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# THE BROOKVILLE DEMOCRAT



Vol. 184 - No. 51  
Two Sections  
20 pages

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

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## Metamora health center approved

**Will Fehlinger**  
COPY EDITOR

The Metamora Community Health Center, a primary county project through the state's Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), received a favorable recommendation by the Franklin County Area Plan Commission and approval by the board of zoning appeals on Dec. 13.

John Palmer, HELP community coordinator, was on hand to answer any further questions the board had following a previous Technical Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the site plan and make needed revisions.

The hearing was for the building (now county-owned) at 19162 US 52, Metamora to be zoned Class 3, conditional use—a change from a local business classification.

Some questions were what health activities will take place there, which hospital system will provide primary care services and what days or hours would the center be open.

Palmer said a patient could set appointments with a PCP and get advice for treatment, though there would be no treatment or drugs on site. The building has space for three offices. Some community meetings could take place, but this is primarily to get healthcare to the western part of the county and fill a long-time need.

The county has talked to Margaret Mary and Rush Memorial so far, with no agreement yet in place. A fully equipped mobile free clinic may be used in the interim until the building is equipped.

Hours are not set but Palmer said it's likely to be open two or three days a week at convenient times. He added there should be adequate existing parking, with the county set to add four handicap spots.

Daryl Kramer moved to send a favorable recommendation to BZA, supported by Denny Moeller. The motion passed.

BZA member Thomas Wodtke asked whether there would be overnight stays by patients. Palmer said no. The appeals board granted conditional use.

There was discussion on possibly changing the zoning code regarding violations. APC President Robert Braun had met with executive director Kaitlin Sterwerf and attorney Geoffrey Wesling, who is set to take over for the departing Tammy Davis.

Wesling explained the idea was to shorten the overall timeframe between the board acknowledging a code violation and the ability to file a lawsuit. Currently, there's a 30-day wait after a letter is mailed to the homeowner before the next step in the process. It was suggested to reduce that language to 10 days in the zoning code and advertise a public hearing ahead of the Jan. 10 meeting. Kramer made the motion and Rob Seig seconded. It carried.

Updates were given on code violations carried over from the November meeting.

Sterwerf visited Scott Sizemore's property at 15009 Maple Street, Brookville and notified the owner he complied. However, she saw no progress at the parcels on US 52 West (12047-55) owned by Sizemore. The complaints were originally filed in March, leaving the board to think there's been enough time to show progress. The board had previously voted to file suit, so the case was turned over to Wesling.

The son of Wanda Reese (10150 Yellow Bank Road, Laurel) told Sterwerf he would remove an idle vehicle to stay in compliance.

Kelly King, owner of 17020 McGuire Ridge Road, (See "CENTER" pg. 10)

## Wreath-laying, in honor and remembrance



photo by Cheyenne Lance

In honor of National Wreaths Across America Day, the Franklin County community turned out in a big way to remember the fallen, honor those who have served and are serving, and teach the younger generation about the cost of freedom.

**Cheyenne Lance**  
STAFF WRITER

Wreaths Across America is a nation wide organiza-

tion acknowledging our servicemen, those who are currently serving, those who have fallen, and those who never came home. Here in Franklin County, Wreaths

Across America gave another set of moving presentations in three locations to honor our servicemen.

Throughout the cemeteries, flags are placed next to

the gravestones of servicemen. There are also boxes of wreaths in each section. Volunteers, family members, and sponsors take care (See "WREATHS" pg. 10)

## 2023 FCHS Grad is mentoring students at IU

**Cassie Garrett**  
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

During her senior year, 2023 Franklin County High School graduate Allyson Andre was still determining if college was possible for her, although she desired to attend after graduating. That changed when she was awarded a full-ride scholarship to Indiana University through the Cox Scholars Program.

"I had always talked about going to college, but the financial logistics always made me leery of truly pursuing an education after high school because I knew I would not be receiving help to fund my college career," Andre explained. "Being so fortunate to receive a scholarship of this caliber made me believe I really had the potential to make something of myself and make my mark on the world."

Andre applied for the scholarship in January and

said she didn't give it a second thought after that.

"I had developed the mentality of 'Oh, I don't get picked for things like this,'" Andre said. "Next thing I knew, I was scheduling my interview and doing LOADS of research on the different Cox Scholarships, but I was still under the impression that it still could never be me to receive such an award. Even when I got the acceptance email, it didn't sink in until much later that I actually had been picked."

Despite her doubts, Andre was awarded the Cox Exploratory Scholarship in March, which provides Indiana residents who are incoming freshmen, are academically strong, have demonstrated financial need, and have a desire to help educate and mentor their peers. What makes Cox Scholarships unique is they come with an associated work component. As an



photo provided

Allyson Andre was awarded the Cox Exploratory Scholarship.

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# Community Calendar

**Jan.**  
**Indiana & Ohio Ag Economic Outlook**  
 Are you interested in learning more about the Ag Economic Outlook for Indiana and Ohio? We are excited to partner with OSU Extension, Butler County to bring you an Ag Economic Outlook for 2024.  
 Join us at The Mullen Dairy & Creamery on Thursday, Jan.25!  
 7:00am Doors open  
 7:30am Welcome  
 7:45am Emily Mullen, The Mullen Dairy & Creamery  
 8:15am Barry Ward, Director, OSU Income Tax Schools & Leader, Production Business Management  
 9:00am Michael Langemeier, Associate Director, Center for Commercial Agriculture at Purdue University  
 9:45am Q&A panel discussion with Michael and Barry  
 10:30am Adjourn  
 FREE milk, coffee, and pastries provided courtesy of Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District and Butler County Soil & Water Conservation District.  
 Space is limited! Call the Purdue Extension Franklin County office to register at 765-647-3511.

**HAVE A COMMUNITY EVENT TO SHARE?**  
 To submit a community event for publication, send an email to [info@whitewaterpublications.com](mailto:info@whitewaterpublications.com).



## The Pickleball Chronicles: Part fifteen

**Tom Cooney**  
 GUEST COLUMNIST

**Pickleball moments**  
 “Do we have five points or six?”  
 “Yes.”  
 “Whose turn is it to serve?”  
 “Yes.”  
 My answers are clear, decisive and positive, yet they don’t seem to satisfy. On hot, humid summer days, after a few hours of play, we all seem to get a bit loopy. It’s not just me. Even the most experienced players suddenly lose track of the score and who just served. We wilt like blossoms in the heat. I enter a surreal realm of blissful physical exertion and mental blindness, all motion and no thought. I am everywhere and nowhere.  
 No sense in asking me questions at this point. I

have no idea what day it is, who’s on first or what’s on second. Eventually, too soon, this wears off and I come back to the everyday world of pandemic, racial strife and oh so many chores to do.  
 Next time I’ll try answering “No.”  
**Pickleball Side Show**  
 •The three-breasted woman  
 We were in the middle of play when I looked over at my partner. She had three breasts! I was certain that she had two when I was introduced to her just before this game. She was visiting from out of town. From a distant planet, perhaps? Certainly, no earth woman was capable of growing a third breast. It was particularly striking for her to do it so quickly.  
 It was distracting and perplexing. What might

come next? A three-armed man perhaps? I hoped this would give us an advantage. It must be far more distracting to face her as an opponent. Then I saw what she was doing. She was putting her ball down her shirt. Of course. How clever. It was the perfect spot for a woman to hold a ball. But I had never seen it done before or since.  
 •Self-flagellating man  
 I heard a loud smack. I was a visiting player this time, in a land called Florida, once mostly swamp and now swamped by tourists and snowbirds. I was watching from the bench, awaiting my next turn to play. There were three games in progress. I shifted my attention to the game where the smack noise came from. It didn’t take me long to see the source of the sound. When one of the guys missed a

shot, he flipped his paddle around behind him and spanked his butt. It was a hard smack, not just a little tap, and it was loud. He did it over and over again. Granted he had a lot to work with. He was endowed with a rather large gluteus maximus. But still, it must be red and sore by the end of play. He seemed to do it instinctively, out of habit. Every time.  
 What made it more unusual was that he was, otherwise, a rather calm and agreeable player. He laughed and joked and took losing in stride. He was also good at the game. It seemed that one smack, every time he missed, was all the punishment required for his pickleball blunder.  
 I wondered what it must feel like to do that. I tried one small whack just for the feel of it. That was enough.

## United Way connects community to healthy foods

As part of its 2023 community investment process, United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties granted a total \$28,000 in funds to several community partners in the area working to ensure access to a variety of healthy food, including fresh produce and enhanced protein options, for families struggling to meet essential needs. In addition, United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties participates in a focus group convened by Purdue Extension, which brings together local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and concerned citizens to address food insecurity in the area.  
 “Access to healthy food is a foundational element to overall well-being, and working alongside community partners in Franklin and Ripley counties to reduce food insecurity leads to not only improved health outcomes but decreased absenteeism and improved economic productivity in our communities,” said Kelly Bulmer, president and CEO of United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties. “Sections of both Franklin and Ripley counties are considered food deserts, and it takes collaboration to ensure that all families have access to healthy, affordable food options so that they can make good choices. Our community partners ensure that residents of all ages have this access through programs offered through schools, food pantries, and food basket programs.”

in Franklin and Ripley Counties struggle to earn enough to cover basic needs like food, housing, transportation, healthcare and childcare, and the ALICE Essentials Index shows that the cost of basics is rising faster than both wages and the traditional measure of inflation, the Consumer Price Index (CPI).  
 Food insecurity programs funded by United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties serve an estimated 650 children and families. Because of United Way support, Batesville Food Pantry and Red Life Church Food Pantry were able to purchase a commercial freezer and expand their protein options for their combined 400 households served each month and the Growing Laurel Food Pantry was able to begin serving its community for the first time. In addition, Turnover Hunger was able to provide 250 low-income students attending Batesville Primary, Milan, South Ripley, and Jac Cen Del schools with weekend backpacks filled with meals, snacks and beverages that meet the



photo provided  
**Because of a grant from United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties, Red Life Church Food Pantry expanded healthy food options to 150 families. Judy Drake, coordinator of the pantry, says with gratitude, “I’m so proud of the food options we can now offer the families we serve in the Brookville area.”**

A recent United for ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) report, ALICE in the Crosscurrents: COVID and Financial Hardship in Indiana, indicated that 1 in 3 households

families seeking food assistance since 2022,” said Bulmer. “Our collaborative investments are made in direct response to what we’ve heard from our community.”  
 Act in support of your neighbors by making a year-end financial gift to drive collaborative local solutions to our community’s shared food insecurity challenge. You can donate securely online at <https://bit.ly/uwfrcdonate-essentials> or mail a check to United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties, PO Box 105, Brookville, IN 47012.  
 About United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties

In existence since 1991, United Way of Franklin and Ripley Counties (UWFR) is one of 44 local United Way organizations in Indiana identifying critical needs and mobilizing local community resources to improve the health, education, and financial outcomes of struggling, working households in their area. They do this through convening cross-sector and multi-sector stakeholders, program support, information dissemination, public policy action, and grant-making. For more information about UWFR, visit <http://uwfrin.org> or call 765-647-2789.

**Submitted by Kelly Bulmer**

## OPINION

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

We accept Letters to the Editor limited to no more than 250 words. The opinions expressed are always the writer’s own. Libelous, obscene, rude or disrespectful letters will not be considered. Letters may be edited for clarity.  
 All letters must be submitted by individuals who are area residents, visitors, property or business owners or have some direct connection to our community. Letters must include the writer’s full name; anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be considered. For verification purposes, they must also include the writer’s home address, email address and a daytime telephone number. The letter may not have been submitted to, posted to or published by any other media. No more than one letter each month per individual will be published.  
 Not all letters will be published due to content or space constraints.

## BROOKVILLE DEMOCRAT

ESTABLISHED IN 1838

Now in its one hundred and eighty-fourth year of publication, the Brookville Democrat, a democratic news weekly, is dedicated to the best interest of the people of the Whitewater Valley.  
 The Brookville Democrat, Brookville’s oldest business and one of Indiana’s oldest newspapers, is published weekly on Wednesday by Whitewater Publications, Inc., Brookville, IN 47012, (USPS 067260)

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**EARLY DEADLINE!**  
 Due to the office being closed, Fri., Dec. 22 and Mon., Dec. 26, it is necessary to move our deadline for all advertising and articles for the Dec. 27 issue of this publication to Thursday, Dec. 21 at 12 p.m. We will not be able to accept items for publication after that time.  
 Thanks for your cooperation and Happy Holidays!

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## Josephine “Jo” Smith

Josephine “Jo” Smith, 86, was called home to be with the Lord on Wednesday December 13th, 2023 after an eight-year battle with cancer. She was surrounded by family and loved ones in the peace and comfort of her home in Bath.

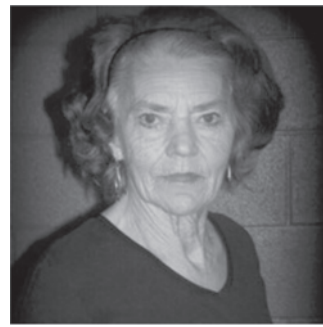
Jo was born on May 30th, 1937 to Thomas and Ella Faye (Stone) Johnson of Estill County, Kentucky. She was the eldest of seven children.

Her memory will be forever cherished by her children: Linda, Keith, and Judy; grandchildren: Crystal, William, Jeff (Trish), Anthony (Marjorie), Shyla (Michael), Nathan, Yolanda, Donna (Travis), Tommy, Hailee, and Nicole, many great and

great-great-grandchildren; her siblings: Irene, Laura (Earl), Harold Dean (Lou Ellen), and Wanda; several nieces and nephews, other family members and special life-long friends. Jo was preceded in death by her parents Tom and Ella Faye, brothers Clayton and Paul, former spouses Thomas Jr. and Raleigh Clark, son Phillip Hawkins & daughter-in-law Eileen, son-in-law Mike Corbin, infant niece Flora Faye, and granddaughter Billie Jo.

Though she was a daughter, sister, mother, and friend, Jo's most coveted role was that of Grandma. She relished the title and proved time and time again her love

and devotion to her family. Grandma Jo, as she was affectionately called, had 12 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. She loved each and every one of those kids, her heart never too full for another little one to adore. Her children and grandchildren describe Grandma Jo as the matriarch of their family and the glue that holds them all together. To them she is their rock, their queen, their main person, their true constant, and their saving grace. They'll think of her often, as a song, quote, scent, or special memory will always keep her in their hearts. They'll miss her immensely and her legacy of love, strength, and perseverance



will be carried on through them for generations to come.

Services were held Monday at Cook Rosenberger Funeral Home, 929 Main Street, Brookville, Indiana 47012. Memorial donations to the family can be sent to the funeral home. A complete obituary is posted at [www.cookrosenberger.com](http://www.cookrosenberger.com).

**Paid obituary**

## ARREST REPORTS

**Franklin County Sheriff's Office Media Arrest Summary (Only includes L6 Felony charges and higher, misdemeanors not included).**

**-All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law**

**Arrest Time/Date: 22:15 11/25/23**

**Inmate Name: Hokey, Mark E.**

**Arrest Location: Hill Road, Brookville**

**Birth Date: 10/30/58**

**Arrested by: D Huntsman**

**Agency: FCSD**

**Crime Class: L6**

**Offense: Arrest Warrant**

**Arrest Time/Date: 9:30 11/24/23**

**Inmate Name: Hollon, Justin W.**

**Arrest Location: FC Security Center**

**Birth Date: 4/7/92**

**Arrested by: A Bowers**

**Agency: FCSD**

**Crime Class: L6**

**Offense: Arrest Warrant**

**Arrest Time/Date: 19:26 12/11/23**

**Inmate Name: Towe, Claude E. Jr.**

**Arrest Location: Dearborn Co. Jail**

**Birth Date: 4/19/75**

**Arrested by: R Gordon**

**Agency: FCSD**

**Crime Class: L2**

**Offense: Court-related**

**Arrest Time/Date: 18:50 12/6/23**

**Inmate Name: Coker, Michael A.**

**Arrest Location: Neff Street, Laurel**

**Birth Date: 4/11/73**

**Arrested by: Maxie**

**Agency: FCSD**

**Crime Class: L6**

**Offense: Obstruction of Justice**

## TIF BOUNDARIES DISCUSSED BY FCRC

**Will Fehlinger**  
COPY EDITOR

With the sewer line extension up Reservoir Hill still in Franklin County's plans, the redevelopment team met Dec. 12 to further discuss creation of a residential TIF (Tax Increment Finance) district as part of the overall project.

President Bill Schirmer asked the board's opinion on the "metes and bounds" of the area, with the west (State Road 1 North) and south (town of Brookville limits) already set. To the north, there were two options - stopping at the section line across SR 1 from Duck Creek Road (2638.8 acres) or extending north to Fairfield Causeway Road (additional 2651 acres). On the east, it was all parcels north of SR 101 but not including United States land adjacent to the reservoir.

Derrick Kolb thought it made sense to put the US tracts in if legally possible, grab the lake waters and include federal land on the opposite shore as well.

"I'm under the same assumption and here's why," Brian Patterson agreed. "I know there's development along Reservoir Road in spurts but there's just as much happening by

the lake as far as houses and subdivisions and you're grabbing a bit of Blooming Grove proper.

"If the law allows, we don't have to go back and revisit it if somebody comes in and does a multi-million-dollar development there, which could happen."

Patterson also wanted small ribbons just past the boundaries, explaining that "If somebody puts in a bunch of storage units north of Fairfield Causeway, the money from the TIF will help with infrastructure to fund anything up to (that point) that they'll tap into ... they see the benefit without paying into the TIF."

Schirmer agreed, adding it would be very expensive to grab that land later after the district's in place. Patterson felt the additions should be 500 feet west of SR 1, 500 feet north of Fairfield Causeway and at least 500 feet into Brookville Lake.

The board will have several questions for Nick Lawrence (The Wheatley Group), who advises the county on economic development matters. The first step in the process is creating a declaratory resolution.

Sara Duffy, reappointed for another year by the school board as a nonvoting member, requested

Lawrence's presence (in-person or virtually) at the next meeting Jan. 30, 5:30 p.m. She wants the board to know an exact timeline of creating the district. Duffy also said anyone sitting on the board at that time should disclose any potential conflicts of interest within the boundaries, such as personal ownership or business interests.

Kolb reiterated a concern he's previously brought up, that if any grant benefits (from the state's Regional Economic and Acceleration Development Initiative) are afforded to homeowners along the route of the sewer line, the same should go to any homeowners where the line is expanded.

The second round of READI funding came up as well. The deadline for local economic development officers in the six-county region of southeast Indiana to submit projects is this Friday. Schirmer said there were a couple of good ideas locally, describing one as "damn good." He added he was to meet with a Brookville town board member to discuss the town's ideas.

Schirmer noted another READI-assisted project on SR 1 South, that being the extension of a water line to the Southgate Business Park. Progress by the bid

winner, Brackney's, should be seen over the next month or so. About \$250,000 (around a fourth of the total cost) was acquired from the state to complete the project.

Kolb asked whether there was potential for more industry or housing developments in that stretch. "I feel that's a good opportunity for the county to piggyback off one of the best high schools in the country," he said, referring to East Central.

Patterson agreed that the county could benefit from property taxes despite losing the state stipend that follows a child if he/she were to end up attending ECHS. Schirmer said Franklin County is limited in the corridor because of few landowners wishing to sell.

In financials, Schirmer gave the TIF account as \$198,286.91 and operating account as \$44,373. Duffy said property tax disbursements for the year (spring and fall) totaled \$56,211.

In other news, Schirmer asked for a motion to pay \$265 for a bond to cover all voting members of the board; this passed. Duffy said Kevin Kaiser will replace Beth Foster as the school board's representation on Brookville Redevelopment.

## COUNTY COUNCIL HOLDS DECEMBER MEETING

**Will Fehlinger**  
COPY EDITOR

Franklin County Council met Dec. 12 for its final regularly scheduled meeting of 2023.

Sheriff Peter Cates had a few items to present. The contract with the school corporation to provide a school

resource officer for all months but July - same contract for the past eight years - needed signatures to fulfill federal grant requirements.

Brian Patterson moved to approve, and Carroll Lanning seconded. Motion passed.

The sheriff also announced he's hired a part-time employee in the administra-

tive office who is working her way up to full-time to replace Debra Combs, retiring early next year. He had requested p/t of \$17.66 per hour this year and \$18.26 next year until she fills the position.

Cates also asked to move on a pair of expenses for his department, already part of the 2024 bond package. He said he wants to get ahead in the queue for three police-rated vehicles which may not be purchased until the second half of the year. For renovation of the security center elevator (six to eight months of work), he wanted to get a jumpstart on ordering necessary pieces for the retrofitting. The sheriff also told the council that Deputy John Roberts will retire in February; he presented final payout numbers.

There were additional appropriations of \$855,776 and transfers of \$222,325.52.

Patterson spoke more of

the \$171,469 moved in the highway department from a salt fund to go toward the purchase of a new dump truck.

Highway superintendent Justin Ball said settlement money from the State Road 1 North project largely went toward bridges or other equipment.

"We had a \$2 million settlement from State Road 1 (repairs) and there was a slush fund for trucks and equipment" he said. "We ended up allocating more money because we can't keep a tally of what's spent. You can ask Larry (Smith, county engineer) to keep better track of where our bond is because we rely on him."

In salary amendments, the parks superintendent was corrected to \$20.25/hr. and his assistant to \$17.71. The coroner has a bi-weekly amount of \$722.50 and his first deputies are paid \$2,000 annually. Security

center part-time is at \$17.66 an hour.

Most bond expenditures for 2024 are for the sheriff's office (\$514,450) with the biggest amount for the vehicles at \$190,000. For emergency management, \$76,000 is allocated. Highway has \$290,000 allotted, assessor's office \$40,150 and the clerk's office \$7,000. Patterson moved to approve these with a second by Lanning; motion carried.

Funding for FC Emergency Medical Services needed approval as commissioners were just waiting for the council to decide.

President Jeff Koch read the specifics of the 2024 contract. Monthly payments would be \$58,333 with the total not exceeding \$700,000. The agreement may be terminated, along with a 90-day grace period, to provide for a new contract currently being negotiated. (Commissioners were expected to

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## AFFORDABLE HEALTH SCREENINGS COMING TO BROOKVILLE

Residents living in and around Brookville can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. American Legion Post 77 will host this community event on 1/15/2024. The site is located at 1290 Fairfield Avenue in Brookville.

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# Five generations celebrated Final school board meeting in 2023



photo provided

Mrs. Mary Lanning Tebbe, wife of the late Virgil Tebbe, is proud to be called Great-Great-Grandmother. Mary is shown in the picture, with five generations of family. Seated, left to right, are Carolyn Tebbe Eckerle, Great-Grandmother, holding Phoebe Grubb. Seated center is Mary Tebbe, Great-Great-Grandmother. Seated on the right is Grandmother, Paula Grubb, holding Phillip Grubb. Standing in the back is Caleb Grubb, father of the twins. Each of the generations are thankful for the blessings of family shared at this Christmas season!

## Cheyenne Lance STAFF WRITER

The school board met Dec. 11th at 7 p.m. - their last for the 2023 calendar year.

Starting off, Keith Isaacs speaks up about the resignation (effective Oct. 5th) of the former Chinese teacher at FCHS. Isaacs states that a substitute has been placed and they do have a prospective candidate who will work two days a week. In keeping with dual credits, a secondary candidate will fill in the other three days. This will be further discussed later. A motion was made and passed.

Following the financial reports, there were several questions regarding money distribution and how much has been accumulated over the past three years. The board was reminded that there were grants in place and the school received aid to offset expenditures. Out of the two grants, one is ending and there is one with a year left.

President Francis Brumback questioned the remaining expenses in reserve and how long the board would have with it. The timeline is roughly 6-8 months. No further discussion ensued.

There were three celebrations noted: Lily Scholarship Recipient - Kristen Ison. Educator of the Month - Chelsea Stenger (Mt. Carmel)

Support Staff of the Month - Randy Edwards

There were no statements from the public or employees.

Chavis noted that results from the latest survey would be debuted at the Brookville Library on Dec. 18th.

During the last meeting, policies were discussed involving transportation. These policies were:

- 8651 - Non-school use of Corp. Vehicles
- 8640 - Transportation for Field and other Corp. Sponsored Trips
- 8606 - Bus Drivers and Cellular Telephone Use
- 8615 - Idling School Buses and other Idling Vehicles on School Property
- 8600 - Transportation

The consensus was agreement for updates in the policies. There was no further discussion involved and a motion was made. This motion passed.

Another motion passed was a request for consideration, which is a form parents or other may fill out should they feel a book or

other education material may be harmful or obscene to a minor. This form allows them to fill out their reasoning and have the board come to review. A new form will be out soon.

The policy for vacancies and appointment of board members covered the timeline and voting measures to be taken should there be an extended absence or resignation of any current board member. Timelines have been established and a brief discussion over how voting will take

place should there be any conflict of interest has been resolved. This will be discussed further at a later meeting.

Sara Duffy was requested to remain on the Franklin County Redevelopment Commission by Beth Foster and a unanimous vote. As for the 2024 year, Kevin Kaiser will take over Beth's position on the Brookville Redevelopment Commission.

The next school board meeting will be held on Jan. 8, 2024.

## A season of success



## Cheyenne Lance STAFF WRITER

As youth football came to an end, Jonathan White used Brookville Theatre to show the boys a movie of their season-ending highlights from the year. This is always a great experience for the kids as not only do they get to see themselves on the big screen, but their experiences and best plays are on display for family

and friends. After the highlight movie, the kids were taken to Third Place for dinner.

Youth Football continues to hold strong here in Franklin County and highlight videos have always been an integral part. These videos have been a solid key to teamwork, understanding, better plays, and a lot more fun. So, getting to watch on a big screen is one of the best ways to celebrate the kids.

## Andre ■ Continued from Page 1

Exploratory Scholar, Andre helps undergraduate students at IU Bloomington with the exploration, decision-making, planning, and reflection processes related to their undergraduate education and career development.

Andre trained to be an IU Peer Coach during her first semester at college. Now, she is working as a Peer Academic Coach with University Division students (students who are undecided in their major or are working on certifying/applying to the program), helping them choose classes, build schedules, check their degree progress, etc.

Andre is majoring in hu-

man biology with a double minor in psychology and American Sign Language with the intent of becoming a genetic counselor.

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48	49			50				51	52		53
54				55				56			
57				58				59			

**ACROSS**

- Egg on
- Music system: hyph.
- Bottle lid
- Window ache?
- Congregation's response
- Walking on \_\_\_\_\_
- Hero's story
- Small quarrel
- Slick
- Statistics
- Pitch
- Road divisions
- Bog product

**DOWN**

- Hurried
- Dad
- Piece
- Remember
- Contains
- Scamp
- Accomplishments
- Fascinated by
- Part of VCR
- Be ill
- Move with leverage
- Mineral spring
- Cry of sorrow
- Not used
- Eat away
- Expert fliers
- The thing there
- Dull-looking
- Once existed
- Permanently
- \_\_\_\_\_ and haws
- Kith and \_\_\_\_\_
- Generation
- More unkind
- Gape
- Remaining
- Fizzy water
- Make out of yarn
- Cliques
- Feather stole
- Dobbin's grain
- Notice
- Desire

See Answers, Page 10

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# Christmas Prayer 1963 vs 2023

**Mary Ellen Rippe**  
CONTRIBUTOR

but of man over his own evils and weaknesses.

That the true spirit of this Christmas Season -- its joy, its beauty, its hope, and above all

its abiding faith-- may live among us.

That the blessings of peace be ours--the peace to build and grow, to live in harmony and sympathy--with others, and to plan for the future with confidence.

Here is the AI-generated 2023 version:

May we hope for strength and courage to be bestowed upon all those dedicated to forging a world of reason and understanding.

May the inherent goodness in the heart of every individual be amplified day by day.

Let people perceive not the divisive elements but rather the common threads that bind them together.

May each passing hour lead us toward a triumphant conclusion, not of one nation prevailing over another, but of humanity overcoming its own adversities and shortcomings.

In the spirit of the 2023 Christmas Season, may its joy, beauty, hope, and, above all, enduring faith permeate our lives.

Let us cherish the blessings of peace -- the peace that allows us to construct and flourish, to coexist in harmony and empathy with others, and to envision the future with unwavering confidence.

With all the talk about AI -- artificial intelligence, I thought it would be interesting to take the iconic 1963 New York Life Insurance Christmas Prayer and just see how ChatGPT, a leading AI generating tool, would write it for this Christmas in 2023.

The issues we face today, like nations fighting each other, good conquering evil, the desire for peace on Earth, to name a few, resonated in 1963 as well. However, today it might be politically incorrect to say Christmas prayer, so perhaps holiday wish might be more suitable. Any way you say it, the words are ones that if not all of us, most of us would agree, are ones that should be said today.

On behalf of all of us at the Brookville American/Democrat, may this holiday season bring you joy and peace.

Here is the original 1963 Christmas Prayer from New York Life Insurance:

Let us pray that strength and courage be given to all who work for a world of reason and understanding.

That the good that lies in every man's heart may day by day, be magnified.

That men will come to see clearly not what divides them, but that which unites them.

That each hour may bring us to a final victory, not of nation over nation,

# Christmas Time and Train Tracks in The Batesville Historical Center

**William Bayh**  
CONTRIBUTOR

A must see awaits children and adults at the Batesville Historical Center. Stop in the Center and see the various models of old steam, electric, and diesel powered locomotives, pulling, passenger, cargo, flatbed, and livestock cars, through and around our snowy holiday decorated town. The many model train displays offer a unique look back in time, how and when it all began.

The detail of every decorated exhibit was amazing. Factories, homes, people, Draft horses harnessed in pairs, all relative in scale, take one back in time. See just how brilliantly our founding fathers designed the heart of downtown where the first Train Depot Station and train tracks were laid.

Amack's Well and Community Coffee House at 103 E. George Street in Batesville, the original Water Well that powered the first locomotives, offer a 'time traveler's' reality should a cup of coffee or hot cocoa justify walking a block, before or after a



visit. Please note that while the Batesville Historical Center is only open a few hours each week, their museum hosts and officers

are willing to provide a tour at a time convenient for you when family, friends or reunion groups are gathering. To schedule a time for a

group tour, please contact Carolyn Dieckman at 812-212-9382 or send a message to bhc@batesvillehistoricalcenter.org

## The stories behind your favorite holiday tunes

**Mary Apel**  
STAFF WRITER

If you haven't been following the charts this holiday season, Christmas classic "Rocking Around The Christmas Tree" hit number one in the United States...a whopping 65 years after it was recorded! Brenda Lee, who first recorded the hit at age 13, recently stole the number one spot from Mariah Carey. "Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree" has been a staple in holiday movies and on radio stations during the festive season, but its singer Brenda Lee has staged a glorious comeback after more than six decades. Lee released the 1958 song's first official video, which features cameos from country music legends Trisha Yearwood and Tanya Tucker, on Nov. 3. Lee, who is now 79 years old, posted a picture to social media of the flowers that Mariah Carey sent, congratulating Lee on the number one hit which overtook Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You"

Here are some more cool

stories you can think about this week as you listen to (or avoid) these holiday faves!!

The Guinness World Records named the holiday single "White Christmas" (1942) by Bing Crosby as the best-selling single worldwide. According to Guinness, "White Christmas" has sold over 50 million copies. The song was also famously used as a secret military signal during the fall of Saigon. On April 29, 1975, as North Vietnamese troops shelled Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Air Base, U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin ordered the evacuation of Saigon. As a signal to Americans in Saigon that the evacuation had begun, Armed Forces Radio started to play "White Christmas" on repeat.

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is one of the oldest Christmas hymns to still get airplay, originally composed in Latin during the twelfth century. "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Joy to the World" are two other very-oldies but goodies, originating in the 1700s.

"Joy to the World" is a hymn based on Psalm 98,



penned by English hymn writer Isaac Watts in 1719. Originally written as a reflection on the second coming of Christ, it wasn't until a century later that the melody we associate with it today was added by composer Lowell Mason. The triumphant tune and uplifting lyrics have made "Joy to the World" a jubilant anthem of Christmas joy.

"Silent Night" originated in Austria in 1818. The lyrics were penned by Joseph Mohr, a young priest, and the music was composed by Franz Gruber. The carol's debut occurred on Christmas Eve in a small village church when the church organ malfunctioned. Gruber, a school teacher and musician,

adapted the melody to be sung with a guitar, resulting in the serene and heartfelt composition we know today.

The song is said to have inspired The Christmas Truce of 1914, which occurred during World War I on Christmas Eve when troops on enemy lines temporarily set aside their differences. According to the Imperial War Museum, after British soldiers heard German troops singing "Stille Nacht" (Silent Night) and other Christmas carols, the troops on both sides began singing in unison.

Not all authors of Christmas songs celebrate Christmas! "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer," (See "TUNES" pg. 10)

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### To those of you who know Alvin Burch,

he is in a nursing home right now because of a fall at his home. He is currently at Heritage House in Connersville and would LOVE to receive any Christmas/Holiday cards from his community. His address is currently 281 S Co Rd 200 E Connersville, IN 47331, Room #213.

**Merry Christmas FROM ALVIN'S FAMILY**



# FRANKLIN COUNTY SPORTS



6

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Wednesday, December 20, 2023

## Cats fall in EIAC matchup

**CHRIS LOUDEN**  
STAFF WRITER

Saturday evening the Franklin County Wildcats hosted the Greensburg Pirates in an Eastern Indiana Athletic Conference matchup. The Pirates held the lead for the better part of the game and pulled away in the final quarter to give the Cats an eight-point loss. Now the Cats sit at 1-5 on the season and will host Shelbyville (5-3) on Friday for their final game before Christmas break.

The Pirates went up 2-0 less than a minute into the game, when Justin Adkins hit a Greensburg field goal. FC started 0-3 shooting and midway through the quarter the Pirates got two more points from Bradley Lutz via the free throw line after a shooting foul. Adkins added a layup on Greensburg's next possession and the Pirates went up 6-0. Quinn Gillman was able to get a shot to finally drop for the Cats and his three-point basket cut the lead in half. The Pirate guard Jack McKinsey matched the FC long ball and put Greensburg back up 9-3 with three minutes to go in the quarter. Gillman added a free throw on the Cats' next possession. Greensburg's Addison Barnes-Pettit made it an 11-4 lead with under two minutes to go in the frame and that was matched by Gillman's jump shot. Blake Stephenson grabbed a rebound and added a putback for FC just before the buzzer and the Pirates led after one quarter 11-8.

Carson Allen got the first basket of the second quarter after a steal and assist from Eli Butt. Lutz added two to the Pirates' score 20 seconds later. Allen then hit from deep and tied the game at 13-13. Drew Busick hit a deep three for Greensburg midway through the quarter to put them back up. He added another three-pointer a minute later and the Cats were down six. With just seconds to go in the half, Stephenson scored for the Cats and the score after two quarters was Greensburg 19, FC 15.

The third quarter started with Butt scoring for the Cats, cutting it to a two-point lead for the Pirates. Busick responded for Greensburg with another three-point basket. Isaiah Kemp scored for the Cats, but Barnes-Pettit hit the Pirates' second three-pointer of the frame; Butt matched the Greensburg score with his second basket of the game, a three-point shot that made it a three-point game. Lutz got the ball on the next Pirates' possession, drove the lane, and scored while drawing a foul. The senior hit the extra point and FC trailed by six.

McKinsey scored the next basket, and Greensburg led 30-22 before Gillman got an open look, hit from outside the arc and cut it to a five-point lead. Barnes-Pettit added two Pirate points via the charity stripe with 2:50 left in the quarter. An FC turnover led to another Pirate

bucket and a nine-point lead after Reece Beaver scored for the Bucs. The Cats got a break before the quarter ended when Pirate coach Shaun Busick was whistled for a technical foul, sending Butt to the line. The senior hit the front end of his two foul shots and after three quarters Greensburg led 34-26.

The Pirates added to their lead to open the final quarter with Busick hitting a three-point basket. Stephenson hit a two-pointer from just inside the arc a minute into the half. Barnes-Pettit scored for Greensburg, but with 4:10 left in the quarter Butt hit a three-point shot that cut the Pirate lead to eight. Allen got a three-pointer for FC, McKinsey scored for Greensburg, and with two minutes remaining, Butt hit a floater in the lane and the Cats trailed by just five. The Pirates scored again with a minute remaining and then on FC's next possession fouled Butt, who drained both shots. With 35 seconds left in the contest, the Cats were down 43-38. Greensburg got a basket from Lutz and an FC foul sent McKinsey to the line for a freebie with 10 seconds left. The Pirates handed the Cats a 46-38 loss.

Butt led the Cats in scoring with 13 on the night, Gillman added nine, Allen finished with eight. Stephenson scored six and Kemp finished with two.

GCHS-11-8-15-13-46  
FCHS-8-7-11-12-38

## FC conquers Batesville-area teams

**WILL FEHLINGER**  
SPORTS EDITOR



photo Red Caboose Photography

Nicole Mears signs to play for Transylvania University surrounded by family and coaches.

The Batesville girls basketball team traveled to Franklin County last week, surrendering a 4-point halftime lead and eventually falling 43-41. This was BHS' first Eastern Indiana Athletic Conference loss of the season while FC is 3-0.

A great half of shooting - five 3-pointers - had the Bulldogs up 25-21 at the midpoint. At the start of the fourth, however, BHS was looking at a 32-31 deficit. Batesville then went on an 8-4 run to lead 39-36 with two minutes left. Kendall Cox tied the game with a 3-point make. Ruby Singer, high scorer and rebounder in the game for FC with 21 points and 11 boards, scored down low to put the hosts up by two. The Dogs tied it on a tough 15-footer by Marlee Obermeyer with 25 seconds left. A Bailey Kaiser basket won it for FC with just under 10 seconds to go.

Nicole Mears added a dozen to FC's ledger. Kaiser posted 5 points. Obermeyer scored a dozen to lead the Dogs and Alyson Peters added 10.

Oldenburg Academy traveled across county to FCHS Friday, falling 37-32 to the Lady Wildcats.

Despite holding a 25-14 lead with 2:58 remaining in the third quarter, the Lady Twisters' defense gave up 23 points over the last 10 minutes to lose by five.

The FC comeback started with the rare 4-point play completed by Kaiser. Rachel Suttman got two of those back on a deep two-pointer, but Nicole Mears sliced the deficit to 27-21 with a Wildcat 3-pointer as the third frame ticked away.

Kaiser found Mears for a bucket early in the fourth quarter to make it a 4-point game, where the gap stayed until an OA timeout at 5:08. Mears then drew a blocking call while converting, finishing the 3-point play to get FC within a point at 29-28. A feed to Mears netted the Wildcats their first lead of the game midway through the fourth.

Madesyn Sunderhaus fired

up the home crowd with a triple to put FC up by four. Sadie Wachsmann answered with 1:06 on the clock but OA would not score again following a timeout. FC hit four of six foul shots down the final stretch while the Twisters settled for several missed shots around the perimeter.

Oldenburg was never threatened until the Wildcats' frenzied comeback. Ellie Ryan hit a game-opening three and Suttman followed with a traditional 3-point play. Mears got the Cats on the board with a shot in the paint. A runner by Ryan and Suttman's 17-footer had OA jumping out to a 10-4 lead after one complete.

FC scored the first four points of the second period and a timeout was called at 6:30. Freshman Ali Nobbe then completed an and-one to make it 13-8 and Addisyn Lambert took an assist from Kate Weber for two more. A 3-point jumper by freshman Gina Grote put OA up 18-10, a lead that only grew before the break as Suttman scored twice on the interior.

Suttman continued a personal 6-point run with an 18-foot make early in the second half. A Sunderhaus trey got FC back to a 10-point deficit ahead of a timeout called by coach Kyle VanMeter at 4:17 of the third.

Suttman led OA with 13 points. Mears had a game-high 14 and Sunderhaus added 11; Ruby Singer scored 8 and Kaiser 4.

FC (8-3) travels across the border to Talawanda in Oxford this evening

## Special tourney goes to undefeated Cats

**KARIS & COLIN TROYER**  
CONTRIBUTORS

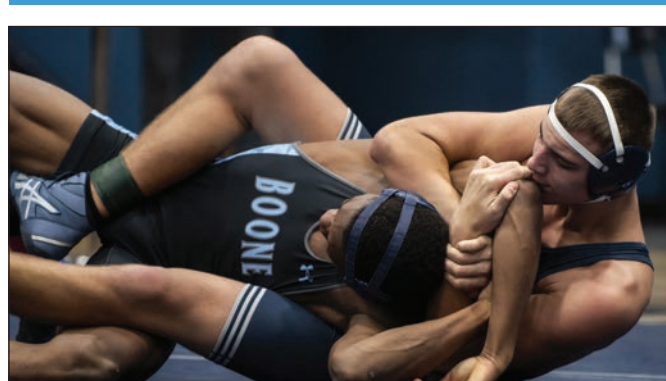


photo Karis Joy Photography

Breck Bohman.

Continuing their quest for conference and sectional championships, the Franklin Co. Wildcat wrestlers defeated all their opponents at the inaugural Bub Orschell Memorial Tournament Saturday. The undefeated Cats went into the tournament unbeaten, thinking they would run into some tough competition; instead, they walked away with 31 total pins (vs opponents' 4), 340 total points (vs opponents' 53) and the trophy.

A long-time competitor, lover and officiant of wrestling, Derik "Bub" Orschell's death in 2023 rocked the community and those in whose lives he was involved on and off the mat. He was passionate about fair play and teaching not only fundamentals of wrestling but also enjoyment and fun in the sport. He encouraged a partnership with football and wrestling-stressing the importance of team and individual sports and achievements. His wife Kehliefie says that Bub "loved the team and the individual aspect of wrestling. The discipline and accountability that went into it. The lessons learned from standing alone center stage, being the sole one responsible for the outcome, and the camaraderie with his teammates. For coaching and officiating, he loved to see the growth in the boys. He talked all the time about how impressed he was with many of the wrestlers' growth both physically and mentally coming up from the youth program. He was so proud of them."

Kehliefie and Derik's two children, Ryder and Lennox, were on hand to present the trophy to the winning team.

The first team up was the Boone County Rebels, who put up little resistance due to low team numbers. They gave up 7 forfeits and 6 pins, letting the Cats steamroll them to a 72-3 victory. Senior Nate Noble, heavyweight, had an intense battle leaving both competitors drained and a narrow loss of 7-5.

Next up were the Hagerstown Tigers. Although boasting a deeper squad compared to previous years, they too succumbed to the overpowering pressure of the Wildcats with a 69-10 loss. Lane Westerman (175) scored a takedown in

the first period against Wyatt Mitchell. Early in the second, Westerman scored a quick escape but was subsequently taken down by Mitchell, bringing the score to 3-2. Westerman chose bottom to start the third, and a series of back and forth reversals ensued, bringing fans of both teams to their feet. In the end, Westerman was able to hold on and ultimately came out on top with a narrow 7-6 victory.

Following the defeat of Hagerstown, Union County was up next. With a smaller team and several injuries, the Patriots were no match for the Cats. Usually, these two teams produce multiple down-to-the-wire matches, but with only four healthy wrestlers it was a fast 63-10 defeat. After 3 forfeits to start, semistate qualifier Colin Troyer (126) was up and quickly pinned his opponent in the first. Then, back-to-back matches featured Kyle Bolser (132), and Logan Troyer (138), vs Jesus Aquino and Carson Whitley, both of whom were 2023 semistate qualifiers for UC and both won. A win by Trevor Bruns (144), and the six forfeits closed out the

the match was a last-minute pin in the third by Tyler Teuschler (150), his first of the day. Otherwise, the cats went unopposed, the only 6 points given away being a forfeit at 113.

Last in their hunt to win the trophy was Connersville, a conference opponent. A quick forfeit put the Spartans ahead by six, the first and last time the Wildcats would be losing. In a thrilling bout, another FC semistate qualifier, Cole Freese (120) and Aiden Maize traded near falls, each ending with a pin in the second by Freese. Although he went into the match expecting a quick victory, his skills were put to the test vs Maize. Later in the dual, Keegan Clark (165) had a quick takedown and near fall, was reversed, but ultimately escaped for a 5-2 lead at the end of the first. His margin of victory grew to 10-6 at the end of the 2nd. To start the 3rd period, Keegan was on bottom, had an escape, a takedown, and finally pinned his guy. Another match of note was Senior Dylan Mulvey (215) vs Cash Bouilare which started off slow with a takedown by Mulvey and an escape by Bouilare. The 2nd was just as eventful, with an escape and a takedown by Mulvey. Dylan chose bottom to start the 3rd, then reversed for 2 points, then added three more and two more with near falls ultimately winning 12-4.

Overall, the Cats had an amazing day, kept Bub's trophy in Franklin County and made him proud with both their achievements on the mat and support of team-

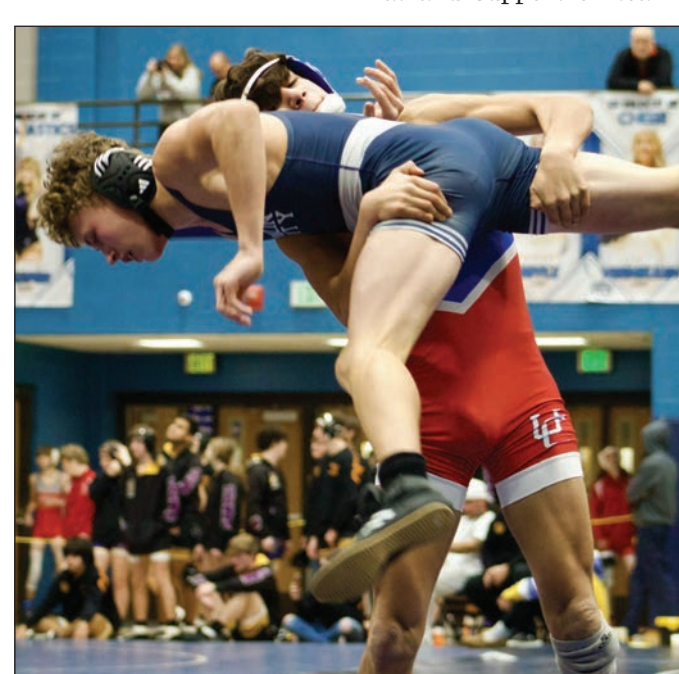


photo Isabella Thiemann

Kyle Bolser.

match.

After a break, FC anticipated stiff competition having lost last year's match-up by three to their next opponent, Shelbyville. Fortunately for the Wildcats, the Golden Bears were not up to the challenge the home team posed, and the Cats came away with their biggest win yet, a 78-6 beating. The best pairing of

mates off the mat. More meaningfully, the team honored #Bubstrong with their off-mat character: unfailing support of teammates and unparalleled sportsmanship with officials and opposition alike.

See the wrestlers in action at the Connersville Classic Dec. 28-29 at the Spartan Bowl. Wrestling starts at 9 a.m.

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## LIBRARY CORNER

**Library Closures:** The library branches will be closed on Dec. 23, 25, 30, and Jan. 1 in observance of the holidays.

**Holiday Crafting:** Join us for a day of winter crafting. From essential oils to pine cone Christmas trees, there is something for everyone! Examples will be laid out for patrons to use as inspiration, but there are no rules for creativity. Dec. 20 at Brookville Library from 4-6 p.m.

**Dungeons and Dragons:** Our Dungeons and Dragons group will meet on Dec. 21 and 28 from 5:30-8 p.m. at Brookville Library.

**Escape the Naughty List:** There has been a mix-up at the North Pole, and you have accidentally been placed on the naughty list! Solve a series of Christmas clues to get your message to Santa before time runs out. The game will be reset and begin again at the beginning of each hour. Bring a team of friends with you! Dec. 21 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m. and Dec. 22 at Brookville Library from 12-4 p.m.

**Family Game Night-Cookie Swap:** Learn how to play this fast-paced cookie-flipping and finding game! Dec. 28 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

**Candle Painting:** Design and paint your own tapered candle sticks! We will be using colored wax to create the designs. All materials provided. There is a limit of 12, so please RSVP by calling the libraries. Jan. 2 at Brookville Library at 5:30 p.m. and Jan. 9 at Laurel Library at 5:30 p.m.

**Salt Watercolor Snowflake Art:** Create a beautiful snowflake masterpiece using crayons, watercolor paints, and salt. Jan. 2 at Brookville Library at 2 p.m. and Jan. 4 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

**Jr. Crafters:** Create with us! In this weekly program, we'll explore art through various mediums. It is recommended for ages 9 and up. Fridays at 4:30 p.m. at Laurel Library.

**Caregiver Memory Kits:** Caregiver Memory Kits are resource kits designed for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers and care partners. These kits aim to help caregivers and care partners connect with helpful resources and increase interaction between the caregiver and their loved one. These kits consist of helpful books and resources for the caregiver and activities for the caregiver and their loved one to enjoy together, such as puzzles and bingo. These kits are available for checkout at both library branches.

**Family Night at Laurel Library:** Spend some time with friends and family at Laurel Library on Thursday evenings. Activities will vary each week.

**StoryWalks®:** The StoryWalk® continues at Brookville's Town Park, the Mounds State Rec Area's Wildlife Wander Trail, and the Yellow Bank Trailhead. Each trail features a picture book, encourages literacy, physical activity, and spending time outdoors, and is perfect for families of all ages! The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

**Brookville's Totspot Storytime:** Mrs. Herbert conducts story times at 10 a.m. on Mondays. Check our Facebook page for updates.

**24/7 Wi-Fi:** Please feel free to utilize the Wi-Fi provided 24/7 in our parking lots in Brookville and Laurel.

**Laurel's Free Health Clinic:** Southeast Indiana Health Center AKA Free Clinic offers services in their mobile unit. All Primary Care services are free to those without insurance or who are underinsured. Call 812.932.4515. Laurel Library's parking lot, monthly on the Third Thursday, 5-7:30 p.m.

**Wowbrary:** Subscribe to Wowbrary, the library's weekly newsletter. Stay up to date on new materials and library programs. To subscribe, visit our website at [fclibraries.org](http://fclibraries.org) and enter your email address under the rotating banners.

## Brookville Chapter of Tri Kappa seeking scholarship applicants

The State organization of Tri Kappa will award a variety of scholarships to college students throughout Indiana in the spring. Tri Kappa has provided scholarship awards since 1914, recognizing students on the local, province, and state levels. Chapters, provinces, and the State organization combined gave more than \$1.5 million in 2023 to honor academic achievement.

Scholarship Chair Karen Bergin (Brookville Associate Chapter of Tri Kappa) is seeking applicants for the:

### \$1,000 Academic Scholarships

To apply, students must be currently at least a sophomore or be in the second year of a community or junior college and transferring to a four-year program at the time of application and plan to be enrolled full-

time during the subsequent school year in a baccalaureate or graduate program. Sophomore status refers to hours completed: applicants must have completed at least 30 semester hours (36 quarter hours) prior to application. Criteria used by the Tri Kappa selection committee are academic achievement, strong goals and extracurricular and work experiences.

### \$1,000 Key and Vocational Scholarships

Key scholarships are directed to those students who have no previous degree beyond high school and have had a lapse in their education for at least five years. Those students enrolled in an accredited school offering an associate or baccalaureate degree who have completed one semester may apply.

Vocational applicants

should be students who will be enrolled in a post-high school accredited vocational, technical or trade certification program.

Criteria used by the Tri Kappa selection committee for these two scholarships are academic achievement, strong goals and community and work experiences.

### \$1,000 Fine Arts Scholarships

Students majoring in art, art therapy, dance, drama, music or music therapy are eligible. To apply, students must be currently enrolled in an accredited baccalaureate or graduate degree program, having completed at least one academic year following high school graduation.

**Twanette Nutter Fleming Music Award**  
Amount varies, currently \$1,000.

(See "KAPPA" pg. 10)

## Mrs. Chelsea Stenger announced December "Educator of the Month"

Superintendent, Ms. Tammy Chavis, is pleased to announce that Mrs. Chelsea Stenger, 4th grade teacher at Mount Carmel Elementary, has been selected as December's "Educator of the Month."

Mrs. Stenger has been with the Franklin County Community Schools for 18 years. Chelsea attended Franklin College and received a B.A. in Elementary Education. She went on to continue her education at Indiana Wesleyan University and received a Masters of Education. She also completed 12 hours in Digital Instruction for IU East.

Mrs. Stenger was nominated for this honor by a parent of a Mount Carmel Elementary School student. When asked why Chelsea should be considered for this recognition, they responded, "Mrs. Stenger goes over and above for ALL students in her classroom, daily. She is resourceful and creative in the ways she ensures her students have equal access to content, materials and opportunities in her classroom. Mrs. Stenger is not afraid to try new things and works tirelessly to meet the variety of needs of her students. She is creative in her

teaching presentation, has high expectations for her students, and they work hard for her in return."

When asked what makes Chelsea stand out from her colleagues, they responded, "The hours that Mrs. Stenger puts into her "job," whether it's creating content and materials, coaching the robotics teams, supporting athletics at MCS as well as her sons' teams is admirable. (And exhausting to watch, from the sidelines.) She never stops striving to grow herself. She is a great role model for her students as well as newer educators."

In addition to educating children, Chelsea is the co-athletic director, robotics coach, her husband and she are the leaders of the 4-H Dairy Cattle project, and also an active member of Brookville Road Baptist Church. Previously, Chelsea was awarded 2015 Teacher of the Month for April. In her free time, when she has any, she enjoys reading, hiking, baking, crafting, and hanging out with her sons and husband.

When asked what she loves most about her job, Mrs. Stenger responded, "The best part of my job (and the most challeng-



CHELSEA STENGER

ing) is inspiring students to want to learn and love it. When I can make learning fun and engaging, I get to see the true student and the eagerness to learn inspires me. Another amazing part of my job is all the support I get from co-workers, administration, and family members who spend endless hours helping me to be successful; painting murals, cutting things out, putting up bulletin boards, cleaning up after ball games, and so much more."

The purpose of the "Educator of the Month" program is to recognize outstanding Franklin County educators who demonstrate excellence in the classroom, leadership in the school, dedication to the students, and involvement in the community. Nomination forms for "Educator of the Month" can be found on the school corporation website at [www.fcsc.k12.in.us](http://www.fcsc.k12.in.us).

## Mr. Randy Edwards announced December "Support Staff of the Month"

Director of Operations, Mr. Keith Isaacs, is pleased to announce that Mr. Randy Edwards has been selected as December's "Support Staff of the Month." Randy currently serves as an IT Support Staff, Auditorium Manager and a Bus Driver at Franklin County Community School Corporation.

Randy joined FCCSC as a substitute teacher for 10 years, then making the switch to a support staff of 9.5 years ago, making this his 19th year.

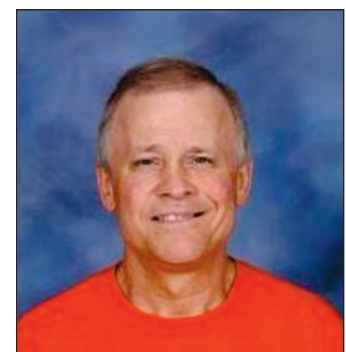
Randy attended the University of the Columbians, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, then continuing his education at the Southern Seminary receiving a Master in Divinity in Theology.

Randy was nominated for this honor by a teacher at the Franklin County High School. When asked what makes Randy stand out from his colleagues, they responded, "He is incredibly hardworking, organized and

does nothing but impress us on how passionate and hardworking he is." They also noted that, "He is a Chromebook Tech that covers all of the highschool AND he drives a school bus every day. He should be recognized for this incredible hard work."

Outside of school, Mr. Edwards participates in the community as a pastor of the Elm Grove Southern Baptist Church and Sings with, "For The King" Quartet. In his free time Randy enjoys spending time with his wife, Tonia, their children and their growing families as well. He also enjoys exercising, reading his Bible and working on music for the quartet he is involved in.

When asked what the best part of his job is, Mr. Edwards stated, "Trying to make a positive impact in the lives of students, faculty and staff. Resolving Chromebook issues for students. Projecting a daily positive thought on the screen in my office and hearing the comments from students as to



RANDY EDWARDS

what the positive thought means to them. Helping a student realize, "If you are afraid to fail, you will never do the things you are capable of doing," John Wooden.

The purpose of the "Support Staff of the Month" program is to recognize outstanding Franklin County Community School Corporation Support Staff who demonstrate dedication to his/her job, school, students, and community. Nomination forms for "Support Staff of the Month" can be found on the school corporation website at [www.fcsc.k12.in.us](http://www.fcsc.k12.in.us).

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# FORGOTTEN FRANKLIN COUNTY

## Schenkel Bros. Co.



The Schenkel Bros. sign as photographed by the Jacksons. It was right on US 52 at the entrance to the Schenkels' home and business.

Since there is very little about this business or family the best way to share this story is through the photos we have.

An interesting donation arrived at the library via postal mail this past summer, a tiny album of five photographs. In the envelope was a short recollection to go with them. What a treat! And it contained a new topic - one that I asked a few people about, but to

most, it didn't sound familiar - the Schenkel brothers.

The little note in the package said the photographs were taken by Edward A. Jackson of Oxford, Ohio when his family's trailer was under construction.

Mr. Jackson's daughter, Nancy, said in the note: "I believe that my parents got their trailer from the Schenkel Brothers between 1958 and 1960. I recall driving to check on the construction progress (or lack) of our trailer frequently....To get to the factory we turned left...out of town [Brookville] on a bumpy dirt road, sometimes with huge holes filled with water. There was a tobacco field on the right side of the road going to the factory. I think there was a very old house on the left, and the factory was at the end of the road. There was a large gravel parking lot in front of the factory. I recall there being a stream nearby."

I was curious exactly where this business was. My estimate of where the house and factory were once located was near the Arians' property south of Brookville. Unfortunately, I couldn't just look it up in the phone book because rural routes were used at that time,

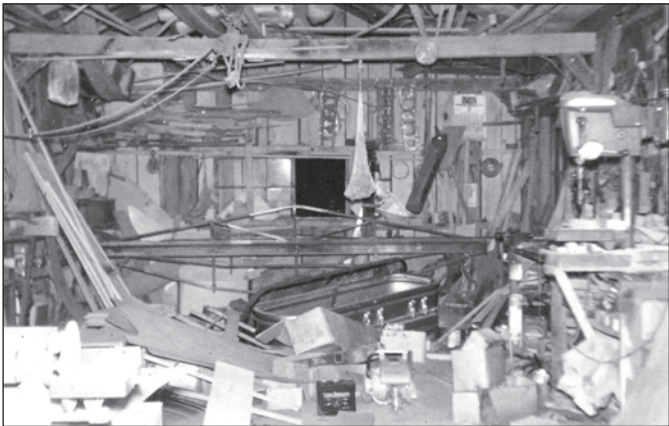


The Schenkels' factory as photographed by the Jacksons. FCPLD collection.

not specific addresses unless one lived in a town. The Schenkels were on RR2, Brookville. Wonderfully, Gary Higgs had known the Schenkels' location as he had been there. Over 40 years ago, Gary Higgs went to see the brothers to get some materials to repair a boat. Gary helped pinpoint the exact location of their business. It was located at what is today 10025 US 52.

Gary recalled the travel trailer sign the Jacksons photographed, which was right at the road - and you did drive down a long lane to get to their shop - a shop which was packed to the rafters - and organized in a manner in which only the brothers could find things.

Despite their organized chaos, apparently the Schenkel Bros. were masters at their craft - constructors of recreational fun - tiny travel trailers and boats of all sorts.



The Schenkel Bros. workshop - organized chaos. It may be difficult to make out, but in the center appears to be a modified coffin - maybe a coffin with a metal insert to be used as a water trough?

Word of mouth must have been the primary means of advertising, as practically nothing was found regarding their enterprise, and ads were virtually non-existent.

Even the website for the Classic Boat Library "says there is very little information available about this company." That is an understatement - basically there is NO information about this company. They operated

under "Schenkel Bros." and may have also been known as "White Water Boats."

The only clue discovered was that the Plaza Craft Boat Company of Dixon, Missouri advertised "they had a houseboat division of their firm. They had three different models ranging in size from 24' to 36'. Plaza Craft builds the hulls in their Dixon plant, while Schenkel Bros. of Brookville, Ind. builds the cabins." This was in the 1950s. It is uncertain for how long or how many boat cabins the Schenkels built, but nothing else regarding their collaboration or association with Plaza

### Franklin Co. Gets Rescue Boat



From the May 14, 1957 Palladium-Item showing the rescue boat that the county just purchased from the Schenkels.

Craft was found.

The May 14, 1957 *Richmond Palladium-Item* had a story mentioning the Schenkels, "Franklin Co. Gets Rescue Boat." The article said it was built by the Schenkel Brothers, "local boat and trailer builders" and was unsinkable. It was a 16-ft. all aluminum boat to be used for rescue work for any local entity that needed it.

The January-March 1962 *Popular Boating* magazine had a blurb for the Schenkel Bros. It advertised: Schenkel Bros. Mfg. Co., Brookville, Ind. White-Water Mermaid 15' runabout has all fiberglass construction, double floor with foam flotation, completely equipped with hardware and running lights, upholstered and is priced at \$695. Other models include 17' Sealiner, 15' Sportsman, 12' Fisherman, 10' Car top and 19" to 24' fiberglass pontoons to



The Schenkels' canal boat as photographed by Carl Higgs. Courtesy of Gary & Angie Higgs.

make your own party boat or houseboat.

If anyone remembers a half century ago when *Metamora* launched its first canal boat for tourists - that first small motorized canal boat was constructed by the Schenkels. Not much about it appeared in local newspapers, but the *Richmond* paper ran a few articles and included a photo of its construction. The little

boat was officially launched on the Whitewater Canal in July of 1964.

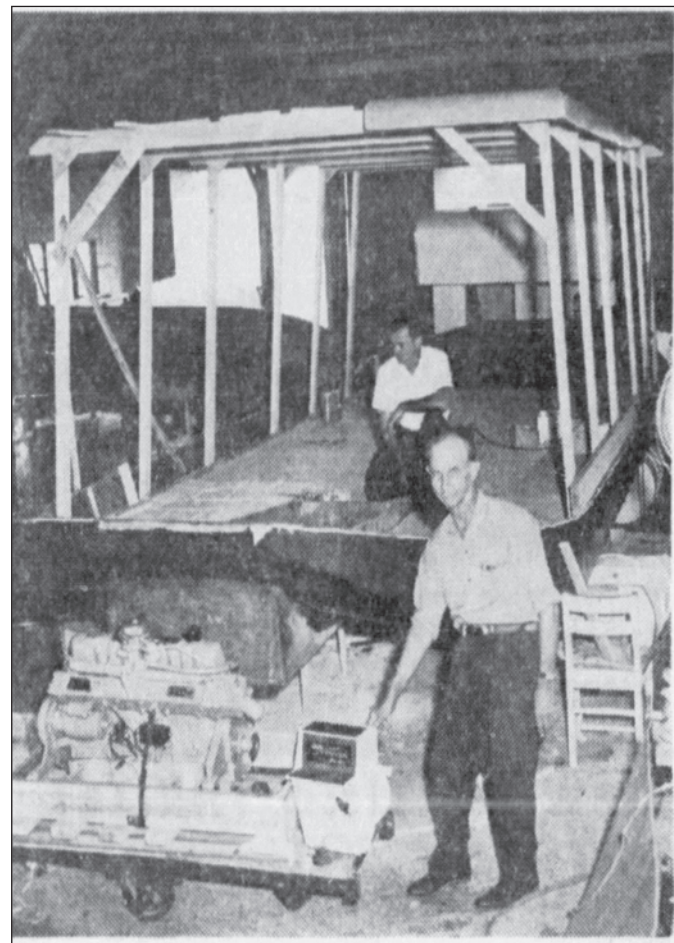
The July 9, 1964 *Palladium-Item* said it was a 30-passenger canal boat with a tiller at each end (since the boat could not be turned around in the canal) and bench seats on the deck. It was 30 feet long, 10 feet wide and 8 feet high. It was powered by a 120-horsepower Ford engine, but the motor was governed so the top speed would only be from five to six miles per hour. The canal boat was made of fiberglass, and the plywood deck had a fiberglass coating.

In the January 1974 *Boating* magazine the Schenkels were credited with building ski boats, runabouts, houseboats, pontoon boats, and sailboats.

It is unknown exactly when the boating business started or if the boating and travel trailer manufacturing were simultaneous. If just two brothers were working on projects, I would think the items produced by them were limited in number. It's unclear what happened to the Schenkels' company or when "Bill" retired. The end - and the beginning - at this time are just not clear. If you know more - give me a call.

The brothers in business appear to have been two, but there were three brothers: William John Schenkel (1901-1981); Ferdinand Jacob Schenkel (1905-1985), of Indianapolis; and Earl Schenkel (1914-1982). All three are buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Brookville.

William Schenkel's obit said "Mr. Schenkel had retired from his occupation of building canoes, boats, and trailers in which he operated Schenkel Brothers with his brother Earl, before retirement." He was a lifelong resident of the area. Earl's obit gave no further clues, and only said



A July 9, 1964 *Palladium-Item* article featured a photo of William Schenkel and the construction of the first tourist canal boat (a motorized one) used on the canal at *Metamora*. Amos Walls is in the background inspecting the motor mount.



Left: William Schenkel with the Jacksons' trailer. Right: Mrs. Jackson inspecting the trailer's progress.



that he was a self-employed farmer and was found dead at his residence. Don't ever think a donation to our library's Local History Department might be too small or insignificant. If we hadn't received five little 3x5 color photographs - the Schenkel Bros. business really would have become a part of our forgotten Franklin County history. These images were priceless!

Julie Schlesselman

Local History & Genealogy Department Manager, FCPLD

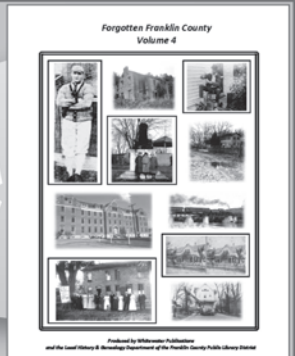
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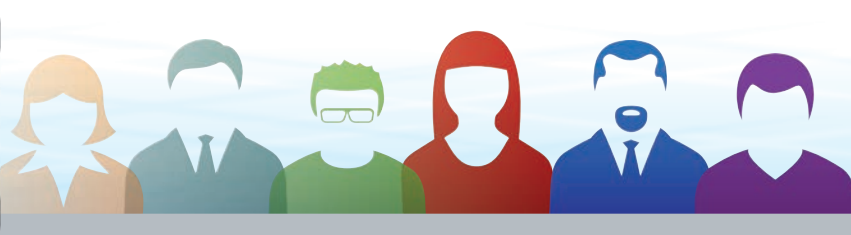
Many readers have called Whitewater Publications and the Brookville Library asking if and when the *Forgotten Franklin County* stories were going to be put into book form. Each book contains a year's worth of stories, and volumes 1-3 will be available alongside Vol. 4 - just in time for Christmas!

Contact Whitewater Publications at 765-647-4221 or [info@whitewaterpublications.com](mailto:info@whitewaterpublications.com) for more information.

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## Breaking Down Barriers: Union County students speak out about drugs and alcohol

**Mary Apel**  
STAFF WRITER

You may have seen posters online from an initiative called "Prevention is the Cure" that promote being "part of the majority", using statistics of local teen drug and alcohol use. Prevention is the Cure is a state funded grant from the Department of Mental Health and Addictions and is run through the Union County Health Department. The objectives of this grant are to work on drug prevention education, awareness and try to reduce alcohol and drug use by using four different strategies.

Recently, Prevention is the Cure hosted a "Red Ribbon contest" for this year's Red Ribbon week. Red Ribbon

Week is a national awareness campaign in the US that focuses on drug prevention and education. It is typically observed during the last week of October each year. The campaign aims to empower individuals, especially young people, to make positive, drug-free choices and to promote a sense of community responsibility in addressing the challenges posed by drug abuse. Red Ribbon Week encourages conversations about the consequences of drug use and advocates for a supportive and drug-free environment.

Union County Program Director Kay Riker-Peyton was very pleased with the turnout, and reported that the contest had over 30 essay entries from UCHS students, 15 poem entries from UCMS and over 50 smile contest en-

tries between Liberty Elementary and College Corner. "The judges had a very hard time deciding on winners because they had so many quality entries in the essay and poem contests," she said. "And all those smiles that were entered!" Riker-Peyton She said that Visa gift cards were awarded to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place entries in each category, honorable mention placings were given as well, along with ribbons. All participants received a bag filled with fun things and educational materials. Writer's note: As one of the contest's judges, I can attest to the difficulty in selecting winners. There were several truly excellent entries. Moreover, reading through the essays gave a voice to our local youth, and it was clear that we have many kids and young adults in the area who speak from a place of maturity beyond their years. Kudos and thanks to all who entered! Our kids are paying attention!

### STUDENTS ESSAYS

Two participants were willing to have their essays printed in the newspaper; please take a moment to read these:

#### We All Know Drugs and Alcohol are Bad

Ever since we were little we were told a few simple rules. We all know them by heart. But which one was typically pushed upon us the most? Don't drink and don't

do drugs. It's a simple rule, yet after years and years of this rule being repeated, people still disobey it.

Why? Why do so many people fall trap to the luring and temptation of these harmful substances? I can tell you a couple of reasons. Peer pressure, popularity benefits, or an escape. Oftentimes the people we surround ourselves with are the people who affect a decision like consuming harmful substances the most. They'll make fun of you if you don't or they may even threaten you. Maybe it's something else. Maybe, you just want to be considered "cool." Maybe you only do this in order to gain popularity or authority in your school. Or maybe you use these substances as an escape. They distract you from your reality. They take your mind off of what is actually bothering or hurting you. But are you really escaping?

No matter the reason you use them, you know it's bad. You don't have to be shown the statistics of alcohol or drug related deaths, injuries, or accidents. You don't have to have people come into your school for an intervention. You don't have to be told the same thing over and over again. You know it's bad, we all do.

So why don't you stop? Many times people don't think they can stop these substances for many reasons. "It's already caused enough damage, there's no point in

stopping now." You can still seek help and recover. People may think, "If I don't stop then we won't be friends anymore." Were they ever your "friend" to begin with if they let you and encouraged you to keep harming your body? "I'm addicted." Seek help, you can still recover. It may not be easy, but trust me it is worth it.

Think long and hard for a second. Is having this drink worth not getting your bills paid on time and losing your family's home? Is having this drink worth not spending time with your daughters so that they grow up and have to find attention elsewhere from someone else who will hurt them? Is this drink worth losing your children, your job, your life?

If we know this rule, if it's been repeated time and time again throughout your life, why do you still abuse these substances? It's not good for you, but you already knew that. If you have ever wanted true happiness, true success, a good life, don't pick up that drink. Don't try those drugs. Do what you know is right and what you know is good. We all know that drugs and alcohol are bad, so don't do them. It's not worth it.

#### The harmful influence of drugs and alcohol on humanity

Drugs are bad, everyone has heard it whether it's been from the doctor, at school, at a funeral, in church or on social media. Alcohol can also

be very harmful when it's misused. Sure they're bad, but why? Well, drugs and alcohol have taken control of the nation and have caused nothing but destruction. Of course prevention is the best way to avoid the terrible effects of drug and alcohol use, but there are also ways to treat addiction. Drugs and alcohol can have many negative effects on the human body, they can open the mind to mental illnesses and disorders, and can also negatively impact the relationships of the user.

The human body was not built to constantly consume harmful substances. Although there are organs, such as the liver, that help filter toxins out of the body, they weren't made to consistently filter out highly venomous substances. Most heart and blood vessel problems are linked to drug and alcohol use. Many of the different health issues caused by drug and alcohol use often lead to stroke, heart attack, organ failure and even death. Drug use can be particularly harmful to the kidneys and can cause them to have to work much harder than normal. Drug and alcohol use, especially combined, is very hard on the liver and can lead to harsh liver damage and even liver failure. The use of these substances has even been traced to causing many different varieties of cancer. The physical health risks such as seizures, heart attack, stroke, cancer, organ failure and death are not worth the risk. Prevention is the best and most effective way to avoid these intense health conditions caused by drug and alcohol use.

Drug and alcohol use doesn't only negatively affect the human body but also the human mind. Drugs such as LSD can cause users to become paranoid and have intense hallucinations which are closely related to symptoms of schizophrenia. The CDC also claims that the use of marijuana is directly linked to memory loss, learning, attention, and even decision making. These mental illnesses and disorders are treatable but not completely curable. The long-lasting effects of these substances are not worth risking a perfectly sound and sober mind. Prevention is the cure.

Now, the harmful effects on relationships. I've personally experienced the harmful effects of drug and alcohol abuse as a daughter, granddaughter, niece and girlfriend. My dad used to abuse opioids and was mentally and emotionally absent but then he turned to Jesus and made the choice to turn his life around for the betterment of himself and his family. On the other hand my uncle and grandma both have unfortunately passed away due to overdose. Too many lives have been lost to drug use. The most personal experience I've had has been my past relationship. Thankfully I didn't physically lose him to drug use but I did lose him mentally and emotionally to his drug use. So tell me, why are drugs bad to you?

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I STILL SHARE YOUR HOPES AND ALL OF YOUR CARES  
I'LL EVEN REMIND YOU TO PLEASE SAY YOUR PRAYERS

I JUST WANT TO TELL YOU, YOU STILL MAKE ME PROUD  
YOU STAND HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE ALL THE CROWD

KEEP TRYING EACH MOMENT, TO STAY IN HIS GRACE  
I CAME HERE BEFORE YOU TO HELP SET YOUR PLACE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT ALL OF THE TIME  
HE FORGIVES YOU THE SLIP, IF YOU CONTINUE THE CLIMB

TO MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS,  
PLEASE BE THANKFUL TODAY  
I'M STILL CLOSE BESIDE YOU,  
IN A NEW SPECIAL WAY

I LOVE YOU ALL DEARLY,  
NOW DON'T SHED A TEAR  
CAUSE I'M SPENDING MY  
CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS THIS YEAR




**Burton Spurlock Jr.**  
12/31/71 - 3/20/20

Mom, Dad, Kimberly,  
Tammy, Lisa

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Everyone meet Morticia! Morticia is just the sweetest! As a young adult she is calm, yet playful and would be the purr-fect cat for just about any family. Morticia is fully vetted, spayed and up to date on all vaccinations. Morticia is currently hanging out at Pet Supplies Plus in Harrison, so stop by to meet her. Applications are available in store or on our website at: [www.FranklinCountyHumaneSociety.com](http://www.FranklinCountyHumaneSociety.com)



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**Tunes** ■ Continued from Page 5

“Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree,” and “Holly Jolly Christmas” were all written by Johnny Marks, who was Jewish. The proudly Jewish Irving Berlin wrote “White Christmas.” “Let It Snow” and “The Christmas Song” were written by Mel Torme, who was also Jewish.

“You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch” was sung by Thurl Ravenscroft who was also the voice of the Frosted

Flakes cereal mascot, Tony the Tiger.

Jingle Bells: Originally intended as a Thanksgiving song titled “One Horse Open Sleigh”, “Jingle Bells” was written by James Lord Pierpont in the mid-19th century. Pierpont had a fascinating life, and while we remember him primarily for his authorship of this holiday favorite, it was not the overwhelming achievement of his life at the time.

He set out west to discover gold at one point, and fought in the Civil War. Despite having an abolitionist father, Pierpont was devout in his support of the Confederacy and joined the Confederate army. He lived out the remainder of his days in Georgia, where a plaque in his honor can be found in Savannah, across from the Unitarian church

**Center** ■ Continued from Page 1

Laurel, requested to meet with a board member and attorney to resolve a complaint. Seig said if she intended to resolve the problem, she would have attended the December meeting. Kramer moved to file suit and Seig seconded. The motion passed with Christine Rains abstaining.

There are new owners of the Oxford Pike parcel in Bath previously owned by Daniel and Nisha Sizemore. Kramer moved for Sterwerf to evaluate the site to see if the complaint is still valid, then start the 30-day process. Rains seconded; motion carried.

The Sturwolds (2139 East Road, Brookville) made no contact after Davis had sent a letter. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management had made a

site visit in July and found no violation. The APC and a neighbor see otherwise. Also, viewing the violation beyond the main road requires entering the residents’ property. Kramer advised Wesling to send a letter and for Sterwerf and him to arrange to meet the owners of the property.

Davis was to get Wesling up to speed on 8143 Silver Creek Road, Metamora (descendants of Augustus and Phyllis Washburn). There are several issues; Wesling said the answer may be for the county to get a court order to place a lien on the property.

Grove Street Properties (11225 State Road 1 North) did not respond to a second letter, so an attorney letter is the next step.

The BZA also had a variance request for a deck ex-

tension off the home of Beverly Ellis (1109 Main Street, Brookville); the less-than-required setback had already been okayed by the town. The builder, Clyde Johnson, and surveyor (Seig) spoke for the homeowner. Johnson said the adjoining homeowner also had no objections.

Braun moved to approve the variance contingent upon a small detail being changed on the application; Rains seconded and the board approved.

In other items, Kramer was reappointed for another two-year term on APC by the school board. Braun inquired whether Patrick Bedel (representing Purdue Extension) was still interested in serving on APC as he’s missed several consecutive meetings.

**Wreaths** ■ Continued from Page 1

as they place a wreath on these marked graves, giving remembrance and honor to those we have lost.

Prior to our crowd assisting in honoring the servicemen, an emotional ceremony is held. Here, a veteran from each branch of the military presents an individual wreath in honor, remembrance, solidarity, pride, and sacrifice. The wreaths hold a heavy weight for the family and friends lost, so thank you to the veterans who honored

the fallen with grace and respect.

Here in Franklin County, wreaths were placed in Holy Guardian Angels Oratory, St. Peter’s Cemetery, and St. Michael’s Cemetery.

Honored were:

- Army
- Navy
- Marines
- Air Force
- Coast Guard
- POW/MIA

Nearly 400 wreaths were placed on Saturday.

Wreaths Across America is a beautiful organization who comes every year to help honor those who have served and those still serving. As we are right before the holidays, the wreaths serve as a connection to those we have lost and have them celebrated with us.

“TAPS” was played for the servicemen following the wreath placements, and thank you to Drew Selm who sang the National Anthem.

**Kappa** ■ Continued from Page 7

Applicants for this award must be enrolled in a fully accredited course of study leading to a degree to teach music in a private,

public or parochial school. They must have completed at least one academic year following high school graduation.

Students wishing to apply for any of these scholarships are encouraged to contact Karen Bergin at 765-309-5436 by Monday, Jan. 8.

**Puzzle Solutions**

From Take a Break, page 4

S	P	U	R	H	I	F	I	C	A	P
P	A	N	E	A	M	E	N	A	I	R
E	P	I	C	S	P	A	T	S	L	Y
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D	W	E	L	L	E	R	H	A	T	C
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B	E	R	G	S	E	N	S	E		
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**Southeastern Career Center is looking to hire the following:**

**Position: Human Resource/ Deputy Treasurer**

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Job Description can be emailed upon request.

Please apply online at [www.sccusa.org/page/employment](http://www.sccusa.org/page/employment)  
You need to submit a non-certified application, resume and three recommendation letters to Tracy Bear by email [tbear@sccusa.org](mailto:tbear@sccusa.org).  
Any questions, please call 812-689-5253 ex. 288.

**CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS**

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Drivers wanted, class A CDL, clean driving record, experience a plus, hourly pay. Kopp’s Turkey Sales, 513-367-4133. (3-tfc)

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We cannot bring the old days back when we were all together. Your memory is our keepsake with which we'll never part. God has you in his keeping. We have you in our hearts.

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Grandchildren,  
Family and Friends  
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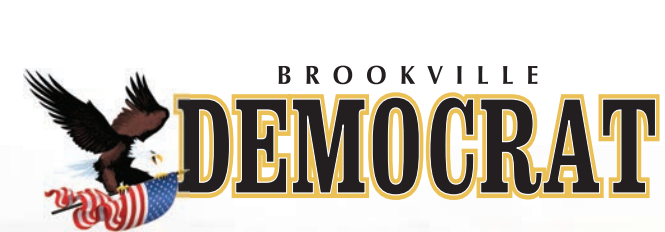
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It is the little things that make the holidays special, like the moments we share with our customers and friends like you.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you here in town, and we really appreciate your trust in us.

Thank you for your kind patronage.



*Mick • Jenny • Brian • Amy  
Vivian • Sam • Gig • Cassie • Brandy  
Will • Dewana • DJ • Rae • Chris  
Cheyenne • Mary • Mike • Beverly  
Tamara • Maddie*

















# Santa's Mail



Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like a hoverboard and shopkins. I want a hoverboard so I can play on it. Why I want shopkins so I can put them on my pencils. Why I deserve it I have ben trying so hard to be nice to my sisters.

**Audrey**

Dear Santa,  
I want a Jell kit. I want a jell kit because I like to do my nails. Why I deserve it because I get up and do my sisters hair. I want a apple watch because I like to play games. I deserve it because I feed the animals every night. I want smelly crayons cuz I like to color. I deserve it because ive bin good.

**Greta**

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a iphone 8. I also want airpods and a new basketball. Why I want the basketball because my basketball is not good at all. Why I want a Iphone 8. Why I want airpods is so I can listen to my own muice.

**Kendall**

Dear Santa,  
I want a apple watch for Christmas because I can tell

the time and I deserve it and I've been good this year. I want call of duty modern war far 3 so I can play it when im bored. I deserve it because I have been good in school.

**Will**

Dear Santa,  
I want a puppy for Christmas. I deserve it because I help Wyatt and am always paying attention in all subjects. I have good grades. I am also the printer girl. Think you should visit me sooner. Thanks Santa!

**Claire**

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like a mini black backpack. I would like it because it is cute and is relly handy. Iv tried to be good at home and school! And I want a I phone 8 pirtty please that has music because I love music like I sid. Iv ben good in school.

**Claire S.**

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a Appel watch because I never know what time it is. I also want makeup becus I don't have very mutch and I need it to inerton me.

**Abigail**

Dear Santa,

'I want Madden 24 for Christmas because I like to watch football. I would also like free tickets to the bengels. I think I deserve that cause I was good this yar. Maybe a google in our house I want it cause would talk to it. Also some football cards. I deserve that cause think I was also good.

**Love Caleb**

Dear Santa,

I want a cry baby. I want a polly pocket and makeup, a teacher barbie. I would love to get a science kit. I want an art kit. I really want surprises the most. I have been trying hard at school. I listen to mom. Thank you for everything.

**Love your friend, Katrina**

Dear St. Nick,

I don't have a lot to ask you but my little baby cousin doesn't have a lot of toys. So I want a baby rattle for her to play with. Another thing I want for Christmas is a older sister LOL doll to play with my sister because she likes to play with barbie dolls. I also want a stanly for Christmas because I need a new water bottle.

**Isla**

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas this year can I please have a polaride camera? I want to take pictures on it. I think I deserve it because I have been good this this year.

**Love, Rayna**

Dear Santa,  
I want a electronic scooter and a camera because ive been good in 3rd grade. I want is a baby doll to take care of because so I can be like my Mom. I want fore Christmas is a watch so I can play games on it with my sister and share it with my twins Hank and Sophia. I want a chapter book of Diray of the wimbey kide and some feathers to put in my hair.

**Georgia**

Hello Santa Claus,  
I would like air pods, red ryder, pink bb gun, Grinch pajamas, makeup, Bratz dolls and a lot of other things too. I deserve allot of these things because I have been good and nice to all my friends. The end. Merry Christmas.

**Evelyn**

Dear Santa,  
I would like a 3/8 25 inch

ratch. I would also like a 1/7 ratch. I would also like a good set of potch. I would also like a set of metch and standet tatch rinches. I would also like a ¼ dep wel and sholow sokis. So I can wick on stuf.

**Dustin**

Dear Santa,  
I want a ques 3 and I think I should git it becise iv bin good boy this year. Alsew I want 20,000 shiny roks and vebuks and robuks and

slyping bag and a nice blanket and Pelow yutoub chanol and I want to be rily smrt and I dsrv it bcos iv bin a good boy.

**John**

Dear Santa,  
I want a watch that can tell me haw mankstees and talk everyday. I also want to know how many laps I take. I want a timer on a watch. Also I want it to reset my ps1.

**Wyatt**



Thank you for all the wonderful letters and good wishes for Mrs. Claus, the Elves, the Reindeer and myself.

Merry Christmas!  
Love, Santa



In This Season Of Wishes

We hope all your dreams come true during this magical time of year. For the gift of your business, we feel truly blessed.

Thanks!



Merry Christmas

A world of thanks and best wishes to our neighbors, customers and friends. We feel fortunate to serve great folks like you!

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- Tom • Jo Ann
- Joe • Jenae
- Harold • Annie
- Josh • Tessa
- Gary • Jill
- Tim • Gina
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