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FREE **January 21, 2009** **FREE**

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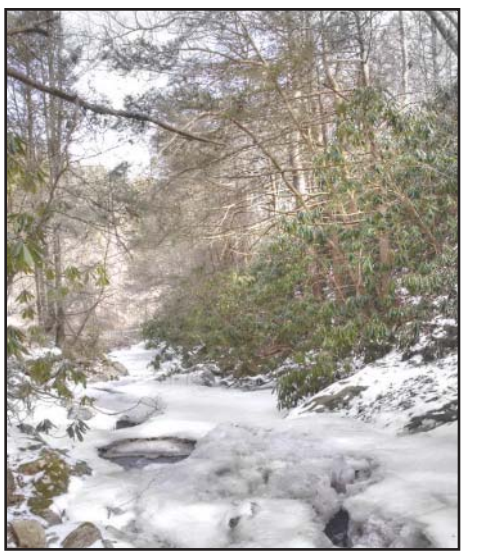

Ice Safety

Winter recreational sports are popular activities with many Ohioans. As temperatures drop below freezing (32°F/O°C) people want to get on the ice for the exciting sport of ice fishing. Ice fishing, sledding, snowmobile riding, ice skating, downhill skiing, and crosscountry skiing are just some of the most popular winter sports. With these activities come some safety precautions, especially when ice over water is involved. Ice can be very dangerous, and people can be injured or killed if ice and its conditions are not respected and understood.

Many things other than temperature can affect ice conditions on ponds, lakes, and rivers. The strength and thickness of the ice should be known before any activities take place upon it. The condition, strength, and stability of ice can change dramatically from day to day and hour to hour depending on temperature, precipitation, wind, and the amount of sunshine. Most accidents occur when people don't understand ice formation or how to read ice conditions. Other reasons are due to a person's careless attitude, overconfidence, and lack of appreciation of the risks involved when on ice.

There are no hard and fast rules to assure your safety on ice, but you can learn what to look for and what to do in case of an accident to protect yourself further. Loose and layered clothing including proper head and hand gear is a must.

Ice does not develop uniformly or evenly. Ice thickness can range from 12 inches (30 cm) thick to 1 inch (2.5 cm) thick within a 10 foot (3 in) area. Ice is actually a very complex formation, and no ice is completely safe. New ice is usually stronger than old ice. As ice ages, the bond between the crystals decays making it more dangerous and weaker even if melting has not occurred. Ice thickness can be affected by many factors other than temperature. Factors like wind, wave action, natural springs, snow, obstacles protruding through the ice (like docks, limbs, logs, etc.) all can weaken ice. Wind and wind speeds influence ice formation. Light winds speed up the formation making for weaker ice, and strong winds force water from beneath the ice and can decay the edges of the ice

An old saying used by ice fishermen was "Thick and blue, tried and true; thin and crispy, way too risky." Just because the temperature drops below freezing does not mean it's time to hit the ice. There are many different types of ice formations.

Typically the first ice to form is often called "frazil ice" or old ice, which is loosely formed crystals that clump together at the surface as the water temperature dips past 32°F (O°C). Frazil ice is soft and will not hold weight, as its structure is porous giving it a very low density and making it very weak.

Snow ice is formed when water-soaked layers of snow are thawed and then frozen to form an ice layer. It has a very low density and is also very porous due to air pockets formed while freezing, which makes it weak. Snow can insulate ice and keep it strong. It can also insulate it to keep it from freezing. Snow can also hide cracked, weak, and open water areas.

River ice is another issue altogether. Only cross river ice or be on it as a last resort. If you have to cross river ice look for an area where the water is still or in shallow pools as this is where the strongest ice will be found. Never cross areas where the river makes a bend or in areas of elevation drop where ripples are and areas where rocks or other obstructions are within the river. The moving water of rivers makes for ever-changing ice conditions. The ice may look thick and solid from the riverbank but it could actually be paper-thin due to being undercut by moving water. On average, river ice is 15 percent weaker than pond ice of the same thickness. **Great caution must be utilized when crossing on river ice.** One way to check river ice thickness is to throw a heavy rock or log onto the ice and see if the ice holds the weight or if it breaks through. Even if it holds, still utilize extreme caution crossing river ice. ***Crossing river ice should be a last resort as its strength and stability is never a sure thing. (Parents remind your children! We have many rivers, creeks and farm ponds in our area!)***

If the air temperature goes above freezing 32°F (O°C) for 6 hours over a 24-hour period, ice can quickly lose strength and stability and become unsafe.

Tips to Remember for Safety on Ice

- Test and inspect the ice thickness by drilling holes and taking measurements every 10 feet (13 in) each time you go out on the ice.
- Know what good ice is ("thick and blue").
- Never be on ice less than 4 inches (10 cm).
- Wear a personal flotation device (PFD) for warmth and safety.
- Dress warmly in layers especially around head, neck, chest., sides, and groin due to primary high heat loss areas. Good gloves will keep hands nimble.
- Carry ice claws or ice picks and know how to rescue yourself or someone else.
- Go out with a partner – it's more fun and safer.
- Take energy foods and hot drinks, but not alcoholic beverages.
- Have a first-aid kit, extra set of clothes, and blankets along for emergencies.
- Don't build fires on the ice.
- The weakest ice will be in the center and along the edge of the water.
- Be aware that snow can cover open water areas, so use extreme caution.
- Be aware of wet cracks, slushy and darker areas, as well as water edges that are normally weaker.
- The only absolute safe ice is the ice you stay OFF.

Precautions need to be taken to assure that ice is safe for your winter recreational activities. Always inspect the ice before going out on it. Be aware that ice thickness and strength can vary from location to location. Know how to rescue yourself and others if you or they fall into the icy waters. By following some general safety procedures you can bundle up, be safe, and enjoy the many winter activities in our great Ohio outdoors.

Taken from the OSU Ext. Fact Sheet, written by Gary W. Graham, Natural Resources Specialist, Ohio State University Extension and Thomas L. Bean, Safety Leader, Ohio State University Extension. Visit their web site for more information at ohioline.osu.edu.

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SPECIAL EDITION See Inside for January COUPONS!

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Sauerkraut & Pork

You're invited to a sauerkraut and pork dinner at the Beach City Methodist fellowship hall on January 25. Dinner will be served from 11 am to 1 pm. Beverages, side dishes and desserts are also available. The Family Circle class is asking for a donation.

Free Community Dinner

Faith United Church of Christ will be holding their FREE Community Dinner **Thursday, January 22nd**. The time is from 5:00 to 6:30. Faith U.C.C. is located on the north side of Brewster at 215 Superior St. All are welcome.

Superbowl Sub Sandwich Sale

The Youth of Otterbein United Methodist Church are holding their annual Superbowl sub sandwich sale,

Orders will be taken until **January 25** and pick-up will be Sunday, February 1 at 11:15 am.

Choices are ham, turkey, provolone cheese, swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato. One meat and one cheese is $3.50; two meats and 2 cheeses are $4.50; a salad with roll is $4.00. You choose the combination you want. All sandwiches are made to order.

You may place an order by calling the church office. If you would like to have an order blank, please call the office. Our phone number is 330-484-2776. The church is located at 6025 Shepler Church Road SW, just 1/8 mile south of the Fohl/Shepler Church intersection.

Candles, Hearts & Flowers

A "Dress-Up" Swiss Steak Dinner will be held at St. Paul UCC Parish Hall in Navarre with music & fine dining on **Sunday, January 25**. Hor d'oeuvres will be served at 6:00 PM, dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. Cost for adults is $10.00, a family rate is $25, and student rate is $5 (through high school).

Reservations are strongly encouraged. Tickets may be purchased in the church office at 21 Wooster Street, Navarre or call the church office at (330) 879-5836.

Old Flames Luncheon

All current and former members of the Red Lantern Flames Square Dance Club are invited to meet on **January 21s**t at noon. In January we will meet at Menches Restaurant in Massillon.

For reservations please call Hilda at 330-879-3185.

Gathering Place

The Gathering Place is presenting T.H.C.F. Praise Band in concert on **Friday, Jan. 23rd** and Sound Of Praise in concert on **Friday, Jan. 30th** at 7 pm on 409 West Main St. in Wilmot (formly Midwest Pizza). Come and listen to some uplifting music in a relaxed coffee shop setting.

Fairless Food Cupboard

The Fairless Food Cupboard will distribute free food to qualified residents of the Fairless School District on **Thursday, January 22** from 10:00 am until noon, in the basement of St. Theresa Catholic Church, 500 S. Wabash in Brewster. You must have identification, meet the financial guidelines, and proof of Fairless School District residency is required.

Gospel H.I.M.S

The GOSPEL H.I.M.S are in concert on **Sunday, January 25th** at 7 pm. Come and enjoy a evening of Southern Gospel music at The Gathering Place, 409 W. Main St. in Wilmot.

National Leader in Sustainable Cuisine

Parker Bosley, founder of the critically acclaimed Parker's New American Bistro in Cleveland and a nationally known advocate of sustainable cuisine, will preside over a Guest Chef Dinner, **Monday, February 2** at 6:30 p.m. at South Market Bistro, 151 South Market Street in Downtown Wooster. Reservations are required and seating is limited.

Retired from the restaurant business after more than 20 years as a chef and owner, Bosley now works full time with small-scale farms across Ohio. His personal mission is to see flavorful, safe, and nutrient-rich foods appear on an increasing number of restaurant menus, helping farmers dedicated to sustainability flourish while meeting a growing public appetite for fresh, healthful fare.

Bosley has come full circle. Raised on a dairy farm in Trumbull County, he graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College where he studied French, art history and music. Living and working in France intermittently for nearly 20 years, Bosley was increasingly drawn to the sustainability movement that emphasizes taste and purity founded on locally grown seasonal ingredients, a passion that he cultivated to glowing reviews at his New American Bistro, from which he retired in 2006. Since then, he has served as a recruiter and trainer of farmers who are committed to sustainability. He remains a driving force in opening a series of new farmers' markets, believes that grass production is the next logical wave in sustainability, and is a member of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy and an advocate of pure bred livestock.

Bosley's stint as Guest Chef at South Market Bistro reunites him with the Bistro's founder and owner, Mike Mariola, who served as his sous chef for nearly three years at Parker's and who also spent time in Paris at Le Violons d'Ingres.

"Parker did more to influence my thinking as both a chef and owner than any other individual that I have met," said Mariola, a Wayne County native who opened South Market Bistro in 2002 with his wife, Emily Moorefield, a local pottery artisan and shop owner. "My approach at the Bistro is in many ways a daily homage to what I learned from this amazing friend and mentor."

Coinciding with Bosley's appearance is Mariola's rollout of an all-new dinner menu at his fine-casual restaurant. The new menu features small plates and wine flights and will highlight additional appetizer and entrée selections, including more pasta and vegetarian dishes. New desserts include honey chocolate pecan tart with whipped cream and a brandied cherry custard in housemade puff pastry with vanilla sauce.

In addition to his ongoing stewardship of South Market Bistro, Mariola recently opened City Square Steakhouse, another fine-casual restaurant in the Historic District of Downtown Wooster. The steakhouse specializes in hand-cut, prime-aged USDA Choice and Prime steaks and housemade sides, complemented by a full bar. Visit www.citysquaresteakhouse.com.

"Our hallmark at both locations is exceptional food married to exceptional service," said Mariola. "We want our clientele to enjoy the very best in dining while we take fabulous care of them."

Reservations for South Market Bistro's Special Guest Dinner with Parker Bosley can be made by calling (330) 264-FOOD (3663). Full menu details are available on the Bistro's Web site, www.southmarketbistro.com.

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Letter to the Editor

On Friday, Jan. 16, as our region was hit by the bitter cold of winter, hundreds of our homebound neighbors were assured of a nutritious meal thanks to the selflessness of a few.

That morning, with icy road conditions and temperatures plummeting well below zero, every one of our volunteer drivers with Meals On Wheels of Stark & Wayne Counties delivered their routes as scheduled. Not one called off. Most of our volunteers are seniors, and the cold weather had to be a particular hardship. But they showed up and fulfilled their commitment without complaint.

To see them arrive with smiles on their faces and a spirit of service in their hearts was gratifying. Our clients, who depend on us daily for nutritious meals, were served without interruption.

It was a remarkable display of selflessness and dedication. We, and our clients, are grateful to them all.

Teresa L. Barry, CEO
Meals On Wheels of Stark & Wayne Co., Massillon

Students of the Month

Tory Cunningham (Fairless) and **Felicia Lumley** (Minerva) have been chosen as the December Students of the Month at the R. G. Drage Career Technical Center.

Tory is a senior in the Graphic Communications program and is on the merit roll with excellent attendance. He has been described as a very positive influence on everyone around him. Tory's teachers say he is an exemplary student day after day. He helps anyone he can and is always very optimistic. Tory is a member of SkillsUSA, is active in community services, and is interested in the ministry. Tory's home school is Fairless High School and he is the son of Sharon and James Cunningham of Navarre.

Felicia is a senior in the Cosmetology program and is on the honor roll with excellent attendance. She has been described as being very organized, conscientious, and positive. Felicia's teachers say she is very responsible and dependable. Felicia is a great student and a pleasure to have in class. Felicia is president of the National Technical Honor Society at Drage, a cheerleader at Minerva High School, and active in many school activities. She is the daughter of Heather Lumley of Minerva.

These students were chosen by a committee of staff and administrators on the basis of attendance, grades, activities, and attitude.

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OBITUARIES

ANTONETTE P. "Nini" GRILLON, 79, of Brewster, died early Thursday morning January 15, 2009 at Aultman Hospital following a brief illness

She was born in Brewster on March 17, 1929 to Castenze and Ursula (Petrolia) Musacchia and lived all of her life in Brewster. She was a member of St. Therese Catholic Church in Brewster and the Rosary and Altar Society of the church. She was also a member of the ladies auxiliary of the Navarre VFW.

In 1951, she married James W. Grillon. He died April 14, 2008. She is survived by four children, Patricia (Paul) Baughman of Navarre, Susan (Anthony) Ionno of Brewster, David (Diane Jacobs) Grillon of Massillon and Jean Grillon of the home; three grandchildren, Brandon Grillon, Christopher and Kori Baughman; and a great granddaughter, Hailey Baughman; two sisters, Josephine Chatterelli of Brewster and Betty Orlando of Canton.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Matt, Bruno and James Musacchia and a sister, Angeline Dottavio.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Therese Catholic Church with Father Robert Kaylor officiating. Burial was held in St. Clement Church Cemetery in Navarre. Friends called at the Spidell Funeral Home in Brewster where a prayer service was also held.

Online guest registration and condolences may be sent through the funeral home website at www.spidellfuneralhome.com.

CLARENCE R. GERBER, 90, of Kidron, died Thursday, January 15, 2009 at Shady Lawn Health Care Community in Dalton following a period of declining health.

He was born near Orrville on January 5, 1919 to Menno and Anna (Moser) Gerber and lived all of his life near Kidron. He was a retired farmer and a member of the Kidron Mennonite Church.

On June 6, 1967, he married Lydia Steiner. She died September 7, 2005.

He is survived by two sisters, Pauline Badertscher of Goshen, IN and Iona Hofstetter of Wadsworth; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by three sisters, Nola Gerber, Mabel Wanner and Goldie Lehman.

Funeral services were held at the Kidron Mennonite Church with the Rev. Terry Shue officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery. Friends called prior to services at the church. Spidell Funeral Home in Mount Eaton handled the arrangements.

Online guest registration and condolences may be sent through the funeral home website at www.spidellfuneralhome.com.

NETTIE MILLER, 40, of 8253 S. Kansas Road, Apple Creek, died early Monday morning, January 12, 2009 at her home following a courageous two and half year battle with cancer.

She was born near Mount Eaton on December 6, 1968 to the late Calvin J. and Nettie (Miller) Schlabach and married Aden J. Miller on October 10, 1991. He survives. She was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by seven sisters, Naomi (Jr.) Hershberger of Apple Creek, Susan (Wayne) Miller of Millersburg, Ruth (David) Mullet, Freda (Crist) Kauffman, Mary (Dan) Raber and Bertha (Raymond) Beachy, all of Dundee and Cathy (Marvin) Troyer of Sugarcreek; three brothers, Lester (Barbara) Schlabach, Alvin (Martha) Schlabach and Paul (Mae) Schlabach, all of Dundee; mother and father-in-law Joni U. and Fannie Miller of Apple Creek; twenty-two nieces; twenty-seven nephews; five aunts and six uncles.

Funeral services were held at the Crist D.E. Yoder residence, 11981 Harrison Road, with Bishop Martin J. Yoder officiating. Burial was in the Hershberger Cemetery in Paint Township, Wayne County. Friends called at the Crist D.E. Yoder residence. Spidell Funeral Home in Mount Eaton handled the arrangements.

MARGARET E. MILLER, 93, of Mount Eaton and formerly of Charm, died unexpectedly early Sunday morning, January 11, 2009 at home.

She was born in New Bedford on August 23, 1915 to Henry and Anna W. (Baad) Ely and married Forrest Miller on June 10, 1939. He died December 20, 1981.

She lived most of her life in Charm and along with her husband operated the Charm General Store for many years. She was a member of the Zion United Church of Christ in New Bedford and enjoyed quilting at the church.

She is survived by children, Ivan (Franny) Miller of Stone Creek, Elaine (Daniel "Sonny") Troyer of Mount Eaton and with whom she had made her home since 2001, Rebecca (Ken) Baker of Millersburg and Kenvin (Cindy) Miller of Strasburg; thirteen grandchildren; thirty-two great grandchildren and one great great grandson; a sister, Oceal Stein of Canton.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Alta Deetz and Helen Ely.

Funeral services were held at the Zion United Church of Christ in New Bedford with Rev. Welton Stein officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Friends called at the church. Spidell Funeral Home in Mount Eaton is handling the arrangements.

Online guest registration and condolences may be sent through the funeral home website at www.spidellfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

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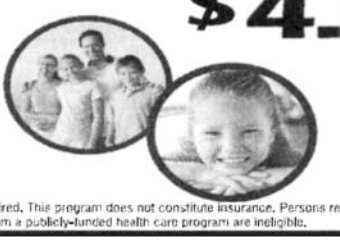
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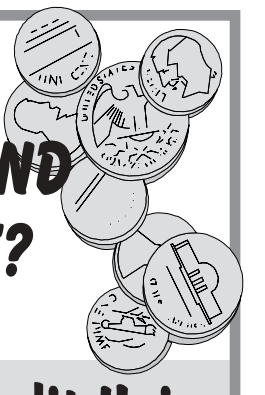
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Fairless Lions Club

The Fairless Community Lions Club will meet on **Tuesday, January 27th** at 7:00 PM at the Navarre Civic Center. ALL members are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Your relatives and friends are welcome. Also, anyone in the community that is interested in learning more about the Lions are welcome.

Main Street Cafe

The Main Street Cafe located right in the heart of Dalton at 24 W. Main Street, offers there beautiful facility for you to rent for your next gathering or event.

For information or to reserve a date call 330-828-8855. www.mainstreetcafe.mysite.com

Trail Volunteers Being Recruited

Do you enjoy hiking or bicycling, being outdoors, enjoying nature, making new friends? If so, the Stark County Park District would like you to join its Trailblazer corps. Trailblazers provide information and assistance to visitors along the park district's 60 miles of trails including 25 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Towpath Trail. Interviews will be conducted through **Friday, Jan. 30**. To get an application and arrange an interview, call Volunteer Coordinator Jennifer Martin at 330-477-3552 or visit www.StarkParks.com/volunteer_program.asp.

Five training classes will be conducted on Feb. 3, 5 ,7, 10 and 12 at the Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake Park in Perry Township and a second set of classes will take place April 7,9,11,14 and 16. Volunteers may choose which dates best suit their schedules. The classes will cover first aid and CPR, park district history and regulations, bicycle repair, and a variety of communications skills.

Trailblazers are asked to provide 32 hours of service on the trails per year, which they schedule at their own convenience. They also have the opportunity to get their hours helping at park events, such as the annual Canalway Classic 5K running race, children's fishing derbies, and the County Fair. In addition to Trailblazer t-shirts, ball caps, and jackets, the volunteers are provided with first aid equipment and cellular phones to use while on duty on the trails.

Grocery Distribtution

Grocery Distribution will be held on **Saturday, January 24** from 9-11 am at the Mustard Seed Mission, corner of Rt. 62 and Rt. 250 in Wilmot. No identification is required, but one bag per family please.

Mustard Seed Mission, Inc. is a non-profit, ecumenical organization dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus and spreading the Gospel through service to others. If you have questions about the Mission or would like to donate/volunteer, please call 330-756-3150.

Fairless Seniors

This is a special reminder to all Fairless Senior Citizens. We will have an extra activity this month in the form of a "Tea Party". Brewster Parke Assisted Living Community has graciously invited us to a combined luncheon/tea party and to tour their newly opened "Dolley Madison House" on **January 29**, 2009 at 12:00 noon. Dress is casual.

If you would like to attend and did not sign up at our January meeting, please call Jack Evans at 330-879-2206 on or before Monday, January 26. They need an accurate count to accommodate us.

Learn Tomato Grafting

Grafting in vegetable production can lead to plants that are stronger, have a higher yield, and are more resistant to disease and stress. Ohio State University is offering a workshop on tomato grafting on **Tuesday, Jan. 27**, in Wooster, tailored to growers interested in finding out more about this technique and related research trials.

The workshop will be held from 12:30-5 p.m. at Fisher Auditorium, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, on the campus of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC).

"These workshops represent opportunities for growers to become 'early-adopters' of this technology, to become familiar with some of the newest information on the topic (from projects conducted by OSU and its partners), to share what they know about it, and to shape the overall, near-term, grafting-related research-extension agenda," said Matt Kleinhenz, a vegetable specialist with OARDC and OSU Extension and one of the workshop presenters.

The popularity of grafting is increasing around the world as a means to improve plant growth, control diseases, provide tolerance to temperature and other stresses, and increase nutrient uptake. Grafted plants are widely used in the high-input greenhouse environment and are very popular among farmers in Asia. In Japan, for example, almost 95 percent of watermelon, oriental melon, eggplant, cucumber and tomato plants are grafted before being transplanted to the field or greenhouse.

"Vegetable crops grown under organic and sustainable production systems in the Midwest are challenged by nutrient availability, pathogens, low soil temperature during planting, and fluctuations in moisture," said David Francis, an OARDC geneticist and another presenter at the workshops. "Breeding varieties tailored to organic production is a way to try to solve these problems, but it's a long-term solution. What we want to do is demonstrate the feasibility of grafting as a compatible strategy, one which is likely to have high impact in the short term."

Kleinhenz, Francis, OARDC plant pathologist Brian McSpadden-Gardener, and OARDC and OSU Extension vegetable pathologist Sally Miller (also workshop presenters) are using tomatoes as a model to study grafting as a viable method for vegetable farming in the region. Study goals include developing, testing and selecting rootstocks that improve fruit yield and quality in organic production systems; and working with growers and small greenhouse and nursery operations to facilitate the creation of a domestic source of grafted vegetable transplants.

"Overall, grafting is an emerging technology in vegetable production, relatively few academic-industry teams are involved at this time, and much needs to be learned to successfully employ grafted plants (in field and high-tunnel settings) more widely," Kleinhenz pointed out.

Registration for the Wooster workshop costs $25 for the first registrant and $10 for each additional registrant from the same family or business, and includes a grafting guide and resource packet and refreshments. To register, mail a check for the total amount (payable to Ohio State University), number of people attending, and their names and affiliation to Matt Kleinhenz, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science, Gourley Hall, OARDC, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, OH 44691.

For more information, contact Kleinhenz at (330) 263-3810 or kleinhenz.1@osu.edu.

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Singers to Perform for Seniors

On **Tuesday, January 27** at 10:00 the Varsity Singers from Central Christian School in Kidron will perform at "Something for Seniors" held at The Pier near Mt. Eaton. All senior citizens are invited to come and bring a friend!

The Varsity Singers, under the direction of Tim Shue, consists of juniors and seniors singing a wide spectrum of choral literature from Renaissance motets to folk-based tunes from international sources. Glorifying God and providing enduring strength for the Christian journey through musical beauty and timeless texts is central to their purpose of singing.

Following the program a soup and salad bar lunch will be served for a suggested donation of $6.00 per person. The food will be prepared by Mountain Top Restaurant.

"Something for Seniors", events planned for Senior Citizens, is scheduled at The Pier the last Tuesday of each month. Senior Citizens are invited to come at your leisure from 9:00-10:00 and enjoy coffee, tea and conversation. At 10:00 the planned program will begin.

For more information call "Something for Seniors" program directors, Jean and Mahlon Steffen at 330-857-8484 or The Pier at 330-359-2071. The next program is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24.

The Pier is located at 10470 Winesburg Rd., approximately 1_ miles south of Mt. Eaton or 4 miles north of Winesburg and is handicap accessible.

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Quiet Love Concert

Make plans now to come and see Quiet Love, Shhh in Concert at Dover Baptist Temple on March 7, 2009 at 7 pm. The doors will open at 6 pm. Quiet Love is a Powerful Christian Ministry in American Sign Language Under Black Light. It is music for the hearing and hearing impaired performed under black light. Everyone is invited to come see and hear the music. Quiet Love exists to creatively communicate the Gospel through dramatic interpretation of contemporary Christian music. www.quietlove.us. Cost is a donation only and all donations will go to benefit Relay for Life. Don't miss this inspiring night at Dover Baptist Temple. Dover Baptist Temple is located at State Route 800 NE in Dover, OH. For more information, call Pastor Chris Rhodes at (330) 364-5228 www.doverbaptisttemple.org.

Celebrate Groundhog Day

The epicenter of the annual celebration of Groundhog Day is Punxsutawney, PA, northeast of Pittsburg. But if you don't want to drive the 171 miles to get there, you can still learn about groundhogs and have a celebration of your own with a naturalist at the Stark County Park District.

Stark Parks has scheduled an informational groundhog hike on Sunday, Feb. 1 from 2-3 p.m. at the Sanders Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, 800 Genoa Road in Perry Township, on the west side of Sippo Lake.

Reservations may be made on-line at www.StarkParks.com (click on What's Happening, Calendar of Events) or by calling 330-477-3552.

Groundhogs, also known as woodchucks, like open areas near woods. Guests will join naturalist Kara Musser in a search of the furry creature whose appearance in early February has become a predictor of whether spring will arrive early or late.

According to the website www.groundhog.org, if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If he does not see his shadow, there will be an early spring. Other facts on the website include the following:

- The celebration of Groundhog Day began with Pennsylvania's earliest settlers. They brought with them the legend of Candlemas Day, which states, "For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day, so far will the snow swirl in May..."
- Punxsutawney, PA held its first Groundhog Day in the 1800s.
- As the story goes, Punxsutawney Phil was named after King Phillip. Prior to being called Phil, he was called Br'er Groundhog.

Healing and Hope for those who suffer in silence

Fear, shame, inadequacy and guilt are just a few of the emotions used to describe Amanda's daily existence more than ten years after the day she says "changed her life forever."

"I was in my mid-twenties with three-year old twins. I had recently gone through a divorce and I could barely make ends meet, in spite of working two jobs. Then I found out I was pregnant by a man I hardly knew," she explained. The next thing I knew, I was in a clinic to get an abortion. The father paid extra so I wouldn't be awake for the procedure. I woke-up having destroyed two lives, the baby's and my own. I was never the same."

Amanda isn't alone, according to the Guttmacher Institute, it is estimated that 35% of all women of reproductive age will have had an abortion by the time they reach the age of 45. Many of these women experience the same feelings Amanda described, sometimes years after the actual event.

Amanda remembers her attempts to eliminate the constant pain she felt. She eventually found herself in an abusive relationship and using alcohol as a way to escape. "I tried to numb my pain with alcohol. I suffered frequent bouts of depression and self-pity," she recalled. "Even going to church didn't work for me. I felt unworthy of forgiveness. Fortunately, God thought otherwise and continued to pursue me."

"During the month of January, as we observe Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, we are also very sensitive to the fact that many men and women in our local congregations suffer in silence," explained Jill Taylor, executive director of PSC. "We want them to know that there is healing available for them in a safe and loving place." PSC offers a variety of resources to the community. Two of the classes are specifically geared toward abortion recovery for both men and women. The Peace Group (for women) and the STRONGG group (for men) offer caring and confidential support to individuals who are experiencing the painful emotions of a past abortion.

Nearly two years after going through the Peace group, Amanda continues to heal. She volunteers her time at PSC helping other women who find themselves in similar situations. "I can't undo the biggest mistake of my life or bring my child back, but what I can do is use my past to help others. My hope is that others can avoid this unnecessary pain, and where pain already exists, find hope and healing.

On **Thursday, January 22**, the Pregnancy Support Center of Stark County (PSC) will present a Dignity of Life Memorial Service in honor of the lives lost through abortion. The service will be held at the Johnson Center for Worship and the Fine Arts, located at 2600 Cleveland Avenue N.W. in Canton at 7:00 p.m. A silent candlelight vigil will be held immediately following the service, outside the PSC satellite, across the street from the Johnson Center.

The Pregnancy Support Center of Stark County has been offering varying degrees of support for more than 20 years. The organization offers services, without cost, to people facing unplanned pregnancies and related issues. Services provided by PSC include: pregnancy testing, options counseling, parenting classes, limited ultrasound, material assistance, a first visit prenatal clinic, an STD/STI clinic, community referrals, and post abortion recovery groups.

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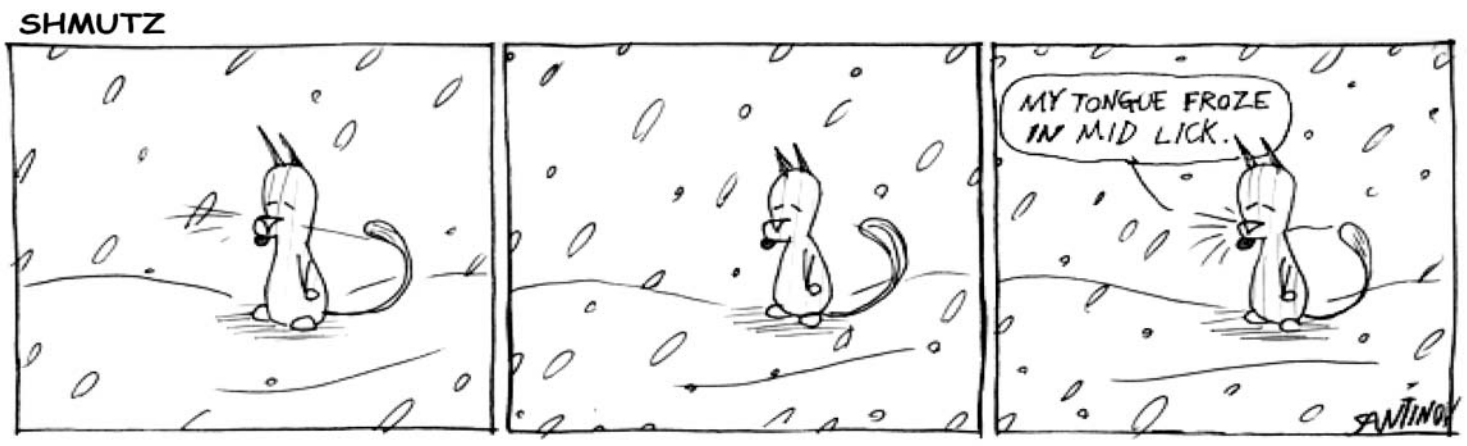

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Also! come "rock the night away" with Citizens Creep
Saturday, January 30
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Benefit Spaghetti Dinner

Bob Russ, longtime reporter and columnist for The Repository, needs your help. After a long battle with Polycystic Kidney Disease, Bob had to have both kidneys removed and must go on disability. Only dialysis keeps him alive.

A benefit Spaghetti Dinner is slated for 5-8 p.m. **Jan. 21** at Amvets Post 6 at 303 Weirich Blvd. in Massillon. Cost is $10 for adults and $5 for kids 10 and under; dinner features spaghetti, meat sauce, roll, salad, beverage.

Tickets are available at Amvets Post 6, B&K Restaurant in Perry Township, Checkered Records in Canton and Hannah Candles in Massillon;

Or call Bob Russ at (330) 854-0140, or write Bob Russ, 8699 Fairpark Ave. NW, Canal Fulton, OH 44614.

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Time for a Change

A TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Open House will be held on **Tuesday, January, 27** at 7 pm. This FREE, no obligation, open house will be held at the Brewster United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 457 W. Wabash Ave. in Brewster. TOPS encourages weight-loss success, caring support and encouragement through a non-profit, low-cost program with individual food and exercise plans.

Red Lantern Flames

Red Lantern Flames Square Dance with caller, Gene Hammond and cuer Amy Riehl, 8 to 10:30 pm **Friday, January 23** at the Red Lantern Barn, Mt. Eaton Road, just outside of Brewster. Sponsored by Harvey's Auto Sales and Tire Center.

Youth Baseball & Softball

The Fairless Youth Baseball & Softball Association will be holding sign-ups for the upcoming baseball/ softball season for children (boys 5-14, girls 5-18) in the Fairless School District. The sign-ups will be held in the Fairless High School Cafeteria on the following dates: Saturday January 31st 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Wednesday February 4th 6:00 pm - 8:00pm & Saturday February 7th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please visit fybsa.org for more information.

IMA Meeting

The Canton Chapter #155 Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) announces its next Technical meeting on T**uesday, January 20**, at Skyland Pines in Canton.

The evening will consist of one pre-dinner session and one after dinner. The pre-dinner session will be on "Imagine Healthcare 2015" and will be presented by Eileen Wile, Director of Project Management – Corporate Finance, Aultman Health Foundation. The after dinner session will be presented by George Downes, Financial Analyst/Payroll, Aultman Health Foundation. His topic will be "Consumer Driven Health Plans".

The meeting is eligible for two (2) CPEs (Continuing Professional Education credits) for CPAs and CMAs. The Ohio CPE Program Sponsor Registration Number for the Canton Chapter of IMA is M0296.

The pre-dinner technical session begins at 5:00 PM; dinner begins at 6:30 PM; and the after-dinner seminar is at 7:15 PM.

For reservations, contact Laura Weisgarber at laura.weisgarber@diebold.com. For more information, contact Pamela Porubcansky, Director of Public Relations at 330-484-4069.

Superbowl Sub Sale

Valley View Community Church in Sugarcreek will be taking orders for subs. Two kinds of subs are available for $4.00 ea.

A regular sub consists of a homemade bun, Virginia ham, German bologna, hard salami, American and provolone cheese.

A spicy sub consists of a homemade bun, Cajun ham, German bologna, pepperoni, provolone and hot pepper cheese.

The subs also come with lettuce and tomato.

Order will be taken until Jan. 25th and can be picked up at the church on Sat., Jan. 31st from 3 pm to 5 pm or Sun., Feb. 1st from 12 pm to 2 pm.

Subs can be ordered by calling 330-852-2273 or 330-852-7019, leave a message and we will get back to you; or place your order with anyone who attends Valley View.

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Send all ads to P.O. Box 92, Brewster, OH 44613. If you have questions or need help with your ad, call or *fax* us at **330-767-3734** from 9 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Deadline to receive ads is **Friday** before each publication.

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Add your classified ad to our website for just $1.00. Add your standard ad for $5.00 (up to 1 column by 7 inches). Add your larger ad for just $10.00. Add your company to our business directory for only $45.00 for a 6 month listing! Visit our website at www.farcorner-online.com.

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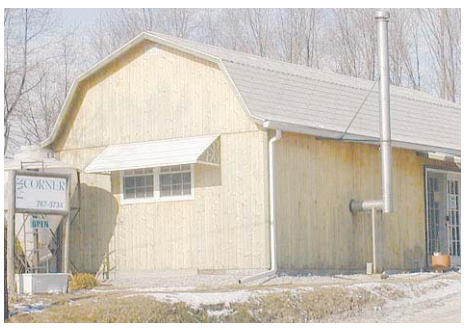
Subscriptions are available for the cost of postage and envelope. Far Corner's can be mailed on a weekly basis for $1.25 each week.



The Far Corner is published weekly. If you would like your dinner, event, fund-raiser, award-winner announcement, or meeting published in the *Far Corner*, just send your press release to us (under 225 words).

Advertisements pay for the cost of this publication, so your event is advertised once for free. This is a local paper, we try to keep the events published of that nature. *We will publish other articles as we have room.* Thanks so much for your support!

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Submitted by Mark Jones, Pastor
True Hope Community Fellowship

"NUGGET" of Truth

Running W.I.L.D. in 2009

Submitted by Mark Jones

Two weeks ago I shared with you the "W" in running wild. It is worshipping God. Last week I shared the "I" in running wild. It is identify your gifts. This week work on the "L" of running wild. It is living a godly life!

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. (Ephesians 5:1-4 NASB)

Stop being religious and be more relational. Stop being good and be more godly. Romans 12:3 tells us not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. Stop looking down on people and start desiring to show them a better way of living. Don't tell them where they are wrong, but show them where you are "right". Jesus was chastised by religious people for hanging out with sinners and tax collectors, yet He never sinned. The church in Acts 2 had favor among all the people, why? Because they practiced what they preached. Read Ephesians (especially chapter 4-6) this week for more guidance on this.

Find a congregation that strives to live godly lives. The church is not a religious institution, fat in education… It is a relational instigator, full of application! We meet every Sunday at 10:30 AM in the Towpath YMCA (Navarre). Check us out on the web at www.truehopecommunityfellowship.org. We are waiting to meet you.

Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2009 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The local competition will be held **Sunday, January 25**, in the gym at Fairless Middle School, 11836 Navarre Rd. SW. Doors will open at 1:30 pm for registration and the Free Throw competition will begin promptly at 2:00 pm. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus international headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. All boys and girls 10 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions. The division in which each child will compete is determined by their age as of January 1st, 2009. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. Phone 330-791-7040 with any questions or for additional information. The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with nearly 1.7 million members in over 12,500 local councils. Last year, Knights donated 60 million volunteer hours and $130 million to charitable and benevolent causes, sponsoring projects to benefit their church, councils, communities, families and youth.

Fly-Tying Get-Together

The second of four Fly-Tying Get-Togethers will be **Sat., Jan. 31** at the Exploration Gateway, 5712 12th St. NW, on the north shore of Sippo Lake Park. Cosponsored by the Stark County Park District in association with Ohio Fly Fishing Excursions, the informal programs have become so popular that a change of venue to the Exploration Gateway was required because the Sippo Lake Clubhouse could not accommodate the large group.

This month's program will begin at Noon with a speaker, followed by tying flies until 3 p.m. It will feature Jake and Donna McDonald, owners of Upper Canyon Outfitters of Montana talking about Fishing and Hunting the Ruby River region.

Participants must supply their own fly-tying equipment and will be asked to donate $1 each for materials and hooks that will be provided. Additional information is available by calling John Rochus at 330-456-8731.

During the winter, the fly shop at Sippo Lake Marina is open by appointment by calling Marina Manager Cynthia Glaze at 330-477-3552. Bulk items at significant savings are available as well as essential steelhead supplies. Other fly-tying get-togethers will be Feb. 21 and March 28.

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