

THE NITTY GRITTY



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Events

- Blood Drive—Sep 27, 1-7pm
- Sunday Worship, Christ UMC, 9:00 am; Sunday School, 10:00 am
- Council meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, Village Hall, 7 pm
- Portage Lions Club, 2nd and 4th Mondays, Christ UMC, 7 pm
- Food Pantry, 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10 am; Christ UMC



September 5

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The next local blood drive will be on Wednesday, Sep 27 from 1 pm to 7 pm at Christ UMC. There currently is a dangerously low supply of blood and donors are greatly needed. If it has been at least 56 days since your last donation, please consider donating at this drive.



Blessing Box

Christ United Methodist Church has a Blessing Box by the front doors. If you have extra non-perishable items and wish to share with your neighbors, you are encouraged to leave them in the box. If you find you are in need, you are welcome to help yourself. The box is available at all times. This project was started by Christ's Church in Bowling Green and many area churches are participating.

Fall Fest

A Fall Festival is planned for Oct 15 in Enright Park. This is a day long event and starts with a Community Garage from 10am-6pm. A Kids Carnival opens at 11 am. Also starting at 11 am are food trucks and a community bake sale. The Beer Garden opens at 12 noon along with live music. A Cruise in Car Show is scheduled for 2-5 pm. RIZZIO will complete the evening from 6-10 pm. If you want to participate in the garage sale, are able to volunteer, or donate baked goods, contact Laura Baldonado at 419-615-0976. Leave your name and number if she doesn't answer. All are welcome.

Portage Lions Club

Thank you to everyone who came to our recent McDonald's Benefit Night on Aug 25. We don't have the final numbers yet, but expect to have earned over \$300. All funds earned during fundraisers are used in service projects, no funds are allowed to pay club expenses. The Lions Club will be starting up meetings again for the new Lions year on Sep 12 at 7 pm at Christ UMC. We welcome anyone interested in becoming a member to the world's largest service organization.

24/7 Recycling

Plastic #1-7
Flattened
Cardboard
Paper
Aluminum/Steel
Cans
Glass
No plastic bags

Agape Food Pantry

The Agape Food Pantry (formerly 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.

From Portage Yesteryear . . .

The following article was originally printed in the Wood County Democrat newspaper on March 27, 1903. This is a long article and will be reprinted in sections over the next several months.

PORTAGE WOOD COUNTY'S SECOND OLDEST TOWN

Sketch of Its Growth From a Frontier Settlement to Its Present Thriving Proportions Its Business Concerns, Churches, Schools and Societies

Only a few years hence the second oldest town in Wood county will have occasion to celebrate her 100th anniversary.

Portage began to make history as a town in 1829, when Collister Haskins erected the first white man's place of habitation in the vicinity. Near his cabin on the south bank of the Portage creek in the south edge of the present town, Mr. Haskins built a log house which was the nucleus around which the town was built by the occasional addition of a settler's cabin.

Mr. Haskins established a trading post in the building and it still stands to his memory but is remodeled and resided.

At present it is occupied by Shellas Patterson, now 86 years of age, another of the pioneers of the locality. Mr. Haskins placed a stock of notions in store for traffic with the Indians; also a supply of goods to meet the necessities of the white settlers. The present town site was entered by Haskins who at one time owned several hundred acres of the wild lands around there.

An unsuccessful attempt was made by Adam Ross to found a town south of the present village, but it provide inferior to that chosen by Mr. Haskins and as a result the growth inclined northward. In 1833 he built a log house on the site of the present town which was occupied two years later as a school house, the first school house of the locality.

Southwest of the town a mile or so is the scene of one of the Indian's favorite camping grounds, where they were wont to herd their ponies for grazing on prairie grass. Part of these grounds is now known as the Gage Carline farm.

In 1829 a postoffice was granted and christened Portage and Collister Haskins was the first postmaster. He held the position 18 years. In 1836 he had the eastern half of the present village surveyed and platted for the town. He remained a resident of the place till his death in 1872. In 1862 Samuel Johnson succeeded Haskins as the second postmaster. Later followed Frank Munn, N.L. Besanson and Daniel Mears. Mr. Munn and Mr. Mears still survive and have proven themselves valuable citizens to the old town on many occasions.

Mr. Munn is still an active business man and in 1900 gave Portage its first and only banking institution.