

New Venedocia mayor takes oath of office



Venedocia Mayor Doug Ruen presents a plaque to outgoing mayor Linda Fisher, for her 16 years of dedication to the village of Venedocia.

Etgen leads L'view FFA chapter

Jodi Etgen, daughter of Larry and Tonya Etgen, is a senior at Lincolnview High School.

As an FFA member, Etgen has participated in selling hams and wood shavings for the chapter fundraisers, and has worked at Babyland during the Van Wert County Fair. She leads the parliamentary procedure team. She has

also been on the soil judging team.

Her school activities include senior class vice president, treasurer of Student Council and SADD and a member of the Spanish and Science clubs.

Etgen has received second place and gold rating with her FFA scrapbook, Greenhand Degree and Chapter Degree.

Arn named FFA officer at L'view

Secretary Jill Arn is the 1999-00 Lincolnview FFA Chapter Officer.

Jill Arn, daughter of Jim and Diane Arn, is a senior at Lincolnview High School.

As an FFA member, Arn has participated in selling hams and wood shavings as the chapter fundraisers, and has worked at Babyland during the Van Wert

County Fair. She is the secretary of the Parliamentary Procedure Team and has been on the soil judging team. Her school activities include National Honor Society, Science and IT Club, and plays softball.

Jill's accomplishments in FFA are Greenhand Degree, Chapter Degree, first-place General Record Book, and shows steers at the fair.

VENEDOCIA — Van Wert County Common Police Court Judge Charles Steele helped facilitate the transition of power in the village of Venedocia by swearing in a new mayor, Doug Ruen and councilmen, Vernon Hobbs and Paul Price, on Jan. 3.

Mayor Ruen then called the meeting to order with Councilmen Hobbs, Robert Louth, Price, Gloria Leiter, Lee Lare and clerk Janet Louth, present. Ruen then appointed Louth, Hobbs and Price as signers for the village. Bills were read and approved.

New committees were assigned for the coming year. Street Committee is Louth and Lare; Parks and Recreation is Hobbs and whoever will be chosen as the new councilman to fill Ruen's vacant seat; Safety and Police is Price and Leiter.

The council voted Robert Louth as the new council president. It was unanimously passed by council vote. A motion was made to retain Martin Burchfield as city solicitor.

The council also voted on the services of Kim Coil as custodian of the city building. The services of Tom Evans for the purpose of snow removal was voted and passed by council.

The presentation of appropriations were read and unanimously passed by a roll call vote.

New business of selecting a replacement for Ruen's vacant council seat was discussed. Jeff Coil was nominated and appointed by council to that position.

Council will be changing its meeting time to 7 p.m. for the next few months to allow time for one of its members to attend the meetings from out-of-town business.

Ruen then congratulated Linda Fisher on her lengthy service to the community and wished her good fortune on her future endeavors. He presented her with a plaque commemorating her years of service as mayor of the village.

"It has been an honor to have served the village of Venedocia as mayor for 16 years," Fisher said. "I had a good working relationship with the village council. Over these years we have updated our streets, alleys and parks."

50 YEARS AGO IN VAN WERT

Here is a sampling of stories from the Jan. 10, 1950, edition of *The Times-Bulletin*:

Ridge Township board of education, during a reorganization meeting, elected officers.

Those named included Lewis Johnson, president; John Tomlinson, vice president, and J. H. Johnson, clerk.

Wilbur Pollock was appointment as a Ridge Township board member to succeed John Holland, who resigned.

"Venedocia is a very caring community," she added. "(They) have an interesting and inspiring heritage. Fisher noted that the village's Lions Club is a very dedicated group, adding, "we are grateful for all their work in undertaking several projects" for the village.

The meeting was adjourned and a social time followed for everyone to congratulate Fisher and Ruen.

Van Wert

PAULINE V. DAVIS, 90, died at 1:42 a.m. Dec. 7, 1999, at Lima Memorial Hospital.

She was born Aug. 31, 1909, in Van Wert County to Harvey and Myrtle Gamble. On April 20, 1944, she married W. Carey Davis, who died Jan. 5, 1989.

Mrs. Davis had worked at Montgomery Wards, Van Wert, for more than 20 years. She was a member of the Middle Point United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Roger (Judy) Davis and Ron G. Davis, both of Van Wert; two grandchildren and a great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Eugene, Everett and Virgil Gamble.

Services will begin at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home, Van Wert. The Revs. Jane Brown and Paul Miller will officiate. Burial will be in Ridge Cemetery, Middle Point.

Friends may call from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. today and one hour prior to services Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Community Health Professionals or Middle Point EMS.