The Wayne Weekly

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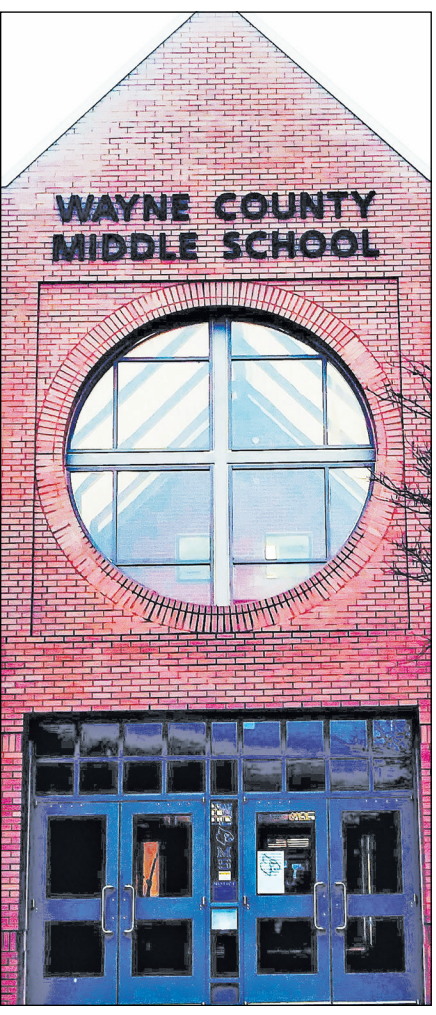
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Superintendent Addresses Rumors of State Takeover

November School Board Meeting Held



By Adam Phillips

Recently released state test scores for Wayne County Middle School have led to talk, and rumors, throughout the community of a state "takeover" of the school.

The Wayne Weekly reached out to Wayne County Schools Superintendent Brian Dishman for clarification on this issue, receiving his response dispelling the rumors.

"There is not a state takeover of Wayne County Middle School," Dishman said. "I assume this rumor started due to the CSI designation, but CSI does not involve a "takeover".

CSI (Comprehensive Support & Improvement) designation was authorized under state law for schools with test scores below a certain level. It sets in place a number of required steps for the school, and its administration, to address the shortcomings of the schools test numbers.

Superintendent Dishman said under the current status at the middle school, two staff members from KDE (Kentucky Department of Education) are assigned to the school to assist the principal and other school administrators with a plan to make improvements.

"They do not have any decision-making authority and are there only in an advisory capacity," he said.

According to the Kentucky

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Supt. Brian Dishman



"Cram the Cruiser" Food Drive

The 2026 "Cram the Cruiser" food drive is now underway and runs through Saturday, December 5th with collection points statewide and special events at participating stores. Organized by the Kentucky State Police, the drive collects non perishable food items to help families in need across Kentucky during the holiday season. During 2025, KSP gathered nearly 307 thousand pounds of food with Post 16 in Henderson leading with over 234 thousand pounds. Donations stay within local communities and are distributed through partners like Feeding Kentucky, the Christian Appalachian Project and the Capital City Activity Center.

Items accepted include:

- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Canned meats
- Macaroni and cheese
- Cereal
- Peanut butter, jelly
- Canned soups, chili,

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Tourist Commission Meets

Todd McFarland

The Monticello Tourist Commission met recently at the Chamber of Commerce Office. Board Members present included Davis, Jones, Foster, Bertram and Hopper, along with Executive Director Todd McFarland. Three guests were present: Stephen Staples, Shannon Hutchinson and Stephanie Gehring.

The meeting was called to order by Vicki Davis. Following a motion to approve the minutes by Joann Foster which was seconded by Dylan Jones, the motion carried with a 4 - 0 vote.

The Financial Report was given by Executive Director Todd McFarland. Afterwords, a Motion by Dylan Jones was seconded by Maria Hopper to sponsor the Wayne County Archery Tournament in the

See **Tourist,** *Cont. on* **Page A6**



County Judge Executive Scott Gehring helped recognize Diabetes \Awareness Month through a proclamation signing.

Understanding Diabetes

Jeff Neagle

Every November, people worldwide come together for Diabetes Awareness Month to learn more about diabetes, share stories, and promote a better understanding of this chronic disease. But what exactly is diabetes, and why is it so crucial to raise awareness?

Diabetes is a condition in which your blood has too much glucose (sugar). Normally, when we eat, our bodies convert food into glucose, which is a type of sugar. This sugar enters our bloodstream and provides energy

See **Diabetes,** *Cont. on* **Page A6**

Wayne Circuit Court News

A plea of guilty led to a sentence of imprisonment for Christopher K. Branscum. According to court documents from Wayne Circuit Court Clerk, Linda Smith's office, Branscum appeared with his attorney at an arraignment, a few months back and entered a plea of not guilty to Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon and Persistent Felony Offender 1st Degree.

Recently, a plea of guilty was entered to the Possession of a Firearm by A Convicted Felon and this past week, it was adjudged by the court that there was insufficient cause shown why judgment should not be pronounced. The Court found Branscum guilty of Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon and he was sentenced to serve one year on Count 1, with Count 2 being dismissed. The sentence

See **Circuit,** *Cont. on* **Page A6**

WREATHS across AMERICA

Local Wreaths Across America December 19th

REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

On December 19th at 12Noon, the Monticello Woman's Club will be helping Elk Springs Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.

Help honor veterans and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

The ceremony will be held at Pickrell Auditorium at Wayne County High School. The Wreath Placement will immediately follow the ceremony at Elk Spring Cemetery located at 1340 North Main. For more info, contact Monticello Woman's Club President, Tammye Sumpter.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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