

# Community Roundup: Thompson named September Rotary Student of Month

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Kimberly "Kim" Thompson of Tiffin has been selected as the September Fremont Rotary Student of the Month. *(Photo: Submitted)*

## Thompson named Rotary Student of the Month

FREMONT - Kimberly "Kim" Thompson of Tiffin has been selected as the September Fremont Rotary Student of the Month. Thompson is in the Applied Business Management cohort and chose to attend Terra State Community College because it was close to home and she was able to take a few classes at a time while she worked full-time. After the plant she worked at closed, she started taking classes full-time at Terra State.

"It's been a great experience being in this cohort," Thompson said. "I'm in classes with girls who have also lost their jobs. It's nice to get to know people who are in the same situation."

Thompson was nominated by one of her instructors, Amy Drongowski. After Thompson graduates, she's hoping to further her education at Bowling Green State University studying Human Resources.

In the community, Thompson also is in training for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties. She volunteers as a Seneca Mentoring Youth Links mentor and volunteers at Noble Elementary School.

She is married to her husband James, has three kids named Cory, Kian, and Kenna.



A new groups of volunteers has graduated to be CASA volunteers. Left to right are Judge Giesler, Ashley Walterbusch, Annie Hild, Amy Young, Cassidy Steinmetz, Maggie Meterko, Treena Baer and Connie Cornett, Executive Director. (Photo: Submitted)

## New CASA volunteers graduate training

PORT CLINTON - The Ottawa County Family Advocacy Center announces the graduation of a new class of Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASA volunteers advocate for children involved in the Juvenile Court system due to abuse and neglect.

The volunteer does an independent investigation and makes fact-based recommendations to the court to insure that the child's best interests are served.

The Honorable Judge Kathleen Giesler swore the following volunteers into their new capacity: Treena Baer, Annie Hild, Maggie Meterko, Cassidy Steinmetz, Ashley Walterbusch and Amy Young.

Each year the CASA program in Ottawa County serves approximately 100 children involved with the courts through no fault of their own. For more information, visit <https://ocfamilyadvocacy.org/>.



Caleb Seibert, holds a mega cabbage planted over the summer. (Photo: Submitted)

## Elementary pupils grow mega cabbages

FREMONT - Milly Gomez-Garcia, Mason Harder, Caleb Seibert, and Aryanna Tingler from Washinton Elementary School were busy planting, tending to, and harvesting their very own mega-cabbage plants this summer.

Harder was the contest winner with a 12.8 pound plant. The other cabbages were 4.3, 5, and 8.75 pounds, respectively.

"My favorite part was planting the cabbages", Harder said. "They were planted in two soil types, to see which one would grow better."

These four were among the students from Abby Markwith's class that participated in the third grade Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program ([bonniecabbageprogram.com](http://bonniecabbageprogram.com)).



Mason Harder displays his 12.8 pound mega cabbage raised over the summer. *(Photo: Submitted)*

## Handru receives Ray of Hope Award

FREMONT- NAMI of Seneca, Sandusky, and Wyandot Counties announced that Mircea Handru, executive director for the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties, is this year's recipient of the Ray of Hope Award.

NAMI SSW (the National Alliance on Mental Illness) gives this award annually to honor those in the community who are dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families impacted by mental health conditions. Mircea became the Executive Director in 2015 and has been able to overcome the challenges of adequate funding and workforce resources by ensuring funding stability in the three-county service area. Mircea worked tirelessly to ensure the passage of Mental Health levies in three counties.

NAMI also announced that Retired Lt. Michael S. Woody is the 2019 CIT Champion of the Year. Michael served for 25 years on the Akron Police Department and was instrumental in bringing Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training to the state of Ohio.

Both men will be honored at the 17th Annual Ray of Hope Awards Dinner, to be held 4:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 6 at Anjulina's Banquet Hall, 2270 Hayes Ave.

## Former White House Chef to teach class at Hayes home

FREMONT - Learn to cook food fit for a president during a cooking class with a former White House chef in the historic Hayes Home on Oct. 5, during the American Presidents Film & Literary Festival.

Former White House Chef John Moeller, who prepared cuisine for three presidents, will share his secrets for creating dishes for presidential dining from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m. Participants can choose one of the two sessions.

Tickets are \$125 per person and can be purchased at [americanpresidentsfilmfestival.org/ticketing](http://americanpresidentsfilmfestival.org/ticketing). Each class is limited to 15 people.