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Barry Behnfeldt and his wife Jenny at the Henry County Fair.

On average, nearly 14,000 airplanes are soaring through the skies at any given moment, carrying millions of passengers and countless tons of cargo across the globe every day.

What has become a routine part of modern life was once considered an impossible dream.

For centuries, humans looked to the skies with wonder, imagining what it would be like to break free from the limits of the earth and take flight.

Through innovation, determination, and the work of countless pioneers, that dream eventually became a reality, forever changing the

way people travel, conduct business, and connect with one another.

Despite aviation's everyday presence, the magic of flight has never truly faded.

The roar of an engine, the graceful ascent of an aircraft, and the freedom found above the clouds continue to inspire awe in pilots

and spectators alike.

For many, flying is simply a means of transportation, but for others it is a lifelong passion that shapes their identity and purpose.

Few people embody that passion more completely than aviator Barry

(Continued on Page 10)

**FARMLAND NEWS –
A Gift That Lasts All Year!**

Poor Will's Farmland News Almanack

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July 29 - August 4

**Poor Will's Almanack
For the Fifth week of Deep Summer**

Our local environment is linked to the rest of the universe in ways even more astonishing and exciting than those conceived by ancient astrologers.

Percy Seymour

The Phases of the Moon July

June 29: The Firefly Moon is Full.
July 7: The Moon enters its final quarter.
July 14: The Katydid Moon is new.
July 21: The Moon enters its second quarter.
July 29: The Moon is full

The Sun

The Sun reaches almost a fourth of the way to autumn equinox this week.

The Stars

By the end of July, the Big Dipper is moving into the far northwest by 10:00 p.m., and it will lie along the northern horizon after midnight. June's planting star, Arcturus, has shifted deep into the western sky a few hours after sundown, and Pegasus, outrider of October, fills the east.

Weather Trends

After July 25, a subtle change takes place in weather history statistics: the chances of a high in the 80s or 90s falls slightly from 90 percent down to 75 percent. That shift is one of the first measurable temperature signals that summer has begun to unravel.

Natural Calendar

The last week of Deep Summer arrives to the song of cicadas, the katydids, and the new generations of crickets. Now, yellowing locust and buckeye leaves, and the brown garlic mustard give a sense of fall to the woods.

A few Judas maples redden. Shiny spicebush, boxwood, greenbrier and poison ivy berries have formed.

Late Summer's burdock blooms. Tall blue bellflowers, pale violet bouncing bets and pink germander color the waysides.

Water hemlock and arrowhead blossom in the swamps. Round galls swell on the goldenrod.

Fruits of the Osage orange are two-thirds grown. Black walnut and apple fall has begun. The number of lilies in bloom drops rapidly now.

The Deep Summer hostas have completed their flowering, bee balm has lost its color, and the spiderwort is gone, except for those stalks that have been carefully trimmed throughout the month.

A Note on Katydids

In the third week of July, katydids usually begin their vocalizations around 8:15 p.m., or about fifteen minutes after sundown and fifteen minutes before the last light.

As sunset occurs earlier throughout the remainder of the summer, the katydids keep a solar interval, beginning their conversations close to 8:00 p.m. in August's first week.

By the end of the second week of August, they begin around 7:50; by the end of the third week 7:40; by September 1, around 7:30; by September 15, around 7:15, and on through the autumn until the nights grow too cold.

In the Field and Garden

The day's length has shortened by almost three-quarters of an hour since summer solstice. Many does and ewes sense this change and may start to cycle.

Hemlock loopers assault the hemlocks. Oak skeletonizers eat the oak leaves as lily season comes to a close in the garden.

Apple pickers have usually picked half the summer apples.

Farmers are making corrective lime and fertilizer applications for August and September seeding.

Across the Midwest, almost all of the corn is silking by now, and a third of the crop could be in dough.

Most soybeans are flowering or setting pods. Oats and the second cut of alfalfa, running neck and neck, are ordinarily three-fourths harvested.

Journal: Telling Time

In his essay, "The Temporality of the Landscape," archeologist Tim Ingold states that "Ecosystems contain as many 'times' as they do objects, processes, or creatures, probably more."

Here in the middle of Deep Summer, the volume and variety of birdsong cedes more completely to the symphony of amphibian and insect song.

These time keepers literally transform the rhythm and tone of the audible world.

Beginning with the lullaby of spring peepers in March and April, progressing through the shrill pleasure-seeking mating cries of the American toad, to the bass of the bullfrogs and the bark of the green frogs in May, the soft, the sweet chirping of the spring field crickets, and the high rattle of the tree crickets and the purr of the tree frogs in Early Summer, now to the whining buzz of cicadas and the katy-did-dids of the katydids, to the steady beat of the chirps of the autumn field crickets, to the strong and piercing whistles of the whistling crickets, the year pronounces a clear and insistent narrative that not only creates natural time, but weaves stories, which are thousands of years old, through tempo and phrasing and pitch.

"Every story is a clock," states philosopher of time, Paul Huebener, "and we must tell the time every day."

And "What is the story and the setting and the plot?" one might ask, and "What is the time?"

ALMANACK LITERATURE

The Duck That Had Bad Luck

By Fanny Lindsey, Greenwich, Ohio

I had a pet duck named Sue, and she almost lost her life one day.

What happened was there was a bird dog that came in our yard and got inside the henhouse where Sue stayed.

We heard trouble at 7:30 in the morning, jumped up and ran outside. We pulled the dog out of the house, and poor little Sue came out with blood all over her.

We called the dogcatcher and brought Sue in, put her in the sink and washed the blood off her.

She had been bitten under both wings.

She did really well, and now everyone comes around to see how white as snow she is.

The Duck with the Pink Wing

By Sara Beck, Louisville, Kentucky

Every Easter our two girls, Annette Ruth and Barbara Sue, would receive a baby fowl. One year they found two baby ducks that the Easter Bunny had left them. Annette named her duck Ann, and Barbara named hers Sue.

One afternoon, we decided to take a ride, but when we returned we noticed that Ann (the duck) was lying on the ground. The other duck, Sue, was very agitated and quacking loudly. Our dog, Enro, had apparently attacked Ann.

My husband, Ralph, examined Ann and found she had been bitten on her wing. He quickly got a bottle of Mercurochrome and swabbed the torn places on her wing. Her wing stayed red for a long time, but finally it turned pink. Visitors would enquire about this pink-winged duck, and sometimes Ann would swim nearby and be admired.

The White Death

A Weather Story

By John Kniola, Vevay, Indiana

Once upon a time, when I was in 8th grade (1958), all the snow was gone in northern Indiana (Michigan City), and it was warm and sunny on St. Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14th.

The local newspaper said there was a chance of snow for the evening of the 15th.

It started to get colder during the early evening, and it did start to snow. It quit twelve hours later.

The morning of the 16th, we were greeted by 38-inches of what I now call the White Death.

All the way through grade school, we never had a day off for snow, but that time we had the entire week off. Chicago was only a few miles away, and they didn't get anything. We got it all.

Follow the summer with Bill Felker's A Daybook for August in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Bill's daybooks contain all the nature notes used to create Poor Will's Almanack. Order yours from Amazon. Or write me a check for twenty dollars for the August Daybook and mail it to Bfill Felker at 316 South High Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

The Purple Heart

Editor Note: Farmland News would like to apologize to Ivy Lane for putting the column box for Faye Harris on the column written by Ivy Lane "Are We There Yet" in last week's paper. The box should have said My Two Cents Worth.



A medal born and raised with the country...though not an official holiday, *Purple Heart Day* is observed on August 7th each year.

Three Revolutionary War soldiers were the first to receive a Purple Heart, or The Badge of Military Merit as it was originally called.

The Badge of Military Merit was created by General George Washington, Commander of the Conti-

My Two Cents Worth

by Ivy Lane

mental Army.

In the spring of 1783, he personally presented the awards to Sgt. Daniel Bissell, Sgt. William Brown, and Sgt. Elijah Churchill.

General Washington wanted to honor non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Continental army for their bravery and exemplary service. It was Washington's desire to recognize the contributions of common soldiers, a significant departure from the European tradition of awarding honors primarily only to high-ranking officers.

The Badge was crafted in the shape of a heart made of purple cloth symbolizing valor and sacrifice.

The word, "Merit" was written across the heart where a silhouette of George Washington is today.

Worn over the left breast of his uniform, the Badge allowed the recipient to pass guards and sentinels

without challenge.

His name and regiment was recorded in "A Book of Merit."

After the Revolutionary War, the Badge fell into disuse until 1932 when it was reviewed, redesigned, and renamed, The Purple Heart, by General Douglas MacArthur.

For years I've wondered why the likeness of George Washington was on the modern Purple Heart.

Now I know it's because he invented it!

The Criteria for a Purple Heart

The criteria to receive a Purple Heart have expanded since Revolutionary War times.

Phrases like, "For the meritorious performance of duty" – "*Being wounded or killed in action against an enemy of the U.S.*" have been added.

Is it possible that those first three "Purple Hearts" are still around af-

ter 250 years?

The answer is, yes, one of them was found in a Michigan barn by a descendant of Elijah Churchill.

It is on display at New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site, in New Windsor, New York.

The Cantonment is a reconstruction of the Continental Army's final winter encampment 1782-1783.

It is also home of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor; the first and only museum dedicated to a U.S. military medal.

Since Purple Heart Day is not a holiday, the day will pass unnoticed by most Americans.

You can however, quietly honor all Purple Heart recipients on August 7th by offering a prayer of thanksgiving for the sacrifices made by them and all our men and women in uniform.

After 250 years this is still the Home of the Brave and the Purple Heart.

Ivy Lane is the pen name of a writer who lives in northwestern Ohio and wishes to remain anonymous. FN

A Tool With A Purpose

Words of Inspiration

By Rev. Logan Scheiwe

Lately I've been listening to the podcast "*What It's Like to Be.*"

The host interviews a variety of different professions to learn what it's like to walk in their work shoes.

In the lightning round of questions near the end, he always asks, "What is your favorite tool for your job?"

The foreign diplomat said his passport, the airline pilot his headset, the lineman his rubber gloves, and the elementary school teacher her Flair pens.

Each job has a specific set of tools. To push it further, each community has a specific set of tools to maintain the culture.

The people, business, schools, churches, and more all are necessary to establish a functioning and vibrant community.

All parts are needed for the whole to exist.

Though Paul was talking about the church in 1 Corinthians 12:4-5, we can apply it to our local communities as well when he said, "*There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord.*"

It doesn't matter what role we have or what community we're from, the uniqueness of Northwest Ohio is found in the variety of tools that are found within.

Imagine for a moment we had a chance to interview God and ask him the question of the podcaster.

What is God's favorite tool?

Ultimately we know God can make anything by the power of his Word, yet he also chooses to work through his creation.

One thing we do know is that

each of us are tools of God. Paul says that "*we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*" (Ephesians 2:10)

God created you and has made you his instrument to work in your community, your family, and your industry.

He has uniquely blessed you with gifts and abilities to serve your neighbor and care for others. The problem is that we are often dull

and worn tools.

Over time, the wear and tear of life gets to us. In Jesus though, we are re-sharpened and prepared for service.

Jesus himself is God's instrument as he "*emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant...becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*" (Philippians 2:7-8)

Jesus came to serve you through his death and resurrection and re-sharpens you.

Looking to Jesus and following him, we are now sharpened tools ready to serve our neighbor and care for our community.

Our vocations are different and our roles may change over time, but God's love for you never changes.

His desire for you is the same.

You have a purpose as you reflect God's love wherever you are.

I encourage you to connect to your local church and grow in Jesus.

In him, you are sharpened and prepared to serve.

Through him, all of Northwest Ohio is changed.

If you're not connected to a church, come visit us at St. Paul Lutheran in Napoleon. FN



St. Paul Lutheran Church
1075 Glenwood Avenue
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Service Schedule:
Thursday ~ 7:00 p.m.
Sunday ~ 7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
& 11:00 a.m.

Blast From The Past...

Cackle News 1966

A young farm boy breezed into the recruiting station one day and announced he wanted to enlist.

"Do you want a commission?" asked the recruiting officer.

"No, thanks," was the cocky reply, "I'm such a lousy shot that I'd be better off working on straight salary."

"How is it your children are so well behaved compared with those Indians of mine?" a farm woman asked. "Why my kids are always running around with their shirt tails sticking out. Your kids always keep their shirts inside their pants. What do you do to keep them to tidy?"

"Oh, its simple. On the end of each shirt I put a nice piece of lace edging."

Farm husband: "Are you ready to go, dear?"

Wife: "I wish you would stop nagging me, honey, I told you an hour ago I'd be ready in a few minutes."

Farmer: "My, you certainly are one for asking questions, son, I wonder what would have happened if I would have asked all those questions when I was young?"

Boy: "You probably would be able to answer mine today."

Did you hear the story about the 85 year old cowman who had been retired for almost 10 years. Someone asked him to describe his daily routine.

"Well," the old boy said, "first I have the morning paper brought to me in bed. Then I turbot the obituary section and, if my name isn't there, I get up."

A farmer, on his first visit to Chicago, stopped at a busy downtown soda fountain and ordered pop. When served, he asked, "How much pop do you sell in a week?"

"Oh, about 40 gallons," replied the tender.

"I'll tell you how you can sell 80," declared the farmer.

"Eighty gallons?" asked the amazed tender. "How?"

"Simple," answered the farmer, "Fill u the glasses."

A lady checking over her grocery bill, found this item: "One tom cat.. \$.15."

Indignant, she called up her grocer and demanded an explanation.

"Oh, that's all right, Mrs. Jones," explained the grocer, "that's an abbreviation for tomato catsup."

Poem - 1977

By Wayne Eicher

IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE POINT OF VIEW

The seat's broke, steering gear's bent,

The radiator has a tendency to wheeze;

The motor snorts and pops and squeaks.

As tho it has some malignant disease;

Light's don't light, battery's cracked,

Water and acid run out on the one side;

When I push the throttle and open it up,

It moves with a sort of stumbling glide;

When I idle it down to shift up a gear,

It jumps like I'm setting on pogo sticks;

The tires are better than anything else,

And they look like worn racing slicks;

Tried to trade it in a year or so back,

Dealer paled and turned the other cheek;

Just got a notice, insurance has raised,

They claim that I own a valuable antique!

Vintage Recipe 1977

Summer Squash Casserole

2 lbs. summer squash (sliced 6 cups)

1/4 cup onion chopped

1 can cream of chicken

soup

1 cup sour cream

1 cup shredded carrots

1 8 oz. package stuffing mix

1/2 cup butter melted

In saucepan cook squash and onion 5 minutes - Drain.

Combine cream of chicken soup and sour cream.

Stir in carrots - fold in drained squash.

Combine stuffing mix and butter.

Spread half of stuffing on bottom of baking pan.

Spoon vegetable mixture on top.

Sprinkle remaining stuffing over vegetables.

Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

This vintage recipe from 1977 was originally submitted by Mrs. Ron Schueler.

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The Big Oak Reunion

A Kryder Family Gathering in Henry County, Ohio

There are trees, and then there are the trees that become part of a family's bloodstream — living witnesses to the long American story, rooted in soil and memory.

In Henry County, Ohio, where the land rolls in that quiet Midwestern way and the sky seems to stretch a little wider, there stands such a tree.

The Kryder Family's Big Oak has seen nearly a century and a half of seasons, storms, and celebrations — and this year, the family gathered again beneath its generous crown for the Big Oak Reunion.

The Big Oak was planted in 1876 by a young woman named Alice Kryder, daughter of George Kryder, a Civil War veteran who rode with the 3rd Ohio Cavalry.

You can almost imagine her — skirts brushing the grass, hands cupping the sapling, the future stretching before her like the open fields.

She planted it not knowing that the tree would outlast her, and become an anchor for generations to come.

Her father, George, returned from the war carrying the quiet steadiness of a man who had seen too much and survived it anyway.

His letters home to his wife, Elizabeth — now preserved at Bowling Green State University — speak of longing, duty, and the hope that home would still be there when he returned.

In those pages, you hear the voice of a young Ohioan writing to the people who gave his life meaning.

More than a century lat-



Kryder family at the new Oak Sapling



Kryder family in front of the 150-year old Burr Oak

er, his descendants gather beneath the tree his daughter planted, as if the family line itself had grown upward through the trunk.

The family's American story reaches even further back.

The Kryder Family

The family descend from John Kryder, an American

Patriot who served as a Ranger on the Pennsylvania frontier during the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution — a founding thread woven into the fabric of the Republic long before Ohio was even a state.

The farm where the Big Oak stands is a centennial farm, still in Kryder

hands after all these years. The land has passed from George to State Senator George Elmer Kryder, then to Julian, then Tom, and now to Tony Kryder, who works in environmental oil-well remediation — a modern form of stewardship for a family long tied to this ground. The beating heart of the Big Oak celebration

belongs to Steve and Pat Kryder of Spring Hill Farm.

They are the organizers, the rememberers, the ones who have kept the stories alive and the gatherings going — the custodians of continuity, and the Kryders are lucky to have them.

A Continued Journey of Love

This year, Pat and Steve were joined by a dedicated group of their children, nieces, nephews, and cousins — a team effort that spread the work widely and made the reunion possible.

The reunion dinner was held at the McClure Community Center — a building with its own chapter of Kryder history, its construction supported a century ago by State Senator George Elmer Kryder in the years after the First World War.

More than seventy family members made the journey, coming from Missouri, North Carolina, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New Mexico, Florida, Arizona, California, and of course Ohio — proof that roots, properly tended, stretch in every direction.

At the reunion, the scene is the kind of Americana that feels almost cinematic.

Children run in the grass, their laughter rising like birdsong.

Older relatives sit in folding chairs, telling stories that begin with "You probably don't remember this, but..." and ended with everyone laughing — always, above it all, was the Big Oak with its branches spreading like open arms.

This year's gathering carried an additional note of symbolism: the planting

(Continued on Page 6)

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L-R: Phil Kryder and Steve Kryder by the Big Oak.

BIG OAK

(Continued From Page 5)

of a new oak to mark the nation's semiquincentennial — the 250th anniversary of the American Republic.

The new tree is not a replacement but a companion, a gesture toward the future that acknowledges the past. Alice planted the first one in 1876, the centennial year and now a new sapling is in the ground for 2026.

The Big Oak is not just a tree, it's a reminder of the long arc of American life — history carried not in books and museums alone but in the living world.

It has stood through wars and depressions, watched the county change, the children grow up and return.

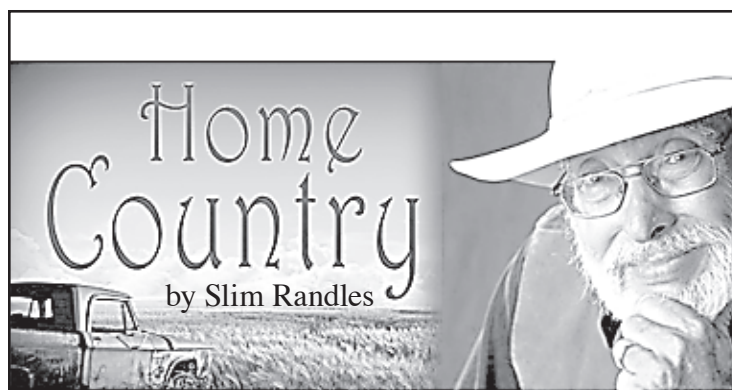
Standing beneath it, you feel part of a story larger than yourself — those who came before present in the shade and soil, the future still promising roots.

That is the quiet miracle of the Big Oak Reunion: it collapses time, brings the 19th century into conversation with the 21st, and lets the living stand shoulder to shoulder with the remembered.

As the sun set over Henry County and the last of the folding chairs were packed away, the oak remained — steady, patient, unhurried.

It will be there next year, and the year after, and, God willing, for generations yet to come.

A tree planted by a daughter...A family gathered in its shade.



"Now that's the job I want," said Steve, putting down the paper.

"A guy could really sink his teeth into something like that."

Doc looked up from his coffee.

"Didn't know you were looking for work, Steve."

Cowboying not working out for you?"

"It isn't that," said the cowboy/farrier, "it's just that a guy should always keep his eyes open so as not to miss an opportunity to better himself."

That's why I'm so interested in becoming a chicken ranger."

"A what?"

"He said a chicken ranger, Doc," said Bert, "but I never heard of one."

"Scoff if you must,

friends," said Steve with a flourish, "but right here in the pages of our own glorious newspaper, the Valley Weekly Miracle, comes one of the best ideas for a job I've ever heard of."

It seems if your chickens run around loose, you get more money for their eggs.

No.

Seriously.

Look at this ad.

The store says they are from certified free-ranging chickens.

Got it stamped right on every free-ranging egg."

"Heard about that," Doc said, nodding.

"It's not that the eggs are better, but it makes you feel better about eating an egg from a happy hen, 'cause she can run around and peck on other hens and get

pecked on rather than be caged."

"And therein lies my new job, gentlemen," Steve said.

"Someone has to make sure those are happy, unfettered, free-ranging manufacturers of cackleberries, and I'm just the guy to get 'er done."

Bert, who takes his character membership in the Mule Barn truck stop's philosophy counter and world dilemma think tank very seriously, said, "Doesn't sound like much work to me."

"Each egg has to be certified," Steve explained.

"Gotta be a chicken ranger there to certify those hens didn't bunch up in a corner somewhere, right?"

So I'll be sitting there on my horse, keeping an eye on the girls..."

"On your horse?"

"Of course," Steve said.

"If you can't do a job horseback it ain't worth doing."

Don't you know afoot are the two saddest words in the English language?"

Brought to you by "Whimsy Castle," my most recent novel. Available online at Amazon.com. FN

A story still unfolding...that is America at its best. Editor's Note: George Kryder's letters to his wife Elizabeth are preserved in the archives at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

The Kryder farm in Henry County is an officially designated Ohio Centennial Farm.

Note: Farmland News would like thank the Kryder family for sharing this story. FN



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2026 Henry County Fair Schedule

Open Class, Livestock,
Entry Deadline –
Thursday, August 6 at 7 p.m.
Open Class, Non-livestock,
Entry Deadline –
Monday, August 10 at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 12
8:00 -11:00 a.m.: Hog
Veterinary Inspection –
hogs will be checked on
trailer before unloading
10:00-12:00 Noon: HOG
Scales OPEN – Breeding &
Market to Weigh in
12:00 Noon-5:00 p.m.:
Rabbits & Poultry to Move
in
12:00 Noon-5:00 p.m.:
Cattle, horses, goats, &
sheep – All other large ani-
mals to begin move in

1:00-7:00 p.m.: Flo-
ral Hall Check-in (except
Open Class Pies and Flower
Shows)
3:00-7:00 p.m.: Rabbit
& Poultry Scales OPEN –
Market Rabbits & Market
birds to Weigh in
4:00-7:00 p.m.: Move-In
Barbeque fundraiser – near
Pork Stand
5:00 p.m.: **All Livestock
In Place**

5:00-7:00 p.m.: Cattle
Scales OPEN – Market
Steers & Feeders to Weigh
in
5:00-7:00 p.m.: Goat &
Sheep Scales OPEN – Mar-
ket animals to weigh only
6:30 p.m.: Jr Fair King &
Queen Coronation & Intro-
duction of Court – Ag Hall
7:00 p.m.: FFA Project
judging – Ag Hall
7:30 p.m.: Veterinary In-
spection begins in all ani-
mal areas (except hogs) –
Jr Fair exhibitors must be
present

Thursday, August 13
7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair
Office Open
8:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Poul-
try Show – Small Animal



Arena
8:00 a.m.: Open Class
Farm Products Judging –
Ag Hall
8:00 a.m. Open Class
Youth Vegetables Judging –
Ag Hall
8:30-11:30 a.m.: Flower
Show 1 exhibits due – Flo-
ral Hall
9:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Swine
Show – Event Center
9:00 a.m.: Open Class
Baked Goods Judging –
Floral Hall
9:00 a.m.: Open Class
Art: Youth & Adult Judging
– Floral Hall
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.:
Model Trains Running –
Depot
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.:
*Christopher MtCastle aka
"Uncle Monty"* – Gazebo
Entertainment
11:00 a.m.-Dusk: Histori-
cal Area Open
12:00 Noon: 4H Booth
Judging – 4H Building
(Building still open to pub-
lic)
12:30 p.m.: Open Class
Flower Show 1 Judging –
Floral Hall
2:00 p.m.: Open Class
Photography Judging – Flo-
ral Hall
2:00-4:00 p.m.: *Gazebo*

Entertainment – TBD
4:00 p.m.: "Where Free-
dom Takes Root: A Floral Cel-
ebration" – A Flower Show
Design Presentation by Judge
Cathleen Nelson – Ag Hall
4:00-5:30 p.m.: Open
Class Swine Show Check-In
– Event Center Show Arena
5:00 p.m.: Baked Goods
Auction – Ag Hall
5:00 p.m.: Open Class
Craft Show Judging – Flo-
ral Hall
5:00-7:00 p.m.: *Paul Sul-
pizio* – Gazebo Entertainment
6:00 p.m.: **Cheerleading
Competition** – Grandstand
6:00 p.m.: Open Class
Swine Show – Event Center
Show Arena
6:30 p.m.: Farm Bureau
Square Dance/Line Dance
– Ag Hall
8:00-10:00 p.m.: *Tater &
Ruben* – Gazebo Entertain-
ment

Friday, August 14
**Ohio Ag Net remote
broadcast will be in the
livestock area.**
**(Sponsored by Truland
Equipment)**
7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair
Office Open
9:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Horse
Show: – Horse Arena
9:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Rabbit
Show: – Small Animal Arena
9:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Sheep
Show – Event Center
9:00 a.m.: Open Class
Antiques Judging – Floral
Hall
9:00 a.m.: Open Class
Canned Good Judging –
Floral Hall
10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.:
Woodcarving by Ice Cre-

ations – location TBD
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.:
Model Trains Running –
Depot
11:00 a.m.-Dusk: Histori-
cal Area Open
11:00 a.m.: **Draft Horse
Pull registration (Michi-
gan Dyno Association)** -
Infield
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.:
Ethan Timm – Gazebo En-
tertainment
12:00 Noon: Farm Bu-
reau Photo Contest En-
try Deadline at the Farm
Bureau display area, see
the Farm Bureau Ag Hall
schedule for categories
1:00 p.m.: **"Full Pull Fri-
day" - Draft Horse Pull
(Michigan Dyno Associa-
tion)** – Grandstand
2:30-4:30 p.m.: *Johnny
Rod* – Gazebo Entertainment
2:30-5:30 p.m.: Truck
Pull Registration – Infield
(Drivers' meeting – 5:30
pm)

4:30-5:30 p.m.: Jackpot
Market Goat & Sheep Show
Check-In – Event Center
Show Arena
6:00 p.m.: **"Full Pull
Friday" - Truck Pull** –
Grandstand
6:00 p.m.: Jackpot Mar-
ket Goat & Sheep Show -
Event Center Show Arena
7:00-10:00 p.m.: *Seventy
80 Band* – Gazebo Entar-
tainment

Saturday, August 15
7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair
Office Open
8:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Goat
Show – Event Center
9:00 a.m.: **Field Stock
Tractor Registration** – In-

field
9:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Horse
Show – Horse Arena
9:00 a.m.: Open Class
Needlework Judging – Flo-
ral Hall
9:45 a.m.: Open Horse
shoe Pitching registration
Log Cabin Site (South End)
10:00 a.m.: Open Horse-
shoe Pitching – Log Cabin
Site (South End)
10:00 a.m.: **Field Stock
Tractor Pull** – Grandstand
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.:
Woodcarving by Ice Cre-
ations – location TBA
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.:
Model Trains Running –
Depot
10:30-11:00 a.m.: Salsa
drop-off – Canned Goods
area of Floral Hall
10:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon:
Homemade Ale, Lager,
(Beer) & Wine entries open
– Ag Hall
11:00 a.m.: Dusk Histori-
cal Area Open
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.:
Malcomb Spence – Gazebo
Entertainment
12:00 Noon: Salsa Taste
Off – Floral Hall (see Div. L
– Canned Goods for rules)
1:00-5:00 p.m.: Home-
made Ale, Lager, (Beer) and
Wine Judging – Ag Hall
2:00-4:00 p.m.: *Mal-
comb Spence* – Gazebo En-
tertainment
4:00 p.m.: Dog Show -
Agility, Rally & Showman-
ship – Livestock Arena
5:00 p.m.: Open Class
Crafts Judging – Floral Hall
5:00-7:00 p.m.: *Gazebo
Entertainment – TBD*
5:30 p.m.: **NTPA Grand
National Tractor & Truck
Pulls** – Grandstand

Sunday, August 16
6:30-10:00 a.m.: Beef
Cattle on-site registration –
Event Center scales
7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair
Office Open
9:45 a.m.: Henry Co.
Horseshoe Pitching regis-
tration – Log Cabin Site
(South End)
10:00 a.m.: Henry Co.
Horseshoe Pitching Tour-
nament – Log Cabin Site
(South End)
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.:
Woodcarving by Ice Cre-

(Continued on Page 8)



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FAIR SCHEDULE

(Continued From Page 7)

ations – location TBD

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Model Trains Running – Depot

10:00 a.m.: Open Class Draft Horse Farm Wagon Hitch Judging – Grandstand
10:00 a.m.: Community Church Service, conducted by the Peace Reformed Church – Ag Hall

11:00 a.m.: Beef Cattle Show – Event Center Show Arena

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: *Gazebo Entertainment – TBD*

11:00 a.m.-Dusk: Historical Area Open

12:00 Noon: Kids Pedal Tractor Pull Registration – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

12:00 Noon: Farm Bureau Largest Ripe Tomato Contest entries open – Ag Hall

1:00 p.m.: Jr. Fair Horse Fun Show – Horse Arena

1:00 p.m.: Kids Pedal Tractor Pull – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

1:00 p.m.: FFA State & American Farmer Degree and FFA Advisor recognition – Ag Hall

1:30 p.m.: Best of Henry County Awards presented – Ag Hall

2:00 p.m.: Ag Hall of Fame Presentation – Ag Hall
2:00 p.m.: Corn Hole registration – Log Cabin Site (South End)

2:30 p.m.: Corn Hole Tournament – Log Cabin Site (South End)

2:55 p.m.: Largest Tomato Contest entries close, judging begins at 3 p.m. – Ag Hall

3:00-4:00 p.m.: *Genoa Legion Band* – Gazebo Entertainment

4:00 p.m.: Largest Tomato Contest winner announced – Ag Hall

4:30-5:45 p.m.: *Napoleon Community Band* – Gazebo Entertainment

6:00 p.m.: **Tomato Festival Parade and Pageant** – Grandstand (Starting time uptown)

PRIVATE Event: American Legion refreshments after the parade – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

8:00 p.m.: Flower Show 1 exhibits released – Floral Hall (must be out by 11 a.m. Monday)

8:00-10:00 p.m.: *Andi Jo* – Gazebo Entertainment

Monday, August 17

7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair Office Open

8:00 a.m.: Jr. Fair Dog Show - Obedience & Scent – Event Center

9:00 a.m.: Flower Show 1 exhibits released – Floral Hall (must be out by 11 am)

9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: Flower Show 2 exhibits due – Floral Hall

10:00 a.m.: Open Class Draft Horse Halter Judging – Draft Horse Barns

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Model Trains Running – Depot

11:00 a.m.-Dusk Historical Area Open

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: AJ Knepper – Gazebo Entertainment

1:00 p.m. Jr. Fair Beef Breeding Show – Event Center

2:00-4:00 p.m.: *Ethan Timm* – Gazebo Entertainment

3:00 p.m.: Jr. Fair Beef Market and Showmanship Show – Event Center

3:30 p.m.: Open Class Flower Show 2 Judging – Floral Hall

4:00 p.m.: "What Abolishing Property Tax Means for Henry County" (A moderated roundtable) – Ag Hall

4:30-6:00 p.m.: Car Show Drive-in Registration – Use Huddle Road Entrance

5:00-7:00 p.m.: Gene Zenz – Gazebo Entertainment

6:00 p.m.: 4-H Tasting Bee – Ag Hall

6:00 p.m.: Car Show – in front of the Grandstand (Awards Presented at 7:15)

7:30 p.m. **Concert: Ian Harrison opening for Walker Montgomery** – Grandstand

Tuesday, August 18

Senior/Veterans Day - Free Admission for Persons 65 & Over, Veteran & Spouse, and Person with Developmental Disabilities & Aide

7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair Office Open

10:00 a.m.: Open Class Dairy Show concurrent with the Jr Fair Dairy Show – Event Center Show Arena

10:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon: Henry County Senior Day Events – Veterans' Entertainment Tent Live Music begins at 11 am

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Model Trains Running – Depot

11:00 a.m.-Dusk: Historical Area Open

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: *Gazebo Entertainment TBD*

1:00 p.m.: Patrick Henry High School Choir – Ag Hall

1:30 p.m.: Antique Tractor Show & Games – Historical Area

2:00 p.m.: "Will Your Will Protect Your Farm..." Presented by Gluckle Insurance See Farm Bureau Schedule for details – Ag Hall

2:00-4:00 p.m.: *Aaron Hertzfeld* – Gazebo Entertainment

3:00 p.m.: Henry County Senior Center – What services are available? – Ag Hall

4:30 p.m.: Free Bean Soup for Veterans & Spouses – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

5:00-7:00 p.m.: *Gene Zenz* – Gazebo Entertainment

6:00 p.m.: **Harness Racing** – Grandstand

6:00 p.m.: Shine in the Show Ring – Event Center Show Ring, along with:

Cookie Auction, benefits Henry Co. Junior Fair Board

Quilt Auction, benefits the Floral Hall

Wood Carving Auction, benefits the Henry Co Ag Society

6:30 p.m.: Jr. Fair Versatility Horse Show – Horse Arena

8:00-10:00 p.m.: *AJ Knepper* – Gazebo Entertainment

Wednesday, August 19

Kid's Day – Special Activities & Discounted Ride Tickets

7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fair Office Open

10:00 a.m.: 4-H Clover Bud Graduation – Ag Hall

10:00 a.m.: Draft Horse Farm Fun Day – South End of the Infield

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: Model Trains Running – Depot

11:00 a.m.-Dusk: Historical Area Open

1:00 p.m.: Traffic Safety with Henry County Safe Community Coalition – Ag Hall

1:00-3:00 p.m.: Imagination Station - Veterans' Entertainment Tent, south end of fairground

1:00-3:00 p.m.: Kids' Day activities along with Imagination Station – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

2:00-4:00 p.m.; Careers in Agriculture presented by NSCC – Ag Hall

2:30-4:30 p.m.; *Johnny Rod* – Gazebo Entertainment

3:45 p.m.: "The Ultimate Mystery" by Children Choosing Christ – Veterans' Entertainment Tent

5:00 p.m.: Showman of Showmen – Event Center

6:00 p.m.: Harness Racing – Grandstand

6:00-8:00 p.m.: Gazebo Entertainment – TBD

9:00-10:00 p.m.: Adam Minnich – Gazebo Entertainment

Thursday, August 20

7:00 a.m.: Gates Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Fair Office Open

9:00 a.m. Jr. Fair Livestock Sale – Event Center Show Arena

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Model Trains Running – Depot

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. *Brennan Sabo* – Gazebo Entertainment

2:00-6:30 p.m. **Demolition Derby Assembly, Registration & Inspection** – Infield

2:00-4:00 p.m. *Aaron Hertzfeld* – Gazebo Entertainment

5:00 p.m. All Livestock Released. All animals MUST be removed by 8 p.m.

5:00 p.m. Ag Hall Exhibits released

5:00-7:00 p.m. All Floral Hall Exhibits released

6:00-8:00 p.m.: *Christopher MtCastle aka "Uncle*

Monty" – Gazebo Entertainment

7:00 p.m. **Demolition Derby** – Grandstand

(Events subjected to change or cancelation.)

ADMISSION

Gates will open everyday at 7 a.m. Thursday, August 13th through Thursday, August 20th.

General Admission – \$10; Children 12 & under – Free

Season/Exhibitor Tickets (admits one) – \$40

Ride Wristbands - \$20; Open: Thu. Fri. Mon. Tue. Thu. – 3 p.m. to Closing, Sat. Sun. Wed. – 12 p.m. to Closing

Kids' Day Special – Wednesday, August 19th, 12-5 p.m. – Wristbands - \$15

Ag Society Membership Cards - \$5 - These are available in the Fair Office to Henry County Residents for voting purposes at the annual board meeting in November.

FAIR OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays, July 29th-August 7th: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Saturdays, August 1st & 8th: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Daily, August 10th-20th: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Free Grandstand at all times & Free Parking

The Henry County Agricultural Society assumes no responsibility for damage to or loss of parked vehicles or personal property contained within parked vehicles. No CHAIRS are permitted on the track or within 20 feet of the track before the estimated time of 3 p.m. or until the previous event has cleared the area.

Chairs on or near the track before the permitted time are subject to removal without return.

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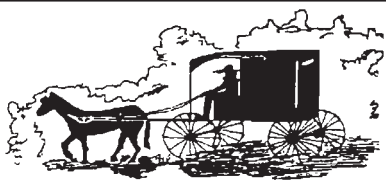
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The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder



Should it be so complicated to decide who sleeps where?

I'm not sure.

Well, my younger children don't like sleeping alone, but neither does it go the best to have too-crowded quarters.

Some time ago Austin moved downstairs into what used to be our "date room," where Daniel and I would have our weekly 30-minute dates.

The children were young, and time together as a couple was limited in a very real way.

These windows allowed us to catch up on how things were going and discuss questions I had about the children.

I recall that last date with him, it was one of those times where we went over our 30 minutes.

I sat at his feet to simply listen to his perspectives on life, his hopes, and his concerns.

The room was eventually turned into a Daniel memory corner.

It was where I placed a basket with my favorite books on being a helpmeet, the wedding book where I had carefully recorded details of our wedding day, and even some roses he had given to me.

When Austin needed a room in the basement, reality spoke of moving on.

I felt stumped.

What would I do with everything in that little room?

Then one day, Austin and I, with the help of my cousin, cut down an eight-foot section of a pine tree to be used in his room as an evergreen to set his array of songbirds on. (Fake ones, that is.)

I was impressed as I saw him thrive in working with nature.

I told him he could have the two-tier shelf Daniel had made from a huge tree stump and slabs of wood, it would be perfect for a nature collection.

The corner cabinet in his room was one Daniel had given me for my birthday.

I decided it would be moved into my office.

And yes, I would brush-paint it since it was an older piece that needed a face-lift.

With that I got sparked, why, the office was in need of painting.

Why not tackle it?

Then while we were at it, why not do the entrance along with it... it needed it, and those old shelves made of flake board were like over the hill.

And so it went from one thing to the next.

Last week I had lots of fun painting away especially when I thought about how much I had dreaded that painting, knowing it really needed to be done one day.

This time, as I worked on the project, something was just a bit different.

Instead of thinking about what I wanted to get done, I focused more on savoring the moments as they came, even when it was just walking from the garage to the house with another can of paint.

I did not expect this little change, making the most of each step, even with things I didn't care to be doing.

And so we mixed up random paints until we had the colors we wanted, then watched the walls and ceiling transform into what had been only a picture in my mind.

Not only that — when those old shelves were taken from the entrance, I realized there would really be space for cabinets from top to bottom along the south wall.

Now if you know anything about me and cabinets and shelving, you know I was totally on a roll.

Since I don't have any storage room in my house besides the can room, which gets to be a catch-all, I brainstormed about those top doors holding items that would otherwise go in a storage room that doesn't exist.

Then a drawer for each person, one for tools, another for umbrellas and softball gloves — the list in my



Recipe Of The Week

Yum Yum Dessert

- 2 - (3 oz) Lemon Jello
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 - (8 oz) Cream Cheese
- 1 - (20 oz) can crushed pineapple and juice
- 2-1/2 cups water
- 1 - (12 oz) Cool Whip

Bring crushed pineapple and juice, sugar, and water to a boil.

Add Jello and cream cheese.

Stir until cream cheese is dissolved.

Chill until it starts to set.

Add Cool Whip and mix thoroughly.

Sprinkle with nuts.

The Recipe of the Week is from Ann Burgei of Cloverdale, Ohio.



head went on.

When the three walls were painted a silvery neutral and the fourth one a deep rose, I stepped back, picturing those cabinets from top to bottom.

The bundle of reject wood in the shop would really be so perfect for it.

I stuck my finger in the deep rose paint, and on that south wall, next to the huge smile I had made with my roller, I jotted the words, "The best is yet to come."

Though that song has been a standby around here, reminding us of eternity with Jesus, this time it simply meant the patched wall would soon be lined with cabinets!

As the paint dried I debated on what would be moved back into the office and entrance.

One thing was sure — I would be choosy.

An overfilled room is likely a cluttered one, at least around here.

When I was ready to fill my corner cabinet, I carefully selected some prize pieces: Daniel's lone Croc, which he wore that unforgettable morning (no one will ever know what happened to the other one); the hospital bag where the nurse had placed his cut-up pants and handed them over to me; and a motto with the words, "All things are possible if you believe."

Daniel's rolltop desk, where I do my business and desk work and get in touch with you all, was placed back where it had been in

the office.

The extra space where a smaller desk once stood now remains empty, bringing a bit of extra breathing room.

And now Austin has his own little room with his treasures in the basement, and Hosanna, who is already 10 years old, loves her nook downstairs where she sleeps.

Today we moved more items downstairs, including her butterfly wall décor and such, to make it feel more homey since she moved down there.

Julia gets along well in her room with the canopy log bed.

A mattress in the main area of the basement is where the younger boys and I will sometimes crash out for the night if it gets too sticky upstairs with the humidity.

As you can imagine, the size of it isn't quite the same as mine — but that's okay; we are making more memories this way.

Now for a yummy summertime dish, let's go with a tomato pie recipe from Daniel's brother Samuel's wife.

Enjoy!

Homemade Summer Tomato Pie

Crust:

- 1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 cup shortening

1/2 cup sour cream
Topping/filling for the pie:

- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup shredded cheese
- 1 small can of mushrooms (optional)
- 8 strips bacon, crumbled and fried
- 1 tablespoon chopped green pepper
- 1 tablespoon onion, chopped
- 3 medium tomatoes, peeled and sliced

In a bowl, combine first 4 ingredients.

Cut in shortening until crumbly.

Stir in sour cream.

Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Press in bottom and sides of a 9" pie pan.

In another bowl, combine everything except the tomatoes.

Layer half of tomatoes on crust and top with half of the mayo mixture.

Repeat layers.

For a different twist, sprinkle with a bit basil, oregano, chives, or brown sugar.

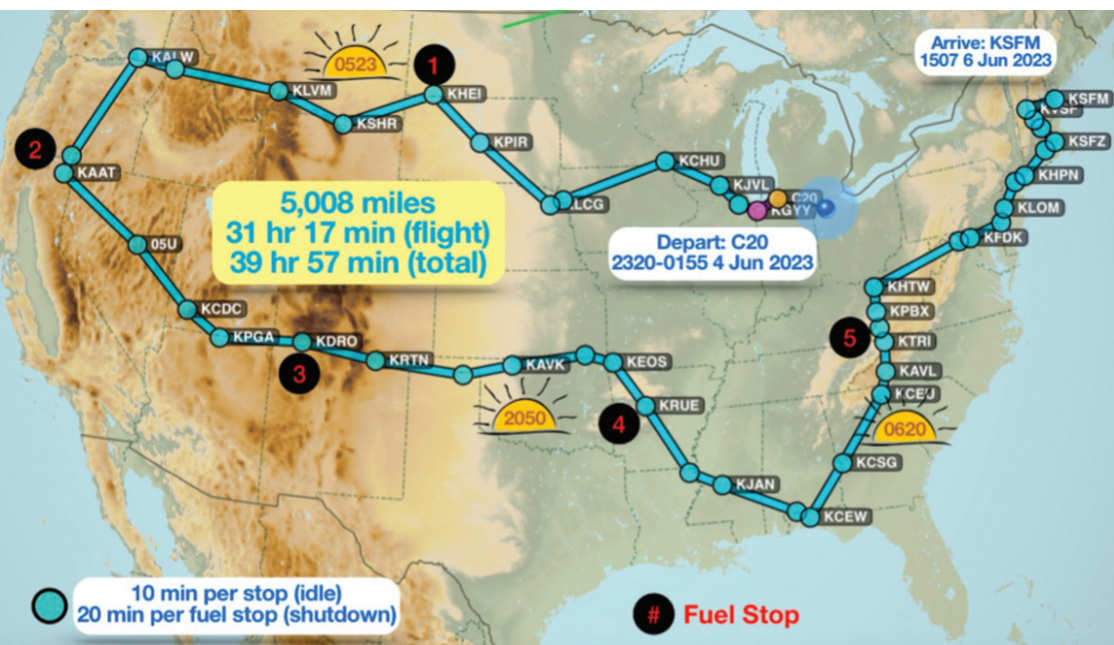
Bake at 350 for 35 minutes or until golden brown.

Serves 6.

Notes: if desired use your own biscuit recipe or Bisquick instead of crust recipe.

You can use salad dressing instead of sour cream and mayo

Readers may write Gloria with culinary or cultural questions at: Gloria Yoder, 10510 E. 350th Avenue, Flat Rock, IL 62427. FN



48N48 Flight Path

IN FLIGHT

(Continued From Page 1)

Behnfeldt from Napoleon,

Ohio.

His lifelong love of flight reflects the same curiosity, dedication, and adventurous

spirit that has driven generations of pilots to pursue the skies.

Discovering Flight

From a young age, Barry had a fascination for airplanes, crediting his father for

igniting that passion, he was encouraged in a curiosity that would ultimately define his life's work.

Growing up in McClure, Ohio and attending Napoleon High School, Barry spent a lot of time working at the Henry County Airport.

At sixteen he began taking flying lessons and was already pursuing pilot certificates with uncommon determination.

By the time he enrolled at Bowling Green State University in 1979, he had already obtained his private pilot certificate, instrument rating, commercial certificate, and flight instructor credentials, reflecting not only his natural ability, but also extraordinary discipline and commitment.

Bowling Green and Professional Foundations

In 1979, Behnfeldt enrolled at Bowling Green State University, where he initially pursued a business degree, before switching to the newly available Bachelor of Science degree in Aero-technology.

Since he had already achieved several certifications, he was able to swiftly demonstrate his skill and fulfill many credits.

This program emphasized both technical knowl-



Barry with a historic Naval Aircraft Factory N3N



Barry greets fans in Coffeyville, Kansas .

edge and practical flying experience, making it one of the Midwest's premier aviation curricula.

Nowadays, the School of Aviation at BGSU has developed and grown in size and is based at the on cam-

pus Wood County Regional Airport where many graduates go on to flight instruction, or fly as a corporate pilot.

During his four years at

(Continued on Page 11)

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48N48 Crew in Maine.

IN FLIGHT

(Continued From Page 10)

Bowling Green, Barry refined the skills that would become essential throughout his career.

Aviation is often romanticized as freedom and adventure, but professional flying depends upon precision, planning, and continuous learning – these qualities became central themes throughout his professional life.

Barry Behnfeldt graduated in 1983, joining an impressive community of aviation alumni from Bowling Green...decades later, the university would celebrate his achievements as an

alumnus when the 48N48 mission captured international attention.

Answering the Call to Serve

After graduation Barry accepted a commission in the United States Navy where he served for nearly thirty years on active duty and in the Navy Reserve.

Carrier operations require split-second decision-making, exceptional precision, and the ability to operate safely even in unforgiving conditions.

Every arrested landing aboard an aircraft carrier represented a carefully choreographed maneuver in which even minor mistakes

could have serious consequences.

After completing flight training, he earned an assignment to the McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet, the Navy's premier multi-role fighter aircraft.

During approximately seventeen years of flying the Hornet, he accumulated more than 3,000 flight hours and over 750 arrested carrier landings aboard nine different aircraft carriers.

This was an extraordinary accomplishment even among experienced naval aviators.

His operational deployments included contingency operations over Bosnia and Iraq, where military flying required not only technical excellence but calm judgment under pressure.

Barry has traveled to several other places across the world and told me, "Japan is one of my favorite places I've been abroad due to the cleanliness, high safety, and overall friendliness of the locals."

His experience during these times reinforced the habits that would characterize his leadership throughout his career.

Top Gun and Test Pilot School

Among military aviators, few educational achievements carry greater prestige than graduation from the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School, or better known throughout the world as TOPGUN.

Selection for TOPGUN recognizes pilots who have already demonstrated exceptional operational skill.

The curriculum emphasizes advanced air combat tactics, leadership, and the



Hanging out with Freddie & Freda, BG mascots.

ability to teach fellow aviators.

Behnfeldt also graduated from the United States Navy Test Pilot School, another elite institution whose graduates evaluate new aircraft systems and contribute to improving military aviation.

Together, these accomplishments placed him among a relatively small community of naval aviators whose expertise extended beyond flying into tactical development, evaluation, and instruction.

"As my career pro-

gressed, I moved increasingly into positions of command and for more than thirty years of active and reserve service, I commanded Strike Fighter Squadron 204, Navy Reserve COMFAIRMED 1082, and the Navy Reserve Customer Service Unit."

These assignments reflected a confidence not only in his flying ability, but also in his leadership.

Command requires balancing operational readiness, personnel develop-

(Continued on Page 12)



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At the Open House for the 48N48 held at the Henry County Airport.

IN FLIGHT

(Continued From Page 11)

ment, safety, and mission accomplishment.

When he retired from the Navy in 2014 with the rank of Captain, he concluded more than three decades of distinguished military service while leaving behind a legacy of professionalism

and mentorship.

A New Mission at Delta Air Lines

Transitioning from military aviation to commercial flying is a familiar path for many naval aviators, yet it requires adapting to an entirely different operational environment.

Barry joined Delta Air

Lines after leaving active duty and steadily advanced through multiple aircraft assignments.

He served as flight engineer on the Boeing 727, first officer on the Boeing 737, Boeing 757, and Airbus A350, before upgrading to captain on the Boeing 757 and Airbus A320.

“Over the course of my aviation career, I accumulated more than 16,000 flight hours across fifty-two different aircraft types.”

While the missions were dramatically different from those of naval aviation, the underlying principles remained remarkably similar.

Safety, teamwork, preparation, and professionalism remained constant whether carrying passengers across oceans or recovering aboard an aircraft carrier.”

Colleagues have described him as meticulous in planning and generous in sharing his experience with younger pilots.

48N48 World Record

In 2023, Behnfeldt conceived and organized 48N48, an attempt to establish the Guinness World Record for the fastest journey by airplane through all the 48 contiguous U.S. states.

Inspired by an earlier unsuccessful attempt by another crew, Barry began by simply sketching out a possible flight path for the challenge and later using more calculated methods he claims stemmed from high school geometry.

He was able to come up

with a flight path he believed was the closest to the shortest possible travel distance.

Flying his 1980 Piper PA-32R Saratoga, he partnered with fellow Delta pilot Aaron Wilson and maintenance technician Thomas Twiddy.

Beginning in Michigan and ending in Maine, the team landed at a public airport in every contiguous state in just over forty-four hours, comfortably surpassing the forty-eight-hour goal.

The journey was marked

by beautiful views, good weather, and many supporters that gathered at the group’s stops.

From adults to young children, everyone cheered Behnfeldt on and waited in anticipation to see if he would successfully complete the challenge.

He even had the support of small airports around the country that received them during the night when they would normally be closed.

After forty-four hours —

(Continued on Page 13)



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Signatures on the Saratoga Piper



Meeting with BGSU Presideent Rodney Rogers

IN FLIGHT

(Continued From Page 12)

more than 5,000 traveled miles – and forty-eight successful landings, Behnfeldt and his crew completed their mission.

The group ultimately earned recognition from Guinness World Records while inspiring thousands

of aviation enthusiasts along the way.

The 48N48 mission promoted:

- General aviation
- Inspired the next generation of professional pilots, and raised awareness for the Veterans Airlift Command, a nonprofit organization that provides free air transportation for combat-injured vet-

erans and their families.

By combining a record-setting aviation challenge with a meaningful charitable cause, the mission demonstrated how flying can serve a greater purpose beyond transportation or recreation.

Today, Barry Behnfeldt continues to pursue these same goals while raising support for the Veterans Airlift Command through the annual 48N48 Open House.

Each September, he and the 48N48 team gather at the Henry County Airport to welcome members of the community, introduce visitors to the aircraft and crew, and offer flights in exchange for freewill donations that benefit the organization.

The event gives people of all ages the opportunity to experience aviation firsthand while supporting a cause that serves those who have sacrificed for their country.

Barry also remains committed to inspiring young people to explore aviation.

Each August, he displays aircraft at the Henry County Fair, inviting curious children and families to learn more about flying and encouraging them to attend the 48N48 Open House.

For many young visitors, seeing an aircraft up close or taking a first flight can spark a lifelong interest in aviation.

Through these events, he hopes to show that the sky is not the limit, but rather the beginning of countless opportunities.

Although the 48N48 mission brought Barry Behnfeldt national attention, the record itself represents only the latest chapter in a life devoted to aviation.

His story is not merely one of remarkable flying accomplishments but of discipline, leadership, service, mentorship, and an enduring belief that aviation has the power to change lives.

Whether helping support veterans' access to medical care, mentoring aspiring pilots, or introducing children to the excitement of flight, Barry continues to use aviation as a way to serve others.

His legacy will be measured not only by the miles he has flown or the records he has set, but also by the

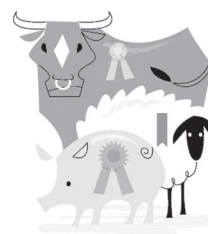
countless lives he has touched and the future aviators he has inspired to follow their own dreams into the skies.

Note: Farmland News would like to thank Barry Behnfeldt for sharing his

story and pictures.

Molly Huddle is a student at Napoleon High School and is interested in journalism. She writes for the school newspaper, The Wildcat Roar. FN

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Can't Find The Fish? Just Look Around

At last, summer is here, the cold and frigid are on the wane and pleasant weather is right around the corner.

Other than shooting and target practice, in the summer my thoughts turn to FISHING!!!

I had to miss out on quite a bit of fishing last year due to various types of illness and now I am chomping at the bit to hit the water once again.

The first rule of successful fishing is to fish where the fish are.

At this time of year, the big question is, where are the fish?

The most obvious answer is, they are either deep, shallow, or somewhere in-between – finding them is not all that complicated.

Most predatory fish, including bass and walleyes, follow a regular routine whether they live in lakes,

rivers or farm ponds.

The knowledge of their daily, as well as their seasonal movements helps the angler unlock the secrets of finding them and then catching them.

During the morning and evening hours they invade the shallows to feed on small bait fish, frogs, crayfish, and other creatures.

During the bulk of the daylight hours they inhabit deeper haunts where they digest their food.

While moving from one location to another they follow "paths" that resemble underwater road maps.

From the depths they follow creek channels, stump

beds, ledges and drop offs, rocky points and so forth until they reach their feeding grounds in the shallows.

Why the morning and evening for feeding?

The sun is at its lowest position on the horizon, the sky is dark and the plankton and other small organisms, sensing the safety of the darkness are on the move.

Bait fish feed on the plankton and other small organisms and the larger fish follow the food, charging into the shallows and gorging on the smaller fish.

As the light increases, the plankton movement ceases, the bait fish retreat to cover and the predators follow their previous routes back into the depths.

So, what to look for? One of the most visible signs of fish activity is a series of swirls in the water that indicate the presence of a feeding predator.

Once, while wading a stream I spied a fish moving weeds along the bank. A well placed cast garnered a healthy strike from a nice smallmouth bass that had been in the weeds eating whatever it could find.

Another indicator, which most of us have seen at one time or another is minnows skipping across the surface of the water.

You can bet your favorite spinning rod that they are not jumping for joy.

Undoubtedly they are trying to escape the gaping maw of a hungry fish.

On one occasion when I was wading a river near my home during the early morning hours I spied minnows skipping near the shore.

The first cast brought a strong strike from a smallmouth bass, I knew it had been feeding because as it fought in the water it spit up a partially digested minnow.

The same scenario repeated itself several times that morning and usually resulted in healthy strikes.

Mother Nature can be an ally rather than an adversary if we only take the time to decipher what she's telling us.

A heron standing in the water suddenly takes a step or two forward... A kingfisher flying down the river alights on a log, both are indicators that a school of minnows is present.

In another scenario, you drive to your favorite fishing hole and find that due to recent rains the river is high and somewhat murky, what to do? – Fish shallow!

The minnows will be there trying to escape being eaten, the predators instinctively know this and will be there to eat them.

The water is low? The solution is to fish as deep and close to cover as you can.

Cover might include boulders, downed trees, docks, bridge pilings, submerged weed beds, or sunken Christmas trees.

Predatory bass are object oriented, meaning that when not actively feeding, they hold close to any object in the water that offers sanctuary, and from which they

can dart out and grab a meal when it swims or floats by.

Finally, a couple of major differences in the two species of bass.

Largemouth are more likely to be found in slower and warmer water, which is why they are ideally suited for farm ponds.

Smallmouth live and die by the current, meaning they prefer cooler, flowing water such as rivers and deep impoundments.

About 98 percent of the time they face into the current and hang over rocky or sandy bottom areas, or lie near scattered boulders.

They do this because this is the direction from which their food will arrive.

Therefore you should cast upstream about 98 percent of the time, and retrieve the lure or live bait back downstream.

Do not be surprised if the fish follows and smashes the lure about two feet in front of you – this type of fishing may not be for the faint of heart, but it is a lot of fun.

John Bennett is an outdoor writer from Lima, Ohio. He's a retired educator and a historical reenactor. Graybeard is his "camp name." In addition, he's a husband, father and grandfather, as well as a four-season outdoorsman.

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Henry County Fair - 173 Years Young!!

On February 25, 1833, the State of Ohio passed a law allowing counties within the State to form agricultural societies - which soon started the creation of many of our earliest County Fairs in the area. The Law laid the groundwork for the County Fairs allowing the Agricultural Societies to form, elect Officers and receive up to \$50 in county funds at that time.

Seventy-seven years after our great Nation's birth in 1776, the Henry County Fair was established.

The original Ag Society of Henry County gathered together in 1852 with the purpose of organizing a county fair, a place for county families and neighbors to gather to showcase their livestock and talents, a time of fellowship among neighbors.

The first fair was held in 1853 and over the next several years would disband for a short period of time before restarting again - it was moved around to various locations over those years.

In the 1880's a group of farmers called "Patrons of Husbandry" organized the Fair.



History of the Floral Hall

At the April 15, 1884 meeting of the Board of Directors, the Henry County Agricultural Society was formally organized. The April 17, 1884 Democratic Northwest newspaper announced that the society had purchased ground south of the Barnes' Addition in Napoleon, and that the tract of land contained 36 acres. The society paid \$133.33 per acre. By early June the improving of the grounds had begun. Work on the Floral Hall was completed in September. The first Flower Show was held on Oct. 7, 1884. The Henry Co. Pomona Grange held fairs in the years 1881 - 1883, including a floral department.



The Floral Hall

It was originally held in the Harrison Grange Hall in Harrison Township on the Henry Blythe Farm four miles east of Napoleon and drew 500 people according to historical accounts.

It was so successful that a Fair Board was formed, and a tract of land was

purchased in Napoleon on 4/17/1884 for \$133.33 per acre, at the current site that the Fairgrounds is still located to this day.

That first Fair in Napoleon was held in the fall around October 7 - 10, as were most fairs at that time, and these early fairs lasted 2 to 3 days, daytime only, before eventually moving to 3 to 4 days.

Most of the time, these Fairs featured races and fireworks for entertainment.

Also according to historical records, at one time in those early days, Henry County had four fairs held - the 4-Co. Fair in Deshler, The Grange Fair, the BIG Maumee Valley Fair, and the BIG County Fair (first called Napoleon Fair).

In 1884, the Floral Hall was built at the new site in Napoleon; followed in suc-

cession by the horse and cattle barns, a band stand, and the 1/2 mile track.

Of the original barns built, they were built along and parallel to St. Rt. 108.

One was eventually moved to the NW corner and over time became the 4-H Sheep/Swine and Cattle barn, which was added onto in 1940.

Historical Events

Some notable historical events over the years were:

-In 1919, the Extension program started in Henry County with 63 members participating in pig and canning clubs.

M.L. Howell was the first agent, and Howard Bond took over later, with the 4-H agent being John Fos-

ter in 1956.

- One highlight in 1940 was when 3 girls were listed on the Boys Steer Show list, making them the first females to enter a competition formally reserved for boys only.

- In 1928 a 4-H camp was started on the Aaron Spieth farm in the woods by the Damascus Bridge.

At that time a fee of \$4.50 per week was charged and it was noted that a nice profit was still realized.

- The first 4-H motto was "To Make the Better Best" and now it is "To Make the Best Better".

Even at one point the 4-H program was called 5-H.

Having youth show at the Fair made a big addition to the Fair and it gave more reasons for families to come to the Fair.

- Various start dates for the Fair were 9/16/1884, 8/26/1930, 9/2/1942, until it was permanently moved to the weeks in August where it is held now.

- In 1916 Schools were closed in the County due to polio, but the Fair went on!

- Several rains over the years have cancelled main events such as on 9/7/1950 when 3.52" fell on the Fairgrounds.

The parade day was held but the rain cancelled most of the rest of the Fair after that.

- Good Fairs were reported in 1930 and 1931 with big crowds (since with the Depression folks couldn't go elsewhere) and some local fairs even cut their prices.

The fairs those 2 years,

(Continued on Page 16)



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Original Agricultural Building

173 YEARS

(Continued From Page 15)

had fireworks for 2 nights and a county picnic was held with over 400 people in attendance. The NW Ohio Jersey cattle show was held at the Fair with 100 head also; ..and the 1931 fair was considered to be a record breaking fair.

- On 7/9/42 the Fair Board met regarding WWII since several fairs in the State had cancelled... not

Henry Co. they decided to go on "...since not holding the Fair wouldn't win the war and it gave families an outlet".

In 1942 they had the largest number of race horses ever - 100 head and large crowds every day, but the fair-goers were more serious than normal.

- In 1907 Ostrich and Cart races were held at the Fair; originally they were pony races vs. standard bred trotting races.

- In 1889 and 1890 the Fairs were so poor that they almost quit the Fairs, but in 1891 they had a great Fair which made up for the previous 2 years of losses.

- In 1949 the steer show was held at Lugbill's Auction Barn in Archbold, Ohio, not at the Fairgrounds.

- At the 5 day fair in 1937 Sheriff Bowerman drove a race horse and it was a big hit, especially since he had never driven a sulky before.

- The Henry County Holstein Club was formed in 1918.

- In 1920 the Henry County Pig Club, Calf Club, and Rabbit show (which was a new feature) were bigger than the State fair shows in Ohio and Illinois.

- No goat projects were at the Fair until 1969, and then without a show until a pull-in show in 1974, there were no saddle horses until 1970.

- The Tomato Festival Parade which has become an annual event (and is in 2026 now the 66th Annual Tomato Festival Parade) started in 1950 after a meeting at Campbell's.

Gates were free on that 1st Parade Day, but then they did not have another Tomato Festival Parade again until 1960.

- The first Tomato Festival Queen was Marion Reichert in 1950, her court included Marjorie Chubb in 1st place and Jeanne Kerr in 2nd Place.

- Some other Tomato Festival Queens over the years were: 1960 - Peggy Hefflinger / 1961 - Esther Gerken / 1962 - Barbara Rosebrock / 1963 - Bonnie Clady / 1964 - Debbie Bartels / 1965 - Brenda Bowers / 1966 - Cheryl Barton / 1967 - Sue Otte / 1968



A view of the 2025 fair from above.

- Lila Sonnenberg / 1969 - Cindy Dillon / 1970 - Christine Young / 1971 - Karla Reimund / 1972 - Cindy Ritter / 1973 - Carol Gerken / 1974 - Cindy Shumaker / 1975 - Robin Behnfeldt / 1976 - Terri Baden / 1977 - Jackie Deventhal / 1978 - Deborah Burner / 1979 - Julie Palmer.

The 1919 Tornado

One interesting item about the Henry County Fair was that a tornado did BIG damage to the Fairgrounds on 5/22/1919.

It was noted that a small tornado traveling northeast, swooped down on the Fair-

(Continued on Page 17)



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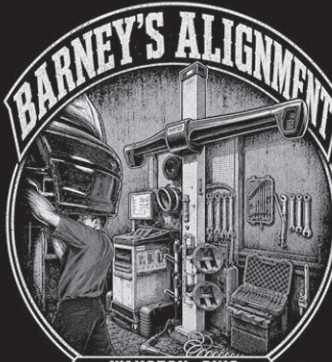
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4H-FFA Cattle Show

173 YEARS

(Continued From Page 16)

grounds and did an estimated \$5000.00 of damage to the Fairgrounds, which was a lot at that time.

The grandstand was lifted up above a hay loader along with several other pieces of farm machinery and blown 60 feet from its foundation.

It was overturned in its flight and became a total wreck when it struck the ground.

It was estimated the sal-

vage would not amount to more than \$300.00.

Three lunch stands were also lifted high above their foundations and carried 100 ft. away and were demolished, while another lunch stand was moved from its foundation but remained upright.

The judge's stand and band stand escaped the storm's fury, except to their roofs, parts of which were blown away, and portions of the west and east fences were razed.

All of the buildings be-

tween the cattle shed and the park were partially unroofed, with debris scattered all about the grounds and driveway and across the roadway.

The wind had dipped just before it reached the SW fence and swept over the grounds in a path of 20 rods and lifted after uprooting 3 trees and doing other damage in the J.D. Willier apple orchard across the street from the Fairgrounds.

The storm was accompanied by a downpour of rain and played several freaks as one often hears of happening in such storms, including:

- A light skeleton wienerwurst stand beneath the grandstand was not moved while one of the heavy foundation stones was lifted out of the ground.

- A corn binder, hay loader, mowing machine, corn planter and grain binder were also not damaged in the least.

- A display stand with several shelves in one of the lunch stands was left in its original position, giving evidence that the stand



A 4-Her and his dairy Project.



1898 Disply at the Fair

was lifted up before being blown towards the Art Hall.

The next day hundreds of sightseers visited the grounds on Saturday and Sunday and were amazed at the havoc the winds had wrought.

One consoling thought was "it could have been worse" and "it was not dur-

ing the Fair time".

The posts in the old part of the grandstand were found to be in a bad condition and had the storm occurred when it was filled with people there would have been many persons killed or injured.

(Continued on Page 18)

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4-H Dog Show

173 YEARS

(Continued From Page 17)

The Fair's directors met that Saturday to determine what steps should be taken to replace the razed structures and while no definite action was taken it was an unanimous opinion that provision should be made for the constructions of at least temporary buildings that summer, and that the fair should be the last week of August as scheduled and the program carried out as originally intended.

The Grandstand was

eventually rebuilt in 1921 and added on to in 1939.

Local Heritage

Over the years, the Fairgrounds have continued to be a major hub for local heritage.

The Henry County Historical Society which was established in 1970, maintains a historical complex on the Fairgrounds.

During the fair, the Society opens several well preserved structures to the public including:

- The Nathaniel Hartman Log Home (c. 1860)
- The 1897 Immanu-



1979 Tomato Festival Candidates

el Lutheran One Room Schoolhouse

- The Smokehouse
- Heller Aller Windmill
- 1900's Gazebo.

There is also a sculpture featuring a piece of the original Odawa Indian Oak Tree, which was planted in 1836 to honor the birth of Martha Edwards the 1st white child born in Washington Township in Henry County.

The Ranzau Blacksmith Barn which is being relocated to the Fairgrounds, is in the process of being restored.

Also at the Fairgrounds is the early 1900's DTI Railroad Depot which has been restored.

The DTI headquarters was located in Napoleon in the 1900's and Henry Ford and his grandsons made many a trip to Napoleon to see the steam engines at the roundhouse and also on one occasion brought his friends Thomas Edison and Harvey Firestone and their wives with him.

Changes

Over the years many changes have occurred at the Fairgrounds.

In 2019 a dream began for the Fairgrounds to replace the Livestock Barns and to build a Henry County Event Center.

This dream came true in 2023 when ground was broke and the new Event Center opened in time for the 2025 Henry County Fair.

"Where Freedom Takes Root" is the theme for this year's 173rd Henry County Fair in Napoleon, Ohio which will run from August 13 thru August 20, 2026.



"Just a little farmer" at a tractor pull.

Once again, the Fair will be a place for community, family and friends to gather, to celebrate the local heritage, the 4-H and FFA projects, and to continue to bring all of Henry County's residents together, whether in the show arena, or watching, marching, or participat-

ing in the Tomato Festival Parade and other events.

Bring the family and enjoy the day!

Note: Farmland News would like to thank John Poulson, historian for the Henry County Fair Board for contributing to this article. FN



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Bi-Monthly Auction ~ 2nd Tuesday!**Yoder & Frey, Inc.****Next Farm
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August 11, 2026**

AuctionTime.com

Online bidding provided
by EquipmentFacts

www.yoderandfreyfarm.com

E-mail: sales@yoderandfreyfarm.com

HAY & STRAW AUCTION EVERY MONDAY AT NOON

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ONLINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION

2015 Chevy Impala LT, John Deere Gator 4x2,
1958 Allis-Chalmers D-17, Antique Furniture, Tools,
Glassware & More

Monday August 17, 2026 – Monday August 24, 2026
Location: Online @ Hibid.com

Visit thecarlinco.hibid.com to bid and
Auctionzip.com ID #3836 for photos

OPEN HOUSE: Monday, August 19, 2026 from 5:00pm-6:30pm
@ 9422 Co. Rd. K, Montpelier, OH 43543

Sale conducted by:

The Carlin Company Realty & Auctioneers
Auctioneers:

Tim Carlin, T.J. Zimmerman & Dave Dempsey
Statements made day of sale take precedence
over printed material.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
4.241+/- Acres 3 Bed Country Farm
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026 @ 5PM
9411 Co. Rd. 12, Wauseon, OH 43567
-Minimum Bid \$125,000.00!!-

**PREVIEW: Monday, August 17, 2026 from 5-6:30pm**

Minimum bid \$125,000.00!!! Get prepared! Great country
property creek side with lots of frontage, could be split, 2-
story 3-bedroom home with upstairs bedroom refinished.
18'x36' 3 car garage & more. Parcel # 20-041444-00.000,
Pike Twp., Delta Schools! Must see!

See whalenauction.com for more information.

TERMS: Successful bidder requires \$5,000.00 down non-
refundable the day of the auction in certified funds with
balance at closing. Closing held on or before 40 days.
Possession at closing. Have finances ready, selling with
immediate confirmation "as is where is". No Buyer's
Premium. All information is derived from sources believed to
be correct but not guaranteed. Dimensions are approximate.
Buyers need to rely entirely on their own judgement and
inspections of property records. Announcements made the
day of the auction take precedence over printed materials.

Estate of Clifford L Battig
Fulton Co Probate #20261092
Lynn R Stump - Fiduciary

WHALEN
REALTY & AUCTION, LTD.

AUCTIONEERS: Mike Murry & Jason Whalen
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Information herein deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



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**2nd Annual - Iron on the Acre
EQUIPMENT AUCTION**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026 | 10 AM
Live and Online Bidding | Defiance, Ohio
Questions? Call or Text Cole at 419-576-8067

****PATRICK HENRY FFA FUNDRAISER ITEM****

Limited-Edition America 250 Case IH Magnum Pedal
Tractor, All Proceeds to Support PH FFA

FARMER RETIREMENT SPOTLIGHTS:

Dave Retcher, Don Johnson, John Aden

*Congratulations to these retiring farmers on a lifetime of
hard work and dedication to our agricultural community.*

**HIGHLIGHT EQUIPMENT:**

2013 Case IH Magnum 315 – ONE FAMILY OWNER,
ONLY 1,704 Hours

2009 Case IH Magnum 245 – ONE OWNER, 4,553 Hours

1989 Case IH 7120 – Owned Since 1991, ONLY 4,053 Hours

2012 Case IH 105U – MFWD, 2,939 Hours

1998 John Deere 693 Corn Head – ONE OWNER, Poly
Snouts

New Holland Roll Belt 450 Round Baler – Less than 100
Bales, NICE

2019 Kubota DM2028 Disc Mower – ONE OWNER, Low
Hours

2019 Kubota SSV65 Skidsteer – 1,000 Hours

1983 Allis-Chalmers 917 Hydro – ONE OWNER

2020 Bennington Tritoon – Two Owner, ONLY 52 Hours

OTHER: International 300, Allis-Chalmers WD45, J&M
Header Cart, Redball 570 Sprayer, John Deere 640 Self
Leveling Loader, DMI 3250 Nutri-Placr, Case IH 900 Cyclo
Air Planter, Great Plains Solid Stand 1500, Kongskilde
3500, Unverferth Penetrator, Deutz 1500 Chisel Plow, IH
490 Disk, IH 5100 Soybean Special, Glencoe Ditchers,
Wagons, Golf Carts, Engine Lathes, and more.

AUCTIONEERS:

Cole Limber, Dan Limber, Aaron Siefker

LOCATIONS:**Preview & Pickup Location:**

14785 OH-15, Defiance, OH 43512

Live Auction Held At:

28394 Ayersville Pleasant Bend Rd., Defiance Oh 43512

Note: Some equipment is located offsite -
see catalog for details.

Full catalog, more details, photos & biddings:

Bid.DLImberAuctions.com

Conducted By:



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