

CortlandNEWS

"The Good News Newspaper"

Vol. 19 No. 4

December 17, 2022

Serving the Lakeshore Communities



Spend Less, Give More

By Heather Sensabaugh

So many of us simply have too much stuff. I read that one in ten people rent a storage shed to store their excess belongings. Children in our country have (on average) 200 toys, and most of them only play with 5% of them on a regular

basis. It has been suggested that giving children too much stuff can hinder the development of their imagination and actually lead to boredom! I think of children of long ago, who amused themselves for hours with very little, such as a stick, or a pet rock.

One way to avoid buying more stuff at Christmas is to give experiential gifts. For example, give tickets to a concert, a membership pass to a museum, or reservations at an indoor waterpark for a winter weekend getaway! One idea I really liked was to give a box with 12 envelopes (or gift card boxes) inside, each decorated and labeled by month, and each containing something to do that month together (like bowling passes, skating admission, golf game, movie tickets, etc.). Experiential gifts make memories. Memories grow fonder with time, whereas material items get broken and discarded.

Adults like non-traditional gifts as well. Most parents with young children would probably love a coupon for a night of babysitting as a gift, for

example. If you have a skill, such as sewing, crocheting or knitting, a coupon for lessons might delight them! When you gift someone your time, you are giving them the most precious gift, because it is finite – time is precious!

Children need our attention more

than toys. Family members need our time more than knickknacks. Spending time with loved ones, instead of money is a much better investment, and provides both the giver and the receiver with precious memories. Happy Holidays!

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It has been suggested that giving children too much stuff can hinder the development of their imagination and actually lead to boredom!



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Fax	330-637-4778	Police - Business	330-638-1000
Clerk of Council	330-638-0142	Fire - Business	330-637-2891
Service Director	330-637-4637		

MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL First and Third Monday of each month. Monday, December 19, 7 PM Tuesday, January 3, 7 PM	PARKS AND RECREATION Second Monday of each month Monday, January 9, 5:30 p.m.
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CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL
Read the minutes from
Cortland City Council meetings at
www.cityofcortland.org under City
Council Minutes.

PLANNING & ZONING
Second Monday of each month
Monday, January 9, 7 p.m.

Meetings and agenda of Council and
Planning meetings area available at
www.cityofcortland.org

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and Cemetery Sexton	330-637-8816	3000 Warren Meadville Rd	
Road Department	330-637-8311	Non Emergency Calls ...	330-675-2730

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings the second Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, January 10, 7 p.m.

A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit www.bazettatwp.org

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, January 9, 6 p.m.

Area Service Clubs

Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club		Four Seasons Garden Club	
Steve Rock	330-240-1634	Elaine LaRocca	330-637-0345
Cortland Bazetta Historical Society & Museum		Johnston Senior Center	
Sally Lane	330-638-2330	Diana Shimko	330-924-0412
Cortland Lions Club		Warren City Federation of Women's Clubs	
Bill Lowther	330-719-4545	Terri Crabbs	330-637-3845
Cortland Masonic Lodge		American Assoc of University Women	
Chuck Chagnot	330-307-3405	Ruth Bradshaw	330-307-1151
Cortland Moose Lodge		League of Woman Voters	
Bill Bartholomew	330-637-9957	Peggy Boyd	330-856-5398
Cortland Rotary Club		Cortland Area Cares	
Patrick Leper	330-224-3008	Donna Kittle	330-637-0821
Cortland SCOPE		Friends of the Cortland Library	
Diane Jordan	330-637-3010	(Cheryl Bush or Karen Murphy) ..	330-637-2717
Cortland Opal CH 181, O.E.S		Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship	
Carla Kahler	330-856-2356	(LOAF)	330-720-9136
The Opera House (Event Rentals)			
Maribeth Albu	330-219-1488		

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

Our Next Issue ... January 14, 2023

Our theme will be *Happy New Year*

Article Deadline by Dec. 31 • Display Advertising Deadline is Jan. 4
Email articles to 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.

Cortland News SELF SERVE Paper Box Locations

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Lakeside Sport Shop	Top Notch Diner	

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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

Display and classified advertising and photographs to:
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.



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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.

Community Events

Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules. See pg. 2 & 16

Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules visit www.lakeviewlocal.org.
American Red Cross blood donations, various dates. www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-733-2767.

Cortland Senior Center - Open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cortland Christian Church.

DECEMBER

- 17 Church Live Nativity / The Bazetta Christian / 4 - 7 PM
- 17 Free Pancake Breakfast with Santa Claus / Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club
- 19 LOAF Christmas Concert / LHS auditorium
- 22 Hanukkah on Ice / Jewish Community Center / Open to everyone!
- 24 & 25 Christmas Church services - See the article in the Faith Pages

JANUARY

- 7 Charity Breakfast Masonic Lodge / 9 am to Noon

Business News & Notes

By Thom Foley

The Bazetta Christian Church is holding its 2nd annual Live Nativity scene on Saturday, Dec 17 from 4 - 7 PM. It includes live reenactors and live animals, including camels.

Miranda Kraynak of Rose' Beauty Salon is offering spa gift certificates, starting at \$25 and up. For every \$25 you spend, will earn you a \$5 gift card. Promotion runs till December 31, 2022.

Centerra reminds you to not forget about the birds this winter. They have the largest selection of bird seed anywhere.

Cortland Lanes tells us that they will have the big Ohio State game on all their big screen TVs on NY Eve. And they have cosmic bowling starting at 3 PM. What better way to spend a New Years Eve!

Mayflower Wollam Insurance tells us that this is a great time of the year to ask your agent for a FREE insurance review. Are you getting all the discounts

for home, auto and life that you deserve?

Petrosky Brothers Construction tells us that winter time is a great time for those indoor projects. Or meet with them and plan your summer projects now - get on the schedule early.

Sparkle Market has everything you need for your holiday meals and parties. No need to fight the crowds at the mall.

Cortland Mower and Sales just picked up my riding mower FOR FREE. They are going to completely service it and return it ready for spring. Delivery is free if you schedule it before February 28.

Quilter's Fancy would like to thank our great customers for enjoying the age-old tradition of quilting with us. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all those who take the time to donate quilts to those in need of the warmth and comfort a quilt can provide. May all our hearts be open to Christmas.

Thanksgiving, Eleanor Style

By Cait Morgan

Editor's Note: Because we all have THAT ONE RELATIVE, I have invited author Cait Morgan to contribute one of her stories to brighten up our holidays. Enjoy!

Ah, the Eleanor years. Those years were always ripe for situations that highlighted the relationship I had with my mother, or the lack thereof. If nothing else, she was unique. Since I had been old enough to understand a guilt trip when I saw one, she was more than willing to supply one. Or drop not-so-subtle hints about the things that had to happen before she could "die a happy woman". Thus every Thanksgiving - every single one - she would plop me down in front of the TV to watch Macy's parade and say "See that parade? Someday I am going to be there for that - and then [all together now] I can die a happy woman." So one year, in the mid-80s, I decided to take her there.

Mom: [ring, ring] Thanksgiving is this week.

Me: Really? who'd have thought it would show up in November again?

Mom: What time are you coming over on Thursday? And don't tell me you don't know, I have to be able to plan.

Me: I'm not going to be at your house on Thursday this year.

Mom: Oh no you don't. I had to spend one Thanksgiving without you here and I will not do it again (I had opted to spend one year with friends in Cincinnati). Thanksgiving is for families. This is

your family and you will be here, I don't care what you say. This family will be spending Thanksgiving together.

Me: Well, no we won't. You and I are going to Macy's parade in New York.

Mom: I'll have Bill (my stepfather) get my suitcase... And she hung up.

I had spent months planning this. I had a suite at the Mayflower Hotel, fourth floor parade-side overlooking Central park two blocks down from Columbus Circle. We would drive most of the way across PA then park the car and Amtrak into Grand Central Station on Wednesday morning. My stepfather and my uncle would be left in the very capable hands of our friends, Patty and Jerre, who lived next door to them. She 'adopted' them and would often introduce Patty as the daughter she never had. With me standing there. But, I digress...

I was wondering for weeks what she would say and then what she said was "I'll have Bill get my suitcase" and hung up on me. That was Eleanor, pure and simple. So early Wednesday morning I picked her up and off we went - me gripping the wheel so as not to throttle her after the 103rd singing of "Over the River and Through the Woods" and telling me how after this was over she could "die a happy woman". She had no idea how close she was to dying right there on the PA pike.

If you have never had the

Continued on page 6

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Crisis Intervention Team

Local Law Enforcement officers, including one member of the Cortland Police Department, just completed 40 hours of training becoming members of the Crisis Intervention Team. This specialized training was provided by the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board to assist officers when they interact with individuals suffering from mental health issues in our community. Locally over 300 officers have received this training since 2006. Congratulations to all.



Cortland Mower Raffle Winner



Cortland Mower raffled off a completely decorated tree to help raise money for the Maplewood Rocket Fuel program at Maplewood Schools. Pictured is Sam Boyd, owner and winner Joyce Barzak.



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Garden Club Installs New Officers

The Four Seasons Garden Club met recently at the Peter Allen Inn in Kinsman and installed their new officers. Pictured are Elaine Larocca, past president & parliamentarian; Debbie Monolakis, recording secretary; Pam Hallett, president; Nancy Finley, vice-president; Jan Elliott, communications secretary & sunshine; and Linda Wurthner, treasurer.



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What's "news" in the City of Cortland

Toys for Tots - Once again the City collected Toys for Tots from area residents. We thank you for sharing during this Holiday Season

Salvation Army Angel Tree - **The Angels are gone! The unwrapped gifts were returned to the City Administration Building's lobby and distributed. Thank you for choosing to help those who are less fortunate.

City of Cortland's Natural Gas Aggregate - The price is \$3.50 per mcf and is fixed for two years. This program is through Constellation. You need to opt in for this service.

The Cortland Scope Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cortland Christian Church -153 Grove.

City Council Meetings are available on YouTube.

Follow the Cortland Police and Fire Departments on Facebook

The Bazetta Christian Church will hold its 2nd annual Live Nativity on Saturday, Dec. 17th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. There will be reenactors and live animals - including camels.

Free Breakfast with Santa at Bazetta Optimist Club on Saturday, Dec. 17th from 8 to 10:30.

Cortland Community Band Christmas Concert - admission is free! This event will be held at Lakeview High School on Monday, Dec. 19th at 7 p.m.

The Cortland Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the Lions Building.

Allison Okonek New Cortland SCOPE Manager

SCOPE Senior Services is happy to announce that Allison Okonek is the new manager for the Cortland Area Senior Citizen Center. The senior center is located at 153 Grove off Main Street inside Cortland Christian Church's fellowship hall.



Many of you who have visited the Warren and Cortland Centers have had the opportunity to meet Allison who has been a volunteer with SCOPE for three years. She has been our self-defense as well as an arts and crafts instructor at our various centers. She is currently serving as the interim manager at Cortland ever since Diane Jordan retired earlier this year.

Allison has a work background in serving senior citizens from her employment with some local senior living facilities. She also has a first-degree black belt with Tae Kwon Do.

She was born and raised in the Parma, Ohio area, is married to Damon Warren and has four sons. She is active with youth sports and serving the football boosters at Champion High School.

The Cortland Area Senior Citizen is open from 9 - 3 daily with activities including fitness and Yoga classes, lunch, line dancing, cards, BINGO, craft classes, cooking club, and board games. SCOPE is excited to welcome Allison to the Senior Citizen Cortland Center family.

Christmas In Cortland Concert

By Carole Wiley, LOAF

Monday, December 19th, is the date for this year's LOAF's supported Community Christmas Concert. The music starts at 7 PM at Lakeview High Schools' auditorium. Led by well-known musician, Garey Watson, the Cortland Community Band will entertain with a variety of Christmas music. Also performing is the Community Choir led by Michelle Robbins Jones. Michelle is an expert in teaching and leading folks who love to sing. The end product will convince you they are professionals.

The concert is free. Donations can be made at the door. The collected

funds will be given to Lakeview Schools for them to purchase needed items and help to diminish the need of teachers spending their own money. Our schools are A rated. They top the many lists which evaluate a school's overall performance. The majority of graduates move onto successful futures. Lakeview employs Ohio's teacher of the Year!

The concert will finish with the band, the choir, and the audience joining together to sing favorite Christmas Carols. The evening then ends on a sweet note - 1,000 cookies to share in the cafeteria! Merry Christmas!

Cortland Police Receive \$8,500 Grant For Dash & Body Cams

Chief David Morris recently announced that the Cortland Police Department was part of a nearly \$5 million Justice Assistance Grants for Ohio Communities. They are using the money for body and dashboard cameras to keep Officers and the public safe. The grants were Federal grants that were awarded to each state.

The annual grants support the crime prevention work of law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, corrections facilities, crime victim and witness initiatives, and others.

In total, 149 projects were funded in 57 counties. The grants are administered by the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS).

The competitive grant process solicited grant proposals from state agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges, universities, and other criminal justice-related agencies from throughout the state. Chief Morris has been very aggressive in applying and receiving grants for the department.

Cortland Masonic Lodge #529 New Officers



The Cortland Masonic Lodge #529 recently elected and installed their new officers. Front row (left to right): Alan Eggleston, Charles Chagnot, Justin Bryan, Clarence McNeely, Dan McMillin, Frank Chapin, Douglas Painter. Second row: Frank

Daugherty, Anthony Bucci, Timothy Bauer (Worshipful Master), William Gore, David Waite, Frank Gillespie. Third row: Kevin Gircsis, Dan McCoy, Andrew Konsol, Luke Whittenberger, Brett Hoover, Stephen Yanovich.

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Thanksgiving, Eleanor Style

...continued from page 3

pleasure of Amtraking into the city for Thanksgiving, let me tell you it is a hoot! The conductor was a riot and he had the two side of our car competing on Thanksgiving trivia. He also had us singing and, thank God, none of the songs were "Over the River and Through the Woods" because I think I would have jumped off the train. As we closed in on New York City, I will never forget his final words: "For those of you who have been here before for the parade, get settled in and enjoy yourselves. For those you haven't, may God have mercy on your souls." LOL

I love Grand Central Station. The architecture, the crowd, the ambience - the whole thing. But nothing compares to arriving in NYC via Grand Central Station! It is awesome. Even when your mother's idea of a porter to help with your bags is a tiny little dolly with three wheels going one direction and one going off on its own tangent. I never apologized to so many people in such a short period of time...thunk. Oh, so sorry! Thunk. My apologies! Thunk. Thunk. Thunk.

We hailed a cab, or I should say Mom did - by standing in the middle of the street waving a handkerchief yelling "Hello? Hello? Can we have a ride?" and got to the hotel and checked in. I was hungry and we headed to Carnegie Deli to find food. Then we went wandering. I never realized that I could be out-walked by a short, 70-something year old woman even through I was in my 30s and teaching aerobics. Never underestimate the power of old women. We went to St Pat's, we went to FAO Schwarz and we went to find dinner. It

was there that we discovered about the balloons being inflated at the Museum of Natural History that night. Of course, we had to go.

Now this is a cool thing. I don't know if they still do it quite the same way, but then each balloon was inflated so that they would finish one at a time. An emcee in a tux would go from balloon to balloon, introducing them with great fanfare and it was a blast. Bands were playing, bagel carts were there and everyone was having such a great time. But it was also past midnight and it had been a long day. This time I got the cab and we headed back to the hotel. Then, the Eleanor I knew showed up.

Mom: Stop the cab!!! Stop!!!
Cabby (slamming on brakes): What's wrong?

Me (collecting myself from the floor of the cab): What the heck...?

Mom (pointing into Central Park - remember it's after midnight): What's that?

Cabby: Tavern on the Green. It's a restaurant.

Mom: We'll get out here.

Me: What the heck...?

Now, the Tavern on the Green was one of the first places to use miniature lights to completely cover a huge oak tree ground to sky. No idea how long it took them to do this, but the little crazy woman had decided that she and I were walking through Central Park after midnight to look at a tree she could see perfectly from the cab. I do believe the cabby, obviously having one of these mothers himself, took great pity on me and told me to look at the meter and remember what was on it, turned it off and drove us back to see the tree. But this was not good enough. Eleanor had to get out and hug the damned thing. My mother: the original Tree Hugger. He then took us back to where we were before the detour and got us back to the hotel. He got the full fair and a huge tip. I liked that man.

It was now about 2 AM. I headed for the elevator to go to our room. Turned to say something to Mom, she wasn't there. Good grief. Found her staring into the hotel bar. My mother did not drink. But this was the night she decided to start. Great. Freaking great. We found seats at the bar since she would not sit at a table for some unknown reason. Actually she commandeered two seats by standing there, looking for all the world like Mrs. Santa Claus, staring at this couple until they opted to go sit elsewhere. Then she did it. She ordered a Rose Canoe. Yes, a Rose Canoe. It took us a while to figure it out, but she wanted Canei Rosé - a blush wine. I had vodka. A double. Straight up. Our drinks were on the house. Apparently the bartender had one of these people at home, too. We finally got to bed around 3AM. I took the bed by the window. This was a mistake.

Before 6AM, there was an earthquake. It had to be. My bed was moving and shaking and I was darned near thrown out of it. If they named earthquakes as they do hurricanes, this one would be named Eleanor. She was dragging my bed away from the window, which she then threw open, stuck her head out and started yelling "Happy Thanksgiving, New York!!!". I wanted to die. Seriously die. My head was pounding, I was exhausted and some little white-haired gnome was

Continued on page 16



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Lynn M. Johnson MD
Board Certified Pediatrician

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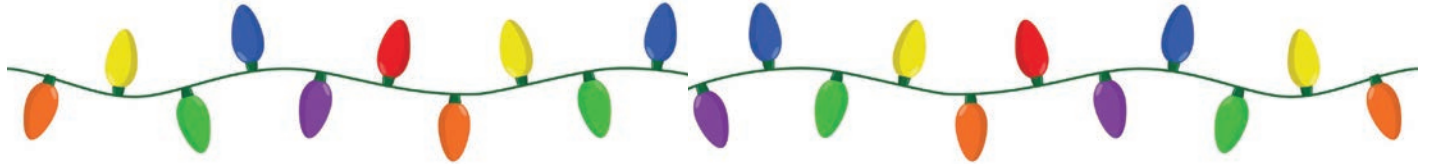
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Christmas Services at Lakeview Area Churches

The Churches of the Lakeview area welcome our community to observe the Reason for this Season with opportunities to gather Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

CHURCH	DEC 24	DEC 25
Bazetta Christian Church.....	5:00 PM	10:00 AM
Cortland Christian Church.....	7:00 PM	10:00 AM
Cortland Church of the Nazarene		10:45 AM
Cortland United Methodist Church.....	7 & 9 PM	
- Christmas Day at Fowler UMC		9:30 AM
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	7:00 PM	9:30 AM
St Roberts Catholic Church Mass	4:00 PM Children	9:00 AM
	9:00 PM Adults	
All Saints Community Church.....	5:00 PM	
Calvary Bible Church	7:00 PM	10:30 AM
Mecca Community Church.....	6:00 PM	10:00 AM
Wildare United Methodist Church.....	7 & 9 PM	10:30 AM
Fowler United Methodist.....	4:30 PM	9:30 AM
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church	6:00 PM	10:15 AM
- Children's Christmas Pageant		9:00 AM
Our Lady of Walsingham	10:00 PM	
Journey Christian Church.....	4:00 PM	10:00 AM

Festive Decorating at POPLC

Fun was had by all the Prince of Peace members on Saturday, December 3rd. The 8:30 AM gathering started with an outstanding breakfast prepared and served by Karen Dobler with assistance from Steve Dobler. The variations of the food items were all very tempting and tasty. After being fed well, the



decorators moved into the sanctuary and beautifully changed the room in numerous ways to honor Jesus on his birthday. In addition to Christmas trees and other greens, there was the striking, large replica of the nativity built by John Kovach many years ago.

To enhance the overall uniqueness, 30 handmade colorful quilts were draped over all the pews. Marcia Berry, the overseer of the quilting, decided to look into sending some or all of these quilts to Ukraine. To bring a little warmth to a few Ukrainians pleased everyone. The Christmas spirit is already strong at Prince of Peace.


Community Hanukkah Event

The Jewish Community Center of Youngstown will hold a community Hanukkah event from 4 to 7 p.m. Dec. 22 at its Winter Campus, 505 Gypsy Lane.

"Hanukkah on Ice" will include open skating on the JCC's synthetic ice rink, a Hanukkah story and sing along,


food, games, crafts, and lighting of a 9-foot menorah.

The event is free for JCC members and \$5 for nonmembers. Registration is required by Dec. 21. To register visit jccyoungstown.org/wintercampusevents.



A Walk through His Word

Rev. C. R. Chapman, Cortland Christian Church



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I remember Unkie's, my Uncle Lennard's, Christmas parties as a child. His home, near Pittsburgh, was decorated from ceiling to floor. Every corner had something in it. It was an amazing winter wonderland as a child. He also had a child's size house in his backyard which was a dream to play in with the other children. Yes, it was an actual house with a little entry area and a large sized playroom that he had built. It looked like a gingerbread house in the backyard. I was most fascinated by his Christmas tree that spun around slowly on display. He had many Christmas trees in the home. Above all, his house was always packed with family.

Jesus Christ came to bring us peace. He is the peace child. I do pray that we can set aside all differences, political or

otherwise, to come together as families did at one time. Our focus this year is on celebrating the birth of the One who came and brought us peace.

Let us not focus on division for the Devil is the divider. Jesus is the uniter. We are the United States of America. Our country was founded by families that came together seeking peaceful living and practice of freedom, free from oppression. Even more did they have to come together to build what we now enjoy today. If they could put aside conflict, so can we.

This Christmas let us celebrate the bringer of Peace, Jesus the Son of God. Let us carry His peace in our hearts all throughout the New Year. May the Light of Peace fill your home this season. Merry Christmas.

Church of the Nazarene Manger



The Church of the Nazarene folk are excited about the newly constructed Manger Scene, set at the entrance on Main St. We are hoping the new manger

scene will add to the festive look in the Cortland area to remind us all of this time of the year as we celebrate Hope, Peace, joy, and love. It's true, "many hands make light work". Many workers came out to decorate and get the church ready for Christmas.

We are also excited about the various ministries added, like Men's fellowship breakfast- the first Friday of the month, the ladies' aerobics -every Tuesday and Thursday at 3 pm, and other activities getting ready to launch soon. If you are looking for a great group of loving people, check us out. We would love to have you.

Bazetta Christian Church Live Nativity

The Bazetta Christian Church is holding its 2nd annual Live Nativity scene on Saturday, Dec 17 from 4 - 7 PM. It includes live reenactors and live animals, including camels. Bring the family by for this drive thru one of a kind event.





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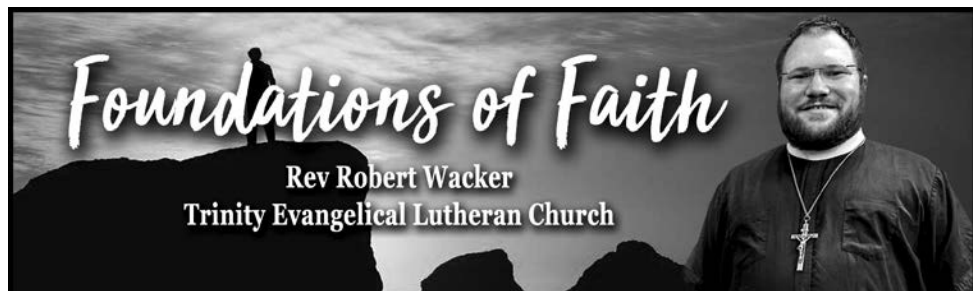
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Pastor Darlene Robinson / wildarehl@gmail.com

SERVICES: 9:00am & 11:00am
Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8:00am
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:30pm



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! This time of year is exciting as we come together to celebrate. We celebrate with joy with our families, friends, neighbors, churches, and communities. This holiday that often has its celebration start the eve of December 25th with an evening candlelight service is of great importance to us because its when God came to be with us. We are told this story in the Gospel of St. Luke chapter 2, "4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him

in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

Jesus is the promised savior from the Line of David, the root of Jesse's Stem. The promised Son of Eve who would crush the head Satan. This is who Jesus is and what Jesus does for you. Jesus is your God in the flesh. He came at Christmas so that He would grow up and die on the cross for you, for your sins. Then He would rise from death and the grave. In His work of salvation He defeated sin, death, and Satan. He gives you forgiveness, salvation, and Eternal Life. Jesus is the light of God veiled in the flesh of Mankind born of the Virgin Mary. He is your savior and the giver of eternal life. This is the true Joy of Christmas and it is yours.

Journey of a Snowflake

By Rev. C.R. Chapman

The coldness encroaches upon the small city of Cortland, Ohio. It was a dark night in Cortland when the flakes began to come down. Millions of little new snowflakes made their way throughout the city. They excitedly fell on roof tops and sidewalks decorating everything with their glistening glitter.

One, perfectly formed flake fell from the heights of the clouds and landed upon the hard ice of Mosquito Lake. The little snowflake looked all around and saw an ice tent with an old man and his son inside. Before the flake could get a closer look, a wind picked it up from the icy surface. It was caught in an updraft and blew eastward into the slumbering city.

Dawn arose and the snowflake got a clear view all around. It had landed upon this great tower. From its top the flake could see many streets and homes. Even the lake was visible. The snowflake was happy to be at the great height decorating the top of the Church's Bell Tower. As it looked down it saw a man wearing a tie, who must be the local minister, snapping a photo of the snow-covered church.

Soon the church's bell came to life and vibrated the snowflake off the tower and back into flight. It drifted long and far until landing in a parking lot. Shopping carts went by and trotting feet too. The snowflake looked around in a frenzy as people bustled by doing shopping for their Christmas hams. The snowflake looked up and shut its eyes as it saw a car about to topple over it. Sticking to the tire the flake hastened away.

This way and that way went the snowflake. It dizzyingly went down the city streets. The poor flake panicked and wiggled and tugged, and it finally came loose in front of a yellow bus stop. It saw a street sign, Southdale and Thornhill.

There on that corner the flake looked around, and to the flakes delight saw many children at play. Kids ran back and forth until they stepped on the little snowflake taking it to where there was warmth. On the warm bus the snowflake was tracked on to, but before it could melt, off it went. It hugged

tightly to the little boy's boot until it was stomped off at the school's door.

It peered up at the great columns on the front. And there it rested as all the kids went inside. It waited peacefully, looking at all of its brothers and sisters around, until the sound of the laughter filled the air. It was picked up and packed into snowball. Back and forth it went to war as the kids played for recesses in Cortland, Ohio.

After settling down, another wind came and captured the flake. It soared higher and higher until it came down upon Fowler Street and landed on a sign. It looked at the sign which read, "Cortland Area Cares". It was the city's food pantry. The snowflake sat and watched the people as they came and went, picking up donations. Soon it saw a mother receiving her gifted ham with delight. It peered off the sign and as it leaned to get a look, the poor little snowflake came loose. It fell and landed right on that ham, and in the trunk and off it went.

From the dark trunk the snowflake emerged and was carried on that ham into the woman's house. It looked around and saw the kids and saw the dog.

They were so excited to see their mother home. "Mom!" the snowflake heard the kids shout, "It looks like we are going to have a Christmas dinner!"

The flake was so happy to be a part of this joyous moment. As it sat on the kitchen table the poor snowflake began to melt. It grew faint all around and the snowflake thought, "my journey has ended and an adventure it has been. I can't wait for next year to stop in this wonderful town of Cortland, Ohio."



**Cortland United
Methodist Church**

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330-637-2571
CortlandUMC1880@gmail.com

Rev. Jonathan Williams, Pastor
Service 10:00 am Sunday

Mecca Community Church 200th Anniversary

On December 5, 1822, two missionaries, Rev. Ephraim T. Woodruff and Rev. Harvey Coe, met with six people in Mecca Township to form a church. The next day three more people showed an interest and thus was Mecca Community Church born. It is the oldest religious organization in Mecca Township.

In the spring of 1841, through a collaborative effort of the Congregational and Free Will Baptist churches in the area, a permanent structure was begun on the east side of State Route 46 just north of Mecca Circle. Each church was to have an equal interest in the construction and use of the building. It was completed and dedicated in 1842. That building, with several changes over the years, was in continual use as a center of worship and community activities until 1995 when the congregation moved to a new building at 5920 Phillips-Rice Road.

The white frame building on Route 46 remained in use after the new building was erected. It was the home of another congregation for some time. For many years Mecca Community church operated a clothing ministry giving clothing to many in the surrounding area every Wednesday. The weekly giveaways ended when the building was deemed unsafe. The clothing ministry now has seasonal giveaways at the building.

The mortgage on the new church was paid off in a short time and in 1989 members of the congregation provided much of the labor building a wing to be used as a fellowship hall with a kitchen and storage area.

Through a surprising series of events the old building was spared demolition when, in 2007, it was purchased by Hiram College. A church of a similar design has stood on the campus where James A. Garfield, was once the president. He was also an ordained minister who, it is believed, had been to the Mecca church to preach and to recruit soldiers for the Civil War. The little church was taken apart board by board, and reconstructed as closely to the original plan as possible, at the corner of Routes 305 and 700 in Hiram, Ohio as the home of the Garfield Institute for Public Leadership in May of 2009. It was later renamed Koritansky Hall. The bell from the belfry has been installed at ground level at the new church.

Sunday school and services as well

as Wednesday night children's and youth activities provided for spiritual needs. Vacation Bible School is held each summer and is open to all local children. The current building has been the site of not just religious services, but also of many community activities over the years.

Teams of adults and teens have participated in building trips overseas and in the United States. Churches and homes have been built and repaired. Work groups have gone to Mississippi and to Puerto Rico for disaster clean up, as well as to Cleveland to help with construction and painting of a youth center. Teens have participated in programs to update homes for senior citizens and disabled people in several cities.

The church has been active in local schools, hosting the Maplewood Baccalaureate since 1993. In recent years the church has also contributed toward Maplewood's Rocket Fuel program. For many years visiting missionaries went to Maplewood Schools telling students about the culture of the countries in which they serve. The church continues to support missionaries around the world and in the United States.

Children are an important part of the church. The front lawn is busy with little ones for the annual Easter Egg hunts. For many years families and children of the church have packed shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Children's Penny Drives raise money for a variety of causes. The youth group has held 30 hour fasts to highlight hunger issues and conducted activities to learn the needs of the disabled.

In addition to children's activities, there are also men's breakfasts, ladies craft days, family game nights, painting sessions, outdoor family movie nights, 25¢ sales, and craft shows. In the past several musical artists have held concerts at the church. Throughout the years the church has held many free events, open to all. That will continue in our next 200 years.

Beginning in 2017 Family Fun Days with inflatables, games, prizes and free school back packs were held at the church. In 2021, Mecca Township officials invited the church to help with these events as part of Mecca Community Days at the township park. We invite you to join in the celebration of 200 years of service to God and to the community.

Thank You

The Cortland Christian Church would like to thank all of the vendors and the community for a successful Craft Show. We had our largest ever show with 38 vendors. Proceeds from the Craft Show go to the Women of Worship of Cortland Christian Church. May everyone have a Merry Christmas.



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Lakeview School News

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Class of 2023 Spotlight Bulldog

This tri-weekly installment will spotlight an outstanding graduating senior at Lakeview High School. Each showcased student will be someone who represents their family, Lakeview Schools, and most importantly, our Bazetta/Cortland community with integrity, commitment, and loyalty.

This issue's Spotlight Bulldog is Alexis Garcia. Alexis is the child of Sherry and Chris Wiseman and Alexis's whole career has been with the Lakeview Schools. Alexis takes a combination of Lakeview High School classes along with college courses from Eastern Gateway Community College and Kent State University. Alexis is heavily involved with our school bands. Her mates in the band have elected her to the band leadership council in her junior and senior years. She is the president of our National Honor Society and recently planned and executed our induction ceremony for this year's honorees. Alexis is also an aspiring healthcare worker. She already is a registered STNA through the Ohio Department of Health and works at Shephard of The Valley in Howland as a nurse aide and in hospitality. In her free time, she actively volunteers with Sleep In Heavenly Peace here in Trumbull County.

Get to know Alexis better with a quick 60-second rapid-fire interview.

- 1.) What is something that you do exceptionally well? - Being an STNA and helping people at Shephard of The Valley
- 2.) What is your favorite part of the Lakeview Local School District? - Participating in the band.
- 3.) Where is your favorite place to eat in Bazetta/Cortland? - It was the Lake Tavern but it burned down!
- 4.) Where is your favorite place to hang out in Bazetta/Cortland? - The Lake!
- 5.) You might catch me ... - Going to Dunkin'.
- 6.) What are your future aspirations? - I want to go into Nursing at Cleveland State University.



From the Desk of the Superintendent

By: Velina J. Taylor

Superintendents in this area are often asked how they determine when to call a snow day. In association with the Trumbull County Educational Service Center Superintendents' Association and the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, superintendents are grouped into four regions based on most common weather patterns. The North Region includes Badger, Bristol, Bloomfield, and Maplewood. The Central Region includes Lakeview, Brookfield, Champion, Mathews, and Southington. The Southeast Region includes LaBrae, Howland, Lordstown, Newton Falls, and Warren. Finally, the Southwest Region includes Liberty, Fairhaven, Girard, Hubbard, McDonald, Niles, and Weathersfield.

Typically, within each region, one superintendent is assigned to communicate with the others in that region regarding their opinions and observations about the weather. Those conversations often begin the night before or as early as 4:00 A.M. on the day of weather concerns. After gathering the input from that

region's superintendents, the lead superintendent and the leads in the other regions confer as a group to make a countywide decision if needed.

This network model helps each superintendent to have the input of others before deciding to stay open or to close. Even though each superintendent may make an individual decision, those choices are often shared within a region. In Lakeview, we close all buildings due to snow when road conditions are determined to be unsafe for school bus operation. Our school buses transport about 1,100 students a day. The rest of the student population arrives as student drivers or parent drop offs. We have some walkers as well.

It is important to note - road conditions for student drivers are not a determining factor for closing schools. Our families are encouraged to individually consider all factors when road conditions are not optimal for a student to attempt to drive. The school district provides space on buses for student drivers in the event a family decides not to allow a child to drive.



Lakeview Bulldog LHS Sophomore Paints for a Cause

By Aydin DiBell, Bulletin Editor

Lakeview sophomore Meliah Persino has won 1st Place in The Salvation Army's "Art of the Red Kettle" event. Students from local schools chose a day from "The Twelve Days of Christmas" to decorate the front side of the kettle and their school logo on the back. Kettles were displayed at the Eastwood Mall in early November. A community vote was taken at the Red

Continued on page 12



Lakeview Kicker Owen VLK Wins In National Showcase



LHS 2023 Kicker Owen VLK was invited to the exclusive 2022 Kicking World National Showcase December 3-4 in Austin, Texas. He earned the invitation earlier this season by having a 'wow' performance at competition camps where he competed against over 1,200 HS football kickers from 30 major cities and 25 states.

Owen won 5th place in the Field Goal competition, 16th in Kick Offs and 48th in Punting. He was 100% on field goals to 50 yards and 88% to 55 yards. Only 85 of these 1,200 students were invited. The event was streamed live from Austin, TX on Sunday, Dec 4 via YouTube at kickingworld.com/live

The showcase was held at Kicking World in Austin for the 9th annual event at Del Valle HS's \$22 million indoor/outdoor turf football facility. The National Showcase is open to 8th Grade through 12th Grade kickers, punters & snappers who have earned an invitation.

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Cortland Lions Club Donates Refrigerator

The Cortland Lions Club purchased a new refrigerator for the students with disability conditions at Lakeview. This class trains these students to be self-sufficient. Their existing refrigerator died and they were going to have to start using coolers for their needs. The Cortland Lions Club gladly stepped in and met this need. Shown is Special Needs Teacher Anita Shuster and Lions Member Basil Jarrett with the new refrigerator.



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Merry Christmas

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LHS Sophomore Paints for a Cause

...continued from page 10

Kettle Kick Off on November 12th, and Persino was the winner of that vote. She rang the Bell and collected donations in her kettle to benefit The Salvation Army on Friday, December 9th at Howland Giant Eagle.

The next part of the contest is to see who can raise the most money in their kettle during that particular time. Persino spent a considerable amount of time painting the kettle. "I estimate that I put in about 10 hours just painting," said Persino. "I started in mid-October and worked a little each day until finished."

Persino was chosen as the artist for this project by Lakeview High School art teacher Jeff Piper. In getting started, she got a little help with some inspiration. Persino explained, "Mr. Piper, found me a picture of what I was thinking of doing and I used that for my inspiration."

Already an artist, Persino owned the supplies and tools needed to complete the kettle. "I did all my work at home where I already had the brushes and paint, I needed to finish the project," Persino added.

Piper said, "Meliah has been titled gifted in the visual arts and has really demonstrated why this year in my Art 1 course. She is extremely talented. We did a project earlier this year where she rendered her dogs through collage and paint and knocked both out of the park. More specifically, that project is why I thought of her to be the artist to render a Bulldog onto the Kettle."

This collaboration with The Salvation Army is not the first time Lakeview students have helped the community through their art. One of the most visible projects was the Bulldog painting on the snow plow a few years back. Piper revealed that at least one other project is currently in the works.

Piper shared, "We are often given



opportunities for our students to create artwork for community projects. In addition to the Salvation Army Kettle Competition we are helping Lake Vista Assisted Living to transform their clubhouse into a Gingerbread House this holiday season."

While the community groups of course benefit from the art students' participation in these events, the benefit to the students is substantial, as well. Piper explained, "Students not only receive community service hours for their efforts, but also community recognition and a great deal of pride for their accomplishments. I think it's important for our youth today to be involved with their community to give them a sense of connection with their local culture."

From the art teacher's perspective, Piper shared how he feels about these collaborations, "It is always refreshing to have a student who is willing and enjoys giving up some of their personal time to do something creative and challenging."

LHS Drum Line



The Lakeview Drum Line stole the show at the annual Packard Band Christmas show recently. They did an outstanding rendition of Little Drummer Boy. The show was open to area schools and the public for three performances. It features the W.D. Packard Band, several local dance studios, area singers and performers.

Photo contributed by Steele Photography

High School Open to Winter Walkers



LHS is open to Winter Walkers on the 1st of November from 3 pm - 6 pm, Mondays through Fridays, until the end of the season. Please just walk-in through the main entrance. We will have a coat rack for you in the lobby. We have 2 floors available for you to walk safely.



Passing Down Financial Values

According to a recent study from Ameriprise Financial, eight in 10 people say passing on their financial values to the next generation of their family is important to them. That's with good reason. Financial wisdom is a gift that can have lifelong rewards and last longer than a monetary gift. If you're looking to impart financial values to your children, here are nine ways to get started.

1. Teach financial awareness. Expose your kids to real-life money management scenarios early on. Let them know that bills must be paid each month. Explain why you save for unexpected expenses as well as larger purchases. It may surprise them to learn that it costs money to borrow money. Remove the mystery of how money changes hands and why it's important to be careful with it. Instill confidence that they can be good earners and use their earnings in productive ways.

2. Provide guardrails. Give your child the opportunity to learn limits, even if your own resources are plentiful. Help them identify the difference between what they want and what they need.

3. Help them save. Encourage your kids to save at least a portion of what they earn through allowance, chores, or a part-time job. Show them how small steps can take them far. Like any habit, saving takes practice before it becomes second nature.

4. Show as much as you tell. Your children are watching where you invest your time and money. See that your actions align to the messages you want your kids to receive.

5. Involve kids in charitable causes. Children learn valuable lessons by helping others who are less fortunate. Allow them to choose a charity to support. Volunteer and fundraise together. Encourage them to set aside

a portion of their own money that they can donate to causes they care about.

6. Promote balance. Help kids see that money is a means to an end, rather than an end itself. Impart the necessity of making money, but not at the expense of everything else that is important.

7. Prepare them for inheritance. According to the Ameriprise survey, only 19% of parents who intend to leave an inheritance are willing to share financial details with their heirs. Yet keeping heirs in the dark may create confusion and misunderstandings. An estate plan is a great example of financial discipline and generosity. Adult children can benefit from knowing about the strategies you use to preserve and grow generational wealth. They may need guidance on what happens when money is passed on, including how to set up an inherited account and how to manage and grow a financial windfall.

8. Keep the conversation going. Money talks don't need to be one-sided lectures. Let your kids ask questions. Ask them about their own financial goals and dreams. Be a resource as they grow.

9. Refer them to the experts. Expose them to books, podcasts, and people who can teach them how to be financially savvy. When they become adults, introduce them to your financial advisor. With insight into financial planning in action, they'll be more apt to apply these principles to manage their own finances.

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What's Your Taxpayer Filing Status?

For many people, December 31 means a New Year's Eve celebration. However, from a tax perspective, it's a key date in determining the filing status you'll use when filing your tax return for the year. The one you'll use depends partly on whether you're married on that date.

The five statuses

When you file your federal tax return, you do so with one of five filing statuses. First, there's "single" status, which is generally used if you're unmarried, divorced or legally separated. A second status, "married filing jointly," is for married couples who file a tax return together. If your spouse passes away, you can usually still file a joint return for that year. A third status, "married filing separately," is for married couples who choose to file separate returns. In some cases, doing so may result in less tax owed.

"Head of household" is a fourth status. Certain unmarried taxpayers with dependents qualify to use it and potentially pay less tax. Finally, there's a fifth status: "qualifying widow(er) with a dependent child." It may be used if your spouse died during one of the previous two years and you have a dependent child. (Other conditions apply.)

Head of household

Let's focus on head-of-household status because it's often misunderstood and can be more favorable than filing as a single taxpayer. To qualify, you must "maintain a household" that, for more than half the year, is the principal home of a "qualifying child" or other relative that you can claim as a dependent.

A qualifying child is defined as someone who lives in your home for more than half the year and is your child, stepchild, foster child, sibling, stepsibling or a descendant of any of

these. A qualifying child must also be under 19 years old (or a full-time student under age 24) and be unable to provide over half of his or her own support for the year.

Different rules may apply if a child's parents are divorced. Also, a child isn't a qualifying child if he or she is married and files jointly or isn't a U.S. citizen or resident.

For head-of-household filing status, you're considered to maintain a household if you live in it for the tax year and pay more than half the cost of running it. This includes property taxes, mortgage interest, rent, utilities, property insurance, repairs, upkeep and food consumed in the home. Medical care, clothing, education, life insurance and transportation aren't included.

Under a special rule, you can qualify as head of household if you maintain a home for a parent even if you don't live with the parent. To qualify, you must be able to claim the parent as your dependent.

You must generally be unmarried to claim head-of-household status. However, if you've lived apart from your spouse for the last six months of the year, you have a qualifying child living with you and you maintain the household, you're typically considered unmarried. In this case, you may be able to qualify as head of household.

Not always obvious

Filing status may seem obvious, but there can be situations when it warrants careful consideration. If you have questions about yours, contact us.

Jennifer J. Slywczak, CPA, is the owner of Integrated Accounting and Tax Solutions LLC, located at 3378 state Route 5, Cortland. You can reach her at 330-638-2727 or by email at jennifer@jenjslycpa.com. To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at www.jenjslycpa.com.



Army Veteran Speaks About The Military

Colonel Robert B. Mangold, US Army, Retired, spoke to Maplewood High and Junior High School students on November 10, in commemoration of Veteran's Day. His purposes were to honor those veterans in attendance and provide students a glimpse of military life.

Colonel Mangold served 30 years on active duty. He was stationed in Vietnam, Germany, Korea, and throughout the US including the Pentagon three times. Colonel Mangold illustrated military life by recounting several events during his career.

One centered on the 40th Anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 1984. While assigned to the Army Chief of Staff's Office, he received hundreds of letters from veterans who had participated in the Normandy landing during WW II. Some could recall everything they did that day. Others included medals they had

received for their combat actions during the landing. Many asked their medals be laid on that beach in memory of their buddies who never left that beach. And they were by the Army Chief of Staff.

He also spoke of 30 Bronze Stars awarded to survivors of the Bataan Death March. Somehow this had been overlooked at the end of WW II. Several combat actions in Vietnam and Afghanistan were described, one of which resulted in post humous award of the Medal of Honor.

Focusing on the students, Colonel Mangold spoke about responsibility and freedoms they enjoy as a result of those who have served and serve now in uniform. He pointed out the training opportunities available - the best you can get anywhere.

Sandi Griffin, a former Maplewood employee, organized the Veteran's Day Assembly. Included was music



honoring America and the military services. Brunch was provided by the school cafeteria. Senior students were hosts and hostesses for the event.

Lions Club donates to Lakeview Band and Athletic Boosters

The Cortland Lions Club donated \$1,850 to the Lakeview Band Boosters and \$1,850 to the Lakeview Athletic Boosters. Our donation is a result of our French fry sales at Lakeview home Football games. We donate 50% of our sales split equally between the Band and Athletics.

Shown presenting the checks is Lions Club President Bill Lowther and Matt Miller representing Band and Athletic Boosters.



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Cortland Lions Club Toys for Tots Donation

The Cortland Lions Club recently donated \$250 worth of toys to the Growlin Howland Browns Backers that meets at the Iron Horse Bar & Grill in Cortland. For the last few years, the Growlin Howland Browns Backers have sponsored a Toy Drive benefitting the US Marine Corp Toys for Tots program. Pictured with some of the toys collected are Basil Jarrett, Lions Club, Kris Vadas, Club President of Growlin Howland Browns Backers and Ralph McCord, Lions Club. The Cortland Lions Club can make these donations because of our areas support of our Fund-Raising Projects.



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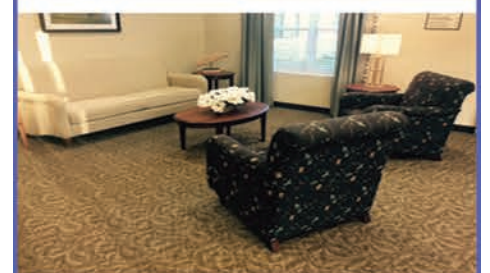
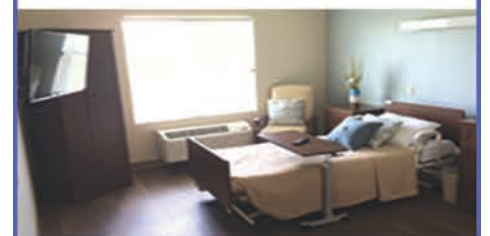
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Navigating your Insurance Needs

*Presented by Jill Freeman,
Ann M Wiley Insurance Services*



Life Insurance Basics

The end of the year is good time to look at financial circumstances and consider if changes need to be made. There are many reasons you may want to consider a life insurance policy. Life insurance is meant to replace income and/or cover expenses that are left when a person passes. Some things to consider:

- Are there family members that rely on your income for housing, food, utilities, childcare, etc.?
- Do you have outstanding debts that would need to be paid?
- Are your funeral costs covered?

There are many different types of life insurance with varying costs and terms that can be designed to meet individual needs. Typically, the younger and healthier you are when you first purchase a policy, the less you will pay for that policy. There are three main types of life insurance: Term, Whole and Universal Life.

Term life insurance is typically the least expensive option. However, these policies usually have an initial period, such as 10 or 20 years, during which the rate remains the same and after that time the rates can increase as you age. With Term Life, the benefit is generally only paid upon the death of the insured with no other benefits or cash value to the policy.

Whole and Universal life insurance are more expensive options, but the rates will typically not increase, and most policies will build up a cash value that can be accessed if the policy is surrendered prior to death. Universal life differs from whole life in that the premium payments can be flexible if the policy is funded properly. Both policies will remain in effect for life without loss of coverage as long as premiums

are paid timely. These policies can be tailored to individual needs through add-on options or "riders". Some examples of riders would be a benefit where premiums are paid automatically if you become terminally ill, or if there is a cash value built up with the policy, you could choose to have the premiums paid from that cash value instead of making payments.

Some parents or grandparents will purchase whole life policies for children that can be transferred to the child when they become an adult. The main benefit in doing this, is that the policy premiums are based on the child's age and health when purchased and therefore lower and more reasonable than they would be for someone older. Once transferred, the policy can be maintained throughout life without the higher premium that is incurred when a policy is purchased at an older age.

There is a lot of television advertising for "Final Expense Insurance". This is a type of whole life insurance. It is usually purchased by someone who is over 50 and is intended to be used to cover burial and other final expenses. There are different types of policies, but the approval process is usually streamlined and easier than other life insurance policies. Benefit amounts are typically smaller (\$5,000 - \$25,000) and just enough to cover final expenses. The premiums are designed for people on a fixed budget with consistent and controlled costs that are paid monthly until the time of death.

Jill Freeman is a licensed insurance agent with Wiley Insurance Services, located at 3470 Warren Meadville Rd, Cortland. She can be reached at 234-244-4014 or JFreeman.WileyInsurance@gmail.com.



TCTC Wins Ohio STEM Classroom Grant

The Trumbull Career & Technical Center (TCTC) will be awarded \$5,000 to expand STEM learning projects through Ohio STEM Learning Network Classroom Grant Program, funded by Battelle. The 223 grants issued this fall will create sustainable, STEM learning projects to benefit students for years to come.

The Min"ivative" Golf - EIA Putt Putt Challenge project will be a two year STEM challenge in which students complete the engineering design process and utilize STEM skills to design, build, budget, and ultimately create their own miniature golf course on campus. This project will require learners to use collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity while integrating 3D printing, robotics, and more.

In total, 163 public schools join TCTC in winning the award. The program reached students in one of every seven school districts (124) across 60 Ohio counties. The career center is the only school in Trumbull County to

receive this award.

"Every Ohio community should have access to the kind of quality STEM education that drives opportunity for families and job growth in our state," said Kelly Gaier Evans, Director of the Ohio STEM Learning Network. "This program creates champions of STEM in local communities and, through them, fosters new opportunities for students." The grant program fosters the growth of the Ohio STEM Learning Network as a public-private partnership between Battelle and the State of Ohio. Providing more access for all students to experience quality science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education is Battelle's top philanthropic priority.

Awarded classrooms will receive grants of up to \$5,000. Projects aligned to at least one of four focus areas: Community Problem Solving, STEM Career Exploration, Building STEM Mindsets, Design Thinking and Security.

Thank You Miss MaryAnn, Cortland Playroom

Miss MaryAnn [Mrs. MaryAnn Hoolihan] is being recognized for her many years of teaching and commitment to the children and staff at Cortland Playroom. She has been at the Playroom for 22 years! Miss MaryAnn can be found in the Green Room, teaching Pre-K. She has the important role of preparing the children for Kindergarten. She works hard all year to make learning fun and exciting to engage her children.

You may have noticed her fun-themed doors that include her students' pictures. The children may also have told you about the alphabet "spy" game, how confident they are when they can recite their phone number and address, and how excited they become when they learn a new holiday song in her class.

Miss MaryAnn is also a mentor to her colleagues, being the lead teacher/role model for the other teachers at the Playroom. She sets a wonderful example for her peers. It is no doubt that the



children who graduate from the Green Room will amaze their Kindergarten teachers with what they have learned being in Miss MaryAnn's class.

Thank you for your many years of dedication to the children and fellow teachers at Cortland Playroom! Please join us in celebrating our wonderful Miss MaryAnn!

Mahoning Valley Irish Festival Looking For Volunteers

The Mahoning Valley Irish Festival is looking for Volunteers to help with the 2023 Festival. If you would like to volunteer for planning committees,

contact Shannon Colleen Lehn, Chairperson, Mahoning Valley Irish Festival at mvirishfestival@gmail.com or call 330-770-6785.



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Thanksgiving, Eleanor Style

...continued from page 6

bouncing around the room singing AGAIN "Over the River and Through the Woods". I wanted to toss her in the Hudson. But she had attracted the attention of too many people, a few

mounted police among them, so I opted not to. Breakfast? Out of the question. We had to get out on the street and get good places to stand. Good places to stand???? Had I not paid through

the nose for a room overlooking the parade?? STAND?? So we went out on the street and got a spot right at the barricade. Front and center.

God bless the New York City Police Department. They listened to Mom's life story numerous times and how in a few hours she could "die a happy woman". She had no idea how soon that was going to be if I had anything to say about it. The parade marshals were also fantastic people. They had competitions of various types going on between our side of the street (park side) and the other to make the whole thing more fun. This is quite possibly the only reason I did not start drinking as I noticed the hotel bar was indeed open. Then the parade started. It was a BLAST!

Because we were so close to Columbus Circle, all the floats, bands and units would stop pretty much in front of us while someone performed or whatever up ahead - and they would perform for us. If they didn't the white-haired gnome would give them the "I can't die a happy woman" look and they would start. So many great floats and balloons - Mom said hello to each balloon. Loudly. Good grief. I do have a great pic someplace of her with this huge grin on her face and Big Bird bobbing around in the background. It disappears from time to time and it is currently not to be found, but it is a great pic. And then, the last float - Santa and his Sleigh - was coming down the street.

It passed with Mom jumping up and down and waving - I kid thee not. The woman with the most arthritic hips and back in the world was jumping up and down, clapping her hands and yelling "Santa!! Santa!!". Pretty cool. I was happy she had enjoyed the parade. Then as it passed us, she picked up her foot to waist level and kicked the barricade down and ran into the crowd behind the float to walk in the parade. The one marshal and the mounted cop who had been watching all this enjoying every minute of it just bust out laughing. The marshal came over and told me I could "probably" find her in about 45 minutes at Macy's. Great. I had breakfast. At the hotel bar. Vodka. A double. Straight up. This time I had to pay for it but I didn't care.

So I managed to locate her a little while later with the help of yet another mounted officer who was in the area and (again, I kid thee not) knew exactly who I was talking about as she was telling everyone she saw that she could "die a happy woman now". We headed

back to the room, but she decided that the experience wasn't complete until she saw the Christmas show at Radio City Music hall. Luckily in those days, you could just buy a ticket whenever. We caught the matinee. Then we had to go see the tree at Rockefeller Center and she told everyone in hearing distance how I skated with the Rockettes one year when I was about 6. Why don't they serve vodka at the skating rink? She was upset because it wouldn't be lit for another week and failed at getting one of the staff to light it up for her. Yes, she tried.

I planned to eat dinner at Mama Leone's and we did. I was stuffed. As we left, she asked when we were having our 'real' dinner since we hadn't had turkey. I bribed her with more cheesecake from the deli. This was like being somewhere with a five-year-old, but she was having a wonderful time so all was good. When we finally got back to the hotel, the maid had thoughtfully moved my bed back where it belonged and closed the window. And I crawled into bed and died. I was exhausted. I have no idea when Mom went to sleep - she was still staring out the window (thankfully still closed) when I last saw her.

We took a carriage ride in Central Park in the morning (this was long before anyone even thought of Black Friday) and then headed back to Grand Central to catch the train back to Pa. We arrived home late evening to find Bill and my uncle no worse for the wear and in fact saying they saw us on TV (which was a real feat since there were no TV cameras anywhere near us - ever). It was a great feeling to have given her something she had wanted since she watched her first parade on TV.

Until.....

Fast forward a few decades. It is Thanksgiving again and due to a huge amount of early snow, Mom didn't want to leave the nursing home to come for dinner. Since they had a beautiful dining room for families (looked just like a home dining room complete with a beautiful table and hutch and wing chairs) and the people who had reserved it had cancelled due to the weather, I packed up everything in roasters and crock pots and took dinner and people to her. It was a really nice dinner. As we were cleaning up, one of the nurses came in to see how she was doing and commented that it looked like she had had a very nice Thanksgiving. Mom replied that it was nice but it wasn't her best one. I stopped cleaning up and started walking over that way when she said: "I had a wonderful Thanksgiving one year! I went to Macy's parade! My friend, Patty, took me and we had such a good time...!"

Hopefully you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving!!



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Party Cancelled

Because of all the sickness going around we have decided to stay safe rather than sorry and the Dec. 18th Braceville Historical Society Christmas party at the Town Hall is being cancelled. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We'll see you in the spring.



For many years the late Sonny Haines put up a wonderful Christmas display for all to see on Phillips Rice Road. It always made him happy to see people stop to enjoy the display! Sadly he passed away in June at the age of 90. The family wanted everyone to enjoy the view one last time. Thank you Sonny for all the years of sharing Christmas Joy!



Ohio Highway Patrolman Andrew English and his K-9 partner recently addressed the Cortland Rotary. This is a narcotics enforcement team. Patrolman English spoke about how the pair works to help keep illegal drugs off the streets.



The Niles Chapter of the American Sewing Guild held their annual Holiday Party and Election of 2023 officers at the Warren Women's Club. Our guest speaker was Cindy Oravec from Quilters Fancy in Cortland. The new officers, pictured L-R are: Karen Bandy, Treasurer; Lydia Hammar, Secretary; Nancy Coulson, 2nd Vice Pres.; Patti Augustine, 1st Vice Pres., and Rita Baugher, President. Membership is open to all sewists in the Mahoning Valley by contacting Sylvia at 330-744-8053.



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Christmas Light Chariot

Piling the family in the family vehicle, with hot cocoa in travel mugs and bags of snacks to look at Christmas light displays is a terrific frugal family fun activity this time of year! You can make voting ballots for each family member to pick their favorite display, wear matching Christmas clothing or pajamas, and put Christmas music on the radio to sing along with together to make it even more festive. Binoculars would be a fun addition, as would 3D glasses or prisms to look at the lights

through! You could create a scavenger hunt for the kids (or a Christmas Lights Bingo game) with items like Rudolph, or lighted candy canes, the Grinch, etc. This link gives a nice list of some area displays: <https://northeastohiofamilyfun.com/must-see-christmas-light-displays-in-northeast-ohio/>. You could also decorate the inside of your vehicle with battery operated lights and fake snow to make it even more magical for the kids! Happy Holidays!

Optimists Club Scout Troop Donates to Lakeview Community Angel Tree

The Scouts of Troop 54 are proud to donate \$1,000.00 to Margie Petrunia [pictured] for the Lakeview Community Angel Tree. This money will help to buy children in the Cortland and Bazetta Community gifts for Christmas.

De Anna Fuchilla, Venture Crew 54's Advisor says "A few years ago a group of scouts recognized that a few of their own did not get to experience Christmas at all. This led to them springing into action and secretly giving them an experience they would never forget. Following this experience these scouts realized that if this was happening in their own organization then it was happening in our community. So once again they acted. For the last four years they have been giving back during the Christmas season in some form or another."

Christmas is all about the spirit of giving and being able to help others. The Scouts of 54 are able to spread holiday cheer and they are making sure to do just that. This generous gift

is testimony of the leadership, character building, and community commitment that the local scouting program instills in all that participate. The Scouts of 54 would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season this year!



Cortland Library Events

Holiday Closings

The Cortland Library and all Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations and services will be closed Dec. 24 through Dec. 26 and Mon., Jan. 2, 2023.

The Cortland Library and all Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations and services will be closed Mon., Jan. 16, 2023, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

Events

Teen Advisory Board. Tues., Jan. 10 & Feb 7 at 3 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 can share ideas about what they would like to see at the library, earn service hours, and collaborate on creative ideas as part of the Cortland Library's Teen Advisory Board. Call the library at (330) 638-6335 to sign up. Free.

Charity Breakfast Saturday, Jan. 7th

Cortland Masonic Lodge has scheduled their next Saturday morning Charity Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 7th, at their location at 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main St.) from 9 am to Noon. This breakfast will benefit Cub Scout Pack 4025 and Scouting representatives will be present to answer any questions about their membership and activities.

The "all you can eat" Charity Family Breakfasts are held each month by the Cortland Masonic Lodge, and 100% of the proceeds are donated to a local charity. The breakfast cost is \$8.00 for adults, and \$6.00 for youth age 6 to 10, and FREE for any children age 5 and under. Included are pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee.

Bring the whole family and enjoy breakfast together, with take-outs available.



Cortland Lions Club Donates 4,400 Pair of Used Eyeglasses

Thanks to area residents who donated their used Eye Glasses thru our various donation boxes-the Cortland Lions Club delivered 4,400 pair of used glasses to the Uniontown Lions Club. The Uniontown Lions Club will clean and grade these glasses and make them available to intercity clinics and medical missionaries world-wide. We have a large donation box in front of the Lions Club on W. Main Street that is always available. Acceptable items include Single, Bifocal and Trifocal Glasses, Readers-any power, Prescription and non-Prescription Sun Glasses, Frames and Hearing Aids.

The Johnston Senior Center News

The Johnston Senior Center, will be ending the year of 2022 on a busy note. Our classes continue in their usual time slots, including yoga, wood burning, tatting, quilting, and line dancing. We will also be welcoming Bill Adams from Heyday Health on Monday the 19 @ 11:30 to talk to us about their primary care doctors who offer in home health services. This is not only doctors but also nurse practitioners and health allies. At 1:00 we will be painting a winter scene. Tuesday the 20th is craft at 1:00. It's the last one before Christmas.

Thursday the 22nd the Kinsman Free Public Library will be in to offer books and DVDs for check out. If there is anything special you are looking for give them a call to be sure they bring it with them. They will also accept returns and issue library cards. This is not part

of the Warren Trumbull Library system but it is open to anyone who has a library card or applies for one. There is no age restriction. Using these options supports us and the library. In the afternoon we will be playing a very fast paced bingo. All prizes are gift wrapped to serve as a Christmas present for the winner or to share.

This brings us to the Christmas Holiday. Family and feasts. Wishing you joy, peace, and good health this Christmas season.

On the 27th at 1:00 Rick Downes will join us to talk of Hospice care. What Hospice has to offer to the patient and caregiver. This is a necessary and wonderful service to many within our community.

This brings us to 2023. We wish you a happy, happy New Year.

Warren Women's Club Installation

Warren Women's Club installed four new members to its roster at their November meeting. The club, formed in 1947, holds its meetings at the Historic Yellow House located at 708 North Park Avenue in Warren. Members meet monthly September through June. Each month features a luncheon and interesting program with a speaker.

Those interested in attending a meeting to find out what the club is all about, please contact Louise Kline at 330-399-4661 or Peggy Boyd at 330-856-5398. The next gathering will be on Monday, December 19 at noon.



Sarah Bradley, Carol Stowe, Linda Cowin, Louise Kline, Sandy Watson and Peggy Boyd.

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