



# Bellefontaine Examiner WEEKENDER

Vol. 134 • No. 6

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2024

1 DOLLAR

**HERE IT IS**

FINAL piece to the Examiner 12 days of Christmas contest



SATURDAY

▼ 49 ▲ 57



SUNDAY

▼ 41 ▲ 59

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## Teen in custody related to Christmas Eve shooting death

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

A 15-year-old boy is in custody as a person of interest in

A Bellefontaine police officer places 15-year-old Charly Yuretich, face obscured, into a police vehicle Tuesday morning outside 227 N. Detroit St. He is being held on criminal charges in connection with shooting death of Nathaniel Jones, 23, of Bellefontaine. (EXAMINER PHOTO | T.J. HUBBARD)

connection with the Christmas Eve shooting death of a Bellefontaine man.

Charly Yuretich of Bellefontaine was taken into custody by officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department Tuesday morning, Dec. 24, after Nathaniel G. Jones, 23, was found with multiple gunshot wounds inside the residence at 227 N. Detroit St.

Jones was transported to Mary Rutan Hospital, where he was pronounced dead, officers

report.

Police responded to the residence about 10:22 a.m. following a 911 call about a shooting there.

Police were assisted by Bellefontaine Fire & EMS and Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

The investigation into this matter continues and those with relevant information are asked to contact the Bellefontaine Police Department at (937) 599-1010.

## NEW ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEFS CELEBRATED



The Bellefontaine Fire Department hosted a swearing in ceremony Friday, Dec. 27, at the fire department for the promotion of two new assistant fire chiefs, Nate Alexander, left, and Randy McCully, both of whom are joined by Fire Chief Brian Wilson. Bellefontaine Mayor and former Bellefontaine Fire and EMS employee Dave Crissman conducted the oaths of office in front of a number of family members, friends and fire department personnel. New assistant chief Alexander, a 1999 Bellefontaine High School graduate, has been with the department for about six years and he will be in charge of shift C. He previously volunteered with the Bokescreek Fire Department and he was joined by his wife, Emily, who assisted with the pinning ceremony, and their two sons, Ryan and Evan, and other family members. New assistant chief McCully will move into the role of being in charge of the fire prevention and education department. He was assisted by his wife Staci for the pinning ceremony. Their children Rylee and Hayden also attended, alongside extended family. McCully is a 1996 Riverside High School graduate who will mark nine years with the BFD in April. He previously served with the DeGraff Fire Department and Riverside EMS. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)



## Not So Bad Art by Good People kicks for 8th year

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Logan County Art League is enthusiastically preparing for the eighth year of its popular fundraiser — Not So Bad Art By Good People — that features works of art created by local celebrities and encourages the community to pick their favorite pieces during public voting, culminating with an art auction at the end of January.

The 2025 contest features a new line up of 10 celebrity artists who are competing to receive the most votes from the public. Their works of art will be on display beginning Thursday, Jan. 2, through Friday, Jan. 31, at Citizens Federal Savings & Loan, 100 N. Main St., Bellefontaine.

These 10 artists have been working diligently on their pieces this fall, some with the help of experienced mentor artists in the Logan County area. "This is one of my favorite activities of the Logan County Art League, when we get to see the creativity of the volunteer celebrity artists, and some who might discover even for the first time how much they enjoy creating art. It's fun to see the variety of pieces that arrive as we prepare to set up the community display at Citizens Federal," Art League Committee Chair Karen Feltham said.

"The fundraiser has been a wonderful opportunity to interact with our community and get everyone involved in looking at and judging their favorite piece of art."

This year's celebrity artists are: Mark Amidon, Holdren Brothers; Barb Harpst, Citizens Federal Savings & Loan; Brian Holder, Indian Lake Outfitters, LLC; Quinton James, Holland Theatre technology director; Blake Kenner, school resource officer at Bellefontaine Middle School; April King, WPKO Radio; Cori Morse, Dr. Sloan Library in Zanesfield; Brittany Saxton, Six Hundred Downtown; Hannah Southwood, Edward Jones; and Pastor Rob Starnes, Greta Brethren Church.

Beginning Jan. 2, the completed works of art will be available for public voting from Monday through Saturday during the bank lobby hours at Citizens Federal Savings & Loan.

Everyone in the community, friends and family are invited to view the art and vote for their favorites. Voting is \$1 per vote, and

See ART on Page 8



## COMMON PLEAS COURT

### Defendant pleads guilty to possession of cocaine, child endangering

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

A mother charged with driving impaired with her child in the car was among the defendants to plead guilty recently before Judge Kevin P. Braig in Logan County Common Pleas Court.

Kayleen Grago, 32, of Bellefontaine, pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine, a fifth-degree felony, and child endangerment, a first-degree misdemeanor. The charges resulted from a July traffic stop by Washington Township police on U.S. Route 33 near Lincoln Boulevard.

Officers reported Grago was driving erratically with a 5-year-old child in the vehicle.

During the stop, law enforcement found Grago under the influence and recovered samples of crack cocaine. The defendant was taken into custody and lodged in the Logan County Jail. She will be sentenced Jan. 21.

In addition, Adam Williams, 38, of New

Carlisle, pleaded guilty to attempted possession of hashish, a fourth-degree felony. He admitted to the forfeiture of cash found during his October arrest.

Deputies of the Logan County Sheriff's Office stopped Williams on County Road 57 for a speeding violation. Upon investigation, deputies found a large sum of cash and THC cartridges in his vehicle.

Williams initially refused a vehicle search, but a K9 unit alerted to the presence of drugs. Williams is set for sentencing on Jan. 21, after the court reviews his pre-sentence investigation report.

Friday, Dec. 27, Judge Braig sentenced Cristina Cox to 10 to 14 years in prison on multiple drug trafficking and possession charges in three separate cases. The offenses included one felony of the second degree, which required a mandatory prison sentence and two felonies of the third degree.

Cox was already on probation for two felonies of the fourth degree trafficking

offenses when she committed the offenses for which she was sentenced.

"The information in the pre-sentence investigation report makes clear that you have been a significant player in the drug trafficking business in Logan County for some time," Judge Braig said during the hearing.

Logan County Assistant Prosecutor Nathan Yohey represented the State of Ohio and informed the court that he and law enforcement recommended 10 to 14 years. Cox was represented by defense counsel John Cunningham of Dayton.

Several other defendants were sentenced to community control recently for drug-related offenses:

• Jeremy Lawrence, 47, of Waynesfield: Three years of community control for aggravated possession of drugs, a fifth-degree felony. His charges resulted from a February traffic stop by Washington Township Police, where

methamphetamine was discovered in his vehicle. Lawrence also received 19 days of jail time credit and must pay court costs.

• Jeannie Heintz, 40, of Lakeview: Three years of community control for aggravated possession of drugs and receiving stolen property, both fifth-degree felonies. Heintz was arrested in August after Bellefontaine police found her in a vehicle displaying a stolen license plate. A search of the vehicle revealed drug paraphernalia and a digital scale. She denied knowledge of the stolen plate but was identified as the vehicle's driver.

• Addam Hale, 35, of Kenton: Three years of community control for telecommunications harassment, a fifth-degree felony. Hale received credit for two days already served and was ordered to pay court costs.

# NEWS Local & State

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Letters of less than 500 words will be given preference. Writers should limit their letters to one per month. For verification purposes, all letters must include the writer's address and telephone number. The writer's name and city will be printed with each letter. No anonymous letters will be printed. Letters of thanks will not be printed in the Forum, nor will disputes between customers and businesses.

The *Examiner* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Forum letters and guest editorials are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Examiner*. E-mail letters may be sent to:

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**ABE MARTIN**



"Some fellows are opposed to ever' thing they can't run."

Written prior, 1931, by Kin Hubbard, a world-famous newspaper humorist and father of late T.E. Hubbard, former *Examiner* owner/publisher

## Bellefontaine Rotary Club announces 2025 scholarships, annual Honors Night

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Bellefontaine Rotary Club announces the availability of eight \$1,000 scholarships for 2025, as well as the details for its 49th Annual Rotary Honors Night.

Since the scholarship program's inception in 1963, the Bellefontaine Rotary Club has awarded over \$200,000 to deserving students, reflecting its commitment to academic excellence and community support.

Eligible seniors from area schools are encouraged to apply for the Rotary scholarships by completing the online application.

- **Application deadline:** Jan. 27, 2025.
- **Eligibility criteria:** Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or



**higher.**  
 The scholarship program aims to need based support for outstanding students as they pursue higher education. Winners will be announced during the Rotary Honors Night and recognized at their respective Senior Awards Night.

The Rotary Honors Night — set for 6:30 p.m. March 10, at Bellefontaine High School auditorium, is a cherished tradition that celebrates the academic achievements of local high school seniors.

This event recognizes seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, based on their first seven semesters of high school. The evening will also feature the announcement of the eight Rotary scholarship recipients.

"The Bellefontaine Rotary Club is proud to support our local students in their academic and professional journeys," said Andrea Merrin, Club President. "Honors Night and our scholarship program are just two of the ways we strive to invest in the future of our community."

Local superintendents, principals, and counselors are asked to provide a list of eligible seniors by Feb. 21, ensuring every qualifying student is recognized during Honors Night.

For additional information about the scholarships or Honors Night, please contact Andrea Merrin at [andreamerrin@gmail.com](mailto:andreamerrin@gmail.com).

## BELLEFONTAINE BEAT POLICE & FIRE

### Assault charges filed following fight during wrestling practice

A fight following a youth wrestling practice at Bellefontaine High School on Thursday, Dec. 26, resulted in assault charges against two women from Marysville.

Officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department were dispatched to the school around 4:30 p.m. after on a report of a physical altercation during the practice. Upon arrival, officers met a group of individuals exiting the wrestling room and began gathering statements.

According to witnesses, Kimberlee James, 35, and Mary Tullis, 66, both of Marysville, were involved in an altercation with another woman, identified as the victim.

The conflict reportedly began when James approached her son during the practice, despite a court order barring her from contact with her children because of a custody dispute. The victim reportedly began recording the interaction. This prompted

James to knock the phone from the victim's hand and strike her multiple times.

Witnesses, including the wrestling coach, stated that Tullis joined the fight, grabbing the victim's finger and punching her in the face. The coach and other bystanders intervened to separate the parties.

The victim showed officers red marks and scratches on her face, neck and chest. She also provided a video recording of the initial moments of the altercation, which corroborated parts of her account.

While James and Tullis claimed they were attacked first, officers observed no visible injuries on either suspect.

James was arrested for assault and transported to the Logan County Jail, where she was booked without incident. Tullis was also arrested for assault but was transported to Mary Rutan Hospital due to medical concerns before being issued a summons to appear in court.

Police confirmed that statements from witnesses and video evidence supported the charges against

the defendants. The case has been forwarded to Logan County Children Services for further review.

## LOCAL NOTES

### Green Hills offers BINGOize Jan. 7

Green Hills Community, 6557 U.S. 68 South, West Liberty, hosts BINGOize, a fun 10-week health program that combines the game of BINGO with inclusive exercises for everyone.

The program kicks off on Tuesday, Jan. 7, and takes place from 1 to 2 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 weeks in Foundation Hall.

BINGOize was developed by the Western Kentucky University Center for Applied Science in Health & Aging and is brought to the area through a grant received by the Logan County Health District.

Each class is 45 to 60 minutes long and combines BINGO, exercises, and health education.

Less than 15 percent of older adults exercise regularly which leads to inactivity and related health issues, including falls.

To sign up for the class, leave your name and telephone number on the Green Hills RSVP hotline at (937) 465-0700.

Call Leah Trout, Green Hills Community director of life enrichment, at (937) 650-7121.

### Midwest Regional ESC meets Jan. 23

The Midwest Regional Educational Service Center Governing Board meets Jan. 23 for its organizational meeting at 6 p.m. and the regular board meeting will be start at 6:30 p.m.

This public meeting takes place at 1973 W. State Route 47, Bellefontaine.

### Library announces holiday closings

The Logan County Libraries will be closed will close at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31, for New Year's Eve, and all day Wednesday, Jan. 1.

### 'Examiner' holiday printing schedule announced

During the week of Dec. 29, the *Bellefontaine Examiner* will be published Tuesday, Dec. 31, and Saturday, Jan. 4.

There will be no print editions Thursday, Jan. 2, because of the New Year's holidays.

The business office at 1213 W. Sandusky Ave. will be closing at noon New Year's Eve. The office will be closed on New Year's Day as well.



## SENIORS OF THE MONTH

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**CAMERON FREYHOF**  
 Parents: Joe and Brandy Freyhof

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS:** Soccer, Track, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, Pep Band, Quizbowl, NHS

*If I were principal for a day:* I would allow for more fun days, like the volleyball tournament.

*Favorite school memory:* My favorite memory is winning a CBC title for the first time in 10 years in soccer.

*People who have inspired me include:* My dad, Mr. Steinbarger and Mrs. Coburn

*Lately I've been reading:*

*"Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams*

*My advice to parents:* Be understanding of the difficulty levels of classes your kids describe to you.

*My biggest regret:* I regret getting a B+ in Algebra in 8th grade.

*Next year I will be:* In college, hopefully at OSU main campus, majoring in Biology.

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**HALLE ROBY**  
 Parents: Ben and Malesia Roby

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS:** Volleyball, Softball, Choir, Show Choir, Musical, NHS, FCA, Science Club, BPA

*If I were principal for a day:* I would have most of the high schoolers go to the elementary and help teach and bond with the kids.

*Favorite school memory:* My favorite memory experiencing the community's support when the softball team went to Akron for the State Championship game.

*People who have inspired me include:* People who have been an inspiration to me include my parents, siblings, coaches, teachers, and teammates.

*Lately I've been reading:* "Fourth

*Wing" by Rebecca Yarros*

*My advice to parents:* Allow your children to grow up and enjoy life as a young adult. Don't hold them back and encourage them to be involved. Support them in everything they do.

*My biggest regret:* I regret not speaking up at a time when it was most crucial to do so.

*Next year I will be:* Attending an undecided college in hopes of playing softball somewhere. I plan to major in Education and minor in Business.



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## College Bowl Glance

<p><b>By The Associated Press</b>  <b>Salute to Veterans Bowl</b>                  South Alabama 30, Western Michigan 23  <b>Frisco Bowl</b>                  Memphis 42, West Virginia 37  <b>Boca Raton Bowl</b>                  James Madison 27, Western Kentucky 17  <b>L.A. Bowl</b>                  UNLV 24, Cal 13  <b>New Orleans Bowl</b>                  Sam Houston 31, Georgia Southern 26  <b>Cure Bowl</b>                  Ohio 30, Jacksonville St. 27  <b>Gasparilla Bowl</b>                  Florida 33, Tulane 8  <b>Myrtle Beach Bowl</b>                  UTSA 44, Coastal Carolina 15  <b>Potato Bowl</b>                  N. Illinois 28, Fresno St. 20 (2 OT)  <b>Hawai'i Bowl</b>                  South Florida 41, San Jose St. 39 (5 OT)  <b>GameAbove Sports Bowl</b>                  Toledo 48, Pittsburgh 46 (6 OT)  <b>Rate Bowl</b>                  Kansas St. 44, Rutgers 41  <b>68 Ventures Bowl</b>                  Arkansas St. 38, Bowling Green 31  <b>Friday's Games</b>  <b>Armed Forces Bowl</b>                  Navy 21, Oklahoma 20  <b>Birmingham Bowl</b>                  Vanderbilt 35, Georgia Tech 27  <b>Las Vegas Bowl</b>                  USC vs. Texas A&amp;M, late  <b>Liberty Bowl</b>                  Texas Tech vs. Arkansas, late  <b>Holiday Bowl</b>                  Syracuse vs. Washington St., late  <b>Today's Games</b>  <b>Fenway Bowl</b>                  North Carolina vs. UConn, 11 a.m. (ESPN)</p>	<p><b>Pinstripe Bowl</b>                  Boston College vs. Nebraska, 12 p.m. (ABC)  <b>New Mexico Bowl</b>                  TCU vs. Louisiana, 2:15 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Pop-Tarts Bowl</b>                  Miami vs. Iowa St., 3:30 p.m. (ABC)  <b>Arizona Bowl</b>                  Colorado St. vs. Miami (Ohio), 4:30 p.m. (CW)  <b>Military Bowl</b>                  NC St. vs. East Carolina, 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Alamo Bowl</b>                  BYU vs. Colorado, 7:30 p.m. (ABC)  <b>Independence Bowl</b>                  Army vs. Louisiana Tech, 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Dec. 30</b>  <b>Music City Bowl</b>                  Missouri vs. Iowa, 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Dec. 31</b>  <b>ReliaQuest Bowl</b>                  Michigan vs. Alabama, 12 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Sun Bowl</b>                  Louisville vs. Washington, 2 p.m. (CBS)  <b>Citrus Bowl</b>                  Illinois vs. South Carolina, 3 p.m. (ABC)  <b>Texas Bowl</b>                  Baylor vs. LSU, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Fiesta Bowl (CFP)</b>  <b>Glendale, Ariz.</b>                  Penn St. vs. Boise St., 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Jan. 1</b>  <b>Rose Bowl (CFP)</b>                  Ohio St. vs. Oregon, 5 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Peach Bowl (CFP)</b>                  Texas vs. Arizona St., 7:45 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Sugar Bowl (CFP)</b>                  Notre Dame vs. No. 2 Georgia, 8:45 p.m. (ESPN)  <b>Jan. 2</b>  <b>Gator Bowl</b>                  Duke vs. Mississippi, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p>
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## Browns rework Watson's contract

BY TOM WITHERS  
AP SPORTS WRITER

BEREA — The Cleveland Browns have again restructured quarterback Deshaun Watson's massive contract to create salary-cap space and give them future flexibility.

Watson has been limited to just 19 games in three seasons because of an NFL suspension and injuries with the Browns, who signed him to a five-year, \$230 million fully guaranteed contract in 2022.

The restructuring allows the team to spread out the salary-cap hit after the 2026 season.

The 29-year-old Watson has two years remaining on his contract with an average of \$46 million a year, and with a salary-cap hit of \$72.9 million in those seasons. The latest move adds a voidable year for 2028, giving the Browns cap flexibility following 2026, the final year on Watson's deal.

The agreement to restructure Watson's contract will not preclude the Browns from adding talent at the quarterback position in 2025, the person said.

Watson played in only seven games this season before suffering a ruptured Achilles tendon. He's 9-10 as a starter with Cleveland.

The Browns (3-12) have been a major disappointment after making it to the playoffs a year ago behind Joe Flacco, who was signed as a free agent after Watson suffered a season-ending shoulder injury.

Watson had surgery in October and is expected to make a full recovery. While

the team hasn't disclosed its plans at quarterback, it's assumed Watson will be in the mix to be the starter next season.

It's also possible the Browns will draft a quarterback in the first round. The team hasn't had a first-round pick the past three years after trading three to the Houston Texans to acquire Watson, who was once considered one of the league's elite QBs.

Watson's disappointing tenure — he hasn't thrown for 300 yards in any game — has been a sore spot with Cleveland fans, who had hoped the team had finally resolved its interminable QB issues when they signed the three-time Pro Bowler three years ago.

But it hasn't worked out, and the major investment in Watson and the salary-cap ramifications of his contract — the largest fully guaranteed deal in league history — have made it difficult for the Browns to upgrade their roster.

Watson has shown flashes of being a competent starting quarterback, but there have been just as many moments in which he's looked hesitant in the pocket or unable to connect with receivers down

field.

Watson was suspended for the first 11 games of his first season in Cleveland after an independent arbiter ruled he violated the conduct policy after he was accused by more than two dozen women of sexual misconduct during massage therapy sessions.

Since having surgery, Watson has been rehabbing his Achilles injury. He has not spoken to reporters for months. On Thursday, he posted a photo of himself on Instagram standing without wearing a walking boot. The caption read: "Back on My Feet! MORE-GORY!"

Last week, Browns defensive star Myles Garrett caused a stir by saying he did not want to be part of a rebuild in Cleveland. Garrett also made it clear he wanted to know the team's offseason plans, including what the Browns intended to do at quarterback.

On Friday, Garrett said he had "a few" discussions this week with the team's front office following his surprising comments. The reigning Defensive Player of the Year didn't reveal any specifics of the talks.

"They just wanted to see where my head was at

and what I was thinking and just trying to keep things in house, in house," said Garrett, who will turn 29 on Sunday.

Garrett was asked if he got a favorable reaction from teammates.

"They want to know what's coming next as well," he said. "So I haven't really heard too many people speak up on whether they liked my comments or not. Everyone's kind of feeling the same way. But I'm not going to assume and I'll have my answer at the end of the year."

NOTES: TE David Njoku (knee), DE Ogbo Okoronkwo (knee) and WR Cedric Tillman (concussion) were ruled out for Sunday's game. ... Backup QB Jameis Winston (shoulder) is questionable. If he can't play, Bailey Zappe will be Cleveland's No. 2 QB behind Dorian Thompson-Robinson. ... Coach Jason Tarver said LB Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah is in "good spirits" after sustaining a neck injury on Oct. 27. Owusu-Koramoah was hurt in a collision with Ravens running back Derrick Henry. The Browns have been vague about Owusu-Koramoah's injury and recovery.

## Vonn

Continued from Page 4

"There was not a lot of research out there with high-level athletes and partial knee replacements," Knight said. "It is a new frontier. But so far everything's working really well... And I would not be surprised if other people do it because the results that Lindsey's had, with no pain and no swelling, have been unbelievable.

"Granted, she stayed in

great shape the entire time she hasn't been racing. So, that probably helped. I mean, if you're sitting around as a non-active skier and not doing anything with your fitness, then maybe it wouldn't be as effective. But if you're an athlete who's got some knee problems, from what I'm seeing, I wouldn't be saying no to them."

Vonn's new knee also left an impression on U.S. Ski Team head coach Paul Kristofic.

"I'm definitely due for one myself," Kristofic said. "I'm going to talk to her."

Still, there are doubters.

Four-time overall World Cup champion Pirmin Zurbriggen told Swiss tabloid Blick last week that "there is a risk that Vonn will tear her artificial knee to pieces."

But Panzeri said the titanium does not rupture.

"Absolutely not," he said. "It's a small prosthetic that doesn't break."

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# US to send \$1.25 billion in weapons to Ukraine, pushing to get aid out before Biden leaves office

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is expected to announce that it will send \$1.25 billion in military assistance to Ukraine, U.S. officials said Friday, as the Biden administration pushes to get as much aid to Kyiv as possible before leaving office on Jan. 20.

The large package of aid includes a significant amount of munitions, including for the National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile Systems and the HAWK air defense system. It also will provide Stinger missiles and 155 mm- and 105 mm artillery rounds, officials said.

The officials, who said they expect the announcement to be made on Monday, spoke on condition of anonymity to provide details not yet made public.

The new aid comes as

Russia has launched a barrage of attacks against Ukraine's power facilities in recent days, although Ukraine has said it intercepted a significant number of the missiles and drones. Russian and Ukrainian forces are also still in a bitter battle around the Russian border region of Kursk, where Moscow has sent thousands of North Korean troops to help reclaim territory taken by Ukraine.

Earlier this month, senior defense officials acknowledged that the Defense Department may not be able to send all of the remaining \$5.6 billion in Pentagon weapons and equipment stocks passed by Congress for Ukraine before President-elect Donald Trump is sworn in.

Trump has talked about getting some type of nego-

tiated settlement between Ukraine and Russia, and spoken about his relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Many U.S. and European leaders are concerned that it might result in a poor deal for Ukraine and they worry that he won't provide Ukraine with all the weapons funding approved by Congress.

The aid in the new package is in presidential draw-down authority, which allows the Pentagon to take weapons off the shelves and send them quickly to Ukraine. This latest assistance would reduce the remaining amount to about \$4.35 billion.

Officials have said they hope that an influx of aid will help strengthen Ukraine's hand, should Zelenskyy decide it's time to negotiate.

One senior defense official said that while the U.S. will continue to provide weapons to Ukraine until Jan. 20, there may well be funds remaining that will be available for the incoming Trump administration to spend.

According to the Pentagon, there is also about \$1.2 billion remaining in longer-term funding through the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, which is used to pay for weapons contracts that would not be delivered for a year or more. Officials have said the administration anticipates releasing all of that money before the end of the calendar year.

If the new package is included, the U.S. has provided more than \$64 billion in security assistance to Ukraine since Russia invaded in February 2022.



Continued from Page 1

there are no restrictions on the number of times a person can vote.

In addition, voting will be available online at the Art League's website: <https://logancountyartleague.org/>.

The winner of the community vote will be announced at a celebration event and dinner, slated for Jan. 31, at Honey Birch Farm, 550 E. Township Road 30, West Liberty, beginning at 5 p.m. After the celebration dinner, all of the works of art are auctioned off, with proceeds supporting the activities of the Logan County Art League.

Anyone in the community is invited to attend the celebration dinner; tickets are required for food and drinks being served from 6 to 7 p.m. A dinner reservation form is available at the

Citizen's Federal art display or on the Art League website.

The public is also invited to attend the auction that begins at 7 p.m. and participate free of charge.

A number of community companies have donated to support Not So Bad Art By Good People. At this point, sponsors include Citizen's Federal Savings & Loan, TDH-Law/Joshua Stolly, Ann Beck, Cracked Pot Studio, Mama D's Soda Shoppe and The Poppy Seed.

To encourage all residents of the community to create, the Art League continues to host free Open Studios at The Art Center at The Holland each Wednesday beginning in January from 1 to 3 p.m., where anyone can bring their own art supplies and create their artwork in the company of other artists.

## Oldest living survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, passes away at age 105

HONOLULU (AP) — The oldest living survivor of the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the last remaining survivor of the USS Utah has died. He was 105. Warren Upton died Wednesday at a hospital in Los Gatos, California. Kathleen Farley, the California state chair of the

Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors, says he suffered a bout of pneumonia. The Utah was moored at Pearl Harbor when Japanese planes began bombing the Hawaii naval base in the early hours of Dec. 7, 1941. The attack propelled the U.S. into World War II.

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