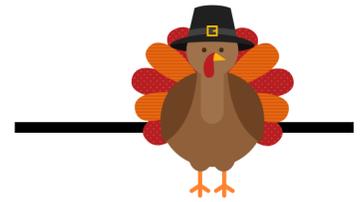


# THE NITTY GRITTY



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## PEACE POSTER CONTEST

The Portage Lions Club is pleased to announce the winner of the 2022-2023 Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest is Kiera Novinsky. Kiera is a student in Mrs. Cindy Marso’s art class at Bowling Green Middle School. The theme of this year’s contest is “Lead With Compassion”. The runner up is Cole Oberlander. Both Kiera and Cole, along with their families were treated to an award dinner on Oct 24. They were presented with certificates and cash prizes.

Kiera’s artwork goes on to the district competition; the winner of that contest then moves to the state competition. The winner of state is then entered into the international level. The winner of the international competition is awarded \$5000 and is honored at a special ceremony at Lions Day at the United Nations.

Lions International has held this contest for over three decades.



## SWAP SHOP

Do you like to read or put jigsaw puzzles together? If so, come to the Swap Shop to share gently used books, magazines, and puzzles with other likeminded people. The Swap Shop will be open every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall from 10 am—4 pm. If you have questions or would like more information, contact Linda Canterbury at 419-806-7601.

**Next Red Cross Blood Drive is Wed, Dec 7 from 1 pm to 7 pm at Christ United Methodist Church—SAVE A LIFE—DONATE BLOOD**

## Community Holiday Dinner

*Come to the first Annual Community Dinner to be held on Sat, Dec 3 at Christ UMC from 3 pm to 6 pm. This will be a potluck with the main meat being provided. Come, bring a side dish or dessert to share, and spend some time with your Village neighbors.*

### Events

- 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

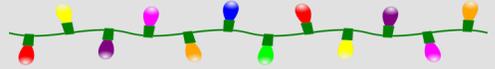
**Blessing Box  
Christ UMC  
Front Doors  
Always Open**

### 24/7 Recycling

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

## Holiday Lights Contest

The Portage Lions Club will be sponsoring the Annual Holiday Lights Contest again this year. All houses within the village limits are automatically entered. There are 4 categories: Best Traditional Display, Best Use of Color, Best Use of Inflatables or Figures, and Most Creative Small Display. So start planning your holiday decorations—you might be one of this year's winners.



## Events Committee

A new committee has been formed to sponsor community events. The Enright Park will benefit from fundraising activities, but this is not just for the park, but to encourage community togetherness, socializing, and support. The next meeting will be Nov 16 at 7 pm at the Village Hall. If you would like to be involved and help plan future events, please attend the next meeting or contact Laura Baldonado at 419-615-0976.

## Amish Cheese Sale

The Portage Lions Club Amish cheese arrived Nov 11. Some extras will be available for sale, varieties are: Colby jack, pepper jack, baby Swiss, mild cheddar, smoked Gouda, smoked cheddar, mozzarella, horseradish, green onion, and roasted garlic. Contact any member or email portagelions@dacor.net if interested in purchasing some.



## Agape Food Pantry

The Agape Food Pantry (formerly the Portage Food Pantry) is open the second and fourth Saturdays of



the month from 9 –11 am. 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 . . .* **PART THREE**

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 THE MUNN BANK (continued)

Henry Haskins was among the early merchants of the place as was also John Van Blarcum, whose two daughters, Mrs. Taber and Mrs. James McPherson, now reside in Bowling Green.

As in its earlier days, Portage is still an excellent trading center for the rich farming and oil community which surrounds it on all sides. It contains among its business houses some of the best stocked and best kept stores in the county. The enterprise manifested by the present merchants is a most commendable feature.

#### AL MARCH

Who first struck the place as a pedagogue, had charge of the schools as superintendent during the term of '94 and '95. In the latter year he formed a partnership with S. R. Light in the drug and grocery business.

After four years the association was mutually dissolved, Mr. March taking the grocery stock and Mr. Light the drug stock. Since then Mr. March enlarged his quarters till he now carries a splendid line of general merchandise, including dry goods, groceries and shoes and on the second floor of the building he has put in a stock of wall paper, curtains, carpets and mattings.

Mr. March is a pleasant gentleman to meet and a business man Portage would be loath to part with.