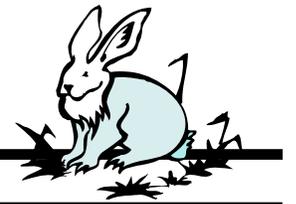


# THE NITTY GRITTY



## Easter Egg Hunt

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### Events

- May, 14—Mother's Day
- May 20, Recycling, 9 am—noon, recycling trailer
- May 29, Memorial Day
- Lions Club—2nd & 4th Mondays, 7 pm at Christ UMC
- Sunday Worship, Christ UMC, 9:30 am; Sunday School, 10:30 am
- Council meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, Village Hall, 7 pm
- Food Pantry, 2nd & 4th Saturdays, Christ UMC, 10 am



Approximately 60 children participated in **The ANNUAL PORTAGE EASTER EGG HUNT** at ENRIGHT PARK on Saturday, April 14. All



participants enjoyed the great weather, the chance to meet the Easter Bunny and the challenge of finding those eggs.



## Portage Lions Club

The Portage Lions just completed their annual Vidalia Onion Sale. Two thousand pounds of onions were sold and delivered to waiting customers. Unfortunately, all extra bags have also been sold. If interested in getting in on this spring tradition, contact any club member for next year's sale. Onion recipes can be found on our website, [www.portagelions.org](http://www.portagelions.org). 100% of proceeds from all fundraisers go towards service projects. **Thank you** to everyone who helped support our club.



## Recycling Trailer



Time for spring cleaning? Recycle cardboard, glass, aluminum, steel cans, newspaper, magazines, and plastic (numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7) at the Recycling Trailer every 3rd Saturday of the month. The recycling trailer is manned by the Portage Lions Club between 9 am to 12 noon.

# Happy Mother's Day

## May 14

# Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service. It marks the start of the unofficial summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end.



## Food Pantry

The Portage Food Pantry is open the second and fourth Saturdays of the month for one hour. If you need food come, and get what you need. If you are interested in seeing our changes, come and visit us. We have a whole new set up and a lot more variety of food items as well as some non-food items (like shampoo, soap, etc). Visit us at 301 West Main Street, located within Christ UMC. If you are interested in helping, bring donations during pantry hours.



The Nitty Gritty is sponsored by the Portage Lions Club. Send comments and suggestions to portagelions@dacor.net.

### Freedom Is Not Free - by Kelly Strong

I watched the flag pass by one day.  
It fluttered in the breeze.  
A young Marine saluted it,  
and then he stood at ease.  
I looked at him in uniform  
So young, so tall, so proud,  
He'd stand out in any crowd.  
I thought how many men like him  
Had fallen through the years.  
How many died on foreign soil?  
How many mothers' tears?  
How many pilots' planes shot down?  
How many died at sea?  
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?  
No, freedom isn't free.

I heard the sound of TAPS one night,  
When everything was still  
I listened to the bugler play  
And felt a sudden chill.  
I wondered just how many times  
That TAPS had meant "Amen,"  
When a flag had draped a coffin  
Of a brother or a friend.  
I thought of all the children,  
Of the mothers and the wives,  
Of fathers, sons and husbands  
With interrupted lives.  
I thought about a graveyard  
At the bottom of the sea  
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.  
No, freedom isn't free.

### Ohio Facts and Trivia

- Ohio is 225 miles wide and 210 miles north to south, for a grand total of 41,000 square miles.
- It is second in the US in number of cities with a population of more than 500,000.
- It has 88 counties and 44,000 miles of rivers and streams.
- The name *Ohio* comes from the Iroquois for 'great river'.
- Red—the unofficial state color. The state bird (cardinal) is red, as is the state flower (red carnation), the state insect (ladybug), and state beverage (tomato juice—bet you didn't know that). Red also is prominent in the state flag—the only swallowtail banner among the state flags, and at least 10 colleges and universities in Ohio count red as one of their colors. The state's top floriculture crop is the red poinsettia. And, the largest ketchup bottler in the world is the Heinz plant in Fremont, and Ohio is the country's biggest producer of frozen pizzas—that is a lot of RED!



Facts from *It Happened In Ohio*—by Carol Cartaino