays. Celebrate in your new home in Cortland!

Many blessings to you and your family this Thanksgiving!



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### 5 tips to help party guests feel welcome

(BPT) - At this time of year there is plenty to celebrate, and any celebration is best done with a collection of your closest friends. So, who's up for a party? You are. Your house is ready, the food is prepped and your guests should be showing up any minute. When they do, you want them to have the best time possible and that starts by making them feel comfortable.

To that end, here are five ways you can make your party guests feel welcome right from the first knock on the door.

- **Be there to greet them.** As your party gets going no one can blame you for wanting to just put a "come on in" sign on your front door. However, resolving to stay near the door and welcome each of your guests warmly is still a nice touch. Even the biggest sign can't replace a warm greeting from the hosts.
- **Keep your home comfortable.** With so many extra people in your home you'll need the right air conditioner to keep all your guests feeling comfortable. The Champion Momentum Series air conditioner features a Wi-Fi-enabled touchscreen to provide precision comfort and allow you the ability to monitor and control the system from your smartphone, even out by the grill. In addition, its innovative ShadowDrive Sound Reduction system means that your guests will be able to enjoy their conversations without being drowned out by the noise of your air conditioner, ensuring this essential system is seldom heard but always enjoyed.
- **Give them a quick tour.** This doesn't have to be comprehensive - and you may have rooms that aren't show worthy right now - but give your guests a quick tour of every room where the party will be taking place. If your guests see the room on the tour, they'll be more comfortable mingling in that space during the party without feeling like they are intruding.

- **Avoid over cleaning.** You want your home to look like a tidy, lived-in home, not a museum, so make it clean but not spick-and-span. A house that is too clean will make guests nervous to move about for fear of dirtying something. And then, once the party is going, keep your in-party cleaning to a minimum. It's a party after all, and your friends came to see you, not watch you clean.

- **Don't be afraid to make some introductions.** If you're hosting a party where most of the guest list does not know one another, your guests are apt to congregate in small bubbles with the people they do know. To break the cycle, don't be afraid to step in and make some introductions. Do this early in the party and you won't have to feel like you need to hover all evening to ensure everyone is having a good time.

#### Make your next party better for all your guests today

From a personal hello at the door to a quick tour of the house and a few introductions, there are plenty of things you can do to make your guests feel welcome in your home. Create a comfortable environment where they will have a good time and you'll see your guests jumping to attend each and every one of your future parties.

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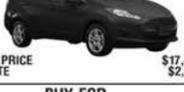
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## Tips for turning history into your story

(Family Features) If you have ever thought about exploring your family history, now can be the perfect time. To get started, these four simple tips can help you unlock new understanding and make meaningful connections. You can also consider sharing these tips with loved ones so they can join in on the fun, too.

### Call Your Family

In almost every family there is someone who knows all about the familial tree and history. You might be unsure of the exact date your grandparents were married, but someone else may know. Building knowledge of your family history can be an excuse to call your mom, your grandma or even your great aunt. They likely have stories and photos you don't have and would likely be willing to share them.

### Start a Family Tree

Starting a family tree can be the next step to learning about your family history. Building out your tree online can be simple with a service like Ancestry, which has been turning history into your story by transforming names into family and distant places into home for more than three decades. With more than 20 billion records and 3 million family history subscribers, the service provides all the information and tools you need in one place to make discovery fun and easy. Enter what you know about yourself, your parents, your brothers and sisters then add your grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. If you aren't sure about dates and places, make an educated guess then upload photos and stories.

### Message Cousins

As you continue to explore your family tree, you may find other relatives have already researched pieces and parts of your family tree. Maybe a fourth cousin has your common great-

grandparents in their tree with photos and stories about their lives. Find out what other information they might know or share what you know about your branch of the family tree.

### Take a DNA Test

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## CTNY offers live streaming for ETC programs

The Catholic Television Network of Youngstown (CTNY) is announcing the live streaming of its Ecumenical Television Channel (ETC) regularly scheduled programs on mobile devices, computers or iPads.

The live streaming, which will include all local productions from the CTNY Studios in Canfield and from St. Columba Cathedral, will be accessed by going to the Media menu at the diocesan website, [doy.org](http://doy.org) and clicking on ETC-TV Live Stream.

ETC started in 1983 initially broadcasting for one hour a day, and in 1986 expanded to the nation's first 24-hour, seven-day-a-week, ecumenical cable channel. ETC-TV serves Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania and is a collaborative effort of Christian denominations and the Jewish Community.

For a copy of the ETC-TV schedule, call CTNY at 330-533-2243 or go to the CTNY page at [doy.org](http://doy.org). Rev. James Korda is president of the Catholic Television Network of Youngstown.

## A host's guide to holiday gatherings

(Family Features) Gearing up for a big crowd at your holiday festivities can provide moments of excitement, stress, fun and plenty of other emotions as the big dinner draws near. This year, avoid any nagging feelings of doubt with this step-by-step guide to prepare for large gatherings.

**Plan in advance.** Even if you're typically the last-minute type, the hectic holiday season is no time to wait until a few days ahead of the celebration to throw meals and more together. Instead, be sure to put together a guest list and send invites at least a few weeks out. Take inventory of supplies like silverware, plates, serving dishes and any accessories you'd like to feature at the table. Make an outline of the food each guest is bringing, or, if you'll supply all the food, ensure there will be plenty for everyone - don't forget to take into account special diets or allergies.

**Make a list.** Planning only takes you so far if you don't write everything down. Once the menu is determined, list out what you'll need to make the magic happen. Don't forget to jot down easily overlooked items that can be picked up the day of, such as ice.

**Remember to thaw.** One surefire way to make the big day a big disaster

is to forget to thaw your main course. If you're planning to roast a turkey - perhaps the most common centerpiece - remember it takes around a day to thaw for every two pounds of meat. So, for example, it could take close to a week for a 14-pound turkey to fully thaw prior to cooking.

**Prep the day before.** There are many tasks (big and small) that can be taken care of the day before guests arrive, making the holiday less stressful for hosts. From whipping up simple appetizers like dips to giving the house a thorough cleaning, there's plenty of pressure that can be taken off your shoulders 24 hours in advance. If you really want to make the big day a breeze, consider cooking your main dish, slicing the meat and placing it in reheating pans one day prior.

**Create a schedule.** No matter how far in advance you plan or how much prep you complete prior to the festivities, there will always be day-of work to be done. With guests coming in and out, it can be helpful to lay out what's known as a "fire list," which details times chronologically for when things need done, such as starting the oven to warm the turkey or simply remembering to lay out dessert following the meal.



## Returning to school as an adult? How to fund tuition

Millions of Americans in the workforce are heading back to school to further their education. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 3.5 million students enrolled in college for fall 2016 were age 35 and older. These adult learners are enrolling for a variety of reasons - to earn an MBA or master's degree to improve their growth in their current job; to train for a new career; or to satisfy an urge to expand their knowledge base. If you decide additional education is the right option for you, be aware that college costs are on the rise. How will you pay for it? Here are some options to contemplate:

- **Your savings.** Consider what savings you may have available to put toward tuition. If your return to school is still a semester or two away, start setting aside specific savings you can use for this purpose. Be sure to account for the cost of books, technology and other fees your school of choice may require. Resist the urge to tap into your retirement accounts. While it may be tempting, you have other sources of funds to pay for school that are not available to pay for your retirement.

- **529 Plans.** A tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan is typically used as a savings vehicle for future education needs of children or grandchildren. But you can also establish a 529 for your own education or tap unused assets you established in a child's account for your own expenses.

- **Tuition reimbursement.** Returning to school is particularly attractive if your employer offers a tuition reimbursement program. In practical terms, this means you could further your education and potentially improve your job and career prospects at a reduced cost to you. Important caveats may be tied to the reimbursement, such as only covering tuition for coursework in an area relevant to your current role or requiring you to remain with your employer for a period of time after completing your education. Check with your human resources department to see what benefits are available to you.

- **Grants and scholarships.** There is no age limit to qualify for federal financial aid. Financial need dictates the ability to qualify for grants at the federal level, which may limit your opportunities. However, you may also be able to find scholarships from other sources that apply specifically for older students. Your school's financial aid office is often a helpful resource.

- **Loans.** Adult students are eligible to take out traditional student loans. If you do, be thoughtful about the amount you borrow and diligent about repaying them quickly after graduation. You may be able to deduct a portion of the student loan interest from your gross income, subject to certain limitations.

- **Tax credits.** There may be opportunities to reduce your tax bill if you qualify for education-related tax credits. For example, the Lifetime Learning Credit is a tax credit of up to \$2,000 per tax return for qualifying higher education expenses (income limits apply).

Which option - or combination of options - is right for you? Enrolling as a full-time student means higher upfront costs and a bigger time commitment. Yet, it can result in a degree or certification faster, which may be ideal if you are eligible for a higher-paying position afterward or if you are funding your schooling through scholarships and loans.

If you choose to complete a class at a time, your education will take longer. Financially, this could allow you to absorb tuition and fees into your regular budget or pull the funds from a 529 account that is earning investment income in the meantime. Additionally, doing so may maximize your tax credit and reimbursement options.

No matter how you fund higher education, consider how the cost fits within your overall financial strategy. A good place to start is to sit down with a financial advisor to discuss how you can prioritize school amid your other financial goals.

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

## Whole Basted Turkey

- 1 Omaha Steaks Whole Basted Turkey (10 pounds)

Thaw turkey completely in refrigerator 3-4 days or, keeping turkey in vacuum-sealed packaging, place in sink full of cold water 5-7 hours, changing water approximately every 30 minutes.

Heat oven to 350 F. Remove turkey from vacuum-sealed bag. Place turkey in bag provided; secure bag with twist tie. Place bag in deep roasting pan. Using fork, puncture 6-8 holes in top of bag. For extra browning or crispness, slit top of bag for final 20-30 minutes of roasting.

Roast turkey 2 hours, 45 minutes- 3 hours. Turkey is done when internal temperature measured with kitchen thermometer reaches 165 F.



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## Cortland Christian Church Soup and Sandwich Lunch

Cortland Christian's popular Soup and Sandwich Lunch will be held on Thursday, Nov. 15 and will consist of sloppy joe and chicken salad, and homemade soups - chicken noodle, bean, and vegetable. There will also be a large variety of pies. Lunch is served in the Fellowship Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For carry out or delivery call 330-637-4611; fax, 866-200-2708. The church is located at 153 Grove Drive, Cortland.



By Jennifer J. Slywczak

### IRS issues guidance on TCJA changes on business expense deductions for meals, entertainment

By Jennifer Slywczak, CPA

The Internal Revenue Service issued guidance on the business expense deduction for meals and entertainment following law changes in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA).

The 2017 TCJA eliminated the deduction for any expenses related to activities generally considered entertainment, amusement or recreation.

Taxpayers may continue to deduct 50 percent of the cost of business meals if the taxpayer (or an employee of the taxpayer) is present and the food or beverages are not considered lavish or extravagant. The meals may be provided to a current or potential business customer, client, consultant or similar business contact.

Food and beverages that are provided during entertainment events will not be considered entertainment if purchased separately from the event.

Prior to 2018, a business could deduct up to 50 percent of entertainment expenses directly related to the active conduct of a trade or business or, if incurred immediately before or after a bona fide business discussion, associated with the active conduct of a trade or business.

The Dept. of the Treasury and the IRS expect to publish proposed regulations clarifying when business meal expenses are deductible and what constitutes entertainment. Until the proposed regulations are effective, taxpayers can rely on guidance in Notice 2018-76.

Updates on the implementation of the TCJA can be found on the Tax Reform page of IRS.gov.

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 jenniferslycpa.com. To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at www.jenjslycpa.com.

### Ohio home and auto insurance rates well below national average

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment announced that the average rate changes in 2017 for the top 10 homeowners and private passenger auto insurance groups in Ohio increased 1.5 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively.

"We are fortunate in Ohio to have among the lowest average insurance premiums for homeowners and auto insurance compared to the rest of the country," Froment said. "Ohio has a robust and competitive insurance market providing consumers many different product options to consider when selecting coverage."

Ohioans pay an average of \$819 (9th lowest) for homeowners insurance and \$703 (14th lowest) for auto insurance compared to the national average, according to the most recent data from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Ohio's combined

average premiums are \$540 below the national averages.

Changes in auto insurance rates can be associated with medical costs, weather-related claims, the number of cars on Ohio roads and repairs costs. Homeowners insurance rates can be impacted by weather-related claims, and building and material costs.

Individual insurance consumers may have experienced rate changes that differ from the average. The Ohio Department of Insurance reviews rates to ensure they comply with Ohio insurance law and that they are actuarially sound.

The top 10 insurance groups represent approximately 75 percent of the market in Ohio.

Ohioans with insurance questions can call the department's consumer hotline at 1-800-686-1526 and visit [www.insurance.ohio.gov](http://www.insurance.ohio.gov) for insurance information.

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### Get ready to move in OH WOW!'s newest exhibit, 'Run! Jump! Fly! Adventures in Action'

Video games and cartoons take up a lot of children's time, and OH WOW!'s newest temporary exhibit, "Run! Jump! Fly! Adventures in Action" is out to combat childhood inertia. The exhibit will be running through mid-January and invites children and adults to explore activities such as kung fu, surfing, snowboarding, yoga and horizontal climbing. The primary goal of the exhibit is to get kids into action by playing and doing things they like to do.

Featuring the theme of action adventures popular in children's books and movies, the traveling exhibition invites visitors to jump into action star training - play activities that builds strength, coordination, balance and endurance.

Throughout the exhibit, kids and accompanying adults stamp the activities they tried on Action Trackers. Visitors can also take home Action Tracker 3-Day Missions - activity logs that encourage people to get physically

activity for a total of 60 minutes a day.

The exhibit aims primarily at children ages 5-12, while younger children will also be able to join in the fun at many of the activities. Additionally, "Run! Jump! Fly! Adventures in Action" developers worked to make the exhibit activities accessible to visitors with varying physical abilities and developmental needs.

"Run! Jump! Fly! Adventures in Action" is nationally sponsored by General Mills. It is locally sponsored by the Frank & Pearl E. Gelbman Foundation. OH WOW! is located at 11 W. Federal St. in downtown Youngstown. For more information about the center and cost of admission, visit [www.OHWOWKids.org](http://www.OHWOWKids.org) or call 330-744-5914.

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### Cortland Branch Library events in November

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

**FOR CHILDREN**

**Preschool Storytime**

**Mondays at 6 p.m.: Nov. 5, 19, 26; Dec. 3**

**Tuesdays at 11 a.m.: through Dec. 4**

Preschool Storytime features stories and a craft related to a weekly theme and reinforces the development of early literacy skills. For children ages 3 - 5.

**Toddler Tales**

**Wednesdays at 11 a.m.: through Nov. 28**

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

**"American Girl" Afternoon**

**Saturday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m.**

Take a trip back in time with crafts and activities inspired by this beloved book series. For kids in grades 2 - 6. Registration is required.

**FOR TEENS**

**Teen Advisory Board**

**Tuesday at 3 p.m.: Nov. 6**

Want to help your fellow teens and make the library a better place? Have a great idea for a teen event? Do you like pizza? Come to a Teen Advisory Board meeting for all this and more! For teens in grades 7 - 12.

**#TeenMidweek**

**Every Wednesday at 3 p.m., through Nov. 28**

Join us every Wednesday after school for different activities! For teens in grades 7 - 12.

**The Wondrous Wizarding World**

**Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 4 p.m.**

Join us as we celebrate the premiere of "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald" with games, crafts, snacks, and more. For teens in grades 7 - 12.

**De-Stress Fest**

**Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 4 p.m.**

Join us for a special session of yoga, just for teens in grades 7 - 12.

**FOR ADULTS**

**Patrick Henry: American Revolutionary Statesman**

**Saturday, Nov. 3 at 11 a.m.**

Patrick Henry was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States and a major figure in the American Revolution. He was also a noted orator, most famously declaring, "As for me, give me liberty or give me death!" Guest speaker Patrick Jolly is a direct descendant of Patrick Henry. He has portrayed Patrick Henry in two movies and is the annual speaker at the Fourth of July celebration at Patrick Henry's former home in Red Hill, Va.

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### 'Clara Barton' at Bristol Public Library

The Bristol Public Library will present "Clara Barton" on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. This one-woman performance will be portrayed by Carol Starre-Kmiecik.

Carol Starre-Kmiecik, a Cleveland actress, has been performing on stage for over 35 years. She has a bachelor's degree in Speech and Theatre Arts from Baldwin-Wallace College and studied improvisational theatre at Chicago's Second City for two years.

She has appeared in over 60 plays, several films, television shows and commercials and has been a spokesperson at hundreds of trade shows, conventions and seminars throughout the country. Her characters include Dorothy Fuldheim, Clara Barton, Dolley Madison, Elizabeth Bayley Seton, Clare Boothe Luce and Molly Brown. Carol's performances are educational and entertaining, sometimes humorous and sometimes sad, telling the life stories of courageous women who have overcome such obstacles as poverty, abuse, prejudice and widowhood to make significant contributions to our country.

Registration has begun and is required due to very limited seating. Contact the circulation desk at 330-889-3651 to reserve your spot.

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## Bazetta Christian Church news

By Larry Sanfrey with information provided by Nellie Elliott and Karolyn Shockey

On Sunday, Nov. 25 Bazetta Christian Church will celebrate its 170th anniversary. There will be a coffee, punch and cake reception in the church's Fellowship Hall that morning beginning at 10:15 a.m. Worship Early service begins at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Afresh begins at 11:15 a.m. The reception will allow those coming to the 11:15 a.m. to come and celebrate prior to that service and the Worship Early attendees can attend following the first service. You will also have the wonderful opportunity to meet our new minister, Pastor Michael Nicholson and our new music ministry leader, Candi Girt-Stojkov during this reception.

Bazetta Christian Church was founded in November 1848 when Calvin Smith, who was born and raised in Bazetta Twp., met with many residents who wanted a church in their area. A church building was soon erected on the southeast corner of the crossroad at West Bazetta Corners, later known as Klondike Corners. The original church faced to the west with two door openings. One door was used by the women and children who sat on the lectern side of the church and the other by the men and boys 12 and older who sat on the pulpit side. The one room church was heated by two coal stoves and lighted by oil lamps. At one point in history a very important person spoke from the pulpit of this church, President James A. Garfield.

In 1893 the church was moved to

the northwest corner and in those early years there were several systems of lighting. First were the oil lamps, then a gasoline gravity system with the tank in the belfry. The third system was a pressure system and after that came the 32 volt with batteries. When the Ohio Public Service brought the line by the church the electric lighting system was installed. In 1912 a parsonage was built on the southwest corner on a lot donated by L.H. Everitt from his farm. The parsonage was built at a cost of around \$800 and the house remains in the same location.

In 1972, groundbreaking took place on a snowy April morning for the new sanctuary and the first service was held in the new church building in December of that same year. In 1974, the original church was donated to The Trumbull County Historical Society. The building was moved to the fairground's Historical Village where it still stands and on July 28, 1974 the doors of the oldest church in the county were opened once again.

Much has happened over the years at the church on Klondike Corners. There have been 170 years of extending the word and we plan to continue for many years to come. Since 1966, Pastor James Osuga, Pastor Jeffrey Wheeler and Pastor Paul Leone have served the members of this church and have ministered and grown the congregation into a vibrant and loving community of Christ.

## Cortland Christian Church Holiday Craft Fair

By Joyce Hall

Cortland Christian Church is having a Holiday Craft Fair on Nov. 24. There will be many crafters and vendors who will be selling their items, a bake sale and a light lunch available.

A new adventure, the "Gingerbread House Contest" will be set up for display and will be judged in many categories, for this day only. This contest will be held, judged and viewed at this same event. The contest is a part of the "Gingerbread Walk." This year for the first time, we are going to be a part of that wonderful

experience.

If you would like to be a part of the Gingerbread House Contest, you must fill out a name and address form so there will be room set up for you. Please call 330-637-4611 for more info and this entry form.

This is going to be an exciting day for all of Cortland. A great day of shopping, lunch and many other interesting and fun activities. Check Facebook and the News for a list of activities. Plan now to stop in and visit all the shops on this "walk."

## LOAF community Thanksgiving Day service

The Cortland area ecumenical group known as LOAF (Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship) is hosting a community Thanksgiving worship service at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m. The community service at Thanksgiving time is a long-standing tradition. Everyone is welcomed. A free will offering will be taken to support LOAF projects. Following the service, refreshments will be served and handmade gift items from SERRV will be displayed and offered for sale. Please see the article about SERRV in this issue.



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## Faith Lutheran Parish helps families around the world

By Jean Bolinger



Faith Lutheran Parish (St. John's in Champion and Prince of Peace in Cortland) recently completed sewing and filling 95 school kits, 75 personal care kits and 69 quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Since the end of World War II, Lutherans and many other denominations have been sending relief supplies to families around the world who have been displaced from their homes, usually because of conflict, often because of natural disasters. The original founders of Lutheran World Relief thought the agency would only be temporary-until those displaced by the war could "get back on their feet" and once again lead productive lives. The intensity of humanitarian need never let up; it became much greater as new wars and disasters seemed to be continuous throughout the years.

The school kits help assure that children (and in some cases adults) in refugee situations will have supplies so that they can continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. The personal care kits of soap, towel, nail clippers, toothbrush, toothpaste and comb help keep people clean as they arrive in a place of safety after traveling, often scared and vulnerable.

My favorite project and one that we have been working on for over 35 years is the making of quilts. (We don't do actual "quilting" so these would best be described as comforters.) In this simple combination of fabric and thread we reach out to people in a time of great need. First and foremost recipients use their quilts as a shield against the cold and rain and for warm bedding. They may also use them as simple tents, floor coverings, room dividers, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back.

All supplies for the quilts and kits are donated by members and friends of the parish. Area churches take all finished quilts and kits to Seville, Ohio in October where a donated 18 wheeler with driver carries the boxes to Detroit. They are there loaded onto a train that goes to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md. At that facility they are repacked into uniform size boxes and logged into the warehouse inventory, stored on skids in a building the size of three football fields. When the need arises they are taken out by the thousands and shipped from the port of Baltimore to the area that requested them. Lutheran World Relief partners with agencies in a number of countries to assure that those in the greatest need are served first.

We know that the soap will run out as will the pencils and crayons but we also know we are sending a message of love to people in their time of need. We want them to know they are not alone.

Pictured are members of Prince of Peace who meet monthly to make comforters for refugees. This is a project the members have been doing for over 30 years. The church also donates items for personal care kits, school kits, and sewing kits, also for refugee assistance.

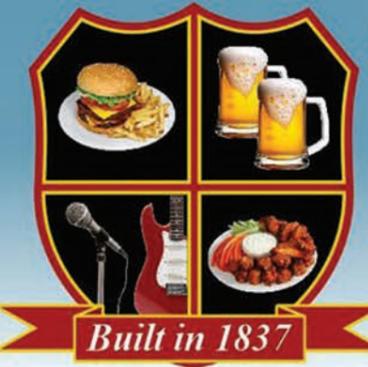
## SERRV-Another way to serve

SERRV is a non-profit fair trade organization that has been in existence since 1949. Initially items made in war torn countries were sold in the U.S. to help war survivors support themselves. What began as a very small operation with perhaps \$1,000 in sales the first year is now an organization that operates in 24 countries. In 2017 over 580,000 handcrafted items were sold through fair-trade stores, church sales or online.

SERRV empowers small scale artisans and farmers to earn a fair living from their work, breaking the cycle of poverty and building stronger communities. Artisan groups are loaned money in advance for their orders so they can obtain supplies such as clay, wool, metals, shells, and grasses and when their goods are

sold they repay the loans. The rate of repayment is 99.9 percent. Not only do the artisans earn a living wage, the community of artisans cooperates to use extra profits for water wells, schools, community centers, and the like.

Every item offered for sale is inspected and only those with no flaws are sent to the warehouse. LOAF will be offering a variety of SERRV handcrafts and food at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, Nov. 20 following the 7 p.m. community worship service. SERRV items make wonderful holiday gifts. They are unique, beautiful (or delicious), and offer a way for us to help someone far away earn enough to support a family and a community. For more information you can access SERRV online.



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# Something to Think About

By Rev. Donald P. Barnes, Chaplain

"... love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:31



Met my new neighbor the other day. I'm sitting in my lawn chair enjoying the scenery when he "hops" by. I reach down and scoop him up so we can have a talk - you know, "man-to-man." He's quiet, reserved. Appears contemplative and circumspect. Quite to my surprise, he "baptizes" me on the spot. So thoughtful. We have a brief conversation - he's a good listener. What a pleasant fellow!

Letting out a few soft "rib-its," he informs me that he must move on - has some "toady" errands to run. Planting him safely on the soft grass, I lie back in my chair and return to my daydreams. It's just a brief encounter - a matter of minutes - but I am blessed. I just made a new friend. He's my neighbor.

According to Jesus, love of one's neighbor is an essential part of a bona fide faith journey. Divorced from proper regard for the "other," we become selfish and stingy. Unfortunately, the pace most of us keep prohibits us from spending quality minutes with another - to share a greeting, a handshake, a smile. This is unfortunate. Everyone suffers as a result and slowly but surely, over time, the social fabric that binds us together begins to unravel. Question: What's the remedy to this dilemma? In my opinion, the answer will not be found by spending more quality time on Facebook. Twitter and texting will not provide resolution. No my friends, in order to realign ourselves properly with our neighbor, we will be required to offer-up that most precious of commodities - our time. We will have to give of our time to sit down, pause, speak, give our attention, our empathy, our concern - our-selves. Another question: How much time will you devote this week in being a "good neighbor"? Your answer just might change your outlook on life. Blessings await! Something worth thinking about.

## Holiday Anticipation

By: Rev. C. R. Chapman  
Cortland Christian Church

What do you look forward to as the holiday season approaches? Is it the Thanksgiving turkey, Christmas shopping, the wrapping of gifts, or maybe Christmas itself? Perhaps your family has a special tradition that they partake in or maybe you remember one from your childhood. Regardless, for most people, there is anticipation for that special moment during the holiday season. For those people who have families I believe the anticipation is seeing the children and grandchildren all gathered under one roof. For us younger adults it may be looking forward to traveling to our parent's home and meeting up with our siblings.



It is enjoying mum's home cooking again. Can you smell the sweet aroma of the turkey cooking? How about the Christmas ham dressed in pineapple? I wonder who enjoys this time of the year the most?

There is another special day that you ought to be looking forward, too. There will be delicious food served on this day as well. It is the great banquet in Heaven. The Bible speaks of the time when all followers of Jesus the Christ will sit together in Heaven at the wedding feast. I am looking forward to that moment. Our Heavenly Father is also waiting for that banquet with great anticipation. As we eagerly await the arrival of our loved ones for the holidays, we can experience a glimpse of the heart of our King, who is waiting for the gathering of His entire family before Himself in Heaven. Jesus excitedly awaits for you to join Him at the banquet table. He has been anticipating this for nearly two thousand years now. Imagine the longing in His heart to see the body assembled as one for the first time around the table. What a grand family meal this will be!

I hope to dine with you at God's table in our new, resurrected bodies that will experience no more pain and no more sorrow, and it is all because God took on flesh in the form of Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus died for your sins, so you could experience this great day with Him in His Father's house. All you need to do is to confess your sin to Him and follow Jesus's teachings that He gave us in the Bible. If you have done this I encourage you to find a local church to encourage you in your walk with Christ.

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## Lakeview students receive vision screenings



In their continuing efforts to provide a quality academic environment for all students, the Lakeview School System has partnered with local health care providers to do screenings for their students. The health care providers volunteer their time and efforts so there is absolutely no cost to the school system. One of those providers is Dale P. Lindsey, O.D. of Cortland Family Eye Care Inc.

Dr. Lindsey and his staff, along with the Lakeview school nurses, screened students at the new elementary building recently for eye problems. The team screened over 500 students for visual acuity (distance), checked muscle balance near and far, color vision testing for males and depth perception. Parents are notified of any possible problems and are advised to have an optometrist do a full vision exam. It is important to emphasize that a school vision screening does not take the place of a comprehensive vision exam; it merely reports the results on the day of the screening.

School nurse Maureen Paczak said "This is a combined effort between the school system and Dr. Lindsey to catch any vision problems early that the students may have. There is no cost or obligation to the families or the school system for this service. It is important that parents understand this is only a screening and they should have a complete eye exam for their children every year. We are very grateful to Dr. Lindsey for providing our children with quality screenings."

Dr. Lindsey said "Good vision is crucial to learning. It is important that students have a complete eye exam every year. This is my community; my children went to school here. All these children are our future. I just wanted to give something back to the community."

Pictured front from left: Lakeview third graders Katie Rider and Nicholas Gee. In the back row are: Cortland Family Eye Care technicians Joelle Graham and Shelli Phelps, Amy Newton, PTO president; Maureen Paczak, school nurse; Dr. Dale Lindsey and Rose Leonhard, school nurse.

## To The Editor

Dear Lakeview School District Resident,

I strongly believe if you review the following information, you will use good judgement when voting on Nov. 6.

Lakeview Local Schools has a 3.2 mill renewal school levy on the Nov. 6, 2018, ballot. This renewal levy comes at a critical time for us. Our state foundation revenues for the current fiscal year will be nearly identical to last year's total. In fact, our state revenue has been static for the preceding four years. Adding to this fiscal concern, the coming two-year state projection also has us flatlined both years.

While our revenue remains constant, there are inflationary pressures in most of our expenditure areas. We are very proud of the fact that we demonstrate high student performance while our per-pupil expenditure is very low. Lakeview spends \$8,433 per pupil while the state operating-per-pupil average expenditure is \$9,356. Our taxpayers continue to earn a superior return on their investment as Lakeview ranks 9th from the lowest out of Trumbull County's 20 public school districts in total operating millage.

The prestigious U.S. News magazine awarded a Silver Medal to Lakeview High School, ranking it among top schools in the state.

I am in agreement with educators statewide who continue to rally against the report card for a number of valid reasons, most notably the achievement piece of the report card that is extremely subjective. However, the gap closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our most vulnerable students in English language arts, math, graduation and English language proficiency. Lakeview earned an "A" in gap closing. In addition, Lakeview was one of only 38 districts from 611 districts statewide to meet the "gifted" indicator. Lakeview ranked 33rd statewide in gifted performance.

Lakeview's performing arts programs continue to be ranked among the very finest in the state. At adjudicated state functions, our bands and choirs consistently earn high ratings. Our athletic and extracurricular programs involve hundreds of students and we are highly competitive in all areas.

We, as stakeholders of Lakeview Schools, have much upon which to be proud. Thank you for your continued support of our school district and the students we serve. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or need additional information.

Educationally,  
Bob Wilson  
Superintendent, Lakeview Local Schools  
robert.wilson@neomin.org

## Kent State Trumbull earns Junior Achievement volunteer award

Junior Achievement of the Mahoning Valley's has named Kent State University at Trumbull its 2018 Volunteer Organization of the Year.

Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley board member, Dr. Dan Palmer, accepted the award at Junior Achievement's annual Recognition Breakfast.

"This is a rewarding partnership," said Palmer. "We enjoy working with the students to teach them skills that will hopefully help them make connections between what they learn in the classroom and life skills they will need to know to prosper."

Last December, Kent State Trumbull donated space and staff for more than 258 seventh-grade students to participate in JA Inspire, a day-long event featuring three break-out sessions on building a personal brand, career planning, and getting and keeping a job.

This spring, faculty and staff participated in JA for a Day, facilitating classes on financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship to seventh-and eighth-grade students from Girard Junior High School.

"Our relationship with Kent State Trumbull has really grown over the last few years," said Michele Merkel, president. "We have even more planned for the rest of 2018 and in 2019."

Besides hosting JA Inspire and participating in another JA in a Day, Kent State Trumbull will be hosting the JA Innovation Challenge on Friday, Dec. 14. The day-long event immerses middle school students into the world of business by challenging them to develop a proposal for a new type of pizza for a local franchise, Pizza Joe's, to target a market of their peers.

Pictured from left: Sarra Mohn, JA Mahoning Valley board member and co-owner, Jet Creative; Michele Merkel, president, JA Mahoning Valley; Dr. Dan Palmer, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs; Bill Burgess, marketing coordinator; and Dr. Jim Ritter, director, Enrollment Management and Student Services.



## Adopt a Foot still needs donations

Adopt a Foot, the LOAF sponsored program that provides new, sturdy shoes for over 120 area school children, is still looking for donations so the children can shop in mid-November. Any checks should be made out to Prince of Peace Lutheran

Church and mailed to the church at 490 N. High St., Cortland. Please note "shoes" on the check. Neal's Shoes in Warren keeps the price very low at \$30 a pair. To date, Adopt a Foot is about two-thirds of the way to the goal of \$3,600.

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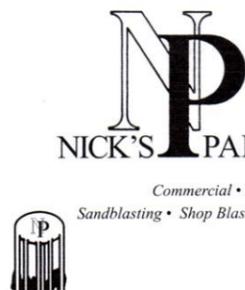
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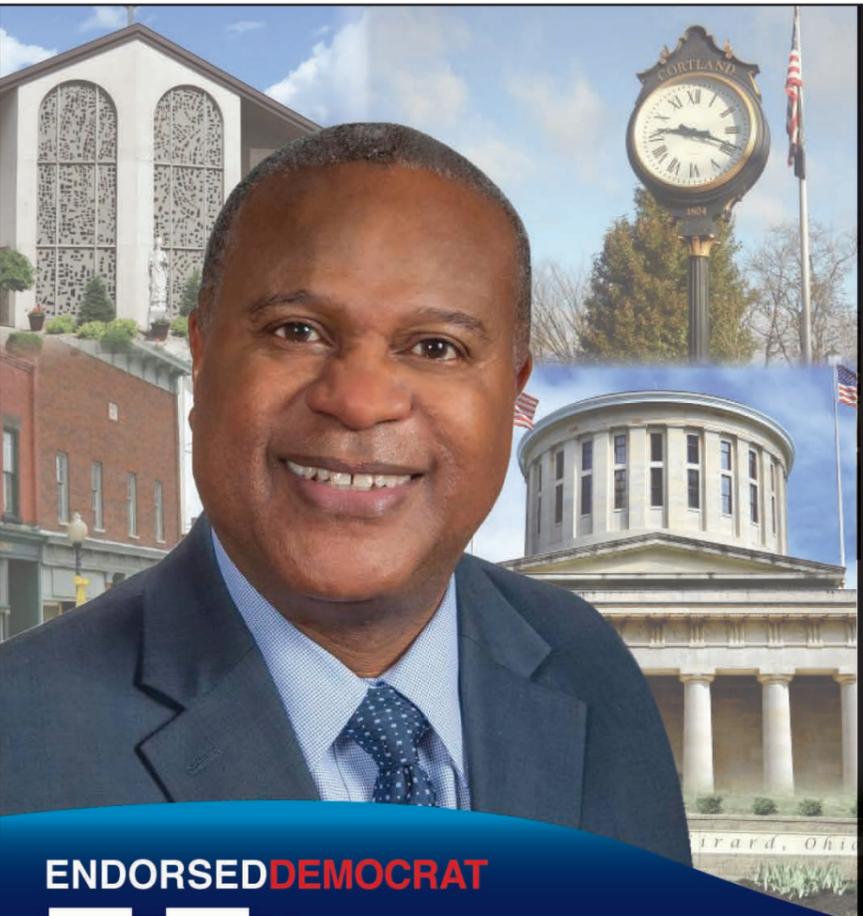
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