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Sidney Daily News

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Sidney, Ohio

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\$1

Allison's Custom Jewelry
Men's Weekend
Fri., Dec. 14 and Sat., Dec. 15

'Puppy mill bill' now law

BY PATRICIA ANN SPEELMAN
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Local officials are pleased that Gov. John Kasich on Tuesday signed into law what has been known as the "puppy mill bill."

Ohio Senate Bill 130 had been introduced and debated

in the legislature over and over again for years. After much compromise, it is now law. The measure cracks down on high-volume dog breeding operations that critics call puppy mills.

"That's good news," said Shelby County Sheriff John Lenhart Wednesday. "Based on the current law, there need

to be some regulatory things — conditions, number of dogs — so I'm personally pleased the bill was signed."

The sheriff's office was involved last month in exposing an alleged puppy mill in Shelby County that had been called one of the state's largest. The owners, Dave and Rhonda Auton, and their son,

Adam, of 8350 Tawawa-Maplewood Road, were charged with 241 counts of animal cruelty. A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for Monday in Sidney Municipal Court.

"I haven't seen the bill yet," Lenhart said. "I hope it enhanced the penalties. Instead See **PUPPY**/Page 2

TODAY'S NEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER



For a full weather report, turn to Page 13.

DEATHS

Obituaries and/or death notices for the following people appear on Page 3 today:

- Evelyn Ilean Rose
- Connie Young
- Patricia Ann "Patty" Freisthler
- Anna Marie Kies

INDEX

Anna/Botkins	10
City, County records.....	2
Classified	14-16
Comics.....	12
Hints from Heloise.....	6
Horoscope	12
Let Yourself Go.....	7
Localife	6-7
Nation/World	5
Obituaries.....	3
Religion	8
Sports.....	17-20
State news	4
"Tween 12 and 20	11
Weather/Sudoku/Abby/Out of the Past/Dr. Donohue	13
Youth.....	11

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"My theory is to enjoy life, but the practice is against it."
— Charles Lamb, English essayist (1775-1834)

For more on today in history, turn to Page 5.

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SDN Photo/Patricia Ann Speelman

Special order

Alan Michael (foreground), of Anna, wears a Santa hat and apron as he takes a homemade pizza from his outdoor, portable, stone pizza oven Wednesday. Staff and guests of Brokers Real Estate in Sidney eagerly await the final product. Looking on are, from left, Kris Gold, of Botkins, Bruce Goble, of Sidney, and Caven Risk, of Sidney, who sported reindeer antlers for the occasion. Michael constructed the oven, which travels on the back of a pick-up truck, and makes pizzas as a hobby, but he hopes to turn the project into a business soon. He volunteered to enhance the office party at the realty office. The party was for staff, clients and friends.

Houston grad to make candy on TV

DAYTON — Sidney native Ashley (Adams) Sylwestrak, now of Dayton, will make Friday a bit sweeter for people who tune in to watch Fox 45's morning news show.



The 2002 Houston High School graduate will do a chocolate demonstration with television host Meghan Mongillo at 8:45 a.m. It will air in Sidney on cable channel 8.

Sylwestrak has opened Simply Sweet Chocolates, through which she provides handmade chocolates and candies.

Homemade caramels, gourmet chocolate-covered pretzel See **CANDY**/Page 2

Council prepares for coming year

BY RACHEL LLOYD
rlloyd@sdnccg.com

Sidney City Council members made their final preparations for the coming year at their last meeting for 2012, held Monday evening.

Members also welcomed new police officers and recog-

nized police promotions.

Council approved the appropriations for the 2013 budget, amounting to \$62,442,739. Total appropriations are 15.5 percent more than 2012. The operating portion of the budget is 1.4 percent more than the 2012

See **COUNCIL**/Page 2

Third robbery suspect arrested

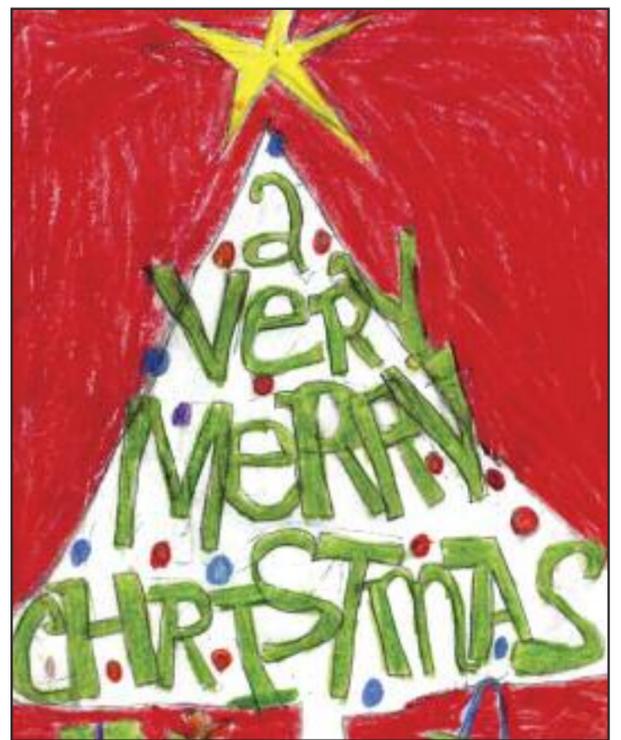
Police located and arrested a third suspect early Wednesday morning in the Oct. 31 Applebee's robbery.

Auttie Shayne King was arrested after a patrol unit recognized a vehicle known to be associated with him on Michigan Street near Kuther Road around 1:37 a.m. The officer stopped the vehicle, and King was a passenger inside. He was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Shelby County Jail

See **ARREST**/Page 2



King



12 days till Christmas

A seasonal greeting is offered in this drawing by Alana Gariety, a fifth grader at Russia Local School. Alana is the daughter of Ken and Ann Gariety. Her art teacher is Miss Yoder. There are 12 days until Christmas.

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Jones wins spelling bee



Jones

Fourth-grader Elijah Jones correctly spelled "chaos" and "straighten" to come away with the first-place trophy in Longfellow Elementary's recent school spelling bee. Forty-two students competed in the bee, and it took 194 words and 12 rounds to find a champion. The runner-up trophy was awarded to fifth-grader Delaney Wilson. Elijah is the son of Rick and Wanda Jones and is a student in Brandi Clune's class. Delaney is the daughter of Chuck and Stephanie Wilson and is a student in Deena Golden's class. This year's spelling bee coordinator and pronouncer was Barb Kinninger, Longfellow's speech and language therapist. Judges were Julie White, library aide; Kim Marquez, second-grade teacher; and Larry Roettger, former aide and current volunteer at the school. Elijah will represent Longfellow in the citywide spelling bee in January, to be held at the Sidney Middle School.

PUPPY

From Page 1

of a misdemeanor, I hope it makes them felonies." Lt. Det. Jim Frey, of the sheriff's office, echoed concerns about penalties and praised the bill's requirement that breeding operations be licensed. "The licensing aspect of it is like (an individual's) having to have a dog license," he said. When someone has a license, law enforcement officials know they exist and where they are. That makes it easier for officers to enforce regulations. "Any bills we can get passed to make sure people take better care of their animals will benefit those animals," Frey said. The measure bolsters regulations on the care and treatment of animals housed in large-scale

establishments and distinguishes the facilities from traditional dog kennels. Those considered "dog retailers" will have to be licensed. The bill creates an advisory board to provide guidance on care standards for the facilities, using federal standards as a minimum. It also allows the director of the state's agriculture department to contract with local veterinarians to conduct inspections. Animal rescues would have to register with the state. Some nonprofit rescue organizations have voiced concern that regulations could be too costly for them. The Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation (SCARF) supports the Shelby County Animal Shelter but is not involved in an-

imal rescue directly. "We are happy that the Ohio legislature and the governor have come together to sign this bill into law," said SCARF President Eric Barr, of Sidney. "This is a step in the right direction to protect dogs from unwelcome abuse and neglect." Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus), the bill's sponsor, was quoted in the Toledo Blade as saying, "By passage of this bill, we're sending a message that all bad breeders are not welcome in Ohio. This has been seven and a half years for me. It's a good start needed to get the black eye away from Ohio as far as puppy mills." *The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

COUNCIL

From Page 1

budget. The new budget reflects a 14 percent decline in staffing since 2088, achieved mainly through attrition. Income tax collections in the budget include a projection of a 1.8 percent decrease in 2012 from the 2011 collections, followed by a 0.4 percent increase in 2013. The budget reflects the impact of the loss of state-levied shared revenues. The capital outlay portion of the budget is up 55.9 percent over the 2012 budget, in large part because of the capital improvements planned for the wastewater treatment plant and the sewer collection system, which are required by the Ohio EPA. Council passed the resolution authorizing the contracts for fire and emergency medical services to the surrounding townships, but not without some questions on the numbers. The contract amounts are as follows: Clinton,

EMS, \$23,196, and fire, \$31,823; Orange, EMS, \$6,348; and fire, \$8,805; Franklin, fire, \$8,375; and Washington, EMS, \$1. Fire Chief Bradley Jones explained the call volume for each area is reflected in the contract amount. The values reflect a 3 percent. Jones was questioned about the \$1 contract with Washington Township, and he explained the area included for Sidney coverage is only about one mile along Interstate 75, and the annual number of calls to the area is only about three to five over the past several years. Council approved the resolution, including only one rather than two years on the Washington Township contract, but Fourth Ward Councilman Steve Wagner voted against the resolution, objecting because the contract did not cover city costs. New Sidney Police Officers Mark Brunson and Mike Morgan were wel-

comed to the city. Capt. Mike Rosengarten and Sgt. Josh Divens were recognized for their promotions, which were the result of the retirement of Capt. Rodney Austin. New K-9 Officer Duke was introduced to council as well. Chief Kevin Gessler said the 2 1/2 year old German Shepherd has already shown his worth by locating a fleeing suspect. The annual resolution authorizing a contract for legal services with the Shelby County Public Defender was approved, not to exceed \$55,000. In other business, council approved various changes to personnel policies, procedures and regulations, as well as new pay tables and adjustments reflecting changes made in job duties. A resolution was passed opposing Ohio HB 601, which proposes uniformity measures for municipal income tax that would result in loss of local control and loss of revenue. Council liaison and board and commission assignments for 2013 were made as follows: Audit Committee, Mike Barhorst; Planning Commission, Steve Wagner; Health Board, Janet Born; Parks and Recreation, Katie McMillan; Tree Board, Mardie Milligan; Emergency Management Agency, Barhorst; Zoning Board, Wagner; Shelby County Public Transit, Milligan; Enterprise Tax Incentive Negotiating Committee, Barhorst; Paint the Town, Rick Sims; Lodging Tax Committee, Tom Miller; McMillan and Wagner; Airport Advisory, Miller; Metropolitan Housing, Sims; Convention Visitors Bureau, Miller; and Family and Children First, Born.

COUNTY RECORD

Sheriff's log

Shelby Road.

WEDNESDAY
-11:24 a.m.: trash dumping. Deputies responded to a report of a red van spotted possibly dumping something into the creek on Shroyer Road at Ohio 119.
-6:27 a.m.: accident with injuries. Deputies responded, along with Houston Rescue and Lockington Fire personnel, to a two-vehicle crash with injuries on Miami Shelby East Road at River Road.
-4:10 a.m.: assist. Deputies assisted setting up a perimeter with Sidney Police at Fricker's.
-12:25 a.m.: stolen vehicle. A 2000 Buick LeSabre was reported stolen from 7292 Patterson-Halpin Road.
TUESDAY
-3:59 p.m.: assault. Deputies responded to a report of a student having assaulted another student on a bus on Cardo Road at Darke-

Village log

WEDNESDAY
-8:48 a.m.: larceny. Botkins Police took a report of a gas drive-off at 500 E. State St.
TUESDAY
-2:17 p.m.: larceny. Fort Loramie Police took a report of a larceny at 100 Enterprise Drive.
-12:41 p.m.: burglary. Anna Police, Botkins Police and Jackson Center Police responded to a report of a past burglary at 610 E. Pike St., Jackson Center.

Fire, rescue

WEDNESDAY
-11:10 a.m.: medical. Fort Loramie Rescue was dispatched to the 3200 block of West Russell Road.
-9:52 a.m.: medical. Perry Port Salem Rescue responded to a medical call in the 18400 block of Herring Road.

CITY RECORD

Police log

WEDNESDAY
-4:03 a.m.: criminal damaging. Kevin E. Richards, 47, no address listed, was arrested for criminal trespass and criminal damaging after Fricker's reported a flat screen TV and mount, valued at \$1,000, stolen.
TUESDAY
-10:28 p.m.: theft. Jane E. Dulaney, 123 Pike St., reported her rear license plate stolen.
SUNDAY
-11 p.m.: theft. Speedway, 1501 St. Marys Ave., reported a person took three phone chargers and two earphones, valued at around \$64, without paying.
Accidents
 Jacob Martin, 19, 204 Doorley Road, Apt. F, was cited Sunday for failure to control after

pulling into an alley then backing into a parked vehicle belonging to Leona Wellbaum, 320 S. Miami Ave. Martin then left the scene. Damage to the vehicle was minor.

Fire, rescue

WEDNESDAY
-8:52 a.m.: medical. Medics were dispatched to the 1500 block of Michigan Street.
TUESDAY
-10:21 p.m.: medical. Medics were dispatched to the 200 block of Doorley Road.
-9:42 p.m.: medical. Medics were dispatched to the 700 block of Buckeye Avenue.
-4:37 p.m.: medical. Medics were dispatched to the 600 block of Folk-erth Road.
-1:44 p.m.: medical. Medics were dispatched to the 500 block of Gearhart Road.

MUNICIPAL COURT

In Sidney Municipal Court this week, Dustin Russell, 23, 1401 River Bend Blvd., was fined \$250 and \$358.90 costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail for assault. Thirty days were suspended. An aggravated menacing case was dismissed.
 • David J. Marlow, 18, 343 Wilson Ave., was fined \$100 and \$203 costs for underage possession of alcohol.
 • Jason Bertsch, 37, 213 S. West Ave., was fined \$150 and \$147 costs for disorderly conduct.
 • Tammy Stotler, 41, 15226 County Road 25A, Anna, was fined \$75 and \$160 costs for passing bad checks.
 • Christopher Righenzi, 20, 1510 Spruce Ave., Apt. 5, was fined \$50 and \$105 costs for criminal trespass.
 • Joseph W. Masteller, 35, 3088 Sidney-Freyburg Road, was fined \$30 and \$86 costs for a seat belt violation.
 • Carolyn R. Brenner, 65, 333 E. North St., Apt. 131, was ordered to pay

\$105 costs for failure to control.
 • Christopher Pebler, 33, 633 Fourth Ave., was fined \$100 and \$10 costs for driving under suspension and \$25 and \$103 costs for use of unauthorized license plates.
 • Lucas R. Burton, 32, 719 Clinton Ave., was fined \$25 and \$105 costs for a turn or stop signals violation.
 • Berdina Gross, 51, 716 Spruce Ave., was fined \$75 and \$107 costs for driving under suspension and \$25 for failure to control.
 • James P. Brautigam, 39, 5061 State Route 29 East, was fined \$30 and \$105 costs for speeding.
 • The theft case of Adam Elmore, 29, 901 McKinley Ave., was dismissed.
 • Shawn J. McCoy, 43, 17411 Sharp Road, was fined \$70 and \$111 costs for speeding.
 • Khristy A. Dicke, 34, 401 Mill St., Anna, was fined \$25 and \$111 costs for a traffic control device violation.

• Zoe R. Kacin, 33, 480 Foxcross Drive, was fined \$30 and \$105 costs for speeding.
 • Donald Starrett, 79, 16728 Sidney-Plattsville, was fined \$25 and \$111 costs for failure to yield the right of way.
 • Jennifer A. Guisinger, 46, 14950 Botkins Road, Botkins, was fined \$30 and \$105 costs for speeding.

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CANDY

From Page 1

rods, molded chocolates, chocolate lollipops and chocolate creations for any celebration are all made by Sylwestrak and marketed through her Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SimplifySweetChocolates. She also takes orders by phone at (937) 475-3665.

ARREST

From Page 1

charged with one count of complicity to commit robbery, a second-degree felony. The investigation is continuing into the incident in which a 63-year-old female Applebee's manager was assaulted and knocked down, while a money bag containing the restaurant bank deposit was taken from her. Brandt M. Kellem, 19, at large, and Matthew G. Roesser, 28, have also been arrested in connection with the crime.

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