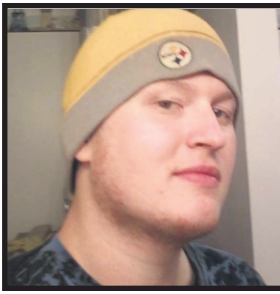


CASH REWARD IS \$9,000.00 (NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS)

Someone knows something so please come forward with what you know , no matter how big or small you think the information is it's all very important. Please help me get justice for my son. Wouldn't you want justice if it was your child or loved one? Cash Reward
Jacob Ray Lansing • December 16, 1986-August 27, 2012 • My only child and best friend • Murdered in Pike County, Ohio
For information that leads to the arrest and conviction of my sons murderer/murderers/ and all involved.
(One time payment: In case of same tips ... reward will be split)

If you don't feel comfortable calling authorities please call or message me @ 740-222-4673 (If I don't answer please leave a message), FB messenger, or maureen2199@yahoo.com Or Jamie Lansing Or Call : Sheriff Evans @ Pike County Sheriff Office Tip line



The Pike County News Watchman



Recording the Moments that matter to you

Sunday, October 3, 2021

• Volume 177 • Number 79 • Waverly, Ohio • \$1.25 • www.newswatchman.com

3 THINGS TO KNOW

1 Health District reports additional COVID-19 deaths

On Thursday, the Pike County General Health District reported the 58th COVID-19 related death. The individual was a man in his 70's and was the 18th death reported in September.

The following day, three more deaths were reported. One female in her 80's, another in her 70's, and a male in his 70's were among those confirmed on Friday. Now 61 Pike County residents have died from COVID-19.

2 SSU's David Kilroy named as Appalachian Leadership Institute Fellow

PORTSMOUTH- The Appalachian Regional Commission has named David Kilroy, Program Director of the Shawnee State University Kricker Innovation Hub, to participate in the 2021-2022 class of the Appalachian Leadership Institute.

As an Appalachian Leadership Institute Fellow, Kilroy will participate in an extensive, nine-month series of skill-building seminars featuring regional experts, peer-to-peer learning, and case study analysis. The program begins virtually in October and culminates with the Class of 2021-2022's graduation in July 2022.

3 Oct. 3 in History

On Oct. 3, 1951, A "shot is heard around the world" when New York Giants outfielder Bobby Thomson hit a home run in the bottom of the ninth inning, beating the Brooklyn Dodgers to win the National League pennant. On Oct. 3, 1990, After 40 years of division, East and West Germany were reunited as one nation. On Oct. 3, 1995, Former pro football star and actor O.J. Simpson was acquitted of the murders of his wife Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, ending what many called "the Trial of the Century."

This Day in History Information Courtesy of historynet.com.

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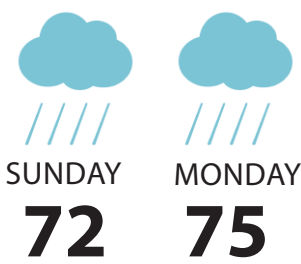
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YOUR WEATHER



OBITUARIES

Russel O'Diam
Paul Harris Sr.
Charlene Robinson
Irene Yates

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SUBSCRIBER OF THE DAY

We appreciate our Subscriber of the Day, Randy Rider of Piketon!



Investigators seek tips in Lucasville arson

STAFF REPORT

LUCASVILLE— The Division of State Fire Marshal is seeking tips from the public regarding an intentionally set fire at a vacant home in Lucasville.

The Camp Creek Volunteer Fire Department responded to the fire at 648 SR 104 in Lucasville

at approximately 1:41 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26. The home was vacant at the time of the fire.

The investigation is being conducted jointly by the State Fire Marshal's office, Pike Sheriff's Office, and Camp Creek Volunteer Fire Department. A reward of up to \$5,000 is being offered by the Blue Ribbon Arson Committee

for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for these fires.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call the State Fire Marshal's tip line at 800-589-2728, the Pike County Sheriff's Office at 740-947-2111 or the Camp Creek Volunteer Fire Department at 740-493-3626.

Commissioners looking into jail funding bill

BY PATRICK KECK
News Watchman Editor

WAVERLY- On Thursday, the Pike County Commissioners announced they have been holding conversations regarding a bill at the statehouse which could bring back a jail to Pike County.

Introduced in February, House Bill 101 would create a funding formula similar to the state's funding model for school construction.

Through a ranking system, counties wishing to build new facilities would enter a criteria based on need through income per capita, property value, and sales tax revenue capacity.

From there, the state would match a certain percentage based on the aforementioned factors.

"This is our best chance within the economies of scale to bring back a county jail," said Commissioner Jerry Miller.

Not having the funding to build a new jail, Pike County has had to send inmates to where beds are available.

The Butler County Jail in Hamilton was the primary location where these inmates were sent until recently, reaching as high as 100 inmates where now there are only two left.

For Pike County Sheriff's officers, that drive was approximately four hours round trip.

"Bed renting was and has been the best option economically, but it is



FILE PHOTO

The former Pike County Jail was torn down in September 2009 after being closed in 2004.

convenient," said Commissioner Tony Montgomery.

Now, the county has worked deals with the Fayette and Scioto counties sheriff offices. Four inmates are currently housed at the Fayette County Jail in Washington Court House and another 12 are at the Scioto County Jail in Portsmouth.

For now more than 15 years, the county has been without a jail after it was forced to demolish the former 137-year-old facility in Waverly when black mold was discovered in March 2005.

Previous attempts to fund a county jail have fallen short in Pike County, including the state legislature's failure to pass House Bill 699 in 2006. The bill would have sent \$75 million to the adult corrections building fund.

The new complex would have been located on Ohio 220 at the Pike County Economic Development Park approximately three miles east of Waverly.

"We've got 15 acres of prime land, and we've been waiting on that lame duck session," said then Commissioner James Brushart in a December 2006 *News Watchman* article. "We felt we were in the perfect position to receive funding."

In 2009, the county jail and former home to the Pike County Sheriff's Office was demolished. Prior to its 2004 closure, the facility was the oldest operating jail in the state.

Contact Patrick Keck at pkeck@newswatchman.com or by phone at 740-947-2149, ext. 300431 and follow him on Twitter @pkeckreporter.



COURTESY PHOTO

On Sept. 20, the Pike County Commissioners read a proclamation to denote October as Domestic Violence Awareness month. Pictured left from right: Commissioner Jerry Miller; Felicia Diaz-Taylor, Shelter Director/Program Coordinator at the Partnership; Annette Jenkins, Executive Director at the Partnership; and Commissioner Jeff Chattin.

Domestic Violence Awareness month starts in Pike County

BY PATRICK KECK
News Watchman Editor

WAVERLY- October marks a month-long, national campaign dedicated to creating awareness for domestic violence.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, domestic violence is an issue experienced by millions of Americans each year, regardless of age and gender. By the numbers, one in four women and one in nine men experience some form of physical violence, sexual violence, or stalking from an intimate partner.

Locally, Partnership Advocacy Center of Pike County Shelter Director Felicia Diaz-Taylor told the *News Watchman* that moments of crisis often increase the likelihood for domestic violence.

The COVID-19 pandemic, bringing about increased isolation and rates of job loss, was no exception last year. In 2020, two people in Pike County died from domestic and family violence and the Partnership experienced a 66% increase in calls to its 24/7 crisis line.

"When a pandemic like COVID-19 forces social distancing, it amplifies a previously dangerous situation to something more extreme because there is no ability to put any distance between the abused and the abuser," a document shared with the *News Watchman* reads.

Even with the 6,035 crisis calls received, many abused either avoided or left the Partnership shelter out of fear of COVID-19 exposure to their family.

Diaz-Taylor says the shelter took measures to prevent transmission of the virus, but the power of the abuser also kept victims from leaving.

"An abuser used this current pandemic to isolate their victim," the document said. "An abuser tells their victim that there is no where they can go, that everything is closed and they cannot seek help."

This year, however, the emergency shelter is now operating at full capacity since May. These survivors are also staying at the shelter for longer durations due to a lack of places to rent in the community.

Further complicating the situation in 2020 was a drastic reduction in funding from the federal Victims of Crime Act.

Announced by Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost last September, agencies throughout the state were awarded \$55.5 million through VOCA. Among the 343 recipients, the Partnership obtained \$83,589 according to the AG office.

This amount represented a loss of nearly \$50,000 from the 2018 award totaling \$132,923. State organizations also experienced reductions, who collectively received \$111.8 million that year.

SEE DVA ON PAGE A3