

LOCAL & STATE

BRIEFS

Nelsonville-York City School Board of Education meeting

The Nelsonville-York City School Board of Education will hold a Special Board Meeting on Monday Aug. 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., and will be held in the Junior High/High School Cafeteria, Three Buckeye Drive, Nelsonville, Ohio.

Board of Elections special meeting

The Athens County Board of Elections will have a Special Board Meeting on Aug. 18, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. to decide the validity of Provisional Ballots to be added to the Official Canvass Friday Aug. 20, 2021.

If you have questions please contact the Board office 740-592-3201.

Stimson Avenue closures

Construction on Stimson Avenue will continue throughout the week with the following closures taking place:

- Aug. 18-19: Stimson Avenue/N. Cornwell Street and Stimson Avenue/S. Grant Street from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Engineering and Public Works Department at 740-593-7636.

Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities meeting

The Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities will on Tuesday, Aug. 24, hold its regular board meeting at 6 p.m. at Beacon School located at 801 W. Union Street, Athens.

Athens County Board of Revision to meet

The Athens County Board of Revision is scheduled to meet in person on Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the County Auditor's Conference Room, First Floor, Courthouse Annex. The Board will continue hearing Complaints filed against Real Property Valuation, Expedited Foreclosure hearing and review Applications for the Remission of Penalty.

- Expedited Foreclosure Hearing
- August 26, 2021 11:30 a.m., Athens County vs. Donna Cozort, et al, Case # 21BR0007

The meeting may be accessed via the following link: <https://meet.google.com/wkb-dedo-vzs>

Athens AMVETS Post 76 Riders seeking new members

BY COLE BEHRENS
Messenger Assistant Editor

The Athens Post AMVETS Riders are looking for new qualifying motorcycle riders to continue charitable outreach of veterans.

Terrie Baringer, first vice of the lady's auxiliary and of the AMVETS riders, said the riders are a non-profit group that provides assistance, does fundraisers, and many other things for local veterans and the community.

"It's just one of those hidden gems in Athens County, I am so wonderful I became a part of it," Baringer said.

The AMVETS Riders, she said, are a patriotic group of motorcycle riders who hold high respect for current, past and future armed forces. Any member of AMVETS is eligible to be a rider

Baringer, who has multiple members of her immediate family with service history, said the organization holds fundraisers all year long for larger projects, but much of what is done is lending a helping hand to veterans and their families.

Baringer said some of the smaller charitable work they do is help veterans move, buy Christmas gifts for children of veterans

and even construct ramps for handicapped or elderly veterans.

"The riders we can't keep money in our accounts because we're constantly giving it away," Baringer said.

AMVETS, or American Veterans, is a non-partisan, volunteer-led organization formed by World War II veterans of the United States military according to the organization's national website. It advocates for its members as well as for causes that its members deem helpful to the nation at large.

The Athens AMVETS Post 76 is looking for new members to join the band of motorcyclists.

To join the AMVETS riders, you must:

- Be an AMVETS member (a veteran or first-degree relative) in good standing
- Motorcycle endorsement and motorcycle title in your name
- Current insurance
- Pay yearly due of \$15

Baringer urged veterans and relatives to support the community by joining the post or the AMVETS Riders as a way to give back.

"To see veterans helping other veterans, and the pride they take in it, is just overwhelming," Baringer said.

THROWBACK THURSDAY

O.O. McIntyre: From Gallipolis to Top of the Heap in N.Y.C.

O.O. McIntyre started his newspaper career as a writer on the Gallipolis Journal, in the river town of Gallipolis, Ohio in 1902.

He made a few stops along the way, but found his home away from home in New York City in 1912. As he viewed for the first time, this booming metropolis, with its streetcars and avenues crowded with people in a hurry, he knew he had found his element. Later, when he recalled this moment, he declared it was "life's thrilling moment."

This Ohio boy loved New York and New York returned the affection. In a few short years, he established a daily column, called "New York, Day by Day." This was a daily report about the goings on in The Big Apple. A typical item in his column would mention an encounter with Teddy Roosevelt at a restaurant, as the former president would spin yarns with his show business friends. Or such tid-bits as; "Joseph P. Kennedy takes one of his nine children to the matinee every Saturday..."

O.O.'s column differed from gossip columnists. He never intentionally wrote anything hurtful. The public liked the 'down home' flavor in his writing style, his humor, and his brush with famous personalities of the time. They liked him so much, that O.O. McIntyre became the most successful columnist in America earning more than \$200,000 a year (and that's Depression Era dollars). Today, that

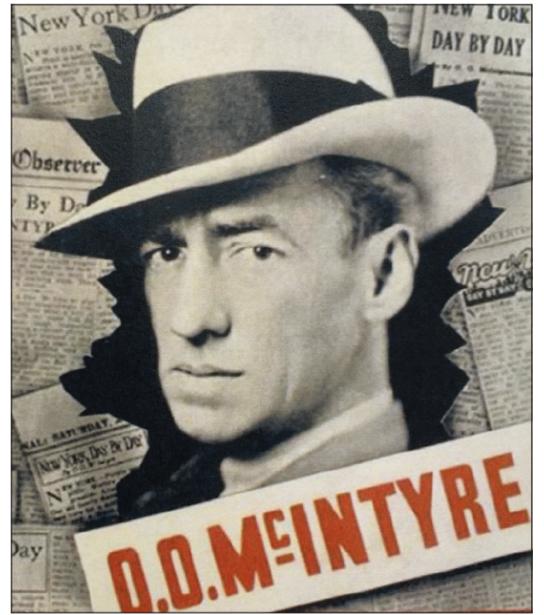
equates to over three million.

His column ran in more than 500 newspapers with a readership of 15,000,000. "New York, Day by Day" was not just about the goings on in New York. O.O. would often write about his memories of Gallipolis. He would write about the band concert on the public square.

He would even write about people back home and mention them by name. "It was a gathering that would seem incongruous in the jazz age; Pappy Pitrat, the old French scholar, with his heavy cane and cape; Miss Eliza Sanns, a delicate bit of lavender and old lace; Colonel Creuzet with his snow white shock of hair; Mr. Hutchinson, the hardware merchant, who wore stiff white shirts on weekdays; C.D. Kerr, the druggist, whom Editor Sibley called the best dressed man in town."

As a result of publishing such a Gallipolis centered article, the whole nation would get a taste of this small Ohio River town, including Colonel Creuzet's snow white shock of hair. O.O. talked about going back home to Ohio, but it never happened. O.O.

McIntyre had a wife, and a grand and patient wife she was. He met his future wife, Maybelle Hope Small, in Gallipolis when they were both six. He noted to a friend while watching Maybelle skip rope, "That's the girl I'm going to marry." And they did marry in 1908. The great columnist depended on his wife



in the creative process of writing. As a matter of fact, Mrs. McIntyre had to be present in the apartment where the couple ived while O.O. was doing his writing. The writing process ended methodically around 5:00 p.m. everyday. Then she was free to do whatever she liked.

It may seem odd the McIntyre insisted on his wife's presence to do his writing, but there were a lot of things about this man that were odd. As a matter of fact, the "O.O." in his name stands for "Oscar Odd." Keep in mind, that he was a very talented writer. And writers and artists sometimes have peculiar habits. Even more peculiar, is that some of these odd habits didn't go with his chosen profession. For example, he didn't like to talk on the phone. He didn't like to go out in public. He was a silent, remote, and private person. The most odd thing of all is

that despite all these phobias, he was the most successful column writer of his time.

O.O. was an introvert. Maybelle was an extrovert. She really showed her love for people after the death of her husband in 1938, when she became a world traveler. She enjoyed traveling to France and other European countries. She spent her summers in Gallipolis in her beautiful mansion, "Gatewood." This was the same stately mansion she and O.O. admired when they were little kids. Maybelle was Gallipolis's very own celebrity. She was quite the social butterfly and could be seen cruising down 2nd Avenue nestled in the back of her chauffeur driven Rolls-Royce.

If anyone has any memories or comments about O.O. and Maybelle McIntyre, please drop me a note. I will add it to my files. John Halley jhalley@athensmessenger.com

Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery receives donation from Peoples Bank

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery was given a donation of \$250,000 from Peoples Bank which will go to support the development of the museum's new permanent location on Columbus Road.

The bank will donate \$50,000 per year for the next five years and the museums new exhibit hall will be dedicated as the Peoples Bank Exhibit Hall.

The museum is a hands-on discovery museum committed to creating educational opportunities for children and youth.

"Peoples Bank is delighted to help bring such an important educational venue to southeast Ohio. Museums bring communities together, which is core to the mission of Peoples Bank," said Chuck Sulerzyski, Peoples Bank CEO and President. "And what a great way to provide education to the region's children while being a good source of entertainment."

Peoples Bank has given to many other philanthropic entities including Southeast Ohio Foodbank, Habitat for

People's Bank CEO and President, **Chuck Sulerzyski**, hands over a giant check to Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery Executive Director, **Jen Parsons** and OVMoD Board Co-President, **Sara Hartman**. This check is just a prop. The real check is for **\$250,000**.



Humanity of Southeast Ohio, Stuart's Opera House, Facing Hunger Foodbank and the children's Hunger Alliance.

"I am blown away by the generosity of this gift," said Sara Hartman, Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery co-founder and co-president. The Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery is thrilled to partner with a community-focused entity like Peoples Bank to positively impact educational opportunities for children and families in our region."

Jen Parsons, executive director at the Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery, expressed her thanks as well, stating, "We are so appreciative of this support from Peoples Bank. This contribution will allow he museum to fur-

ther its mission of inspiring confidence in people of all ages to explore and discover the world!"

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