

# CortlandNEWS

"The Good News Newspaper"

Vol. 16 No. 17

September 26, 2020

Serving the Lakeshore Communities

## Autumn

*"Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting and autumn a mosaic of them all."*  
- Stanley Horowitz

### Welcome Autumn

By Sally Lane

Ah-h! Autumn! After a sticky hot summer, we are energized by the crispness in the air. It's time to put the kids' "slip 'n' slide" away, tidy up the

backyard, and take a ride to view the changing leaves. Fall is pumpkins, chili with crusty bread for supper and warm apple pie for dessert. It is the excitement of local high school sports along with professional football, baseball games.

The fall of 2020 is a little different, of course. Even with "social distance togetherness," that limits the number of fans at high school sports, and the "virtual" crowds for televised baseball and football games, it feels good to view something that is not a rerun. The piped in fake crowd noise does help liven up those TV games.

While September brings the coolness that changes our hardwood trees' leaves into a marvelous mosaic of reds and yellows, October brings the changes to a peak. In a few weeks, we will be raking those leaves from our lawns, or "paying the rent," as my father used to say, for all the wonderful shade we enjoyed in the summer. When we were children, it was fun to run and jump into the piles! There is nothing "virtual" about the outdoors.

On a more serious note, along with our COVID-19 worries, this year has not been a good one for the outdoors. The smoke from the fires on the west coast are evident in our Ohio skies. As it swirls through our atmosphere, it will affect ours and the world's weather. 2020 as a year is shaping up to be a larger problem than we could ever imagine.

That being said, there is always hope. Every country in the world is working to solve the problem of COVID-19. Yes, there is a competition, even lack of cooperation between countries, but that may be a good thing. We will eventually ALL benefit from the answers we find.

Our education system has been forced to update teaching and learning techniques that will change civilization as we know it. Telephones, radios and televisions were all mid-20th century phenomena. Our children born in the 1970s and '80s - who are now having children of their own - were the first to go online. The word "virtual" comes naturally to them.

We WILL get through this together. In the meantime, enjoy this beautiful autumn.

Many of our "usual" fall activities in town will not occur this year. There IS a "Kettle Walk" sponsored by our town's churches. *See page 10.*

The next issue of the Cortland News on October 17 will celebrate our 16th year of publication! Be sure to look for it then. Happy Autumn!

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are  
Falling  
AUTUMN  
is Calling



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**TheCortlandNews.com**

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## CORTLAND CITY

CITYOFCORTLAND.ORG

Mayor ..... 330-637-4003	<b>POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY ..... 911</b>
City Hall ..... 330-637-3916	Dispatch ..... 330-675-2730
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

<b>CITY COUNCIL</b> First and Third Monday of each month Monday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m.	<b>PARKS AND RECREATION</b> Second Monday of each month Monday, Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m.
<b>CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL</b> Read the minutes from Cortland City Council meetings at www.cityofcortland.org under City Council Minutes.	<b>PLANNING &amp; ZONING</b> Second Monday of each month Monday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m. Meetings and agenda of Council and Planning meetings area available at <a href="http://www.cityofcortland.org">www.cityofcortland.org</a>

### CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE NOW ON TV

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

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Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector and Cemetery Sexton .... 330-637-8816	Fire Station #11 ..... 330-637-4136
Road Department ..... 330-637-8311	3000 Warren Meadville Rd Non Emergency Calls .... 330-675-2730

### BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

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

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit [www.bazettatwp.org](http://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, Oct. 12, 6 p.m.

## 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> Maribeth Albu ..... 330-219-1488	<b>Cortland Rotary Club</b> Donna Zuga
<b>Cortland Lions Club</b> Frank Danso ..... 330-637-3621	<b>Four Seasons Garden Club</b> Becky Bucco ..... 330-637-9115
<b>Moose Lodge #1012</b> ..... 330-637-9957	<b>Friends of the Cortland Library</b> Di Matijejevic ..... 330-637-2717
<b>Warren-Trumbull Branch of AAUW</b> Jennifer Soloman ..... 330-637-3483	<b>League of Women Voters of Trumbull County</b> Terri Crabbs ..... 330-637-3845
<b>Cortland Masonic Lodge #529</b> Chuck Chagnot ..... 330-307-3405	<b>SCOPE</b> Darlene Fry/Diane Jordan ... 330-637-3010
<b>Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF)</b> ..... 330-720-9136	<b>Cortland Opal Chapter #181, O.E.S.</b> Carla Kahler ..... 330-856-2356

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

## Our Next Issue ... October 17, 2020

Our theme will be Make a Difference Day

Article Deadline by Oct. 2 • Display Advertising Deadline is Oct. 7

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Cortland News SELF SERVE Paper Box Locations

Cortland Bank      4 Star Diner      Vasilios  
Lakeside Sport Shop      Top Notch Diner

### PUBLISHER

Fox Run Publishing, L.L.C.  
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### FEATURED JOURNALIST

Sally Lane

### LOCAL COLUMNISTS/ JOURNALISTS

Rev. Donald P. Barnes  
Rev. C. R. Chapman  
Jean A. Corliss  
Christine Dorma  
Kathleen Ferris  
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[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 September 26 – October 17

Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules. See pg. 2 and 6

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.

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

#### OCTOBER

1,2 All Saints Community Church Trash 'n Treasure Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 4530 state Route 46, Cortland. See pg. 8

3 Charity Pancake Breakfast to benefit the Warren Chapter, Order of DeMolay, 9 a.m.-noon, Cortland Masonic Lodge, 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main Street). See pg. 11

10 Men's Rally in the Valley 2020, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Covelli Center, downtown Youngstown. See pg. 9



## Business News & Notes

By Thom Foley

Have insurance questions? **Mayflower-Wollam Insurance** on Main Street has been answering them for almost 100 years in Cortland.

**Roman Supply** has all your Fall Garden Prep material. Aged Garden compost & Leaf Humus. It is layered delivered in one truck. Prep your garden the professional way this year and see the results next summer.

**Brookside Greenhouse** has tons of mums! Tri-color mums, 9" mums, patio mums and mum hangers. Get locally grown quality products at a great price. Hours 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Winter is around the corner so call **MD Denna Heating & Cooling** to give your furnace a "physical" now. Don't let it flat line this winter.

**Dr. Johnson, Cortland Pediatrics** reminds you that school is back in session - PLEASE drive carefully.

**Cortland Lanes** still has openings in all its leagues. Ladies, Seniors, Men's. Don't have a team? No problem - they have one for you. Don't forget their famous COSMIC BOWLING Fridays after 9 p.m. and Saturdays after 6 p.m.

**Auntie V's Pizzeria** has 10 Pepperoni Rolls for only \$20! WOW! See the coupon in their ad. What a great treat for lunches!

**Centerra** has 8" mums for only \$6.99. Plus they have everything you need for your fall decorating including corn stalks, mini and full size pumpkins - in both white and orange, straw and all kinds of fall decorations.

Sue Zickefoose, director of **The Cortland Playroom & Preschool**, tells us that they have been educating the children of our community for over 40 years. We should be proud to have these dedicated teachers helping to mold our children. Thank you!

**Petrosky Brothers** tell us now is the time to book those winter remodeling projects. They are taking bookings now so be sure to get yours on the list. Serving our community for over 25 years.

**Greenwood Insurance's** Barry Piper has all the answers you need for your Medicare supplement plan. Schedule an appointment to get experienced honest advice for free. I trust him - you can also.

**Jody Sova of Berkshire Hathaway** tells us that now is a terrific time to buy a home. Rates are great and homes are selling. Got questions? Call Jody - your neighbor and your neighborhood realtor.

You already know that **Lakeside Sport Shop** has all your fishing needs. But did you know that they have a huge selection of locally made beers and wines? Check it out.

**Guidelight Financial Services** told us that now is the perfect time to plan for those 2020 taxes. Schedule an appointment for a review of your situation and see how they can help you with your taxes and your investments.

**TNT Water Well Inc.** are the professional experts you need to call for any water well issues. They have been serving the area for decades.

# MEDICARE TIP#1

## ANNUAL NOTICE OF CHANGE

This is a document that you receive in the mail that explains the changes made to your Medicare plan.

These could include changes to your PREMIUM / DEDUCTIBLE / PHARMACY

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## Iron House Bar & Grill reopens with newly designed bar and dining room

By Thom Foley

Cortland's newest restaurant opened a little over a year ago - The Iron House Bar & Grill. It is located in the building where Beef 'O' Brady's formerly was located. They have been upgrading, remodeling, creating the menu and making changes to reflect the local cuisine.

Owner Rick Pregibon said "I worked over 24 years at WCI and wanted the restaurant to reflect the connection of steel mills and their historical importance to the Mahoning and Shenango Valley. I brought in several pieces of memorabilia from my career in the steel mills to share

with those that know the history and for the future generations to learn and enjoy."

Included in these is a molten metal reflective heat suit right by the front door that was used in the blast furnace and basic oxygen furnace to protect the workers from the severe heat. He continues to collect more artifacts to display what is a dying industry in our area.

"We started off really busy and continued to grow until COVID-19 closed us down. But our loyal customers called for carry-out and we adapted

accordingly. We managed to continue to grow and get back to 100 percent. While the public begged all restaurants to open for sit down dining, they were bound by the state laws for several weeks. As we are allowed, we are increasing capacity until we get back to 100 percent. The safety of our customers and staff is our primary concern," said Pregibon.

While they were shutdown, Rick and his morning bartender, Abigail Pfrenger, not only completely cleaned and sanitized the building but the completely remodeled the dining room and built an incredibly unique new "L shaped" bar.



Owner Rick Pregibon and morning bartender, Abigail Pfrenger.

The new bar and back bar is made mostly of steel to reflect the mills' influence on the area. The bar and the lighting is truly

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Steve Burbach

worth the trip just to see it. There is nothing like it in Cortland. (But I suggest while you are there you try the gyro sandwich, too.)

"We needed more room to accommodate the crowds we were getting," said Pregibon. "We have a younger crowd and a more mature following who like different music, atmospheres, entertainment and so on. This allows us to show a variety of programming and sports games on our 20-plus big screen TVs in both areas. We have low and high tables, booths, and two separate party rooms to accommodate everyone. The two patios are still open and will be, weather permitting, for some time. And we have 27 beers on tap!"

And they were recently designated by the NFL as an official Browns Backer Bar. This coveted honor is only bestowed upon a few select establishments in each area. So join your friends as you watch the Browns this season.

The menu has everything from appetizers to filet medallions. The recipes reflect the cuisine of our area and reflect what people in the Valley like, not what some chain tries to sell across the country. There are salads, wings (ask about their Wednesday night wing special), kid's menu, flatbreads, desserts and full course entrees. It is really worth the trip to try all the different items.

On Veterans Day they will be offering a free meal to all Vets, active duty and first responders from a special menu. You must have your current ID with you. "I wanted to show appreciation to them for the sacrifices that have been made in the past and the ones that are making it now," said Pregibon.

So, bring our family to one of Cortland's hidden gems, share in the history of our Valley's steel mills, enjoy a great meal, and help support a locally owned business.

**Call it Autumn - Call it Fall  
But always remember to - CALL JODY!**

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**Jody Sova**  
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*Pumpkin Kisses and Harvest Wishes*



**Wiley Insurance opens office in Cortland**

Ann M Wiley Insurance is excited to announce the opening of its new office in Cortland. Ann first started her agency in 1984 in Ashtabula County and has specialized in Medicare insurance as well as life insurance and annuities.

In July, Jill Freeman joined the company with the opening of the new office in Cortland. Jill has been a lifelong resident of the area. She graduated from Lakeview Schools and Kent State University. She currently resides in Johnston with her family. She is a member of the Cortland United Methodist Church and has been active in many different local organizations.

Feel free to contact the agency with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your Medicare Insurance, Life Insurance, or annuity needs. They are here to help. Cortland Office: 234-244-4014, jfreeman.wileyinsurance@gmail.com. Conneaut Office: 440-599-7559, wileyinsurance@gmail.com. Facebook: wileyinsurancecortland. Website: www.awileyinsurance.com

**Safari hunt**

Miss Mary Ann's green room pre-K children class at the Cortland Playroom recently went on a safari hunt. They went looking for animals throughout the classroom and outside. The children was so excited when they found the Lions, tigers, giraffes, hippopotamuses and zebras.



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**'Tis the season - for allergies**

By Sally Lane

Falling leaves mark the transition between summer and winter, but it also heralds one of the main allergy seasons in the year. The other main season is spring. For many years I believed that my health problems at the end of September, first of October were due to colds. I was a teacher, and about then many of my students were sneezing and didn't feel well, and I assumed their "colds" were being passed on to me. But after retirement, the sneezing and sinus difficulties continued. My doctor referred me to an allergist, and I was more than surprised to find that I indeed had several allergies.

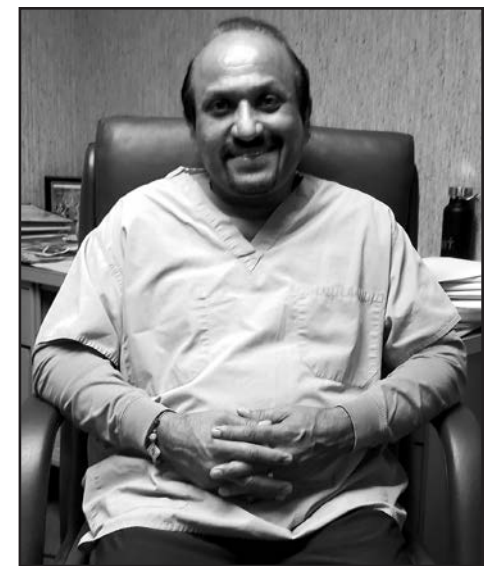
What was even more surprising to me was that the quality of my life improved with treatment - the headaches and the sneezing are much relieved. I truly wish I had realized earlier that allergies to mold and dust were the source of my misery. I lost days of work during the fall and spring.

Recently I had a conversation with the doctor who treats my allergies, Dr. Akhil Chouksey. He has an office in Warren and inspired this article. "Lots of things happen in fall," he said. "Leaves fall to the ground and decompose, causing mold and dust. There is pollen from plants (think ragweed in particular). Inside, the furnace comes on, blowing out dust and animal dander." He added that more children are hospitalized with asthma in the fall than any other seasons.

He explained that an allergy is an "immune response" to substances that enter our body. Pollen, dust, and

dander enter through the air or contact, and cause problems in the nose, sinuses, ears, mouth and with breathing. Medicines like Zyrtec, Allegra, Claritin and others are like a "Tylenol" for a headache - a temporary fix. However, Chouksey said for people who have allergic reactions that continue or become worse, allergy skin tests are called for. "They are very precise, and pinpoint the exact allergies," he said. After the results are reviewed, low doses of the needed medicines may be injected over time to actually cure the allergic reactions.

Dr. Chouksey specializes in treating allergies, sinus problems and asthma. He is the former Chief of Allergy/Immunology at MetroHealth Medical Center and Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. He maintains offices in Warren at 1700 East Market St. and in Middlefield.



Dr. Akhil Chouksey

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For more information on how you can adopt Piper or any of our available cats, please visit the AWL website at [awlrescueme.com](http://awlrescueme.com).

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

By Christine Dorma, Administrative Assistant

### Brush Chipping

The city of Cortland Service Department will conduct free branch and limb pick up service along city streets the week of Oct. 26. Brush should be placed at the curb no later than Sunday, Oct. 25. Only one pass per street will be made. Be sure to follow the rules that can be found on our website [cityofcortland.org](http://cityofcortland.org)

### Fall Cleanup

Dates for Fall Cleanup have been set for Oct. 1 and 2. This service is provided for residential customers of Republic Services within the city of Cortland. Items will be picked up with your regular trash.

\*Cortland has **cardboard only recycling bins** located at Willow Park.

**Residents should refrain from blowing leaves or grass into the roadway or into creeks or waterways.**

Leaves and grass clippings in the roadway can block storm drains creating the potential for standing water and street flooding. City ordinances state "No person shall deposit litter on any public property, on any private property not owned by the person, or in or on waters of the state or municipality." Please do not purposely rake or blow leaves into storm inlets. Part of the contract with Republic Services provides that they pick up unlimited yard waste for residential customers. Any leaves and grass clippings should be bagged separately from your regular trash.

Thank you for your help in keeping our storm drains clear.

### Dates to Remember

- Oct. 5 - City Council - 7 p.m.
- Oct. 12 - Parks Board - 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 12 - Planning & Zoning - 7 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - City Council - 7 p.m.

## Register now to vote

The League of Women Voters of Trumbull County plays a key role in the National Voter Registration Day effort. The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization, joins that day with 400 clubs to register hundreds of thousands of voters in one single day.

With Election Day just weeks away, today and the remaining days in September are the days to help voters get ready to head to the polls. Voter registration is the key to ensuring that all Americans can engage in the political process. That is why the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County is committed to National Voter Registration Day. Because of the virus restrictions placed upon the League this year, our registration/information table at the Eastwood Mall will not be available. In response, here are two simple steps all citizens 18 years and older, recently becoming a citizen, or moved or changed their name can take to be part of the voter registration efforts:

1. Send an eCard to people you know who may need to register to vote or update their registration ([http://](http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/salsa/web/postcard/public/?postcardKEY=237)

[participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/salsa/web/postcard/public/?postcardKEY=237](http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/salsa/web/postcard/public/?postcardKEY=237)).

2. Mentor a friend who is new to the election process. Help show new voters the ropes by sharing VOTE411.org (<http://vote411.org>) with them. Then join them at the polls and cast your vote.



First row from left: Dorothy Sideropolis, Peggy Boyd, Sue Smith; second row: Rosemary Grayson, Pam Hallett; third row: Jennifer McCloskey, Linda Baer-Bigley.

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## Plans underway for holiday craft show

Cortland Christian Church is planning its Annual Holiday Craft Show for Saturday, Nov. 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. just in time for you to purchase some really unique items, to start or finish your holiday Christmas shopping. A bake sale is also being planned and a soup and sandwich lunch will be available as well.

We are looking for new and different crafts and vendors along with

our regular vendors. There has been a lot of interest and many have registered already. Information and registration forms are available by calling Joyce at 330-637-4611 Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Precautions will be taken. Masks and antibacterial hand cleaner will be available. If the state of Ohio mandates we cancel, money will be refunded.



## A happy pup

Wagging his tail with glee the little pup darted back and forth throughout the neighborhood. He was just a small thing, harmless as can be. He trodden down South High Street, stopping at a couple of fire hydrants along the way. Soon he was on Fowler Street.

His four little legs carried him swiftly as his fur gently brushed the ground. He saw an older lady kneeling in the garden, but she shooed him away.

He made his way down South Colonial Drive. As he ventured forward, the little guy was startled by

the barking of a large dog. Crossing to the other side of the street in fright he wandered through a couple of back yards on Woodview Avenue. He saw some people splashing about in a swimming pool. He continued to Russel Avenue and then to East Main Street.

Finally, he stopped by a house on Stahl Avenue. He cocked his little head to the side, and his small, black, beady eyes gazed at a little boy on a swing. The swing was a board affixed to two thick ropes extending up and tied to the branch of an old walnut tree. The boy's grandpa had just made him the swing two weeks ago. The lad was not really swinging. He was just sitting there with his head down. You see, his grandpa had just died.

The little pup went up to the young lad. Soon the dog caught the attention of the boy. He did not have any pets. He gave a half-smile. The furry dust mop approached the tearful child and brushed his knotted, dirty-white coat against the boy's leg. Quickly that half-smile turned into a full grin.

Meanwhile his mom and dad were inside talking about their son who they knew was very hurt. He was really close to his grandpa. They sat in their living room were the woman remembered hearing her pastor preach on prayer and how powerful prayer is. She took her husband's hand and together they prayed.

"Oh Lord," the woman said, "Help our son through this grief."

Just then, through an open window, the couple heard the laughter of a boy who at their last sight of was in tears at the news of the untimely passing. The husband quickly arose and looked out the window to see the sight of his boy rolling on the ground with a little pup licking his face. His wife joined him and embraced her husband. All the cares of the world were gone, and the precious moment took hold. God had answered their prayer.

God is ready to hear your prayer today. He wants you to know that whatever you are facing that you do not need to face it alone. He has a perfect plan. At times it is hard to see in the midst of the storm of life, but when the clouds lift and you look back it is clear as day to see. Have you talked to the Lord about what ails you? Have a relationship with Him. Talk to Him every day. God loves you. He wants to know you. He wants to know your joys and your sorrows. He wants to rejoice with you, and He wants to wipe away your every tear. Go to Him today in prayer.

## All Saints to hold trash 'n treasure sale

All Saints Community Church is holding a Trash 'n Treasure Sale on Thursday, Oct. 1 and Friday, Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church, 4530 state Route 46, Cortland. Saturday will be \$1 bag day. The large sale will include furniture, electronics, records, books and more. Masks are required.



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# Something to Think About

By Rev. Donald P. Barnes

O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?  
Micah 6: 8

Christina - 2nd Grade - Mrs. Stein's class. Shabby, well-worn clothes - dirty and disheveled - a lonely presence in a class of 35. I was 7 at the time; in 2020, I turned 65. I still think about Christina. There's always a twinge of guilt - sadness. How's she doing? What became of her - the little girl with scraggly clothes, dirty face, and frazzled hair?



I was 7, turned 65 in June and I've never gotten past Christina. Sadly, I know why. Christina was the object of our jokes and our scorn. We had privilege and she had nothing. We hounded her with our meanness. We laughed at her dresses, her shoes. We made fun of her uncombed hair and her unwashed face. We joked out loud about her hand-me-down coat and the holes in her shoes. She wasn't like us and for some awful reason we saw that as opportunity to hurl insults. One morning, Mr. Clark,

the principal, led her into class by the hand. She was crying. Christina had been hiding in the restroom because she couldn't face another terrible day with her classmates. Yes... I still think about Christina. I wish I could find Christina ... and tell her I'm sorry.

Thinking about Christina has helped me to grow. It was a difficult lesson, but it changed me. I have learned to treat folks that are different than myself with respect. Different tongues, different background, different color, different ideas, moneyed or poverty-stricken... makes no difference at all. Folks are folks, people are people and essentially we are all looking for the same things: a good day, a bright future, justice, hope. Just so happened that these things came easy to me, while most folks have to struggle to attain the same. Been thinking about Christina - been thinking about Christina this morning. I hope she's OK.

## Men's Rally features My Pillow inventor

Men's Rally in the Valley 2020 will be on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Covelli Center in downtown Youngstown. The day will start with Warren Mayor Doug Franklin opening with prayer. Tim Ginter, three-term state representative, will be the first speaker and throughout the day Victory Christian Praise Band will bring the uplifting music. Lee Haney, eight-time Mr. Olympa, will tell how his strength is in the Lord. Jeff Stultz with Celebrate Recovery will deliver a message "How to Break the Chains" along with Teen Challenge giving their testimonies. Dave Roever, a Vietnam Veteran, that should not be alive, is alive and here to tell his life saving story. J.J. Weeks, Christian recording artist, will bless us with his music. My Pillow inventor, Mike Lindell, has a rescue story of his life every man should hear regardless of age.

There is no admission cost or parking charge, so no reason to miss this year's rally because --if it's free, it's for me! Masks will be required inside the building and social distancing will be in place. Also food trucks will be available for your lunch purchase. For more information visit mensrally.org.



Mike Lindell, My Pillow inventor



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**Secure your financial future after divorce**

There's no doubt about it - going through a divorce can be an emotionally trying time. In addition to the emotional impact a divorce can have, it can also take a significant toll on finances. If you have recently gone through a divorce, now may be a good time to take a fresh look at your financial situation. Consider how these steps may help you get on firmer footing:

**Adjust your budget:** A good place to start is to establish a budget that reflects your current monthly income and expenses. Calculate your new monthly income, including spousal or child support if applicable, and estimate what you expect to earn over the next year. If you are a stay-at-home parent or spouse, you may decide to re-enter the workforce to bolster your income. Or the time may be right to switch careers or seek a higher-paying job.

Next, look at your spending to see if you need to adjust your patterns. Whether you've decided to remain in your home or seek new living arrangements, crunch the numbers to see how much house you can realistically afford. Also, evaluate your lifestyle spending to see if it's necessary to trim your expenses. If possible, avoid making any major purchases until you feel comfortable with your updated budget.

**Consider your children's future:** If you have children, they will understandably take center stage in your planning. It's important to start thinking about how you'll handle future financial milestones. Milestones may include paying for private grade school, college tuition or a wedding. If you'd like to help your children with such expenses, consider these questions: Will you receive financial support from your former spouse? Do you expect your kids to contribute? As each event approaches, be up front with your kids about what you can afford so they can set realistic expectations.

**Ensure you're protected:** An important step following divorce is to maintain, replace or establish insurance that will help secure your financial future. All forms of insurance should be reviewed and considered. Make sure you understand the specific benefits that you and your former spouse are entitled to, as well as the life, health and disability insurance policies that you both own through your employers.

If you have children, whose health insurance plan will be used to cover them? Work quickly to establish an insurance plan to avoid financial risk of being uninsured.

**Change your beneficiary designations:** After a divorce, you'll want to change the beneficiary designations on any life insurance policies, retirement accounts, annuities, and bank or brokerage accounts you may have in place. This is also a good time to make a will or update your existing one to reflect your new status. Make sure that your former spouse isn't still named as a personal representative, successor trustee, beneficiary, or holder of a power of attorney in any of your estate planning documents.

**Prioritize saving for retirement:** No matter how close - or far - you are to retirement, make it a priority to update your retirement goals and continue building your nest egg. While retirement saving can feel overwhelming as you balance competing financial priorities, having a plan can help you feel more in control.

**Dream and plan for the future:** Once you have a handle on your new day-to-day finances and retirement, allow yourself to dream and plan for other milestones that are important to you. While you were married, you may have set certain financial goals with your spouse. Now that you are on your own, these goals may have changed. Do you wish to travel abroad? Go back to school? Open a small business? Whatever your dreams, determine the cost of each one so you know how much you'll need to save. Save what you can each month, and keep in mind that even small amounts will add up over time. If you're tempted to spend the money elsewhere, consider establishing a separate savings account.

**Don't go it alone:** Professional guidance from an attorney, tax professional, estate planner and financial advisor can ease the burden of managing your finances. It's hard to start over, but you can do it. A financial advisor can help you with the complex decisions you face during a divorce and offer strategies you get on track to meet your new financial goals.

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

**Kettle Walk**

By Carole Wiley

At the Sept. 3 LOAF meeting, we learned the COVID-19 procedures at Walmart have prevented them from allowing the Salvation Army to be present at the various entrances during the holidays to accept donations. We have not yet learned if Sparkle will allow us to be there or not. As you likely know, the LOAF churches are the main Red Kettle workers at these two sites. These two sites are the largest sources of funds for the Cortland area. It is important to know that all money collected in the 44410 zip code stays in the 44410 zip code. The Army is always there to assist anyone with trouble, unexpected or not. This could

be you or your neighbor. Some of the needs are related to utility bills, hunger, the elderly, the homeless, clothing, addiction, emergency disasters and many other situations. Keep in mind that you, your family, or your neighbor might suddenly need the help of the Salvation Army. So Cortland, Bazetta, Mecca—be generous again!

During the last several months we have debated as to the future of Crop Walk as it appears to be fading both nationally and locally. Pastor Fred Blauser suggested we hold a "Kettle Walk" instead this year. The walk from the Cortland Christian Church to the lake was held on Sept. 18.

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# Tax Solutions



By Jennifer J. Slywczak

## College savings showdown: 529s vs. Roth IRAs

Many people assume that a 529 plan is the ideal college savings tool, but other vehicles can help parents save for college expenses, too. Take the Roth IRA, for example. Whether you should use one or the other (or both) depends on several factors, including how much you intend to contribute and how you'll use the earnings.

### Plan snapshots

A 529 plan allows participants to make substantial nondeductible contributions — up to hundreds of thousands of dollars, depending on the plan and state limits. The funds grow tax-free, and there's no tax on withdrawals, provided they're used for "qualified higher education expenses" such as tuition, fees, books, computers, and room and board. Other qualified expenses include up to \$10,000 of primary or secondary school tuition per student per year and, new under last year's SECURE Act, up to \$10,000 of student loans per beneficiary. If you use the funds for other purposes, you'll generally be subject to income taxes and a 10% penalty on the earnings portion. Some 529 plans are also eligible for state tax breaks.

Roth IRA contributions also are nondeductible and grow tax-free. And you can withdraw those contributions anytime, tax- and penalty-free, for any purpose. Qualified distributions of earnings — generally, after age 59½ and more than five years after your first contribution — are also tax- and penalty-free.

### Advantages and drawbacks

The main advantages of 529 plans are generous contribution limits and the ability to accept contributions from relatives or friends. Roth IRAs, on the other hand, are subject to annual contribution limits of currently \$6,000 (\$7,000 if you're 50 or older). So, even if you and your spouse each set up Roth IRAs when your child is born, the

most you'll be able to contribute over 18 years is \$216,000 (not taking into account any future inflation increases to the contribution limit). Additional drawbacks are that you must have earned income at least equal to the contribution, and you can't contribute to a Roth IRA if your adjusted gross income exceeds certain limits.

Funds in a 529 plan that aren't used for qualified education expenses will eventually trigger taxes and penalties when they're withdrawn. However, with a Roth IRA, you can use contributions, as well as qualified distributions of earnings, for any purpose without triggering taxes or penalties. This includes items that wouldn't be qualified expenses under a 529 plan, such as a car or off-campus housing expenses that exceed the college's room and board allowance. Plus, if you don't need all your Roth IRA funds for college expenses, you can leave them in the account indefinitely.

### Consider goals

Before selecting a plan, consider your overall financial, retirement and estate planning goals.

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



## Charity pancake breakfast Oct. 3

The public is invited to enjoy a Saturday family breakfast, from 9 a.m. to noon, on Oct. 3 at the Cortland Masonic Lodge, 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main Street), to benefit the Warren Chapter, Order of DeMolay. The "all you can eat" Charity Breakfast is held on the first Saturday each month at the Cortland Masonic Lodge, and the proceeds are donated to a local charity.

The breakfast cost is \$7 for adults, and \$6 for youth age 6 to 10, and free for children age 5 and under. You may elect to have a "take out" breakfast or you can use the limited indoor seating. The breakfast includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee.

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By Teresa Merrick, R.N., PHN, Trumbull County Combined Health District

Help is available to ALL smokers wishing to quit, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation or financial status.

The Ohio Tobacco Quit Line is confidential and free of charge. Call 1-800-784-8669 (1-800-QUIT NOW) or [www.smokefree.gov](http://www.smokefree.gov). Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and languages such as Spanish, Japanese, Thai-Loatian, Pujabi, Tagalog, Hmong, Hindi, Cambodian Korean, Vietnamese, French and TTY are available. Chinese,

Mandarin Chinese-Cantonese Chinese (1-800-838-8917), Korean (1-800-556-5564), Vietnamese (1-800-778-8440).

Eligible recipients may receive up to eight weeks of their choice of nicotine patches, gum or lozenges sent directly to your home.

A CDC funded cancer and tobacco disparity network called LGBT Health link is a community-driven network of experts and professionals enhancing LGBT health by reducing tobacco,



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cancer and other health disparities in our communities. They can be reached by calling 954-765-6024 or [HealthLink@Lgbtcenters.org](http://HealthLink@Lgbtcenters.org).

Mercy Health Regional Tobacco Treatment Center offers cessation

services by calling 330-306-5010, ext. 101.

The American Lung Association is also a statewide valuable source by calling English: 1-800-586-4872. Spanish: 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872)

If you are a teenager, the "My Life, My Quit" program is a free and confidential service developed by National Jewish Health and can be reached by online enrollment at the website [mylifemyquit.com](http://mylifemyquit.com) or calling toll free 1-855-891-9989 for real-time coaching. They offer five coaching sessions by phone, live texting or chat with a coach who will listen and help navigate social situations while finding healthy ways to cope with stress. Additional text messages for support to quit smoking, vaping or chewing tobacco.

For more information on Quitting smoking go to [smokefree.gov](http://smokefree.gov).



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## Four Seasons Garden Club to 'Brighten-up Cortland' for the holiday season

Four Seasons Garden Club is continuing its newly acquired responsibilities of helping Cortland look beautiful. The current project is the lighted Christmas wreaths displayed through town.

The Four Season's Garden Club is initiating a campaign to "Brighten-up Cortland" for the holiday season. The wreaths' lights will be changed to LED bulbs to offer a brighter illumination and a more cost-effective source. If you enjoy Cortland's holiday lights and are interested in helping support this community project, please consider being a "Brighten-up Cortland" sponsor. Sponsorship options include: "Buy a Wreath" for \$25 "Sponsor a Lamppost" for \$50, or simply make any donation that you can. Send your name and phone number to [cortlandfourseasons@gmail.com](mailto:cortlandfourseasons@gmail.com) and a club member will call you, or call Elaine at 330-219-4504 for details. Thank you for helping us make our city a little brighter. We appreciate your support!

## September is library card sign-up month

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, a time when the Warren-Trumbull County Public Library joins with the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind parents, caregivers, and students that signing up for a free library card can save them money while offering rewards in academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Through access to technology, media resources, and educational programs, a library card gives students the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams and passions.

The Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, along with libraries everywhere, continues to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving needs of our community. From borrowing digital e-books, streaming movies, or participating in virtual story times and online events, there's something for everyone at the library.

Warren-Trumbull County Public Library cards are issued at no cost to anyone who lives, works, or attends school in Ohio.

For more information about how to sign up for a library card, stop by any Warren-Trumbull County Public Library location (in Brookfield, Cortland, Howland, Liberty, Lordstown, or Warren) or visit the library online at [www.wtcpl.org](http://www.wtcpl.org).

*Continued on page 14*

## Eagle Scout project depicts 9-11 memorial

*By Derek Sanford, Troop 4050*

For my Eagle Scout project I decided to build a September the 11th memorial. This memorial is dedicated to the law enforcement officers who ran into the buildings to try and save lives, sacrificing theirs for others. There are 72 glass blocks in total, 36 in each tower, to represent each officer that lost their lives. The towers stand high at 6 feet and even lights up at night. The towers light up blue for the thin blue line to represent the light beams in NYC. The lights are solar powered rope lights and will light up the night with beauty and remembrance. Caps were donated by Woofter Fabricating; funds were acquired from a donation from Comprehensive Logistics, as well as self-fundraising. Concrete was poured and donated by Pooch Omerzo of Omerzo Construction. Special thanks from my home troop of Troop 4050 for the manpower.

*Editor's Note: The 9-11 memorial project constructed by Derek Sanford sits in front of Cortland City Hall, 400 N High St, Cortland. The project was proposed under the mayoral term of Jim Woofter and was approved by city council for construction in this location.*



*From left are: Steve Kurtz, Scoutmaster; Tim Sandor (Derek's father and committee chairman); Derek Sandor; Brittany Totten (mother); and Trevor Totten, (stepfather).*

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## Trumbull Co. Democrats open office in Cortland

Trumbull County Democrats are enthusiastically working to elect Democrats up and down the ballot in 2020. On Aug. 13, Trumbull County Dems opened a satellite office in Cortland at 160 S. High St. in the former Dairy Queen building. The office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Visitors can get voter forms including voter registration and absentee ballot requests, the slate of endorsed candidates on the 2020 ballot in Trumbull County, local candidate signs and Biden-Harris 2020 campaign signs, buttons, t-shirts, bumper stickers, etc.

The office has received an overwhelming response from local residents. A constant stream of visitors stop in during office hours and many are volunteering to elect Democratic candidates, some for the first time ever. Cortland office team captain Pat Rogan said, "I have been blown away by the heartfelt enthusiasm of the volunteers and visitors to the office. Every single person has expressed a desire to do what is in their power to elect the Biden-Harris ticket and to support the down ballot candidates."



Front row: from left: Marty Young, Tanya Wojciak and Livie Huffnagel. Behind counter: Curtis Bell, Debbie Facciolio, Tom Hitmar, Linda Hitmar, Christine Mikovich and Larry Gestwicki.

## September is library card...continued from page 13

This year, DC's Wonder Woman is embarking on a mission to champion the power of a library card as Library Card Sign-up Month Honorary Chair. In her new role, Wonder Woman will promote the value of libraries and encourage everyone to get their very own library card.



Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September to mark the beginning of the school year. During the month, the ALA and libraries unite together in a national effort to ensure every child signs up for their own library card.

## SCOPE, TNP and Mercy Health provide produce to seniors

SCOPE Senior Services, Trumbull Neighborhood Partners and the Mercy Health Foundation have partnered to provide free fruits and vegetables to the elderly who are mostly homebound.

The Fresh Produce Box program is funded through Mercy Health Foundation of Mahoning Valley in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program was originally intended to provide participants in the 2020 Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program (FVRxP) early access to fruits and vegetables. The FVRxP is a program available through Mercy Health primary care physicians that provides 400 patients with vouchers to shop at local farmers markets. As this crisis continues it was decided to contact SCOPE Senior Services who already delivers food in Trumbull County.

SCOPE has been operating a "Traveling Pantry" grocery food truck along with Second Harvest Food Bank and the Warren Salvation Army since July 2015. In the summers, SCOPE has partnered in the past with Trumbull Neighborhood Partners (TNP) and Trumbull County Combined Health District to pick up produce at farmers markets to be delivered.

"Since the SCOPE food truck already delivers four days a week to over 100 citizens it was ideal for the organizations to team up together to provide this service to homebound, disabled and elderly citizens," explained Mike Wilson, director of SCOPE Senior Services.

The Mercy Health FVRxP program will run through the fresh market season ending in October.



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