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A CHANCE TO BE THANKFUL THIS HOLIDAY



Seniors Tyler Zoldowski, left, and Joey Pesartic pass along turkeys as students at St. Francis de Sales gather donation bags to deliver Tuesday so residents can have their food in time for Thanksgiving.

THE BLADE/PHILLIP L. KAPLAN

Students grateful to serve St. Francis delivers food baskets to area families

By MIKE SIGOV
BLADE STAFF WRITER

It started and continued as a regular weekday for Jameson Maloney, with a Mass at Gesu Church and then a day at St. Francis de Sales School, where he is a junior.

It was around midday that his routine changed.

The 17-year-old joined 53 students in grades 7 to 12 who were putting together Thanksgiving food baskets for those in need.

Once they were done, he got in a car with four other juniors to help Janice Schlachter, school chief strategy officer, deliver 50 turkeys complete with

cans of traditional fixings and desserts for the Thanksgiving dinner to families across Toledo.

"I got to move, get all the baskets together, put them in the car, and then head off towards the houses," Jameson said. "And then I got to personally speak with the people and re-

ceive their thanks."

He'd been doing it for five years, so he knew what to do on Tuesday.

"But I mean going to these families — it's just — I'm so fortunate to be able to give this food to these people, and it all comes

See BASKETS, Page A4

Ziss set to be mayor of Maumee

Council meeting tackles changes in leadership

By JAMES TRUMM and ALICE MOMANY
BLADE STAFF WRITERS

Maumee Councilman Chelsea Ziss was elected president of council at a special meeting Wednesday morning.

On Monday she will ascend to the mayor's office upon the retirement of Mayor James MacDonald.

The surprising turn of events followed Mr. MacDonald's announcement on Sunday that he intended to resign effective Dec. 1. Then-city council President Gabe Barrow was expected to become mayor, per Maumee's rules of may-



Ziss

oral succession.

But at Wednesday morning's council meeting, Mr. Barrow resigned as council president. He will, however, keep his seat as a councilman. Council then voted Ms. Ziss in as its president.

Ms. Ziss was appointed to council in August to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of former Councilman Scott Noonan.

According to the city of

See MAUMEE, Page A13

ABORTION PILL ACCESS IN OHIO

Lawmakers weigh more restrictions

By DANNY ELDREDGE
BLADE COLUMBUS BUREAU CHIEF

COLUMBUS — Legislation that would make it more difficult for Ohioans to obtain abortion drugs and other medications has been approved by the Ohio House.

During a marathon session last week, state lawmakers voted 60-28 along party lines to pass House Bill 324, with Republicans supporting the measure.

"While telehealth offers greater access and convenience, it can fall short for

patients taking high-risk medications," said state Rep. Adam Mathews (R., Lebanon), a primary cosponsor of the legislation. "H.B. 324 works to ensure Ohioans receive appropriate medical supervision, reducing preventable harm even as telehealth continues to expand."

The Patient Protection Act requires a patient being prescribed a medication with at least a 5 percent chance of "severe adverse

See PILLS, Page A11

Donation organizer understands need

By MIKE SIGOV
BLADE STAFF WRITER

"Sock It to the Homeless" donation drive leader Kevin Spitler knows firsthand that winter socks are what the homeless need the most.

After 11 years of donating "blankets and coats

Socks sought for homeless

and such," he switched over to winter socks years ago because a high demand for them made him realize they are "so much more important in regard to the need."

Then, after being homeless for half a year through December, the 52-year-old Toledo native came to know that for a fact — from staying outdoors in cold weather for prolonged

periods of time.

His business, the former Toledo Hemp Center LLC, closed in November, 2024, because of financial problems, six months after he lost his house after using the money earmarked for

See SOCKS, Page A11

INSIDE

Enlisting the youth

Pemberville, Ohio's Christmas in the Village recruits the younger generation to lend a helping hand at the 22nd annual event.

Second News | Page A9

All-Blade football

Local teams, players, and coaches stand out in this year's football season.

Sports | Page B1

Weather

HI 36° LO 27°
Page A18



Rock and soul

Tina Turner musical comes to the Valentine Theatre.

Theater | Page W3

Food alternatives

The greenest groceries often aren't at supermarkets.

Business | Page A16

Business | A16
Classifieds | B8
Crime Watch | A10
Crossword | W25
Homes | H1
Horoscope | B8
Lottery | A3
Obituaries | A13

Opinion | A6
Weekender | W1
Religion | W16
Peach Plus | W10
Second News | A9
Sports | B1
Today's log | A10

2 local dogs competing in U.S. show

Canines set for national spotlight

By MELISSA BURDEN
BLADE STAFF WRITER

Tyler, an English setter, is a not your average pooch, according to one of his owners.

"He really likes to bark at birds," said Donnah Brnger of Georgia, but "he also loves to chase thunder. Many dogs are afraid of it and run from the sound. Not Tyler. He runs in the direction of where the thunder is coming from. I think he wants to catch it."

Fearlessness in the face of a thunderstorm isn't all that sets him apart.



THE BLADE/JEREMY WADSWORTH

Tyler, who lives in Pemberville, Ohio, with his handler and co-owner Lindsey Cook, is one of two local dogs that are competing in this year's National Dog Show. Televised on

NBC after the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the show will feature winners of their group's competition. The dogs are competing for the best-in-show award.

The show took place earlier this month, but participants must keep the results secret until it airs.

Known by his American

See DOGS, Page A11

Lindsey Cook shows off her award-winning English setter Tyler at her home in Pemberville, Ohio. Tyler is competing in the National Dog Show on NBC on Thursday.



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