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# Board Awards Superintendent, Treasurer 5-Year Contracts

By Jim Brewer

The Loudonville-Perrysville Board of Education approved five-year contracts for Superintendent Jennifer Allering and Treasurer Christina Angerer at its Monday, December 8, meeting.

"It is a great feeling to get our superintendent and treasurer on board for an extended period of time," Board President David Hunter said after the unanimous votes. "We appreciate the work you have done and look forward to working with you for another five years."

Their terms run from August 1, 2026, to July 31, 2031. Allering's salary will be \$132,600, and Angerer's \$113,655.

The board held two executive sessions on personnel matters, one lasting four minutes at the start of the meeting, and another at the end to confer with the board's attorney.

The meeting was the last for member Bruce Davis, who chose not to run for reelection. Allering thanked him for his service, and his table was decorated with student messages of appreciation.

Board Legislative Liaison John Carroll reported that four bills awaiting Governor Mike DeWine's signature could affect school funding if approved, as they address high property taxes.

Hunter, the board's career center representative, said students should return to the renovated building by winter break.



The December 8 Loudonville-Perrysville School Board meeting was the last for member Bruce Davis. He is shown at his table with thank-you and congratulatory messages from students across the district.

Photo by Jim Brewer

Future Farmers of America President Natalie Endslow and Advisor Kyle Kidwell updated the board on chapter activities.

Superintendent Allering highlighted the district's first snow day December 1, completion of anti-bullying initiatives, and a Veterans Day assembly coordinated by the Future Farmers of America.

The board approved the purchase of two new school buses and a mini-van if available for \$40,000 or less, returning to its plan of buying two buses one year and one the next.

The annual reorganizational meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12, at 6 p.m., before the regular board meeting. Hunter will serve as president pro tempore. Regular meetings will continue on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

In its role overseeing the Loudonville Public Library, the board appointed Ryan Conway to a four-year term and Barb Burd to a three-year term, with Burd completing the term of resigning member Dorothy Stitzlein, effective December 31.

New hires include Samantha Thiemens as assistant basketball cheerleading coach, Stephanie Stull as a cafeteria aide, and Anne Lee as assistant custodian. The board also took first reading on a list of policy statements.

The board accepted donations to support school programs, including Veterans Day activities, classroom supplies, STEM and reading programs, and lunch account assistance.

The next board meeting is Monday, January 12, at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. All meetings are open to the public.

## Perrysville Council Delays Sheriff Contract Decision

By Amanda Chambers

The Perrysville Village Council held a special meeting Wednesday, December 10, to discuss the Operator of Record for the water and wastewater plants, a possible contract with the Ashland County Sheriff for law enforcement coverage in the village, temporary appropriations for the first quarter of 2026 and proposed employment positions.

Fiscal Officer Laura Shank and council members Randy Stroh and Bob Zakutni represented Perrysville at an informational meeting with Ashland County Sheriff Kurt

Schneider, along with representatives from Jeromesville and Hayesville. The group discussed a proposal for shared law enforcement coverage between the three villages.

Schneider said the Ashland County Sheriff's Office plans to apply for a United States Department of Justice grant that would help pay a portion of the salary for a deputy assigned to the three villages. If awarded, the five-year grant would cover 75 percent of the deputy's salary for the first three years. During the final two years,

the villages would share the full cost.

Perrysville's current contract with the sheriff's office expires December 31. Council voted to delay entering a new agreement until the outcome of the grant application is known. Schneider said a response is expected by April or May, with the grant beginning in June or July if approved.

The village has advertised for a part-time wastewater and water superintendent. Until the position is filled, council voted to hire Garret DeWitt as Operator

of Record to meet regulatory requirements. DeWitt, who is the village administrator in Loudonville, holds the required licenses. He will provide weekly visits and other duties on a part-time, as-needed basis.

Council voted to approve a resolution authorizing temporary appropriations for the first quarter of 2026.

Members also discussed which positions the village should create and advertise. In addition to the previously posted part-time wastewater and water superintendent opening, council approved creating and advertising a part-time village support staff position that would include office duties along with tasks such as reading water meters, cleaning the community building and performing light park maintenance. Council also approved creating a full-time street department superintendent position.

The next regular village council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 5, at 6 p.m. at the community center. All council meetings are open to the public.

## Loudonville Police Calls

**From Nov. 30 to Dec. 6,** police conducted 49 business checks and three traffic stops, during which warnings were issued.

**Dec. 2, 5:36 a.m.** Police investigated a two-car, non-injury accident on N. Union St. near Burwell Ave.

**Dec. 2, 7:52 a.m.** Police responded after a vehicle struck a stop sign near the intersection of S. Union and E. Bustle Streets.

**Dec. 3, 5:20 p.m.** Police conducted a welfare check at a residence in the 300 block of Monroe St. No one was home. Police later contacted the residents and learned they were safe at another location.

**Dec. 3, 5:20 p.m.** Police assisted the emergency squad with a medical emergency in the 200 block of N. Water St.

**Dec. 4,** various times. Police received several complaints of vehicles parked in no parking/tow away zones.

**Dec. 5, 4:34 p.m.** Police responded to a reported road-rage incident and threats in the 400 block of E. Haskel St. The parties involved were not located.

**Dec. 5, 5:13 p.m.** Police investigated a harassment complaint in the 500 block of S. Water St. A female was later formally warned to cease contact with the other party.

**Dec. 5, 5:56 p.m.** Police investigated a complaint of illegal parking in the 100 block of S. Water St. A parking ticket was issued, and the vehicle was moved.

**Dec. 5, 6:18 p.m.** Police responded to a parking issue in the 100 block of N. Water St. Several parking tickets were issued.

**Dec. 5, 7:26 p.m.** Police responded to a medical emergency at a residence in the 200 block of Middle Dr. The individual was transported to a hospital.

**Dec. 5, 7:52 p.m.** Police stopped a vehicle in the 500 block of S. Market St. after a report of reckless driving. Officers determined the driver was neither impaired nor experiencing a medical issue.

**Dec. 5, 8:18 p.m.** Police responded to a business in the 500 block of S. Market St. after a caller reported she was fearful of her Uber driver. Officers investigated the complaint.

**Dec. 5, 10:24 p.m.** Police assisted the emergency squad with a medical emergency in the 200 block of N. Water St.

**Dec. 6, 1:58 a.m.** Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff's Office at a residence in the 100 block of W. Second St. in Perrysville during a medical emergency. The individual was transported to a hospital after law enforcement intervention.

**Dec. 6, 7:22 a.m.** Police and sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a medical emergency in the 500 block of S. Water St. A sheriff's deputy transported the individual.

**Dec. 6, 12:02 p.m.** Police responded to a business in the 3000 block of Ohio 3, where a 20-year-old Danville man was arrested on suspicion of using a fake ID to purchase an alcoholic beverage.

**Dec. 6, 3:46 p.m.** Police responded to a reported assault in progress at a residence in the 200 block of Middle Dr. A 26-year-old Loudonville woman was arrested and taken to the Ashland County Jail, charged with two counts of misdemeanor assault.

**Dec. 6, 6:32 p.m.** Police received a report that a vehicle was driving through several yards on Middle Dr. near Snyder Dr. Officers stopped the vehicle and cited the driver, an 82-year-old Mansfield man, for reckless operation. His family assumed responsibility for him, and the vehicle was towed.



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## Tessie's tidbits...

Hi everyone! I'm sure most of you are getting serious about the upcoming Christmas Day, as well as all the gifts and visits from folks who make this day so special.

I found a story that fits really well with the season, and I hope you pass it on.

### The Christmas Tree's Wish

In a quiet forest blanketed with snow, a young pine tree named Pip stood among the towering giants. As Christmas approached, Pip watched sadly as families came to choose the perfect tree for their homes, always passing him by.

"I wish I could bring joy to a family this Christmas," Pip sighed, his branches drooping.

On Christmas Eve, a little girl named Lily and her father ventured into the forest. They had searched everywhere for a tree but couldn't find one that felt right.

"Look, Papa!" Lily exclaimed, pointing at Pip. "This little tree is perfect!"

Pip's branches quivered with excitement as Lily and her father carefully cut him down and brought him home. They decorated him with twinkling lights, shimmering ornaments, and a beautiful star on top.

As Lily placed the final ornament, something magical happened. Pip felt a warm glow spreading through his branches, and to his amazement, he could move and speak! "Thank you for choosing me," Pip said softly.

Lily gasped in wonder. "You can talk!"

Pip explained how he had wished to bring joy to a family, and now his wish had come true. Together, Lily and Pip spent the night sharing stories and singing carols.

On Christmas morning, Lily's parents were amazed to find their daughter conversing with the tree. Pip's magic had brought the family closer, filling their home with laughter and love.

From that day on, Pip remained a cherished part of their family. Each Christmas, his magic would return, reminding them all of the true spirit of the season — love, kindness, and the power of wishes made from the heart.

+++

Finally — you know you're getting old when 6 p.m. means the end of the day, not the start of the evening.

Tessie

## Libben Named Chair of International Museum Committee

By Amanda Chambers

Kenny Libben, Curator of the Cleo Redd Fisher Museum, has been elected Chair of the International Committee for Regional Museums, a part of the International Council of Museums. The election took place on November 15 during the council's triennial General Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Libben, who previously served as Secretary of the committee, will now oversee its international board, which includes museum professionals from around the world. The committee represents over 1,700 members working in regional and local museums, which help preserve cultural identity and connect local stories to wider histories.

"I am honored by the confidence placed in me," Libben said. "Regional museums play a vital role in preserving place-based identity and fos-



Kenny Libben, Curator of the Cleo Redd Fisher Museum, visits the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi during the International Council of Museums' triennial General Conference held in Dubai in November.

Submitted Photo

tering understanding within and across communities."

In addition to his leadership role, Libben has been Curator of the Cleo Redd Fisher Museum since 2010, where he has contributed to the development of the institution as a key cultural

center. He has also been recognized with multiple professional awards, including the Hunter-Burley Award from the Small Museum Association and the Best Exhibition Award from the Ohio Museum Association.

## Local Russian Labor Camp Survivor Celebrates 100 Years

Submitted

Dorothea "Dorothy" Schade, known affectionately as "Oma" to her family, will turn 100 on Sunday, January 4.

Schade was born January 4, 1926, in the small village of Keisd in Transylvania, the second of six children. She grew up working on her family's farm, caring for her younger siblings while taking on daily chores that shaped her strong work ethic.

In the years following World War II, Romania fell under Soviet control, and like many young people at the time, Schade was taken to a Russian labor camp, where she was forced to work in the coal mines. She was 19 years old and never saw her parents again. She remained imprisoned for five years.

Even in those difficult circumstances, she met her future husband, Gerhard Schade. The two married while still in the labor camp and were released soon afterward. They settled in Ham-

burg, Germany, where their first two children, Dieter and Karin, were born. In 1955, seeking new opportunities, the couple immigrated to the United States, arriving in New York before moving to Cleveland. Their third child, Linda, was born there, and the family later established their home in Parma.

After their children were grown, Dorothy and Gerhard purchased 18 acres in

100 Cont. to Pg. 8

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## FFA President Reviews Chapter Activities with School Board

By Jim Brewer

Loudonville Future Farmers of America President Natalie Endslow and advisor Kyle Kidwell gave a detailed report on chapter activities during the Loudonville-Perrysville School Board meeting on December 8.

Endslow highlighted several events from the year, including a visit by a state officer in August and an Urban Soil Career Development session held in September at the Justin and Molly Ringler farm northwest of Loudonville.

In October, the chapter participated in Loudonville Fair activities and attended the barn mural unveiling at the Rich and Tammy Kline family barn outside Perrysville. Some members also traveled to the National Future Farmers of America Convention.

November activities included organizing and hosting the high school Veterans Day program and sending 16 members to a leadership program at Wynford High School west of Bucyrus.

They reported that this month members are scheduled to compete in the State Food Science Contest at Big Walnut High School in Sunbury and take part in the Wreaths Across America event in Jeromesville. The chapter is also continuing its fall fruit sales.

Kidwell outlined additional upcoming events,

including district and state food science competitions, construction of a pollinator garden around the new greenhouse with support from the Loudonville Gardeners Guild, greenhouse sales beginning in mid-April, and the state convention at the end of April.

He said three or four members may qualify for state degrees, and two or three members are competing for state proficiency awards.

The annual Loudonville Future Farmers of America Chapter Banquet is scheduled for March.

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USDA Inspected	
Bone-In Western Style Pork Ribs .....	<b>\$2.49 lb.</b>
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Bone-In Pork Shoulder Roast .....	<b>\$2.29 lb.</b>
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Hormel Pillow Pack Pepperoni .....	<b>\$3.59</b>
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Troyer Brand	
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Troyer Brand	
Trail Bologna Rings .....	<b>\$6.99 lb.</b>

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each	
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Rye Bread .....	<b>\$4.09</b>
6 ct.	
Bowknots .....	<b>\$2.29</b>
8 in.	
Pumpkin Pie .....	<b>\$8.89</b>
6 ct.	
Iced Sugar Cookies .....	<b>\$4.70</b>
9 ct.	
Hot Cocoa Bombs .....	<b>\$7.39</b>
9 ct.	
Sugar Free Chocolate Mini Brownies .....	<b>\$5.89</b>

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Islay's Chopped Ham .....	<b>\$3.49 lb.</b>
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Troyer's American Cheese .....	<b>\$3.49 lb.</b>

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## RECIPES OF THE WEEK

### BUTTERSCOTCH PECAN COOKIES

#### Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 16 Tablespoons (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 bag (11 ounce) butterscotch chips
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup white chocolate chips, optional

#### Directions:

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon. Set aside.

In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together the butter and sugars for 1 to 2 minutes or until well combined. Incorporate the eggs, one at a time, then vanilla extract and mix well.

Slowly add the flour mixture on low speed and continue mixing until just combined. Scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed. Add in the butterscotch chips, pecans, and white chocolate chips (if using).

Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate the dough for 30 minutes or up to 2 days.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F and line two baking sheets with parchment paper. With the dough chilled, scoop out rounded tablespoon-sized balls of the cookie dough onto the prepared sheets leaving space in between each cookie dough ball.

Bake, one prepared sheet at a time, in the oven for 10 to 12 minutes or until the edges of the cookies are lightly golden brown and the top is set. Remove from the oven and cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes, then transfer the cookies to a wire rack to finish cooling.

Photo and food styling by Webstop  
 Please note that some ingredients and brands may not be available in every store.

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# Crowds Pack Loudonville for Inaugural ChristKindlmarkt

By Amanda Chambers

The inaugural Loudonville ChristKindlmarkt drew heavy crowds during its first weekend December 5 and 6, with organizers reporting strong attendance and vendors selling out early in the event.

Twenty-one vendors operated from wooden cabins built by volunteers in the months leading up to the market. The event featured goods from local artisans, a range of food and treats, and imported traditional German products, in keeping with the ChristKindlmarkt tradition of German-style holiday markets offering seasonal and handcrafted items.

The market also included appearances by Saint Nicholas and Krampus, traditional figures in German Christmas celebrations.

Crowds were especially dense on December 6, when the market coincided with the community's Christmas parade, the tree lighting in Central Park and extended evening hours for many downtown businesses.

Organizer Kenny Libben said several vendors sold out on opening night and restocked for the following day.

Preparations continued up to the market's opening, with volunteers putting the finishing touches on the cabins. "We were working on finishing up the cabins until right before we opened on Friday night. It was a sprint to get everything finished and some people worked through the night to get them completed. We really appreciate our volunteers and all the time they put in making this market a success," Libben said.

He added that organizers have already received requests to bring the market back next year.



Saint Nicholas, who rewards good children, and Krampus, who punishes the naughty, make appearances at the Loudonville ChristKindlmarkt.

Submitted Photo

# 'From Raindrop to River' Event Focuses on Watershed Concerns

By Amanda Chambers

Ashland Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its next Conservation Chat, titled "From Raindrop to River," on Saturday, January 10 to discuss cost share programs and watershed concerns in the Charles Mill and Honey Creek areas. The meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. at the Perrysville Fire Department, 181 East 3rd Street.

Water quality specialist Zoey Dudte will lead the session, which will give residents an opportunity to learn about available cost share options and identify conservation needs in the watersheds.

"We want residents to come learn about the opportunities available to them and to share any concern areas in the watersheds," Dudte said.

Ashland Soil and Water Conservation District was recently approved for funding from the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District to address concern areas and develop project plans aimed at improving land and water quality. Current cost share and grant programs include streambank stabilization projects, log jam removal and exclusion fencing.

Rome Marinelli of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District will speak about program requirements for participants. Heather Doherty, Central Ohio Scenic Rivers manager, will outline volunteer opportunities such as water quality testing and canoe cleanups along the Mohican River.



A participant collects trash from a waterway during a cleanup effort. Upcoming conservation programs, including volunteer opportunities, will be outlined at the January 10 "From Raindrop to River" event.

Photo by Ohio Department of Natural Resources, public domain

The event will also feature children's activities, including an enviroscape model. Attendees will be entered into a drawing for an Ashland-themed rain barrel.

Registration is required.

Event Information: [raindroptoriver.eventbrite.com](http://raindroptoriver.eventbrite.com)

# Loudonville Newspaper Files Reflect History, Part 2

Excerpts from the 1985 book "Tales of the Mohican Country" by the late author, local historian, and Loudonville Times editor Lee Cavin.

Printed by permission of copyright holder Sally Truax.

Early day Loudonville newspapers were usually polite in discussing fellow townspeople, but the editors spared no pity for each other.

There were two weekly newspapers in existence here in 1873. One was the Independent, supposedly edited by a woman, Mrs. Lockhart. It was here first.

The second was the Advocate, edited and published by J.H. Ruth, a man who had founded several newspapers before coming to Loudonville in 1873.

The story which follows is necessarily a one-sided one; the files of the Independent have disappeared over the years, while the Loudonville Public Library has almost-complete reproductions of the Advocate on microfilm.

It started in the November 20, 1873 issue of the Advocate, at that time in its eighth month of publication. Bear in mind that a few weeks before Mr. Ruth of the Advocate had quoted a visitor to the community who said that Mrs. Lockhart, editor of the Independent, was "a most affable, pleasant and intelligent lady."

"Time and again," stormed Ruth, "have we and our business been assailed and misrepresented by articles emanating from the pen of the Loudonville Independent, a paper which has never stood high in the community for truth and veracity, and who makes it a business at all times to injure the character of someone, and not only that, he has endeavored by his unmitigated falsehoods to blast the reputation and good standing of nearly every business house in town, until his paper has been declared a perfect nuisance by all who have been unfortunate as to receive a copy of it."

"We do not wish to stoop so low as to bandy words with any man whose sole object is to injure us and our business abroad, where we are not known, by his slanderous articles. It is evident

to everyone of high standing and bright future that our paper is a thorn in his side, or it would not call forth such articles as appear in his sheet.

"We merely wish to state to our readers and the public, that we fear no injury from him where he is known, but by our reticence, he may lead some abroad to believe that what he says of us and the company of which we are a member may be all true, but we give lie direct.

"So far we have no right to complain of the generous aid extended to us in the way of subscriptions and job work since the commencement of our paper, and it all comes from minding our own business and leaving other people's alone.

"Our paper stands on a firm foundation and will be issued regularly as heretofore every Thursday of every week, and further, we have ample means to carry it on and don't have to flounder around, week in week out, catching every floating straw that passes in order to sustain our sinking bark with C.O.D. constantly staring us in the face, which goes to show our good standing with those who furnish us with paper.

"We defy anyone to put their finger upon a line which has appeared in our paper since its commencement, wherein we have ever said aught against him or anyone else, but on the other hand have used every endeavor to build up the reputation of our town, its business and the country surrounding it.

"We shall from this time forward take no further notice of anything he has to say about us, be it good or bad, and we ask our patrons to do the same."

Alas, in addition to writing longer sentences than did Cicero in third year Latin, the editor of the Advocate did continue to

FILES cont. to Pg.7

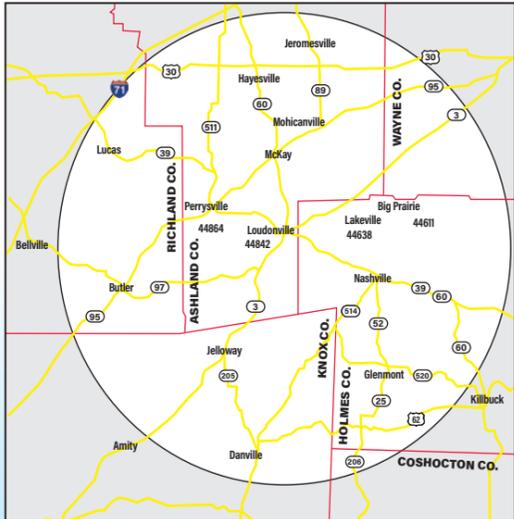


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**Loudonville (rural):**  
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# A Stroll Through Our Mohican Garden: Tips for Overwintering Strawberries

By Eric Larson

A reader recently asked what to do to protect her strawberry plants during the winter. It's a little late now, since we're in the thick of the season, but it's never too early to plan for next year. Strawberries are perennials, so they will return year after year if properly cared for.

Most gardeners grow either June-bearing or ever-bearing strawberries. Where you grow your plants, whether in a garden bed, raised bed, or container, affects how you protect them over winter. Larger June-bearing plants are more suited to garden beds, while smaller ever-bearing varieties adapt well to containers or raised beds.

Strawberries require winter vernalization, which means they need a cold period to grow and produce fruit properly. Most varieties need 200 to 400 hours at 35 to 42 degrees Fahrenheit. This winter chill signals the plants to flower and thrive in the next growing season.

During fall cleanup, remove dead leaves, remaining weeds, and old mulch. Apply a balanced fertilizer or an organic alternative before the first frost. Then, as the ground begins to freeze, cover the crowns of your strawberries with a fresh layer of straw or pine needles, loosely spread three to five inches deep. Mulching protects the plants, reduces weeds, conserves water, and improves soil, but avoid burying the plants or you could smother them. Water thoroughly after mulching so the plants stay hydrated. In spring, remove old mulch from the crowns to prevent disease.

Container-grown strawberries need extra care, since their roots can freeze. For these, plant them in an open bed for the winter and mulch, or move them to a cool, frost-free garage. Another option is to partially bury potted ever-bearing plants in the ground and cover them with mulch to help them survive the cold.



A row of strawberries insulated with straw as winter approaches. Proper mulching helps the plants survive freezing temperatures and return strong in spring.

Photo by Eric Larson

While strawberries from the grocery store are convenient, the best-tasting berries always come from our own gardens, nurtured with careful attention and proper winter protection.

As you stroll through your winter garden this week, remember that it's a great time to start thinking ahead to next year.

Author's contact: [ericlarson546@yahoo.com](mailto:ericlarson546@yahoo.com)

## FILES cont. from Pg.6

refer to charges by the rival paper. However he no longer called it the Independent, but the "Whangdoodle."

And Independent editor Mrs. Lockhart had apparently disappeared from the scene sometime during the battle; Mr. Ruth began to vent his rage on her husband, a man he referred to as the "Reverend" Robert Lockhart.

Lockhart, among other things, charged that Ruth was in the hands of the local saloon keepers and whiskey sellers.

It wasn't all feuding in the Advocate. News items were short but varied. And the equivalent of the classified ads gave some hint on how a weekly newspaper editor kept his establishment solvent. One week there was a notice that, "Master Edwin Ruth will give guitar lessons, succumbing to the demands of many people in the community." In another issue it was announced that "Willie Ruth will deliver the Pittsburgh Daily Dispatch faithfully each day to the homes of area subscribers." Both boys, as near as I can calculate from other hints in the columns, were under the age of 10.

Sports news was brief. One item in its entirety read, "Huckleberry horse of Loudonville raced last week. Hayesville horse lost. Huckleberry had best time and never say die."

Unless it was a really gruesome murder, and then columns were devoted to the gory details, crime news was also brief. "The Whelen and Harkness Hardware robber, using the name 'James Ford' was arrested in Mansfield. Police became suspicious when he was selling goods at low prices."

Sometimes an event was reported after it happened, although there had been no advance publicity. Ruth casually mentioned in a September issue that crowds in town the week before for the Forepaugh Circus were the largest to attend any similar event in Ashland County history. There had been no previous mention of the show's coming in the news columns.

And he obviously gathered an occasional item from the local railroad station agent. One week he mentioned that nine carloads of tea had gone through town from San Francisco. And a new train schedule revealed that eight passenger trains a day were stopping in Loudonville.

In the October 2 issue, Ruth reported with disgust that Loudonville had enjoyed its first snowfall that day. Who do you suppose people cursed then, before weather men were available to take the blame?

Of course Loudonville papers of the era also reported at length on national news; there was more space devoted to it than to local affairs. How they handled it sometimes made today's National Enquirer look staid.



Santa (Kelly Manley) and Mrs. Claus (Judy Feightner) present a stocking to a young guest during a Christmas party for about 30 children at VFW Post 8586 on Saturday, December 6. The children also participated in craft stations and enjoyed pizza.

Photo by Deb Sutterlin



Cast and crew members from The Ohio Theatre's "Christmas Extravaganza" program serenade parade attendees as their float moves along the Christmas parade route on December 6. Photo by Amanda Chambers

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# Loudonville Drops Home Game to Fairless, 79-52

By Kinah Yoder

The Loudonville Redbirds boys' basketball team faced a tough challenge December 5, falling 79-52 to Fairless. Loudonville kept the game close early, trailing by just two after the first quarter behind an eight-point performance from junior Braylon Kauffman.

Coach Ben Miller noted the early struggles, saying, "We couldn't seem to get anything going in the first half." Fairless extended its lead before halftime, using full-court pressure to force turnovers and build a 15-point advantage.

The third quarter proved to be the turning point. Fairless continued to press, widening the gap. "The full court pressed

us a lot. We had too many turnovers and they jumped into a big lead in the third quarter. We just couldn't come back," Miller said. Loudonville's offense improved in the period, with Brayson Youngen helping spark the scoring, but the deficit remained difficult to overcome.

In the fourth quarter, the Redbirds added 16 points but continued to battle turnover issues. Miller highlighted the team's shared effort, saying, "We had seven players get in the scorebook, and that shows that we continue to play as a team."

Fairless, despite entering the game at 0-2, delivered a strong performance on both ends of the floor. "Fairless was a

really good 0-2 team. They can shoot and had four players who could drive and score as well," Miller said. Fairless finished with five players in double figures.

Loudonville also played a conference game December 10 at East Knox. The Redbirds struggled from the start, as East Knox secured a 19-2 lead in the first quarter, and Loudonville eventually fell 60-22.

The Redbirds' season total is now 1-3. They hosted Cardington-Lincoln December 13, after press time, travel to Fredericktown December 17, and play at home against Mount Gilead on December 20.

# Loudonville Girls Top Cardington, Lose in Overtime to Fredericktown

By Kinah Yoder

On December 5, the Loudonville High School girls basketball team earned a 61-52 victory over Cardington-Lincoln. The Redbirds got on the board early with a free throw from Elly Hensel, marking their first point of the game. Loudonville built momentum, scoring 17 points in the first quarter and 22 in the second to take a 39-24 lead into halftime. Cardington-Lincoln tried to rally in the second half, but Loudonville closed it out with a final free throw from Addison Wolford.

Mya Vermilya led Loudonville with 24 points, six rebounds, four assists, two steals and two blocks. Sylvia Span-

gler added 13 points, while Jordyn Johnson contributed 11 points and eight rebounds. Wolford finished with six points, four assists, four steals and four rebounds. Hensel recorded 10 rebounds, and Abby Eikleberry chipped in three points, four steals, two assists and two rebounds.

Four nights later, Loudonville faced Fredericktown in a home conference matchup that went into overtime. The Redbirds led 8-6 after the first quarter, but Fredericktown outscored them 14-13 in the second, giving Loudonville a slim 21-20 lead at the break. The Freddie's pulled ahead with 16 points in the third, while Loudonville managed just six.

The Redbirds rallied in the fourth, scoring 22 points to Fredericktown's 13. Vermilya hit a three-pointer in the final minutes to tie the game at 49-49. In overtime, she added another three-pointer, and Johnson scored two points as Loudonville tried to stay close, but Fredericktown answered with 12 points in the extra period to secure a 61-54 win.

Loudonville stands at 3-2 for the season and will host Centerburg on December 16, travel to Danville on December 19 and play West Holmes at home on December 20.

# Redbirds Post Strong Results in Tuslaw, Centerburg Meets

By Kinah Yoder

The Loudonville High School wrestling team competed December 6 at Tuslaw in a dual-style meet, where no individual placings were awarded. Several athletes turned in strong performances. Senior Brayden Marotta, junior Luke Heichel and senior Trevor Dawson each finished with a 3-1 record. Sophomore Waylon Harris earned a 2-1 record, while freshmen Brayden Fenton and Harrison Ross-Patrick both ended the competition at 2-2.

The team's next competitions are scheduled for December 13 at Clear Fork and December 17 at River Valley.

The Loudonville Junior High wrestling team also saw action this past weekend at the Centerburg Invitational, which featured 19 teams. The Redbirds had multiple wrestlers place in the event. Tanner Gaines and Casen McCollough each won first place. Wes Stone secured second place, Jacob Bright finished fourth and Max McCollough placed fifth. Conor Staten and Adam Reeder both came away with sixth-place finishes.

The junior high squad will compete again on December 13 at the Northwestern Invite and will host the Home Super Tri on December 17, welcoming Crestview, Garaway and Dalton.



The Loudonville Junior High wrestling team gathers after the Centerburg Invitational on December 6. Front row, from left: Liam Raubenolt, Harper Carr, Conor Staten, Tanner Gaines, Brennen Bailey. Back row, from left: Coach Tyler Reeder, Adam Reeder, Jarret Stitzlein, Wesley Stone, Casen McCollough, Max McCollough, Jacob Bright, Luke Bright, Coach Chuck Gaines, Coach Seth Youngen. Submitted Photo

## 100 Cont. from Pg. 3

Perrysville, where they built a home and enjoyed many years together. They were longtime, active members of St. John Lutheran Church in Perrysville. Their son, Dieter Schade, now serves as pastor there. Gerhard passed away in 2015.

Dorothea currently resides at Brethren Care Nursing Home in Ashland. Known for her deep Christian faith, she is cherished by family and friends for her servant's heart, her generosity and her unwavering kindness.

When her youngest grandchild, Rachel Delaney, recently asked what she considered her greatest accomplishment, Schade answered simply: "My family."

An open house to celebrate Dorothea Schade's



Dorothea "Dorothy" Schade, a longtime Perrysville resident, will celebrate her 100th birthday on January 4. Submitted Photo

100th birthday will be held Saturday, January 3, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Brethren Care Nursing Home. Community members are welcome to stop in and offer birthday wishes.



Bill "Buster" Sutterlin presents Misty Mott Young with holiday gift cards on behalf of the Sons of the American Legion Post 257 of Loudonville in honor of National Military Families Month. Young's husband, Harley Young, is currently deployed to Kuwait. Photo by Deb Sutterlin

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### NOW HIRING

Village of Perrysville is seeking part-time Utilities Superintendent. Prefer someone that has Class 1 Licenses but willing to train. Applications available at the Village Office: 120 N. Bridge St. or online: villageofperrysville.com

### SERVICES

Access the Shopper anytime at [ohioprogramsolutions.com](http://ohioprogramsolutions.com) as early as Saturday or Sunday. No charge, no hassle, no strings, no junk. Nearly 8,000 Shoppers will continue to be printed and delivered to mailboxes and local stores throughout the Mohican Area.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Call Betti Weimer - 419-651-6158

### GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Welcome to Grace Fellowship Church, 2150 T.R. 585, Loudonville. Join us Sundays @ 10am as we study God's Word together!

### HELPING HAND FOOD PANTRY NOTICE

Snap/Food Stamps recipients may come to Helping Hand twice in November & December for full assistance, lower level Loudonville Youth Building, 200 North Union St. 2-4:30 pm Tuesdays.

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

McMullen Assisted Care, 201 School Dr. Loudonville, Thursday, Dec. 18, 4:00 - 7:00, Tours, Door Prizes, Refreshments. Free blood pressure checks by a nurse.

### THE OHIO THEATRE

Movie: "David" Dec. 19, 20 at 7:00 & 21 at 2:00.

### THE OHIO THEATRE

Movie: "The Polar Express" Dec 22 at 7:00. Sponsored by the Loudonville Eagles! [www.theohiotheatre.com](http://www.theohiotheatre.com)

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## MOHICAN AREA FORECAST

7-Day Forecast as of Dec. 12th | Source: AccuWeather

**Monday:** High 22°. Low 15°. Very cold; breezy in the p.m.

**Tuesday:** High 33°. Low 29°. Partly sunny and not as cold.

**Wednesday:** High 43°. Low 34°. Not as cold.

**Thursday:** High 49°. Low 26°. Cloudy, a little rain; breezy.

**Friday:** High 38°. Low 24°. Partly sunny and colder.

**Saturday:** High 47°. Low 33°. Mostly cloudy.

**Sunday:** High 45°. Low 29°. Partly sunny.