



CHIEFS FALL

Bellefontaine loses at home to London

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\$1



Woman indicted for neglect of a child

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

A Logan County grand jury handed up an indictment Tuesday, Jan. 14, against a West Mansfield woman accused of abuse and neglect of her 4-year-old daughter, who required hospitalization for severe malnutrition.

Abby Small, 34, has been indicted on charges including endangering children, a felony of the third-degree; endangering children, a misdemeanor of the first-degree; and obstructing official business, a misdemeanor of the second-degree.

She was arrested in November following a well-being check by Logan County Sheriff's deputies that revealed



suspected child abuse and/or neglect.

The investigation began when deputies from the Logan County Sheriff's Office, in coordination with Logan County Children's Services visited Small's home to assess the safety of her children. Upon their arrival, deputies observed Small unloading groceries from her car. When she noticed law enforcement, she reportedly hurried inside and slammed the door.

Deputies attempted to communicate with Small, but she barricaded herself inside. Concerned for the welfare of the children, deputies attempted to gain entry into the home. After unlocking the door with a code, Small tried to block their entry and some force was used to get inside.

Once inside, deputies discovered a 4-year-old girl in

See JURY on Page 2

High-tech public safety tool unveiled

BY MANDY LOEHR
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

Generous community members and hours of research performed by Logan County Sheriff's Office deputies have resulted in a new piece of technology for the LCSO that already has bolstered officer safety, offered a bird's eye when conducting searches, assisted with crash and crime scene mapping and reconstruction, along with a multitude of other benefits in recent months.

The sheriff's office on Thursday, Jan. 16, offered an unveiling and demonstration of the department's new drone to extend its appreciation to the donors who made this important and high-tech equipment possible without having to pull funds from the LCSO's budget.

The local donors, Steve Buchenroth with Midwest Corporate Air Inc. and Teri Frymyer with Choice Properties Real Estate, and volunteers with the Behind the Badge program, were offered a first-hand look at the drone through a demonstration by newly certified pilots, LCSO Detectives Shawn McIntire and Adam Wood.

Buchenroth and Frymyer each provided \$6,500 toward the drone purchase, and members of the Behind the Badge program donated funds to outfit the drone with all of its necessary accessories. Rodney Wrocklage and Steve Spath attended the

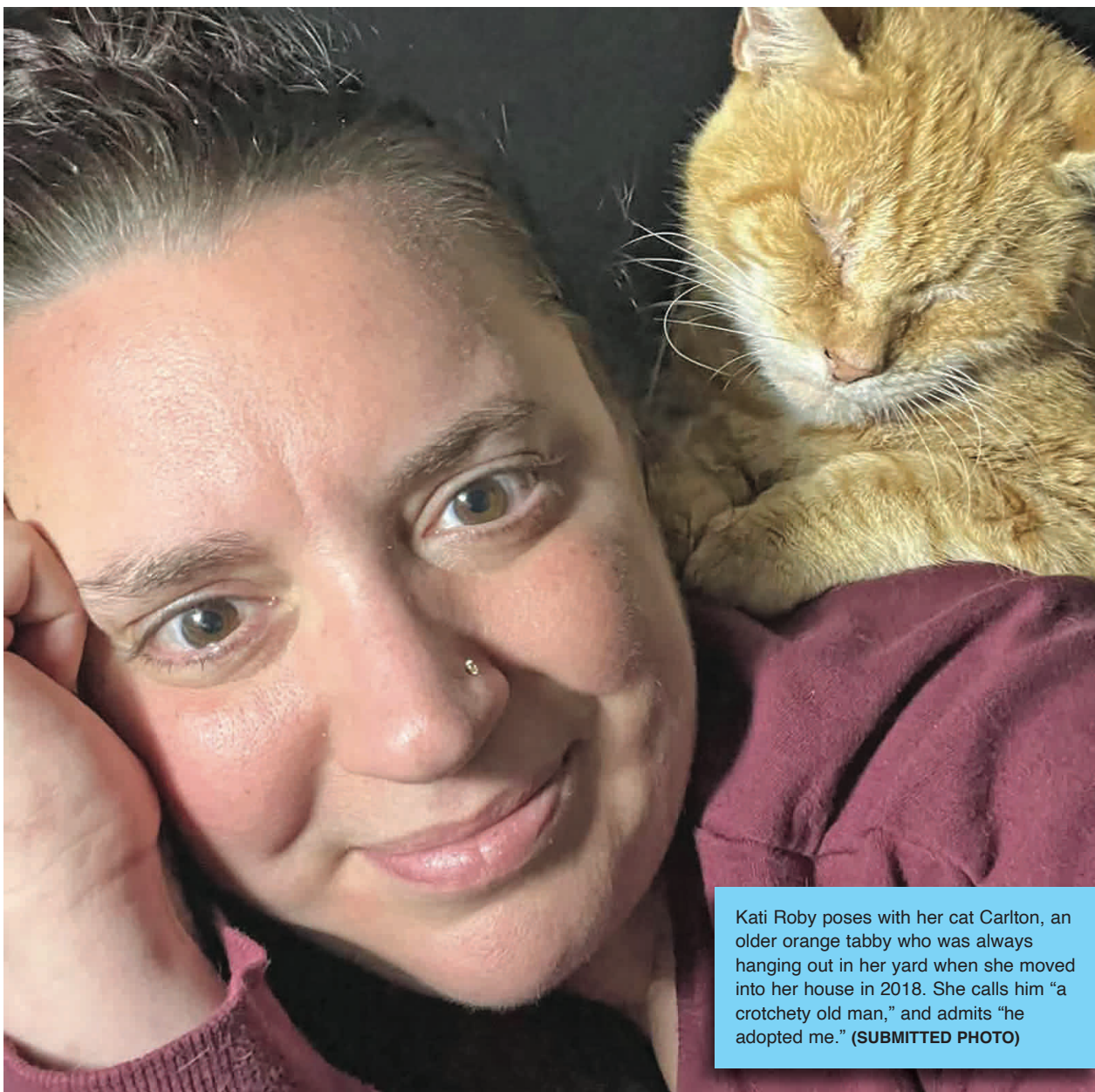
See TOOL on Page 8



The DJI Matrice M30T series drone, center, is accompanied by its accessories, including the video screen and case of batteries. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

• • • • YOUR NEIGHBOR • • • •

Kati Roby: "Wanting to save all the animals has been in the making my entire life"



Kati Roby poses with her cat Carlton, an older orange tabby who was always hanging out in her yard when she moved into her house in 2018. She calls him "a crotchety old man," and admits "he adopted me." (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

BY SHARYN KOPF | EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

The Facebook post earlier this month grabbed your attention. Especially the attached photos of a dirty, bedraggled cat. The anonymous poster reached out to the community through the Bellefontaine In the Know page, hoping someone could rescue the mistreated feline.

"Is there anyone who can help capture this cat and get it vet care?" the writer asked. "He is missing chunks of hair and has sores." Though she had tried to feed him, the other strays would chase him away.

Amazingly, someone recognized the animal. Leann Thornton of Bellefontaine was certain this was her cat, Mike, who had gone missing two years before. Though eager to get him home, the runaway feline was skittish. They needed someone who knew what they were doing and could catch him safely.

See SAVIOR on Page 3

Florida jury says CNN defamed Navy veteran in story about endangered Afghans

BY DAVID BAUDER
AP MEDIA WRITER

After a Florida jury found that CNN defamed a U.S. Navy veteran who helped rescue endangered Afghans, the network reached a settlement on Friday to avoid a punishing order that it pay punitive damages.

The unusual ruling against a media outlet following a jury defamation trial was a blow to both struggling CNN and news outlets in general on the eve of a new term as president by Donald Trump, who has whipped up anger against journalists among his supporters.

The jury in Panama City, Florida, ruled in favor of Zachary Young following more than eight hours of deliberation and a trial of less than two weeks. Young blamed CNN for destroying his business through a 2021 story on Jake Tapper's broadcast about a "black market" of extracting desperate Afghans following the Taliban takeover.

"I know Zach feels heard in a way that he hasn't felt for over three years," said Kyle Roche, one of his lawyers, after the verdict.

The jury awarded Young \$5 million in compensatory damages. A second phase of the trial, to award punitive damages, was underway Friday afternoon before Circuit Court Judge William S. Henry interrupted proceedings to announce a settlement. Terms were not disclosed.

"We remain proud of our journalists and are 100% committed to strong, fearless and fair-minded reporting at CNN, though we will of course take what useful lessons we can from this case," CNN said in a statement.

Young's business helped smuggle people out of Afghanistan, but he said he worked exclusively with deep-pocketed outside sponsors like Bloomberg and Audible. CNN showed its face in a story that primarily raised questions about contractors who were charging Afghans themselves fees as much as \$10,000 to get out.

Care for officers' mental health emphasized at CIT graduation

BY MANDY LOEHR
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

One of the largest groups of local law enforcement officers graduated from the Crisis Intervention Training program Friday, Jan. 17, with approximately 30 individuals representing agencies from Logan, Champaign and Union Counties, all of whom came away from the training with practical knowledge of how to assist individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

Featured graduation speaker Lt. Molly J. Harris from the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Office of Personnel, Employee Wellness, said the CIT program she attended about 20 years ago was one of the best trainings she's ever completed. It influenced the future course of her career, as she now has the privilege of overseeing the state's CIT program, building relationships with local behavioral health organizations in all 88 Ohio counties and

with local law enforcement as well.

Lt. Harris had important advice for the new grads Friday at the 40-hour CIT program, hosted by the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties. While utilizing their training and carefully looking after the public's health on the job, she urged them to not neglect their own mental health and the mental well-being of their fellow officers as well.

See GRADUATION on P8

Crisis Intervention Training graduates gathered Friday after their 40 hours of training this week, hosted by the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties, joined by Mercy, a therapy dog from the Marysville Police Division. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)





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ABE MARTIN



"Honesty pays, but it don't seem t' pay enough t' suit a lot o' people."

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

What will happen to TikTok on Apple and Google's app store on Sunday?

BY HALELUYA HADERO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With President-elect Donald Trump adding uncertainty around whether a TikTok ban will go into effect, the focus is now turning to companies like Google and Apple that are expected to take the popular video sharing app off their platforms in just two days.

Though the Supreme Court on Friday unanimously upheld a federal law that could ban TikTok nationwide, it's unclear how a shutdown of the popular social media platform will play out and what Americans will see when the clock strikes midnight on Sunday.

The court decision comes against a backdrop of unusual political agitation by Trump, who vowed that he could negotiate a solution after he takes office, and the administration of President Joe Biden, which has signaled it won't enforce the law beginning Sunday, his final full day in office. Now, tech observers — and some users — are intently watching to see what happens over the weekend and beyond.

"We're really in uncharted territory here in terms of tech policy," said Sarak Kreps, the director of Cornell University's Tech Policy Institute.

Under the law, mobile app stores — like the ones operated by Apple and Google — and internet hosting services will face major fines if they contin-

ue to distribute the platform to U.S. users beyond the deadline for divestment from ByteDance, TikTok's China-based parent company. The companies could pay up to \$5,000 for each user who continues to access TikTok, meaning penalties could total to a large sum.

A lawyer representing TikTok told Supreme Court justices last week that the platform will "go dark" on Jan. 19 if the law isn't struck down. But TikTok, which is not required to block its own platform under the statute, has not said whether it will limit access to the app, or its website, on Sunday. Experts have noted TikTok's app should remain available for current users, but existing ones will no longer be able to update it, making it unusable in the long term.

Trump's national security adviser has signaled this week that the incoming administration may take steps to "keep TikTok from going dark," though what that looks like — and if any of those steps can withhold legal scrutiny — remains unclear.

"My decision on TikTok will be made in the not-too-distant future, but I must have time to review the situation," Trump said Friday in a post on Truth Social after the court's ruling. Earlier in the day, he said in another post that TikTok was among the topics in his conversation with Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

In the meantime, some of the attention has turned to tech companies, such as Apple, Google and Oracle, who currently offer TikTok on their app stores or host company data on their servers.

Tech CEOs have been attempting to forge friendlier ties with Trump, who wants to put the TikTok ban on hold, since he was elected in November. But Kreps said it would "defy credulity" for them to continue to offer TikTok, even if they want to please Trump, since it would open them up to punitive fines.

Tech companies are also used to removing apps at the behest of governments. In 2023, Apple says it removed nearly 1,500 apps globally. Nearly 1,300 of the apps were taken down in China.

"Penalties for companies like Apple and Google could run as high as \$850 billion," Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., wrote on X on Thursday, while referring to the U.S. TikTok law. "Not sure I'd take a politician's word if I ran those companies."

Meanwhile, David Choffnes, executive director of the Cybersecurity and Privacy Institute at Northeastern University in Boston, said he believes there's a "small chance" that nothing happens to TikTok, but acknowledged that would require "enormous risk on the part of the companies that support them."

JURY

Continued from Page 1

need of medical attention. She was initially taken to Mary Rutan Hospital and later transferred to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus due to severe malnutrition and injuries.

Small was arrested on charges of obstructing official business and lodged in the Logan County Jail.

Others indicted were:
Christopher Rodgers, 48, of Dayton: aggravated theft, a felony of the third-degree;

Craig Fry, 52, of Huntsville: improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, a felony of the fifth-degree; operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them — OVI, a misdemeanor of the first-degree; failure to comply with opened container of beer or liquor laws, a misdemeanor of the minor degree;

David Lewis, 42, of Bellefontaine: grand theft of a motor vehicle, a felony of the fourth-degree; assault, a misdemeanor of the first-degree; abduction, a felony of the third-degree; aggravated possession of drugs, a felony of the fifth-degree; illegal use or possession of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor of the fourth-degree; trespass in a habitation when a person is present or likely to be present, a felony of the fourth-degree; breaking and entering, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Dustin Krouse, 39, of Lakeview: aggravated theft, a felony of the third-degree; breaking and entering, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Emily Olvera, 28, of North Lewisburg: operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them — OVI, a misdemeanor of the first-degree; aggravated vehicular

assault, a felony of the third-degree;

Franklin Dietz, 63, of Lakeview: operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them — OVI, a misdemeanor of the first-degree; improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Gina Dyer, 57, of Lakeview: operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them — OVI, 2 counts, unclassified misdemeanors; aggravated possession of drugs, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Guillermo Mata, 50, of Marysville: improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, a felony of the fourth-degree;

Jamar Crossley, 37, of Columbus: possession of cocaine, a felony of the third-degree;

Jase Chambers, 18, of Marysville: failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer, a felony of the third-degree; resisting arrest, a misdemeanor of the second-degree; operation in willful and wanton

disregard of the safety of persons or property, a misdemeanor of the fourth-degree;

Jessica Shoffner, 36, of Russells Point: aggravated possession of drugs, a felony of the second-degree;

Jimmy Higgins, 55, of Belle Center: aggravated possession of drugs, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Joshua Muse, 42, of Bainbridge: aggravated possession of drugs, a felony of the fifth-degree;

Mateo Rosales, 42, of Bellefontaine: domestic violence, a felony of the fourth-degree; strangulation, 2 counts, felonies of the third-degree and fourth-degree; kidnapping, a felony of the first-degree;

Mark Bryant, 44, of Rushsylvania: theft from a person in a protected class, a felony of the fourth-degree; and

Spencer Puckett, 28, of Springfield: receiving stolen property, a felony of the fourth-degree; failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer, 2 counts, felonies of the third-degree.

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Senior of the month

MAX RUDOLPH
 PARENTS: Diane Rudolph and the late Mark Rudolph

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS: National Honor Society, soccer, track, wrestling- (hustle award), Eagle Scout, Vice President of class (2 years), Spanish Club, Key Club, Chess Club, Calculus Club, Physics Club.

If I were principal for a day: I would allow students to leave school for lunch.

Favorite school memory: The yearly volleyball tournaments

People who have inspired me include: My mom, my brother Quentin, teachers, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lately, I have been reading: How to avoid a climate disaster by Bill Gates.

My advice to parents: Listen to your children and let them make most of their decisions by themselves.

My biggest regret: Taking for granted all the fun memories I've made throughout my years in high school.

Next year I will be: Going to a undecided college in Ohio for Mechanical Engineering.

Senior of the month

LONDYN LOVELESS
 PARENTS: Ashley and Shana Loveless

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS: Academic Honor Student, National Honor Society, Student Council, Key Club, Link Crew, Spanish Club, Broadcasting Club, Varsity Choir, 4-H Member, Youth Leader, and Tutor. Volleyball, Eye of the Tiger and All Hustle Team Awards, and Scholar Athlete.

If I were principal for a day: I would cancel all exams and treat everyone to Starbucks!

Favorite school memory: One of my fondest school memories will always be Homecoming. The week is filled with exciting activities that bring the community together. From the parade, pep-rallies, spirit week competitions, Friday night football game, and dance; these are cherished memories shared with great friends.

People who have inspired me include: My amazing parents!... Because of the love and support that my parents have always shown me, I have been able to DREAM BIG without any constraints.

Lately, I have been reading: Lately, I have been reading my Physics textbook, preparing for the mid-term exam.

My advice to parents: My advice to parents is to encourage your children to DREAM BIG and always be their biggest supporters!

My biggest regret: Jennifer Annison said it best, "there's no regrets in life, just lessons."

Next year I will be: I have accepted a full-academic scholarship at Ohio Northern University and plan to major in Biochemistry with a concentration in Biomedical Sciences, with a Pre-Medicine pathway to become a Pediatrician.

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■ OBITUARIES

Bonnie Louise Kennedy

Bonnie Louise Kennedy, 75, of Rushsylvania, OH, passed from this life to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at home, on Friday, January 10, 2025, at 6:20 a.m., surrounded by her loving family, after bravely fighting a battle with dementia for several years.



She was born in Kenton, Ohio, on October 15, 1949, to Clarence and Ruth (Stalder) Penhorwood, and grew up in the West Mansfield and Rushsylvania communities. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by granddaughter Ketzey Jo Lee Van Buskirk and a brother Samuel Dean Penhorwood.

Bonnie was united in marriage to John Richard (Rick) Kennedy on September 14, 1969, at Bethel United Methodist Church, near West Mansfield, Ohio, by Reverend Harold Kochersperger. Bonnie and Rick had celebrated 55 years of marriage recently and had a passion for caring for and raising children. They became foster parents in 1972, with Logan County Children Services, and together made a home for over 45 foster children during their marriage.

Besides husband, Rick, Bonnie is survived by eight children: three sons, Samuel R (Julie) Kennedy of Carmel, Indiana, Daniel R (Kris) Kennedy of Purcellville, Virginia, and David L (Tammy) Kennedy of Mitchell, Indiana; five daughters, Theresa L (Mike) Miller of Belle center, Ohio, Gina M. Kennedy of Bellefontaine, Ohio, Amber L (Brent) Joseph of Belle center, Mary N (Holland) Elliott of Belle Center, and Rebecca J. (Kyle Van Buskirk) Kennedy of Rushsylvania, Ohio. 21 Grandchildren: Kollin Sotolongo, Kourtney Beumel, Wesley (Melissa) Kennedy, Thea Kennedy, Cole Kennedy, Tomas Kennedy, Josiah (Tara) Kennedy, Misty Lowe, Ryan Lowe, Derik (Rachel) Kennedy, Drake Kennedy, Codie (DeShawna) Pope, Mikayla Miller, Shae Helton, Cody (Angela) Winegardner, Brody Joseph, Sawyer Elliott, Finlee Elliott, Nira Elliott, Kaleb Van Buskirk, and Kai Van Buskirk. 14 great-grandchildren: Michael, Gabriel, Kora, Baylee, Charlie, John, Julia, Dakota, Dawson, Daeson, Koa, Torvi, Wynter, and Walker.

Others surviving Bonnie include siblings, Jane Kavanagh, Susan (Neil) Jarvis, Randy (Donna) Penhorwood and Mark (Terri) Penhorwood; Sister-in-law Sandy Penhorwood and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Special friends and other "adopted" relatives include Karla Yoder, Pearl Tanner, Jacealynn Preston, Kailynn Rotroff, Deb Robb, Brian Rollins, Rhett and Vicki Martin and children Lilly, Alexander, Rasha and Tilly.

Zapher and Genelyn Uzunoglu and children: Asli and Dale and Kenzleigh Easter.

Bonnie was a devoted Christian wife and mother. Being a member of the Rushsylvania Church of Christ and the South Oak Baptist Church in Lake Placid, Florida, she served many years on the worship team and in the nursery department as well as in many other programs. The Lord blessed Bonnie with a beautiful singing voice that she shared with others for most of her life. She sang solos, and in duets, in trios and choirs and contributed to dozens of weddings, funerals, and programs in addition to church activities. Primarily a soprano, she could harmonize naturally and blend in any singing format.

Bonnie and Rick were original members and organizers of the gospel singing group; The King's Harvest Singers, where she participated for 13 years and made two recordings at the Bill Gaither studio in addition to several other recordings. The King's Harvest Singers group sang in many venues including schools, churches, fairs festivals, on tv, on the steps of the US capitol, and in many states and continued praising God in song for 33 years.

Bonnie was a graduate of the Columbus School of Practical Nursing, where she graduated in 1971. She served as a nurse and medical transcriptionist for many years in addition to helping on the home farm. She was a nurse for many years and was last employed by Loganview Pediatrics where her nursing and transcription skills always kept her in demand in Logan and Hardin County. She also attended the Venard Bible College and The Ohio State University where she had earlier served as a secretary in the Animal Science and Geology departments. Bonnie was a precinct election director for Rushcreek Township for a number of years.

Known for her smile, laugh, and kindness, she had many friends in both Florida and Ohio that will miss her greatly! Above all, Bonnie was admired as a good friend and lover of Jesus Christ and she shared Him generously in song and service in her family, church, and community, all her life!

A visitation is planned for Saturday, January 25, from 9 a.m. till noon, at the Rushsylvania Church of Christ, 170 Mill Street E., Rushsylvania, OH 43347 where a concert/service will honor Bonnie and Jesus Christ starting at 12.

Memorials and donations may be made to the Rushsylvania Church of Christ, or to Camp Union, where Bonnie was involved for most of her life.

Online Condolences may be expressed at www.jenningsfarley.com.

Roger D. Tevis

Roger D. Tevis, 69, of West Mansfield, passed away peacefully on Monday, January 13, 2025 at his residence.

A graduate of North Union High School, he retired from Nature Pure where he had worked for several years. He enjoyed playing cards and especially his regular visits to the grocery store for his lottery tickets.

Born September 28, 1955 in Kenton, he was the son of the late Russell D. Tevis and Mary Roberta (Ledrick) Hemblen. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his brothers-in-law, Jim Gruett and Dan Miller; and a niece, Carrie Miller.

Roger is survived by his brothers and sisters, Junior (Mary Alice) Tevis of West Mansfield, Sharon Gruett of Marysville, Rick (Jane) Tevis of West Mansfield, Sandy Miller of Bellefontaine and Terry Tevis of Bellefontaine; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate Roger's life will be held at 1:00 P.M. Thursday, January 23, 2025 at the Wilson Funeral Home, Schnurrenberger Chapel 222 W. Center St. West Mansfield. Pastor David Moore will officiate and burial will follow at the Raymond Cemetery. The family will receive friends prior to the service on Thursday beginning at 11:00 A.M. at the funeral home. Memorial contributions can be made to the Walnut Grove Methodist Church or to the family, in care of the funeral home. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.wilsonfuneralhomesinc.com.

■ DEATH NOTICES

■ **FERGUSON, Robert Dewayne**, age 68, of Huntsville, Ohio, passed away peacefully at his home Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025, surrounded by his loving daughters granddaughters and great-grandchildren; survivors include daughters Renee Couch, Melissa Thoma; grandchildren, Ashley Ferguson, Kayla Howard, Melisity Lai, Faith Thoma, six great-grandchildren, ex-wife Judy Ferguson and loving friends and family; preceded in death by grandson Cody Couch and late wife Cheryl Moran; he enjoyed the Pittsburgh Steelers, OSU and having drinks with friends at the local bar and spending time with his family; funeral services, 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, Schlientz and Moore Funeral Home, 1632 Wayne Ave., Dayton.

■ **WEAVER, DiAnn L.**, 87 of Kenton passed away at The Blanchard Place on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025; funeral service, 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Schindewolf-Stout-Crates Funeral Home, where visitation is 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24.

SAVIOR

Continued from Page 1

Enter Kati Roby. Rescuing cats is what Kati does, and she was ready that day with traps and food to get Mike home. Within hours, Leann was back on Facebook with an update: Mike was safe, he was eating, he let her hold him for a minute, and the next day he had an appointment with the veterinarian.

"It was one of those communal things," Kati said. "Trapping cats can take hours, but the people who'd been feeding him kept watch."

Kati has become the go-to person to call when it comes to stray or homeless cats. Though she's been rescuing the animals on and off since 2010, an incident in 2019 convinced her to go all-in and setup a shelter in her house.

It started with a report about abandoned pets at a duplex on Ludlow Road. Of the three cats left behind, only one was caught, and she was in bad shape.

The cat, Trixie, became the first one Kati adopted out. And it was a successful match. "She's ginormous now and living her best life," Kati admitted with a smile.

From that point, Kati ramped up her feline rescue efforts. She turned one of her spare rooms into cat quarters. She created a Facebook page called Kati's Kitten Caboodle. And she's been taking in cats and finding them homes ever since.

If you know Kati's story, though, it's not really a surprise as she was adopted herself. In 1988, a young woman named Pat Roby worked as an English instructor at Ohio Hi-Point Joint Vocational School (OHP), and she longed to be a mom.

Attorney John Ross was a friend and wanted to help. He knew about an OHP student who was

expecting but was "very young."

Thanks to Ross, who would later become a Bellefontaine Municipal Court judge, everything worked out for a closed adoption. Kati said, "It was one of those things where the stars aligned. Since then, it's always been me and my mom."

Within days of Kati's birth, though, Pat was told the newborn was seriously ill and had been transported to Children's Medical Center in Dayton. The baby had a partial blockage in her aorta plus her heart had two small holes and blood was pumping into her lungs. Pat had to authorize a heart catheterization for her daughter before she even had a chance to meet her.

Fortunately, Kati made it through the surgery just fine and was home before she turned three weeks old. Once she was about six months old and strong enough, doctors performed open-heart surgery to take care of the holes.

Kati grew up in the area and graduated from Benjamin Logan High School in 2006. She earned a degree in history from The Ohio State University in 2011, which, she admitted with a laugh, "I'm doing nothing with right now."

After college, Kati got her teaching license and spent three years as a fourth-grade English teacher in Urbana. But, she soon discovered, that wasn't her forte. She then took a job with NEX Transport, which later rebranded as NX Automotive Logistics in Bellefontaine.

Starting as a receptionist, Kati worked her way up to human resources and now works with the benefits department. She's been there seven years now and likes the job as it keeps her busy and lets her work with people.

It also allowed her to buy her own home, a necessity for someone planning to rescue cats.

"Wanting to save all the animals has been in the making probably my entire life, but it wasn't

feasible," Kati said.

Growing up, Kati and her mom had one cat and one dog. "I would have had a household of all the abandoned animals, but my mom would not allow it. So no one should be surprised now that I have my own home and can control what I have in it."

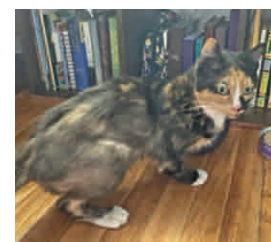
Besides her cat rescue—which she eventually moved into her garage because she needed it to be separate from her living space—Kati owns four cats named Carlton, Morris, Ebony and Odin, and her dog, Lincoln, a Shar-pei.

Each of her pets has its own unique personality. Especially Lincoln, who loves cats and helps them become familiar with dogs. According to Kati, that makes cats easier to adopt out.

So, why cats?

"I feel cats are forgotten and considered easily dispensable. They're so independent and can give or take humans," Kati admitted. "They're almost considered vermin, in a way, and that's completely unfair to cats."

Still, Kati is ready to get her garage back and, with that in mind, she's grateful for the new animal shelter being built next to the Logan County Sheriff's Department. Once that's up and running, she plans to volunteer there. As much as she wants to save the cats, trying to cover the costs, plus the cleaning and efforts to adopt out the animals is hard for one person who also has a full-time job.



Trixie, the first cat Kati Roby took in. Thin, starving and covered in bald spots, Trixie is now fat and healthy and "living her best life," according to Kati. (SUBMITTED PHOTOS)



Which means that once the cats she's currently sheltering find homes, the Kitten Caboodle will shut down. For now, at least, the Facebook page will remain active so she can feature strays from the animal shelter.

"A cat that's frightened or sick or needs TLC—give them medicine and snuggles and it's a totally different animal. I like being able to provide that and match them in homes with people we hope will care for them the rest of their lives.

"Ultimately," Kati concluded, "it comes down to the fact that cats are living beings. They're not indispensable. They should be treated with dignity. If we could do something, we should do something."

Kati estimates she's probably adopted out over 100 cats so far. She encourages anyone who wants to help to visit the Kati's Kitten Caboodle Facebook page to see which cats are still looking for homes.

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London halts Chiefs' win streak

BY MIKE FRANK
EXAMINER SPORTS WRITER

There's never a good time to be shorthanded in sports.

Bellefontaine lost 58-39 to London in Central Buckeye Conference boys basketball action Friday night, snapping a three-game win streak.

However, the Chieftains were playing without two of their main components, point guard Braylon Newcomb (who was on a college visit) and guard Jacob Salyer (who was out due to illness).

London jumped ahead in the first quarter to a double digit lead, but Bellefontaine fought back and got it to a five-point spread at the half. However, a run to start the third and another later in that quarter gave the Red Raiders all the breathing room they needed.

Bellefontaine is now 2-3 in the CBC and 7-6 overall.

"I thought we competed really well," said Chiefs coach Henry Stolly. "We didn't get off to a great start. We didn't shoot the ball real well."

He noted that London denied them getting the ball inside to the post. "That second half we struggled guarding their dribble, and they got

around us a lot. So we just need to go back to the drawing board and look at things we can do defensively."

Grayson Lotts had 13 points on the night for Bellefontaine, and A.J. Conaway had eight. Conaway, Jamison Clement and Blake Loomis all had significant playing time Friday.

For London, June Turner had 23 points, while Luke Johnson added 10 and Colin Nickell scored seven.

Turner opened the scoring for London, then Nickell hit a three-pointer. They would add a couple more scores for a 9-0 lead.

Bellefontaine finally broke its drought with just over two minutes to go son a three in the corner by Lotts. That would be their only points of the period, with London hitting a couple more shots to go up 13-3.

Scores by Conaway, Patrick Stolly and Jair Mundy cut that gap down to three points in the second quarter.

Johnson hit for three points then Nickell had a long two for the Red Raiders.

After C.J. Butler had a basket and foul shot with 2:30 to play, the teams traded 3-pointers in the final minute to leave



A.J. Conaway of Bellefontaine puts up a shot during the first half of Friday's game against London. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MIKE FRANK)

London ahead 21-16.

London wasted no time in the third period, going on a 8-0 run and pushing the gap to 13. Bellefontaine would be held to a pair of free throws by Lotts with 5:28 to go and a jumper in the lane from Conaway over the next stretch.

Turner then heated

up for London, scoring three of their next five baskets. Mundy made a three-pointer, but scores by Turner and Baylor Kennell made it 45-23 going to the fourth.

The fourth period would be balanced in terms of team scoring, with Bellefontaine putting up 16 as both sides

turned to the benches. The Chieftains managed to hit a couple of three-pointers in the final stages.

"It's up and down, you're just going to have to deal with that adversity and bounce back and I think our kids will do that, they're pretty solid," said Stolly.

Bellefontaine won the JV contests, by scores of 43-39 with 16 points by Josh Phillips, and 51-48 with 14 by Sam Jenkins, 13 by Tyler Rossey, and 10 by Tiler Monnin.

Bellefontaine hosts North Union on Tuesday night.

See **BOYS** on Page 5



Notre Dame quarterback Riley Leonard runs for a gain during the quarterfinal against Georgia. The Fighting Irish and Ohio State will meet for the CFP national title on Monday night in Atlanta. (AP PHOTO)

Irish offense set to face Buckeyes

BY CURT RALLO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Quarterback Riley Leonard and the Notre Dame offense have faced a fierce gauntlet of defenses in their path to the College Football Playoff title game.

The Fighting Irish battled their way through Penn State (No. 7 in total defense), Georgia (No. 30) and Indiana (No. 2). Now, the nation's top-ranked defense stands in the way of a return to college football's mountain-top for the first time since 1988.

Notre Dame (14-1) and Ohio State (13-2) meet Monday night in Atlanta for the 12-team format's first national championship game.

Ohio State's defense is ranked No. 1 overall and No. 3 against the run. The Buckeyes have outscored playoff opponents Tennessee, Oregon and Texas 111-52, and have limited them to 62.3 yards a game rushing (1.9 yards a carry).

It was the Buckeyes' defense that delivered

the dagger in the 28-14 semifinal victory against Texas — Jack Sawyer's 83-yard scoop-and-score as the Longhorns were poised to strike late in the fourth quarter.

Leonard and Notre Dame rely on the run to open up the Fighting Irish offense, and they'll face a daunting challenge in the Buckeyes, who opened as 9.5-point favorites, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

"I love the underdog status," Leonard said. "I love it, I love it. I love it. There's nothing that motivates me more than to see certain things said or certain spreads out there, which I don't really look at, but it was brought to my attention today what it is. So I love it."

Leonard expects a bruising Ohio State attack.

"I could imagine them playing a lot like Penn State," Leonard said. "Penn State was a really hard playing team ... very physical up front in the way they attack the

quarterback."

Notre Dame gained 116 yards rushing in its 27-24 victory against Penn State, with Leonard accounting for 35 yards.

Against Georgia, Notre Dame only passed for 90 yards, but Leonard broke through for 80 yards rushing. The Fighting Irish had 154 yards on the ground.

Notre Dame averaged 421.3 yards of total offense in the regular season, but against three rock-solid defenses in the playoffs, the Fighting Irish average 340.7 yards of total offense.

Notre Dame has made big plays when it has needed to, and Leonard feels the Fighting Irish offense is battle-tested.

"Luckily, we've played against a lot of good defenses this year, and a lot of good defensive lines, which Ohio State has a really good one," Leonard said. "I think after beating Penn State and beating Georgia, we kind of understand, like, you know, we're up there with anybody."

Notre Dame receiver

Jaden Greathouse, whose juke move against Penn State cleared the way for a 54-yard touchdown that pulled Notre Dame to 24-24 with the Nittany Lions, also loves the underdog role.

"It's just having an attack mindset, really, I mean, we've had it this whole season," Greathouse said. "We've had it the whole playoff run, and it's been going well for us."

Notre Dame running back Aneyas Williams, who has emerged as a key contributor in the playoffs, is also excited about facing a stellar Ohio State defense.

"I love going against the best competition and that's what we look forward to," Williams said. "I want to play at my best and be at my best against the best."

Williams is looking forward to the challenge and the edge of an underdog mentality.

"We've been counted out since NIU so, I mean, that just tells you what that's done for this team."

Tigers fall to Catholic Central

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

West Liberty-Salem lost 49-44 to Springfield Catholic Central in Ohio Heritage Conference boys basketball action Wednesday.

Brevin Louden had 14 points and Sutton Wilcoxon scored 12.

Catholic Central led 19-14 after one and kept in front the rest of the way.

In the JV contest, West Liberty-Salem won 45-23. Leading scorers were Sam Strapp with nine and Beckett Sullivan with eight.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lady Chiefs downed by NU

Bellefontaine lost 53-51 to host North Union Wednesday in the CBC.

Quin Zedeker had 17 points for Bellefontaine. Laila Butler scored 10 points and had nine rebounds. Tiffany Boop had seven points and five boards, with Rylie Reames adding six points.

North Union took a lead in the first, but Bellefontaine rallied in the second, holding the Wildcats to five and going ahead 27-19. After an even third period, North Union erupted for 25 in the fourth to pull out the win.

The JV squad won 49-32. Emma Whitaker had 13, Hailee Lamb 10 and Shawna Burnell added nine.

Bellefontaine plays at London today, with JV at noon and varsity to follow.

Raiders fall to London

Benjamin Logan lost to host London 56-26 on Wednesday in CBC play.

Adilynne Gregg had 10 points and 17 rebounds.

The JV squad lost 47-26. Leaders were Aubrey Harris with 10, Miley Buettner with five and Kaylee Oglesbee with

four.

Ben Logan (0-7 CBC, 1-13 overall) hosts Northwestern this evening. JV play begins at 6 p.m.

Riverside loses to Northridge

Riverside lost to Northridge 52-38 in Three Rivers Conference play on Thursday.

Northridge led by four after the first and 10 at the half.

Aubree Huston had 11 points, Miah Carman scored nine and Avery Perk added eight.

In JV play, Northridge outscored Riverside 28-15 in two quarters. Chloe Purtee had five points, with four each by Valerie Knight and Maddie Lemly.

Riverside (1-8 TRC, 4-10 overall) is at Troy Christian today at 11 a.m.

BOWLING

Chiefs split with Arrows, Cougars

Bellefontaine faced Tecumseh in CBC bowling matches on Thursday.

The Bellefontaine girls won with a total of 2,735 to Tecumseh's 2,051.

Leading the Lady Chiefs was Gracie Hood with 461 (247-214) and Nevaeh LaFollette with 450 (215-235). They were followed by Chloe Heminger at 428 (203-225), Haylee Yelton 368 (153-215) and Avery Mullins 345 (197-148).

The JV girls also won, 1,946 to 1,885. Kenzie Bernard had 326 (179-147), Addison Prosser 307 (161-146), Kyrah Moon had a 156 game and Shelby Hoffman had a 147 game.

The Bellefontaine boys lost to Tecumseh 2,690 to 2,488.

Alex Moon had the high score at 469 (268-201), followed by Colton Wisner with 342 (182-160), David Allen at 341

See **ROUNDUP** on Page 5

Examiner sports

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Pens' goalie records goal, assist

BY JOE YERDON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Alex Nedeljkovic remembers admiring the way Marty Turco and Martin Brodeur handled the puck during his childhood.

On Friday night, he accomplished something neither of them — or any other goalie — had ever done.

Nedeljkovic became the first goalie in NHL history to have a goal and an assist in a game during the Pittsburgh Penguins' 5-2 win against the Buffalo Sabres.

"I've always enjoyed playing the puck," he said. "Growing up, I watched some of the best guys do it, like Marty Turco, Marty Brodeur were two guys that I watched a lot and really learned a lot from in terms of puck handling. It's been part of my game as long as I can remember.

"Started from just conversations with my dad in the car telling me, like, 'Don't just throw the puck around the boards every time

you get it. Try to make a smart play with it, put it on guys' tape. Don't just do it; if you're going to do it, at least try to do something with it.' It's really exciting right now."

Nedeljkovic, who also had 40 saves, had a secondary assist on Glass' goal with 8:17 left in the second period that gave the Penguins a 3-1 lead. His goal came with 2:42 to play after the Sabres pulled goalie Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen for an extra skater. He gathered the puck behind his own net and fired away from behind the goal line and buried the shot from about 180 feet away into the open goal to cap the scoring.

"I'm out there and I see a relatively soft rim," Penguins forward Bryan Rust said. "I'm like, 'He's getting it. We're up by two. I know he's probably shooting it.' So, I kind of just stood there and watched the rest of however many seconds it was. You see him take off for the bench

and everyone just mauled him. It was cool."

Nedeljkovic also made history by being the first goalie to score a goal in the ECHL, AHL, and NHL.

The goal was the 19th scored by a goalie in NHL history and Nedeljkovic became the 16th goalie to accomplish the feat. He's the second Penguins goalie to score after Tristan Jarry — who was sent to the AHL on Thursday — was the first to do it Nov. 30, 2023.

"It was great," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "The guys were joking with him. They said all he was missing was a fight for the Gordie Howe hat trick."

OSU falls to Hoosiers in OT

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Luke Goode stroked a 3-pointer with more than a minute left in overtime to give Indiana the lead and Anthony Leal blocked John Mobley Jr.'s jumper with a second left to allow Indiana to escape Ohio State with a 77-76 Big Ten Conference win Friday night.

Indiana (14-5, 5-3) now has won five of the last six meetings with the Buckeyes, including both games a year ago. Ohio State (10-8, 2-5) lost its third straight conference game, all by two points or less.

Mobley hit a 3-point attempt with 38 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the game at 71-71. Indiana held the ball before Luke Goode drove for a layup that

missed, Oumar Ballo got the offensive rebound but missed the put-back, rebounded again and missed a jumper. Ohio State rebounded but was unable to get off a shot as the clock ran out.

Ohio State took the lead, 76-74, on Bruce Thornton's three-point play with 1:26 left in overtime. Indiana's Myles Rice drove to the basket but missed a layup to tie the game, but Oumar Ballo came down with the offensive rebound and kicked the ball to a wide-open Goode on the wing for the game-winner. Mobley missed a 3-point attempt for Ohio State and Kanaan Carlyle drove the baseline and misfired on a short jumper with 14 seconds left.

Goode finished with a career-high 23 points and Ballo scored a double-double with 21 points and 15 rebounds with four assists and two blocks for the Hoosiers. Carlyle added 13 points.

Mobley finished with 22 points to lead the Buckeyes. Micah Parrish added 19 and Thornton added 18.

UCLA 94, Iowa 70
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eric Dailey Jr. scored a career high 23 points and UCLA snapped its four-game January losing streak with a 94-70 win over Iowa. The Bruins never trailed and the Hawkeyes were only able to tie the game at 2-2 when Owen Freeman answered Tyler Bilodeau's opening jumper.

Roundup

Continued from Page 4

(188-153), Rory Pierce with 328 (161-167) and Alex Williams with 325 (182-143).

The JV won their match. Brandon Pinkerton had a 202 game, Eli Stone 170 and Jeffrey Knotts got a 144.

On Friday, Bellefontaine took on Kenton Ridge.

The girls won by a total of 2,693 to 2,568.

Heminger had the high series with 469 (200-269), with Hood at 434 (223-211). Next was

Yelton with 391 (162-229), then Mullins at 351 (170-181) and LaFollette with 342 (151-191).

Kenton Ridge won the boys match with 3,039 pins to Bellefontaine's 2,572.

Alex Moon was the high roller with 425 (205-220), followed by Alex Williams with 418 (193-225), and David Allen at 372 (182-190). Other game scores were Colton Wisner 176, Jacob Lynch 168 and Rory Piece 141.

Kenton Ridge won the JV boys 2,223 to 2,095. Brandon Pinkerton had a 403 series, and Timmy Phillips had a 186 game.

Boys

Continued from Page 4

In other boys hoops action Friday:

Lakers fall to North Union

Indian Lake lost 55-48 to visiting North Union in CBC play.

Brodey Reisinger had 19 points for the Lakers. Avery Pequignot and Colin Bendler each scored eight.

The Wildcats led 23-17 after the first quarter. The Lakers had a one-point edge in the second, but were still behind, 33-28.

North Union had a six-point advantage in the third and held on from there, with the fourth being a defensive battle.

North Union won the JV game 65-45, with Brady Golliday scoring 11 for Indian Lake.

Indian Lake (4-1 CBC, 5-6 overall) is back in action tonight at home against Shawnee.

Raiders lose to Northwestern

Northwestern defeated host Benjamin Logan 51-44 in league

play.

Ethan Miller had 13 points, Maddox Vermillion scored eight and Diesel Baughman added seven.

Ben Logan stayed with the Warriors in the first half and was ahead 27-26 at the break. But Northwestern cracked down in the third and fourth, holding Ben Logan to single digits in each period.

Ben Logan's JV came out a winner 37-28. Baughman had 12 points and Carter Fay added six. The freshmen won 56-19, with 14 points by Owen Stratton and 11 by Adam Tinsman.

Ben Logan (0-6 CBC, 1-12) will be at Kenton Ridge on Tuesday night.

WL-S tops W. Jefferson

West Liberty-Salem earned a 38-27 win at West Jefferson Friday night in the OHC.

Isaiah Reames had 13 points, Caleb Hershberger 11 and Sutton Wilcoxon seven for the Tigers.

In the JV contest, WL-S won 54-26. Tucker Searles and Brayon Gullett scored nine points each,

with eight others recording at least two points.

West Liberty-Salem (7-3 OHC, 7-5 overall) will face River Valley on Monday at Ohio Dominican University.

Pirates drop game to Bethel

Riverside lost 52-43 to visiting Bethel in Three Rivers Conference action.

Jaxon Woods had 13 points and 10 rebounds for a double-double. Gavin Osborne scored 13 points. Brody Osborne had seven assists and two steals, and Damien Smith contributed five points and three rebounds.

Riverside led 22-20 at halftime, but Bethel outscored them 19-9 in the third and kept things even in the fourth.

The JV lost 56-44. Syler Clark had nine points and 10 rebounds. Justin Mazariegos, David Gross, Colton Hurley and Cooper Crouch all had seven points each.

The freshman team lost 30-22. Gabe Steinman scored nine and Aiden Fout six.

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entertainment

'Juuuust a bit outside!' Uecker's acting and broadcasting ability came together in 'Major League'

BY NOAH TRISTER
AP BASEBALL WRITER

Two of Bob Uecker's claims to fame — baseball and acting — came together brilliantly in one famous line:

"Juuuust a bit outside!"

Milwaukee fans could listen to Uecker broadcast Brewers games for over a half-century, but he showed off his play-by-play skills — and comedic talent — for more of a national audience when he appeared in the 1989 classic "Major League" as Cleveland announcer Harry Doyle.

"He made Harry Doyle the character it was," David S. Ward, the movie's director, said Thursday night. "In a way, he was kind of a narrator of the movie almost. The attitude he carried sort of infused the whole movie with a kind of comic irreverence."

The Brewers announced

'Mr. Baseball' Bob Uecker, Brewers announcer, dies at 90

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Bob Uecker, the voice of his hometown Milwaukee Brewers who after a short playing career earned the moniker "Mr. Baseball" and honors from the Hall of Fame, has died. He was 90. In a statement released Thursday by the Brewers, Uecker's family said he had battled small cell lung cancer since early 2023. Uecker, who was born and raised in Milwaukee, signed his first pro contract with the Milwaukee Braves in 1956 and reached the majors in 1962. He lasted six seasons in the big leagues. He then spent over 50 years broadcasting the Brewers, becoming synonymous with baseball in Wisconsin and beyond.

Uecker's death at age 90 on Thursday morning, The Hall of Fame broadcaster's family said he had battled small cell lung cancer since early 2023.

Uecker's acting career also included his role on the ABC sitcom "Mr. Belvedere."

"He was just a terrific man. He was funny, he was positive. He just

had a certain spring in his walk, just a bundle of good energy," Ward said. "His comic ability sometimes hid the fact that he was a very disciplined and very intelligent man. You could talk to him about anything. He was well versed in many areas of culture and events. It just wasn't all baseball. But when it came to baseball, obvi-

ously he was an icon."

Like many of the characters that made "Major League" a hit, Doyle was a caricature, wearing his hopes and frustrations on his sleeve as the home team bumbled through the start of the season and then stormed into contention. Uecker's deadpanned delivery made his lines particularly humorous — and added some authenticity to the baseball scenes.

"Once I started writing it, I really couldn't think of anyone else to do it," Ward said. "I don't know what I would have done if we didn't get him."

At one point in the movie, Ricky Vaughn — played by Charlie Sheen — threw a pitch so far outside it smacked off the backstop behind the plate. In an effort to sanitize the erratic right-hander's performance for the local fans, Doyle called the pitch thusly: "Juuuust a bit outside! He tried the corner and missed."

"He added the 'tried the corner and missed.' We're shooting it and he says the line and then he adds that, and I go, 'That is the perfect cherry on top of the sundae.'" Ward said. "People remember it because of the way Uecker said it, not because of the way I wrote it. Nobody could have said it the way he said it, and then added the line afterward that just made the landing even better."

Uecker's wit not only added to the movie, but it made him popular behind the scenes with the rest of the actors.

"He never had scenes with the other actors. He was always in the booth," Ward said. "The other actors would come to set on the days that he was shooting, just because they wanted to be around him and the whole sort of comic and carefree kind of aura that he brought to anything. ... That's rare. Usually actors want to take advantage of those days off."

comics

MODERATELY CONFUSED

Jeff Stahler



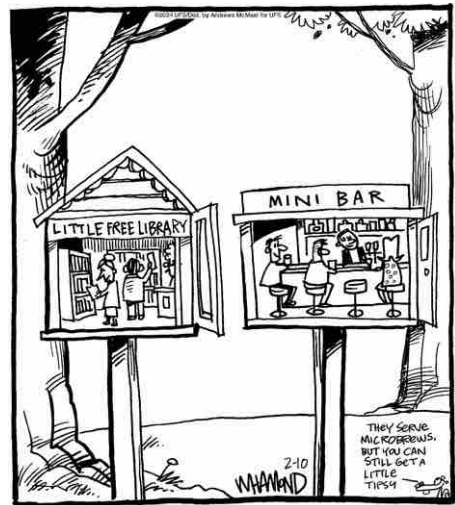
DENNIS THE MENACE

Hank Ketcham



REALITY CHECK

Dave Whamond



RUBES

Leigh Rubin



PEANUTS

Charles Schulz



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

Stephan Pastis



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- 37 Half dozen
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Difficulty: ★★★★★

1/18

HOROSCOPES

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

MOON ALERT: Avoid shopping or important decisions from 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. EST today (5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Virgo into Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025: You are imaginative, fun-loving and enthusiastic. You have a perceptive mind and you're eager to explore life. This year is the beginning of a new nine-year cycle for you. Expect major changes. Keep your eyes open for new opportunities. Prepare for a leadership role.

THE STARS SHOW THE KIND OF DAY YOU'LL HAVE: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ This is a lively, productive day! You have lots of energy to put into whatever interests you, whether it's your work, your health, dealing with a pet or catching up on old business. You might make home improvements. Plus, you make a favorable impression on everyone! Tonight: Cooperate.

AURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ This is a great day to socialize! If you're traveling or on vacation, you'll be lucky. Not only are you up for fun today, you want to explore new territory and see new places. You want to do something different! Someone older might help you. Tonight: Work.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Mixed messages are coming to you today. In one way, you might want to have some quiet time at home and enjoy time alone. But in another way, you're invigorated and eager to make home improvements and positive changes. A parent or an authority figure might help you do this. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ You're eager to communicate with others today; you have something to say. Many of you are learning something profound, perhaps at school or from another country, or something related to medicine or the law. Whatever this is, you want to share it with someone. Tonight: Cocoon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ This is a positive day for those of you at work. You might see ways to boost your income. However, some of you are also shopping with fervor and enthusiasm! Quite possibly, an inheritance or a gift from someone older will make you feel richer. Tonight: Communicate!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign dancing beautifully with Mars and the Sun, which means you have energy! You want to socialize! You want to get out and have fun with others. Sports events, playful activities with children and the arts will all appeal to you. Go, go, go! Tonight: Check your belongings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Today you have the energy to make home improvements; nevertheless, you might just relax at home. You enjoy having a beautiful home, but sometimes you like to take it easy for several days and stay in your robe. Then suddenly, you jump up and pull everything back together. Voila! Tonight: You win!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Enjoy the company of friends today, especially female acquaintances. You're eager to get out and talk to others. You want to take short trips, enjoy your invigorated and be on the run in an upbeat, enthusiastic way. However, it's also a good day to practice or hone a particular skill. Tonight: Solitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You're high-viz today, and you make a great impression on everyone. You also might be keen to do something to boost your earnings. (Or perhaps you're shopping.) Either way, the money is flowing. Family traditions or the respect of an older family member will be important today. Tonight: Schmooze.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Travel plans are exciting. This is the ideal day to do something different. If you can travel, perfect, because you're keen to do so. But if you can't travel, then at least explore your surroundings. Go someplace new and different. Do something so that you feel interested about in your daily world. Tonight: You're noticed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You might make an investment in art or something beautiful today, because you see it will have a long-term payoff. Meanwhile, discussions about inheritances and shared property also might take place. Whatever happens, you're doing it quietly and privately. Tonight: Explore!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ This is a popular day for you! You'll enjoy schmoozing with others. Partners and close friends might be involved with your kids. Nevertheless, something within you feels restrained. You're being careful. Tonight: Check your finances.

BORN TODAY: Actor, director Kevin Costner (1955), actor David Bautista (1969), actor Mark Rylance (1960)

Find your Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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GRADUATION

Continued from Page 1

She related a troubling statistic — in 2024, there were six law enforcement officers who took their own lives in Ohio, and also four retired officers who completed suicide. This number of suicide deaths last year is higher than the line of duty deaths in the state.

“Those barriers to getting help need to be reduced, and we need to break the stigma around mental health. Thankfully, things are changing in our culture, and that is very encouraging,” said Lt. Harris, who during her 28 years in the OSHP included serving as the post commander of the Marysville Post.

The lieutenant said at the beginning of her career almost three decades ago, “We didn’t talk about our mental state. If you did, the stereotype was that you were weak and you didn’t deserve the job.”

“That’s all b.s.,” she emphasized, recalling how her field training officer told her, “You’d better not cry,” when they rolled up on her first fatal crash scene.

“You are a stronger person if you admit you have a problem and when you reach out for help.”

The traumatic situations that troopers, deputies and officers encounter can take a major toll. Lt. Harris recounted one night when she had to make six separate death notifications to families following a fatal plane crash.

“The average law enforcement officer, at the end of a 30-year career, has been through 120-150 critical incidents. They’ve also been through 800 everyday smaller traumas as well that they might not pay as much attention to. It’s part of the job and we keep ourselves moving.”

With all of the weight of traumatic events, Lt. Harris likened this experience to the story of A Christmas Carol and the character Jacob Marley, who was bound down by the weight of his chains. All of those crisis event experiences can feel like being chained down by a similar very heavy weight, she said.

“There might be a time when you feel like you’re falling into a black hole. But please remember that you



Bellefontaine Police Department Officer Savarrah Sullivan, receives her Officer of the Year honors, accompanied by BPD Lt. Jason Lapp. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

are surrounded by people who care about and resources to help,” she told the CIT graduates.

The featured speaker detailed several programs available to first responders to help process and heal from traumatic events, including the First Responders Bridge, a free three-day conference offered in Columbus; along with Ohio ASSIST (Aiding Services with Incident Survival Techniques) post-incident seminars, offering counseling, peer support and education; and also Frontline Freedom, which provides outdoor recreational adventures to renew officers’ spirits.

The graduation also featured the CIT Officers of the Year for each of the three counties, honoring law enforcement for their excellence in stepping up to provide that critical resource and de-escalating abilities during particularly fragile mental health situations.

Logan County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Justin Taylor received the Officer of the Year honor for his department, with National Alliance on Mental Illness of Logan and Champaign President Robin Barton jumping up to give Deputy Taylor a hug after he received his award. Barton related that the deputy “went above and beyond” to help during a recent call for service and crisis situation involving her mother.

Bellefontaine Police Department Officer Savarrah Sullivan received the Officer of the Year honors for the BPD, and DeGraff Police Chief Brentlinger received the Logan County Small Department Officer of the Year.

In Champaign County, Champaign County Sheriff’s Deputy Tim Morris, Urbana Police Department Officer



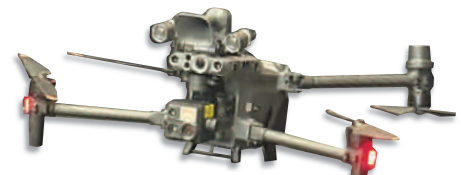
Logan County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Justin Taylor, right, is congratulated with for his Officer of the Year Award by National Alliance on Mental Illness of Logan and Champaign President Robin Barton. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

Tristen Ruef and North Lewisburg Police Department Officer Trent Davis received Officer of the Year Awards.

The 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training hosted by the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties this week at Logan County Job and Family Services included a classroom portion of the training covering mental health disorders, substance use disorders, trauma-informed policing, legal issues, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) a panel/lived experiences, post traumatic stress disorders/traumatic brain injuries, military and veteran cultural considerations, & ICAT (Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics) Critical Decision-Making Model.

The 2025 CIT program graduates include: Winona Barstow, TCN Behavioral Health; Bryan Bresky, Ohio State Highway Patrol; Joseph Brenner, Haven Franks, Alex Howard, McKenzie Smith, Bennie Stacy, Justin Taylor and Hollee Woodcock, Logan County Sheriff’s Office; Anthony Carothers, Kollin Stollar and Maguire Stratton, Bellefontaine Police Department; Brandon Dearwester, Bellefontaine Municipal Court; Eric Collier, Luke Heilman, Logan Leeds and Alex Posterli, Marysville Police Division; Robert Condit, Jason Snipes, Rachel Snyder and Brady Weaver, Union County Sheriff’s Office; Robin Heminger, Emelee Abbott, Riley Hackett and Sarah Lewis, Coleman Services; Tristen Ruef, Lance Turner, Urbana Police Department; and Matt Fritz, Plain City Police Department.

TOOL



Continued from Page 1

presentation as Behind the Badge volunteers.

“This is the future; it is very cutting edge. It makes our jobs easier and so

the LCSO after an inmate walked off the job site at the Logan County Solid Waste Management District. It was a very frigid night, but that was not a problem for the drone,

for the Special Response Team to be able to see from the air what’s going on. That helps to advise our officers’ movements on the ground and to keep them out of harm’s way,”



Donors were on hand Thursday at the Logan County Sheriff’s Office for a demonstration of the department’s new drone. Pictured from the left, are Teri Frymyer, Logan County Sheriff Randy Dodds, Steve and Joti Buchenroth, drone pilots Detectives Shawn McIntire and Adam Wood, Rodney Wrocklage, Steve Spath, and Chief Deputy Joe Kopus. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

seamless,” said Deputy Jake Boyd, who serves as a dog warden for the department, and completed much of the background work toward securing the drone, speaking to other agencies to help select the best one.

As a testament to the visual clarity the drone images offer with its powerful zoom lens, officials said it was flown above the sheriff’s office, 284 S. County Road 32, and the pilots could read the time on the Logan County Courthouse clock tower.

The DJI Matrice M30T series drone has helped with local crime fighting and safety efforts since its arrival in the early months of 2024. Partnering agencies, including the Bellefontaine Police Department and the pilots on its drone team, put it to use in a variety of scenarios during 2024, while Detectives Wood and McIntire completed their Part 107 pilot’s license coursework and then passed their Federal Aviation Administration test.

The 3D mapping ability also has been used by the Multi-County Crash Reconstruction Team to reconstruct crash scenes.

Just in the last week, the drone was utilized by



The Logan County Sheriff’s Office’s new drone captured this image of downtown Bellefontaine. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

which also has thermal imaging available to capture heat signatures in difficult conditions.

“You can fly it in almost any weather,” Det. Wood said. “The cold is not a problem, but it does drain the battery faster. The main thing we have to worry about is windy conditions.”

In addition to searching for suspects or in a case when a child has gone missing, it also protects officer safety in particularly volatile situations, such as a stand off, providing a 360 degree bird’s eye view up to 400 feet in the air without disturbing the scene or a suspect.

“It’s absolutely pertinent to officer safety and

said Det. McIntire, who also serves as an evidence technician for the department.

The new drone features smart flight modes and it can be programmed to track an object, such as a suspect vehicle, which it then can follow on its own and record the object’s movements.

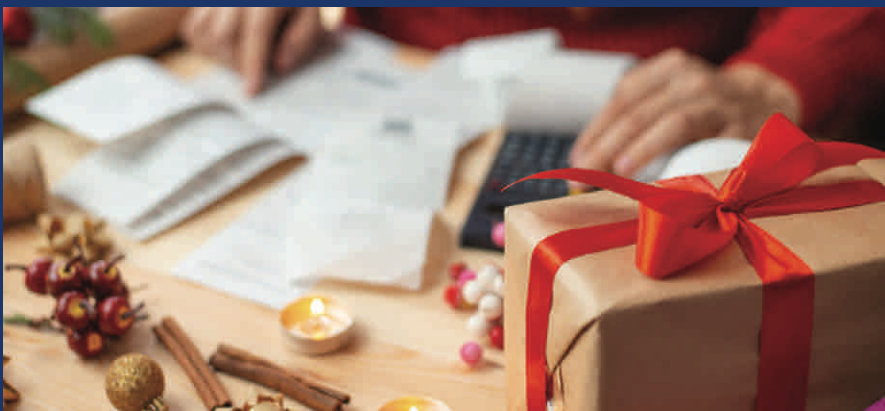
Learning about all that the drone is capable of has been Det. McIntire’s favorite part of the new pilot role.

“All of the technical capabilities are fascinating and it’s been rewarding getting to put the drone to work,” he said. “We’re looking forward to many more opportunities to put it to good use.”



Drone pilots Detectives Shawn McIntire, left, and Adam Wood, holding the controller, demonstrate the drone on Thursday at the Logan County Sheriff’s Office. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

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Thank you to all who entered!