

"Nutcracker" ballet recently. We had read that there were some new additions but were not prepared for the beauty that we saw. The whole performance was simply gorgeous, and the Fort Wayne Ballet can certainly be proud of what was accomplished by their young students.

My husband and I recently saw the Russian version of the Nutcracker at the Embassy. We both agreed that we did not care for that version at all and really enjoyed our Fort Wayne Ballet's production much more.

Therefore, we wish to thank all those who participated to make this local production so outstanding. The dancing was wonderful, the costumes superb, and with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic providing the excellent music, it was a night to remember.

— *Byron and Lillian Embick*

Should all taxpayers fund Medicare?

Daniel Bishton is upset with the prescription bill and wrote, "The goal eventually is to bankrupt traditional Medicare by leaving only the sickest seniors in an under funded program."

Medicare began with a 0.35 percent payroll tax when it should have been 4.1 percent. It requires setting aside 4.1 percent a year to pay for an individual's Medicare benefits at age 65. Why did those who are seniors today allow this to happen on their watch?

The prescription drug program's value to a senior is about \$29,000 at age 65. Did they contribute one penny toward this cost? Medicare's value to a 65-

year-old is \$91,000. How much did they actually contribute toward this \$91,000?

The current unfunded liability of Medicare is over \$5 trillion.

Daniel, Medicare is already insolvent. It is projected to be unable to pay promised benefits past 2024, two years earlier now that our representatives passed a bill which is not funded. Why should workers under the age of 47 support Medicare if it cannot pay promised benefits?

Why should they be forced to pay 2.9 percent of their wages to a program which seniors themselves did not fully fund?

It is time for politicians to stop passing bills without funding them in full.

It is time to end programs which are broke and cannot pay promised benefits. Clean house; vote them all out of office.

— *William Larsen*

Remember, or find, Christ at Christmas

Christmas lights, decorations, music — it's the Christmas season already! Remember it's all about Jesus, the birth of the Christ Child, God's most awesome gift to mankind!

John 3:16 — For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes on Him will have everlasting life.

Make sure you know Christ as your Savior. He is preparing a mansion for you in Heaven. (John 14). His return may be soon.

— *Lois Swihart, Zanesville*