



TRIBUNE-COURIER

RICHLAND COUNTY'S ONLY LOCALLY-OWNED NEWSPAPER • SINCE 1961

news@tribune-courier.com

06.12.25



Community joins in Walk for Life to support of RPS

Photos and Article By Traci Little

A wave of community spirit swept through downtown Mansfield last Saturday morning as over 200 walkers, representing over 15 churches, laced up their shoes and took to the streets for the annual Walk for Life, hosted by Friends of Richland Pregnancy Services. This year's theme was "Speak Up For Life," based on the Bible verse, Proverbs 31:8.

The family-friendly fundraiser began around 10 am at Central Park and wound through a scenic 1.5–2 mile route in the heart of downtown. Participants walked not only to raise awareness, but also to show their support for the free services provided by Richland Pregnancy Services including pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, parenting education, mentoring, and material support.

Local churches, families, and community supporters made up the lively crowd, many of whom came wearing matching shirts or carrying signs in support of life and hope. The event drew online interest from hundreds and served as a visible reminder of the clinic's mission to offer compassion and care to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

As the morning wrapped up, participants gathered back at Central Park for light refreshments, fellowship, and a shared sense of purpose. With smiles, hugs, and a few tired feet, the event ended on a

high note—proof that Mansfield continues to stand strong for life.

Amy Kahl, Executive Director said, "we love hosting the Walk for Life and seeing our friends from every area of Richland County come together to honor life and to let the community know we are all here for them. No woman facing an unplanned pregnancy walks alone!"

For more information or to support the ongoing work of Richland Pregnancy Services, visit www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com.

(See More Photos on Page 7)

Richland Academy of the Arts introduces Keyboard-4-Kids

Richland Academy of the Arts (RAA) has announced the launch of Keyboard-4-Kids, a summer music program designed to introduce children to the joy of playing piano in a collaborative and creative environment. This program is made possible through the Summer-time Kids Grant from the Richland County Foundation.

Running July 8–31, Keyboard-4-kids will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10–11 am and is open to children ages 8–12. The cost for the entire program is just \$35.

This program focuses on foundational music keyboard skills and encourages young learners to explore, note reading, rhythm reading, basic composition and group collaboration.

"This program is a wonderful opportunity for kids to discover the basics of music in a hands-on, engaging way," said Dr. Michael Benson instructor at RAA. "We believe early exposure to music can spark lifelong creativity and confidence."

Class will be held at RAA, 75 N. Walnut St., Mansfield.

Interested families can learn more by visiting www.richlandacademy.com or calling 419-522-8224.

Richland SWCD to host workshop

The next Conservation Creation Arts & Crafts Workshop hosted by Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) is Tuesday, July 8, at 6 pm at 1495 W. Longview Ave., Mansfield.

In this workshop, participants will create a beautiful and aromatic air freshener to hang with air dry clay, dried flowers and essential oils.

Richland SWCD provides all the materials needed to make the air freshener. The cost is \$12 per person and reservations are required by July 1. To register visit <https://richlandswcd.net/event/conservation-creation-arts-crafts-workshop-sweet-smelling-flowers/> or call 419-747-8685.



Ontario 4th of July Festival returns

The Ontario 4th of July Festival will be held Friday, June 27 and Saturday, June 28, at Marshall Park in Ontario.

A car show will kick-off the festival at 5:15 pm Friday night and events and activities will begin at 11 am Saturday.

For more information and event schedule visit <https://ontario4thofjulyfestival.com>.

LOST IN A BOOK



A Book Review
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



Park Avenue Summer by Renée Rosen was the perfect escape for me during a busy week.

@goodreads describes this as *Mad Men* meets *The Devil Wears Prada*, which I think is the perfect description.

It's a historical fiction story set in the summer of 1965. An Ohio girl is in search of a new life in NYC and finds herself caught up in the rebranding of *Cosmopolitan* magazine.

These characters were interesting, the story was a bit spicy, but what else can you expect from *Cosmopolitan* in the sixties.

I loved this easy read enough to seek out more Renée Rosen books.

In some ways, her writing reminded me of Marie Benedict

and Fiona Davis, but with a more whimsical flare.

My rating: ★★★★★
Follow my blog at [Green Gurneys at GreenGurneys.com](http://GreenGurneys.com)

Foreign exchange student program seeking families

Families across the U.S. have a unique opportunity to experience a new culture right in their own homes. ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a non-profit public benefit organization, is currently seeking warm and welcoming host families to open their homes to international exchange students for the upcoming school year.

Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience for families that fosters cultural understanding, builds lifelong friendships, while enriching local communities.

Students, aged 15–18 years, come from over 60 countries around the world.

The students are carefully selected based on their academic performance, English proficiency, and personal character, and they are eager to become part of an American family, attend a local high school, and share their own traditions.

During their stay, students immerse themselves in American culture by living with and becoming part of a host family while attending a local high school.

This experience allows them to improve their English skills, form lifelong friendships and gain a deeper understanding of American life and values.

Families interested in hosting can apply at www.host.asse.com or can call Saphia Lesch at 800-736-1760 or email midwest@asse.com.



THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

Ballerina is the first spin-off in the *John Wick* franchise which starred Keanu Reeves as a man out for revenge.

The *John Wick* movies have created a whole world for this character, including a hotel named The Continental where he hides out. This became its own Peacock tv series, and has boasted some of the most impressive action scenes in any film series.

This movie concentrates on Ana de Armas's character of Eve Macarro, an assassin who is training to be like Wick though also performs as a ballerina.

She is under the watchful eye of the head of an organization headed by Anjelica Huston. Macarro is tasked with an assignment though realizes the head of another group of assassins (Gabriel Byrne) is responsible for her father's death and seeks him out to avenge him.

De Armas is great in this role balancing between the emotional pull of losing a parent and the need for revenge in some terrific action scenes.

The most memorable ones are in the latter half of the film when

it really kicks into gear. There is a fight scene between Eve and another man duking it out with flame throwers that is expertly shot and choreographed. For a movie known for its fight scenes, these will not disappoint.

The supporting cast is terrific including Reeves himself returning as John Wick. He is scattered throughout the film though really comes into play in the last part where

he fills in an essential part. Ian McShane, Gabriel Byrne, Norman Reedus and the late great Lance Reddick fill out the rest of the cast.

Ballerina is a very solid entry in this franchise. It's interesting to see Wick as a supporting character though Ana de Armas really steps up and is so great in this role.

While the plot is basically what the original *John Wick* movie was and not much more than that, the actors, action and re-immersion into this world is plenty enough reason to go see it.

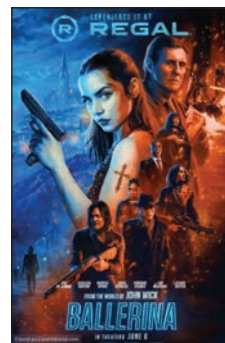


Photo By Mark Shutt

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Tribune-Courier



Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in
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News Briefs

A work session for the Madison Board of Education has been scheduled for Thursday, June 12 at 4 pm in the Madison Middle School Professional Development Room, 1419 Grace St., Mansfield.

A tax policy presentation will be given by David Conley of Rockmill Financial Consulting. No action will be taken at this session.

★

Congressman Jim Jordan will be the speaker at a lunch Monday, June 16, from 11:45 and to 1 pm. Jordan is the 4th district representative in the U.S. House of Representatives and chair of the House Judicial Committee. A Q&A will follow.

The lunch will be held in The Kobacker Room at DLX Events and Catering, 28 N. Main St., Mansfield. Cost is \$18 for lunch and includes gratuity.

RSVPs are required and space is limited. Call 419-528-8223 or email rcohgop@gmail.com.

★

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am. February through May, the group will meet at New Life Church of Christ (NLC of C), 195 W. Durbin, Bellville. Cost is \$17 for the meal.

Meetings June through December will be held at Der Dutchman, Rt. 96, Bellville. Meals are \$16, with an additional \$2 for pie.

The next meal will be June 25, with a pork dinner. The McCready Kids will perform.

For information visit www.lexasc.org. Dues are \$10 per year.

★

Kid's Day at Charles Mill Marina, 1277 State Route 430, Mansfield, will be held Saturday, June 14, from 10 am to noon.

There will be a kid's boating education seminar, free 15-minute pontoon boat rides, face painting, games and prizes, a photo booth, food trucks, llamas and alpacas from Shady Lane Alpaca Farm, animals from Gorman Nature Center and giveaways courtesy of Outback Steakhouse, State Farm Insurance, Western Southern Bank and Modern Woodman. There will also be booths from Richland Soil and Water Conservation District and Richland County Solid Waste.

★

The Ultimate Veteran Adventures Golf Scramble will be a day of golf and giving back on Saturday, June 14 at Ashland Golf Club, 1333 Center St., Ashland.

The nonprofit supports U.S. veterans through outdoor recreational experiences and community. Funds are being raised to give veterans a trip to Alaska. All proceeds support Ultimate Veteran Adventures in creating healing experiences in the great outdoors.

Registration will begin at 8 am with a 9 am shotgun start. Cost is \$500 per team and includes carts, breakfast, lunch, dinner, photos and prizes. Spots are limited. To enter a foursome team or sponsor the event visit uvagolf.org.

Call or text 567-359-0463 for more information.

★

Dayspring will host the 6th Annual Hope Run 5K and 1 Mile Walk on Saturday, June 28.

The 5k and 1 mile will step-off at 10 am, beginning and ending at Dayspring, 3220 Olivesburg Rd., Mansfield. The course is

cross-country with rolling hills and trails. The event will be held rain or shine unless there is extreme weather.

Cost is \$20 before June 2 and includes a guaranteed shirt. Race day registration begins at 9 am and remains \$20 but does not guarantee a shirt. Prizes will be awarded in every category.

An entry form can be found on the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DayspringAssistedLivingCareFacility>.

Proceeds will benefit Friends of Dayspring in support of the next Dayspring Levy Campaign. For information call 419-565-3694 or email Rileyboy0907@gmail.com.

★

This summer, the 122nd Army Band is hitting the road to celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States Army with a family-friendly concert tour across Ohio.

With a mix of classic rock, pop hits, patriotic favorites and original arrangements, ensembles bring the sound of today's Army to stages across the state.

The 122nd Army Band Victory Vibes Concert will be held Saturday, June 28, at 7 pm at Ashland High School, 1440 King Rd., Ashland. The event is hosted by Ashland Visual and Performing Arts.

★

Lexington Church of the Cross UMC, 236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington, will host Wonderful Wednesdays from June 18–July 30, from 10–11:30 am.

The Wednesdays will include crafts, snacks, games, music and stories. A fiesta will be held Aug. 3, at 11 am.

For information and registration call 419-884-2150. For more information visit www.churchofthecrosslex.com.

★

Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio will host the Annual Golf Classic on Monday, July 21 at Deer Ridge Golf Course in Bellville. The event supports financial literacy, career readiness and entrepreneurship education for thousands of K–12 students across our rural communities.

Cost is \$600 for a four-person team and the fee includes lunch,

(Continued on Page 5)

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Church Directory

Clay Memorial Lutheran Church

1601 Amoy East Rd., Mansfield
419-747-6882

Pastor Carol Kilgore

Sunday School 9:15 am • Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Clear Fork Alliance Church

1008 State Route 97, Bellville

419-886-4333 • www.clearforkalliance.org

Rev. Matt Merendino

Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor

9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship

Sunday Evening 6 pm Home Groups

Monday Men's Group 7:30 pm

Wednesday evenings: 6:45 pm, Prayer Meeting

6:30-8 pm and TeamKID and Youth Group

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield

419-524-4813 • mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com

Rev. David Zerby

Office Hours: Tu., W., Th. 9 am to 1 pm

10:30 am Sunday Worship

Christian Builders, Sunday, 9:30 am

www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com

FB: FirstChristianChurchMansfield, Ohio

First Congregational Church

640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield

419-756-3046 • www.mansfieldfcc.com

Pastor Brad Bunn

8:30 am Chapel • 10:30 am Sanctuary

10:30 am Sunday School (nursery-high school)

10:30 am Monday Morning Bible Study

7:30 am Wednesday Men's Breakfast

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield

419-522-0662 • www.felc-mansfield.org

Pastor Jay Jackson

9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship

Call about Prayer Groups, Small Groups, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, Pub Theology, Community Meals, Free Produce distribution and Senior Boxes.

Grace Episcopal Church

41 Bowman Street, Mansfield

419-524-2661

Rev. Christopher D. Hofer, Priest-in-Charge

Rev. Daniel Orr, Associate Priest

Worship: Sundays, 8 am and 10:15 am

Christian Formation for All Ages: Sundays, 9:15 am

Food Pantry: Thursdays, 9-11 am

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 4-6 pm

gracemansfield.org • facebook.com/GraceChurchMansfield

G & M Body & Paint Shop

1689 West Fourth St., Ontario • 419-529-2747

Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland • 419-522-5211

Lexington Church of Christ

230 Delaware Ave., Lexington

419-884-1532 • www.lccoh.com

Lead Minister Brandon Bogue

9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship

Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 Church St. West, Lexington

419-884-1330

Pastor Denny Nezrick

10:30 am Sunday Worship

<https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Presbyterian-Church-117768414915815>

Mansfield 1st Presbyterian Church

399 Trimble Rd., Mansfield

419-756-7066 • www.mansfield1st.com

Rev. Joseph Yerger

9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School

10 am Traditional Sunday Worship

ADA Accessible Nursery & Children's Programming

Mansfield Baptist Temple

752 N. Stewart Rd., Mansfield

419-589-5413 • www.mbt.org

Pastor Rob Kurtz

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am & 5:30 pm Sunday Worship

7 pm Wednesday Service

Oakland Lutheran Church

2045 Olivesburg Rd., Mansfield

419-571-9920

Pastor Paul Lintern

9 am Sunday Worship

Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West., Ontario

419-529-4345 • ontarioumc.com

Pastor George Lee

9:30 am Grace & Eggs

11 am Sunday Worship and Kingdom Kids

St. John's United Church of Christ

68 Park Avenue East, Mansfield

419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org

Pastor Faith Proietti

10 am Sunday Worship

Office hours: Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm

AA Meetings M & F 10 am & noon;

Wed. noon Brown Bag and Sat. 6 pm

Clothing Ministry by appt: 419-512-9817

Southside Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2055 Middle-Bellville Rd., Mansfield

419-756-3436

Pastor Paul Lintern

10:45 am Sunday Worship

Trinity Grace Fellowship

1592 Grace St., Mansfield

419-589-5890 • trinitygracefellowship.org

Pastor Larry Carnes

9:30 am Sunday Worship • 11 am Sunday School

Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

MRCPL summer library program full of prizes and activities

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library's Summer Library Program, Color Our World, runs through July 26. Participants can take part at any of the Library's nine locations, at a Bookmobile stop, or online at mrcpl.org/slp2025.

Designed to spark imagination and prevent summer learning loss, the program offers engaging activities and exciting prizes for all ages. From in-person events and take-home projects to online challenges, Color Our World encourages everyone to read, create and explore all summer long.

This year's program features live performers including Reptile Adventures, cartoonist Jeff Nicholas, Bright Star Theatre, magician Michael Mage, and Roots to Rhythm. Bookmobile stops will also feature special appearances by Rufus the Dufus and comedian Jeff Wawrzaszek.

Participants can earn weekly and grand prize entries just by engaging with the program.

All prizes are tailored by age group, making this a fun and rewarding experience for all. Whether you're painting, reading, laughing, or learning, there's something for everyone.

To learn more about how to participate, view prize details, and see the full event calendar, visit mrcpl.org/slp2025. For Library hours, location information and 24/7 access to digital resources visit mrcpl.org.

5K and 1-miler coming in July

Richland County Children Services (RCCS) will team up with our community partners Richland Newhope, Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Catalyst Life Services, Mansfield Branch-YMCA of North Central Ohio and Richland Public Health for the Together We Move 5K & 1-miler Fun Run.

The event will be Saturday, July 26. The 5K starts at 9 am at the Mansfield YMCA and the 1-Miler Fun Run starts at 10:15 am at Sterkel Park. Race day registration opens at 8 am.

Sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Mansfield/TogetherWeMove5K>

•News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

snacks, SuperTicket, drink tickets and contests. Cash prizes include awards for first, second, middle of the pack and 24th place. There will be a putting contest, hole-in-one challenge, closest to the pin, longest drive and more.

For information or to register visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/shcgo/event/2025drgolfclassic/>

★

The Ontario Lions Club is planning another food trailer outing Father's Day weekend, June 14 and 15 at Tractor Supply in Ontario.

Donations will be collected for local charity The Visual Bucket List and the club will donate a portion of its sales.

This charity started in Mansfield and is now known nation-wide. The purpose of the charity is to provide funds for children under the age of 18 to make one of their bucket list wishes to come true for children who know they are losing their sight and have one thing they would really like to see or do while they can still see. The charity provides funds to make this happen.

★

Franklin Township Fire Department, 505 Boyce Rd., Shelby, will host its annual ice cream social and hog roast on Saturday, June 14, from 4-7 pm. The event will include homemade vanilla ice cream as well as sides and other desserts.

A quilt raffle will have four prizes including a queen quilt, child quilt, corn hole set and \$100 Visa card. A meat raffle will have prizes of 1/4 beef, 1/2 hog or \$250 Newswanger Meats gift card. Tickets are \$5 each.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, June 28 and 29.

Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will host Karen Gotter, Margaret Lin and the All Souls Children's RE Group on Sunday, June 15 at 10:30 pm. The subject will be "Wisdom of the Young." For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

★

The 4th Annual Juneteenth Parade and Festival will be Saturday, June 14, from 10 am to 6 pm. The free day-long celebration will kick-off with a linedance party at 10:30 am in front of the Renaissance and the parade will step-off at 11 am at Marion Avenue and Park Avenue West featuring marching bands, drumlines.

Following the parade will be the festival in Central Park in downtown Mansfield featuring live music and entertainment, a vendor marketplace, food trucks, community choirs, health screenings, a kid's zone, wine tasting, line dancing and more.

This year's celebration includes youth basketball activities, and book signing featuring local authors. For information call 419-610-6334.

★

The Big Green Garage Sale at the Ashland County Fairgrounds will be accepting donations. Gently used, clean items will be accepted.

This sale benefits the Ashland County 4-H program.

Donations will be accepted under the grandstand Thursday, June 12, 1-4 pm; Friday, June 13, 4-7 pm; and Saturday, June 14, 9-12 pm.

Donations will be accepted in the green building Sunday, June 15, 2-4 pm; Monday, June 16, 10 am to 6 pm; Tuesday, June 17, 10 am to 6 pm; Wednesday June 18, 10 am to 6 pm; and Thursday, June 19, 10 am to 2 pm.

★

Light up the Valley 2025 will be held Sunday, June 29. This annual community firework celebration will include food trucks, activities, live entertainment, prizes, and more — all locally funded and planned. Activities will be held from noon to 11 pm at 119 Hines Ave., Bellville.



Photo By Richland County Children Services

Miss Mansfield's Teen Abby Kern of Ontario, Miss Ohio Stephanie Finoti and Miss Spirit of Ohio Kendall Windsor of Bellville made a special visit to the Ontario Kids Festival presented by Sluss Realty Co. at the The Ontario Center.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Mark Eugene Marlow, May 31
Jon "Jan" Evans, June 1
Patricia Joanna Harris, June 1
Levi Steven Plank, June 1
Eloise Ilene Siler, June 2
Richard Adam Bricker, June 3
Donna Kathleen Cooper, June 3
Ethel Davis, June 3
Chester "Ivan" Gearheart, June 3
Robert Junior Lane, June 3
Michael 'Mike' Lynn Haight, June 4

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SKATE OHIO hosted Attack The Spot: The Ontario Center! June 7. The event, held in the former Richland Mall, featured skateboard obstacles, live music and vendors.

Madison holds special meeting to discuss project

The Madison Local Board of Education met for a special meeting on Tuesday, June 3.

The board approved a lease agreement with the Madison Athletic Booster Club for the design and construction of an infill artificial turf multi-purpose athletic field, infill artificial turf baseball infield and infill artificial turf softball field, collectively known as "the turf project."

Board funding for the project includes \$200,000 in grant funding from the Milliron Foundation, a \$125,526 private donation to the baseball team and \$274,474 in permanent improvement funds that include facility rental revenue and funds that have been set aside on an annual basis since the football stadium turf was installed in 2014.

The board approved the agreement for construction services between the Madison Athletic Booster Club and The Motz Group, L.L.C. for the Madison turf field replacement and the baseball and softball conversion project for the limited purposes of being a third-party beneficiary (and permitted assignee) of the rights of the Madison Athletic Booster Club.

A transfer of \$15,000 from the general fund and \$15,000 from the athletic fund to the permanent improvement fund for future turf replacement on the football, baseball, and softball fields was approved. The annual transfers replace the annual transfers of \$10,000 from the general fund and \$10,000 from the athletic fund approved by the board during its regular meeting on Oct. 29, 2014.

Blood donors can receive \$15 Amazon gift card

Atlantic hurricane season began this month. Disasters like hurricanes and severe summer weather can disrupt blood drives for several days and impact the momentum of a growing blood supply.

Help the American Red Cross plan for the unexpected by making an appointment to give blood or platelets.

Even when hospitals are fully stocked with blood products, sudden events can cause a rapid drop in the availability of life-saving transfusions. While many may be engaging in outdoor adventures this month, the Red Cross asks people to continue making and keeping donation appointments a part of their June plans.

Blood has a shelf life of 42 days, which means ongoing donations are key to ensure medical needs are met.

Type O blood donors and those giving platelets are especially needed as the summer season continues.

June 14 is World Blood Donor Day, and June 19 is World Sickle Cell Day.

Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App to book a time to donate.

Those who come to give June 1-30 will get a \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card by email and will be automatically entered for a chance to win one of two \$7,000 gift cards. Terms apply. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/June.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities include:

Monday, June 16, 9 am to 3 pm, Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center Mansfield, 1125 Aspira Ct., Mansfield; noon to 6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Tuesday, June 17, 1-6 pm, Crossroads Ontario Campus, 636 Lexington-Springmill Rd., South

Wednesday, June 18, 12-6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario; and 12-6 pm, Planktown Country Market, 1921 Free Rd., Shiloh

Thursday, June 19, 1-6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Friday, June 20, 8 am to 1 pm, Medical Office Building-4th Floor, 335 Glessner Ave., Mansfield; and 11 am to 5 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Wednesday, June 25, 12-6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Friday, June 27, 11 am to 5 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Monday, June 30, 12-6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario



PLEASE CALL 800.272.3900 TO REGISTER

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

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CRAWFORD COUNTY | GALION

Avita Home Health and Hospice

Tuesday, June 17 (11:00 AM - 12 PM)

1220 N Market Street, Galion, OH

Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia



RICHLAND COUNTY | SHELBY

Crestwood Care Center

Thursday, June 26 (6:00 - 7:00 PM)

225 W Main Street, Shelby, OH

Richland Pregnancy Services Walk for Life



Photos By Traci Little

RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTHCARE SPOTLIGHT

Highlighting the People and Places That Keep Us Well

A Feature By Traci Little

A Safe Place for Landon: How Local Care Became a Lifeline for the Canfield Family

By Traci Little

For Kelly and Zack Canfield, the Nationwide Children's Hospital Mansfield *Close To Home*SM Center has been more than a convenient healthcare resource — it's been a lifeline for their son, Landon.

Landon was diagnosed with Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS) at just two years old, a rare condition that can cause kidney failure. Kelly recalls the terrifying early days when Landon became lethargic and jaundiced, and doctors discovered that his kidneys weren't functioning properly. He was rushed to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, where the Canfields learned of his life-altering diagnosis.

Fast forward to today: Landon is a vibrant ten-year-old who loves sports, school, and spending time with his friends. Despite the challenges of managing his rare condition, having access to the Nationwide Children's Mansfield *Close To Home* Center has made all the difference. Just ten minutes from their house, the facility has taken much of the stress out of traveling back and forth to Columbus.

"Having care so close to home has been a game changer," Kelly says. "Our first impression was that they are truly made for kids. From fun Band-Aids and numbing cream to connecting with Landon on a personal level, they make it feel less like a doctor's office and more like a safe space."

"Anytime we call, we're connected directly to a doctor — not an answering service — and they're always there to help, day or night," Kelly explains. The team has even arranged for home infusions every eight weeks to keep Landon stable and prevent flare-ups, sparing him the stress of frequent hospital visits.

Like any ten-year-old, Landon wants to be out playing sports, not stuck in medical appointments. "It definitely takes a toll on him missing things like running races and soccer tournaments," Kelly

says. "But the doctors and nurses at the Mansfield *Close To Home* Center have been so supportive of his well-being."

One doctor in particular has stood out for the Canfield family: Dr. Ray Bignall. "He has a special connection with Landon," Kelly shares. "They talk sports and school, and he really listens and cares. I told him he can't leave until Landon is an adult! He's not just Landon's doctor — he's become a friend." Just recently, the Canfields have also been able to coordinate all of Landon's primary nephrologist visits with Dr. Ray at the Mansfield *Close To Home* Center. During Landon's most recent flare-up last October, the convenience of the center saved the family hours of travel and time away from home. "What used to take up an entire day now only takes a short time," Kelly says.

Financial concerns can weigh heavily on families, but Kelly says Nationwide Children's and the Mansfield *Close To Home* Center have been incredibly understanding. "They really work with you," she says. "Things like penalty-free payment plans make a huge difference."

Perhaps most remarkable is how the timing of Landon's treatment has felt like fate to the Canfields. The medication that helps keep his aHUS in check didn't even exist until the year Landon was born. "That's no coincidence," Zack and Kelly said. "We are truly blessed and thankful for the care and support we've received and truly see this as a God-moment."

As for other families navigating similar challenges, the Canfields give this simple advice: "Don't be afraid to ask questions. Nationwide Children's does a wonderful job of explaining everything to both parents and kids."

For the Canfields, Nationwide Children's Mansfield *Close To Home* Center has been exactly what its name promises: close to home and close to their hearts.

Shaun Coffman, Site Director of the Mansfield *Close To Home* Center, echoes that sentiment of bringing world-class care closer to families. "Our goal is to provide high-quality, specialized care right here in Mansfield — so families like the Canfield's don't have to make long drives for appointments," Coffman explains. "It's about meeting families where they are and making care accessible for all."

A physical therapist by training, Coffman has been with Nationwide Children's since 2012, starting in the sports and orthopedic therapies department. Over time, he developed a passion for program development and mentoring others, leading him to his current role as Site Director. "Being able to tie Nationwide's broader mission to what we do here has been an amazing opportunity," Coffman says. "I'm proud that we're nationally known for our commitment to the best outcomes and health equity — and now we're bringing that same level of care and culture right here to Richland County."

Coffman understands the challenges families face when it comes to healthcare, whether it's taking time off work, finding transportation, or simply managing the costs of care. "Having services closer to home definitely helps alleviate that burden," he says.

Located at 536 S. Trimble Rd., the center offers a wide range of pediatric services, including diagnostic and specialty care, behavioral health

(Continued on Page 29)



NECIC officially welcomes Matthew Scruggs as new CEO

The North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Inc. (NECIC) has announced that Matthew Scruggs has officially stepped into the role of Chief Executive Officer. This follows the organization's October announcement that founding CEO Deanna West-Torrence would be stepping down, with Tony Chinni serving as interim CEO during the transition.

At that time, the NECIC Board also announced the formation of a transition committee with the goal of having a new permanent CEO in place by July 1, a goal that was successfully met ahead of schedule with the selection of Matthew Scruggs.

After an extensive search and multiple rounds of interviews led by the Board and the transition committee, Scruggs was selected to lead NECIC into its next chapter. Over the past several weeks, he has been working closely with Deanna West-Torrence, NECIC's leadership team, staff, and community partners to ensure a smooth transition. With that period complete, he is now fully at the helm.

"I'm excited to begin my journey with NECIC," said Scruggs. "I want to sincerely thank Deanna West-Torrence for her lifelong dedication to this organization and the North End of Mansfield. Her vision and legacy will continue to shape our work as we move forward."

As CEO, Scruggs will lead NECIC in its mission to improve the quality of life and economic landscape of the North End community. He brings a strong blend of operational expertise and a deep passion for community impact to the role.

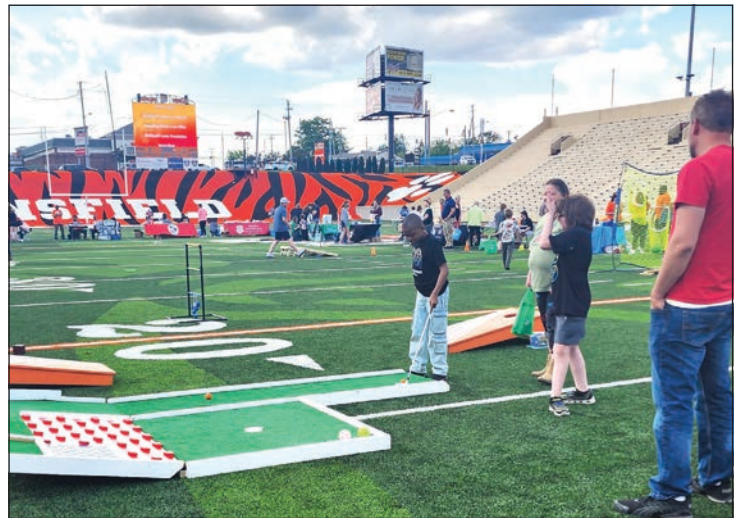
Originally from Pittsburgh, PA, Scruggs studied culinary arts and hotel & restaurant management at Johnson & Wales University and completed executive coursework at The Wharton School of Business. Prior to joining NECIC, he served as director of philanthropy and brand management at an Ohio-based non-profit.

His career also includes leadership roles with The Ohio State University's Wooster Campus, as well as with major hospitality and sports organizations including convention centers in Boston, Houston, and Dallas. His work has consistently focused on managing multimillion-dollar operations, increasing revenue, and elevating experiences across the country.

As part of his first board meeting, Scruggs recommended the promotion of Tionna Perdue to Chief Operating Officer of NECIC. A North End native, Perdue has been a vital part of the NECIC team since 2017, following more than a decade of service at Third Street Family Health Services. Her steady leadership during the organization's transition, coupled with her deep commitment to NECIC's mission, has made her an invaluable asset. This promotion reflects the trust in her continued leadership and her ongoing impact within the organization and the community it serves.

On May 29, Deanna West-Torrence formally stepped away from her active role as founder of NECIC. While she is no longer serving in official capacity, the organization remains grateful for her visionary leadership as founder and longtime CEO. Her unwavering commitment to community empowerment and transformation has left an enduring mark on NECIC and the North End, and her legacy continues to inspire and guide the mission moving forward.

Scruggs begins this new chapter with the support of NECIC's board and staff and looks forward to building on the organization's strong foundation in partnership with residents, local leaders and community stakeholders.



THE K-8 SECOND ANNUAL PEACE ON MY BLOCK was held May 29 at Arlin Field in Mansfield. There was a dunk tank, bounce houses, face painting, horseback riding, food trucks, games, a DJ, fireworks and an F-16 fighter jet fly over from the 180th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard in Toledo. One of the pilots was Phil Messer Jr., a former Mansfield Police Officer and son of retired Chief Phil Messer Sr. Pictured are Miss Mansfield Grace Riegel, Officer Edwards and a representative of Richland County Children Services.

Benefit auction planned for Sara Saxton

A Live Auction For Sara Saxton will be held Sunday, June 29 at 1 pm at The River Rock, 7 Main St., Bellville.

Sara is a bartender/server at The River Rock in Bellville. On June 2, Sara was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Sara is at The James Cancer Center and has started treatment immediately.

Donations of items to be auctioned off are being accepted with all proceeds going to Sara and her family.

To donate gift baskets, gift cards or other items, drop off at The River Rock by June 2 at noon.

At the event, please wear orange in support of Sara.

Library to host reptile programs

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library will host a reptile adventures program at the main library on Thursday, June 12 at 10:30 am and 2:30 pm.

This is a show-and-tell presentation of animals with the chance to hold and pet some of them.

The program will also be held Thursday, June 12, at 6 pm at the Bellville branch and Friday, June 13, at 10:30 am at the Lexington branch.



2025

Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates



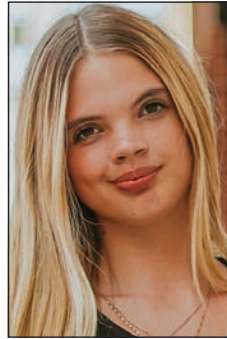
**Andreus
Adkins-Tolbert**



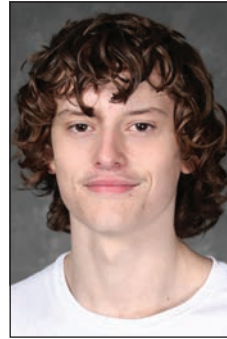
**Isabella
Allen**



**Draven
Anderson**



**Ava
Armstrong**



**Declan
Auflick**



**Chloe
Babcock**



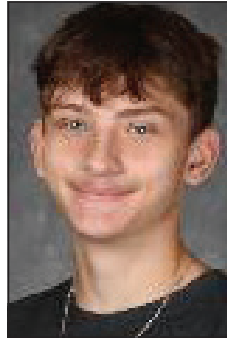
**Addison
Baker**



**Cooper
Balas**



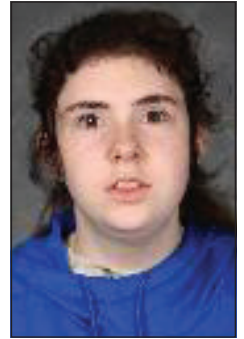
**Nathan
Baldinger**



**Nikolas
Balg**



**Jacelynn
Barley**



**Shyann
Barnhart**



**Aiden
Bartley**



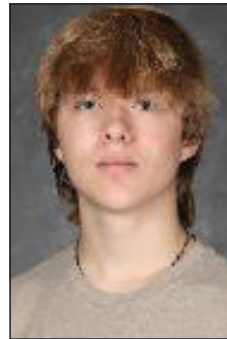
**Aleigha
Bebout**



**Ashlynn
Benson**



**Ethan
Bibler**



**Matthew
Biller**



**Nya
Bishop**



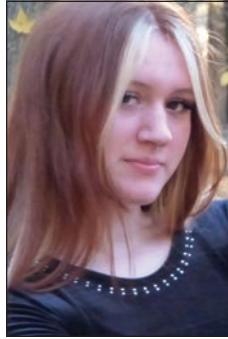
Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates **2025**



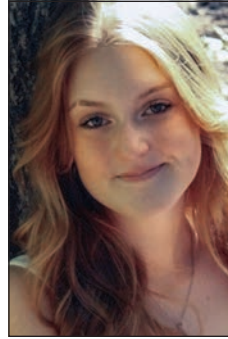
**Aaliyah
Blackwell**



**Isaiah
Bland**



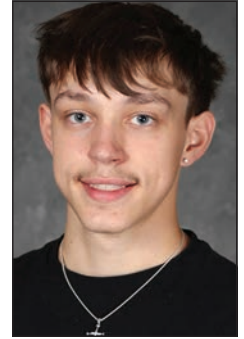
**Allyssa
Blasini**



**Emily
Bogner**



**Devin
Bond**



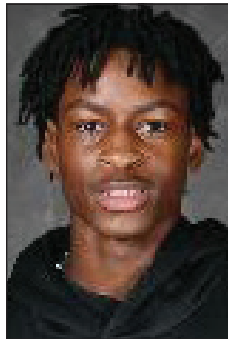
**Brett
Bowman**



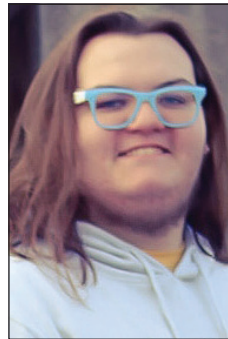
**Emily
Brandt**



**Jari
Broomfield**



**Rodney
Caldwell Jr.**



**Chris
Carnes Jr.**



**Maxwell
Carroll**



**Shelby
Carroll**



**Aleeya
Chelski**



**Braelynn
Cox**



**Reagyn
Cox**



**Alexis
Craig**



**Madison
Crank**



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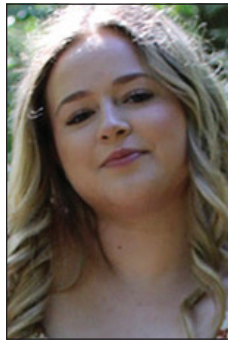
Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates



**Paige
Darling**



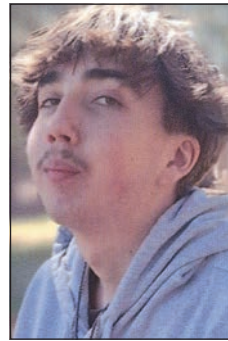
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Davidson**



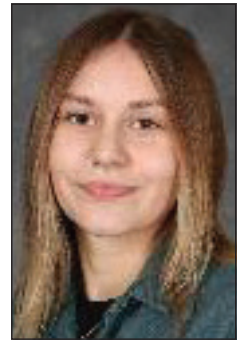
**Kaitlyn
Davies**



**Chloe
Davis**



**Aiden
Day**



**Aaliyah
Dombroff**



**Thomas
Dombroff II**



**Gracie
Dotson**



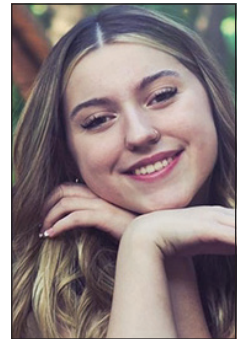
**Cameron
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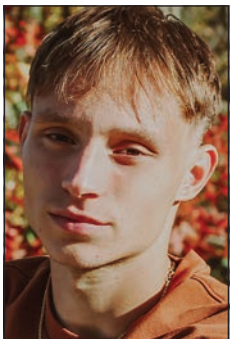
**Dryden
Durbridge**



**Ariel
Ellis**



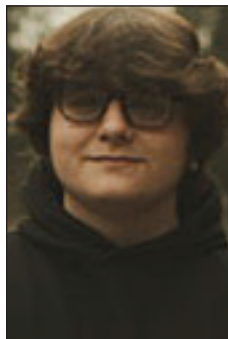
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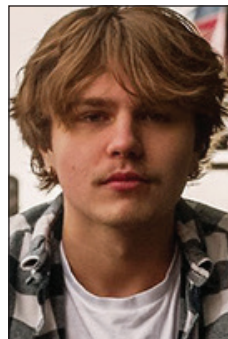
**Frank
Fava III**



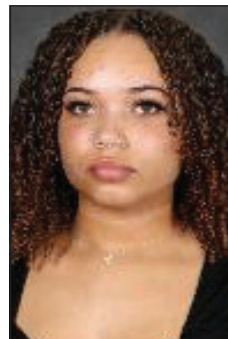
**Braylon
Feagin**



**Joshua
Finley**



**Jaden
Fisher**



**Kaianna
Flynn**



**Ryleigh
Foley**

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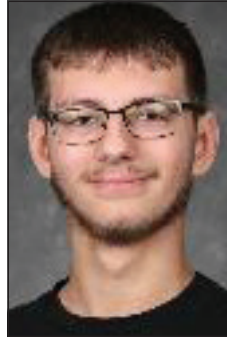
Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates **2025**



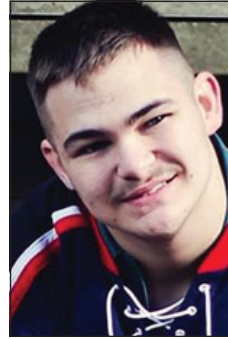
**Jacob
Forbes**



**Elijah
Fox**



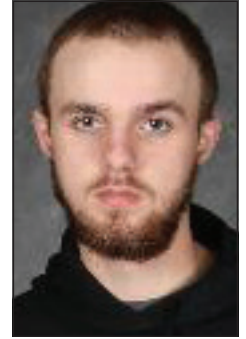
**Kaden
Fultz**



**Lucas
Garand**



**Kayana
Garrett**



**Wyatt
Geiger**



**Lucas
Gerhart**



**Landon
Goad**



**Freddie
Gordon III**



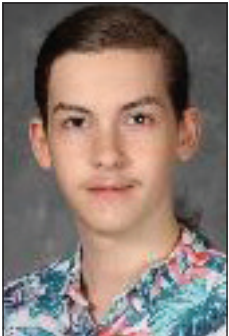
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Graham**



**Alyssa
Gray**



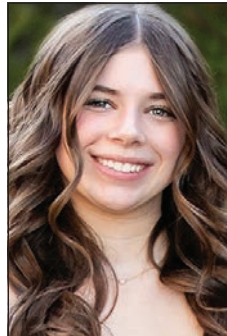
**Nikkyan
Grimes-Pittenger**



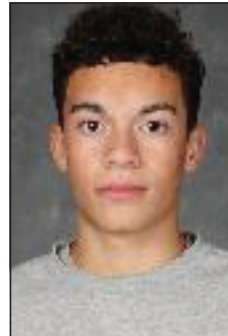
**Traven
Hatfield**



**Carter
Heimbuch**



**Ashley
Herder**



**Alexander
Hernandez**



**Derick
Hershey**



**Logan
Hoffman**

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**Katie
Holzworth**



**Zariion
Hudson-Wilson**



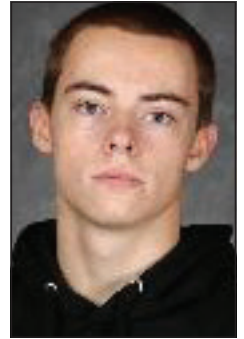
**Ava
Huff**



**Collin
Huffman**



**Alyse
Huggins**



**Joseph
Isenhardt**



**Zariah
Jackson**



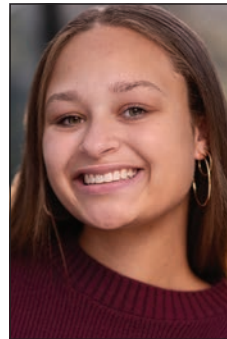
**Mason
Jacobus**



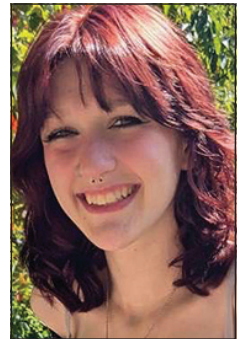
**Ralph
Jensen**



**Landon
Jessop**



**Kiarra
Johnson**



**Mariah
Johnson**



**Keiayrsah
Jones**



**Paige
Kerrick**



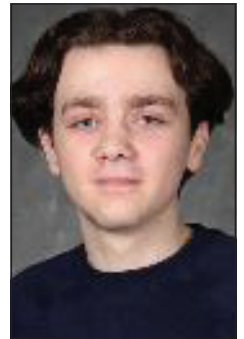
**Brynn
Kiley**



**Olivia
Kiley**



**Cameron
Kuhn**



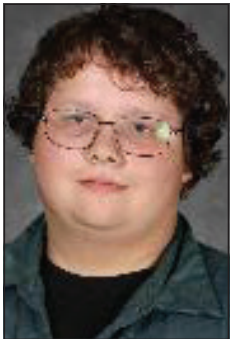
**Teddy
Lane**



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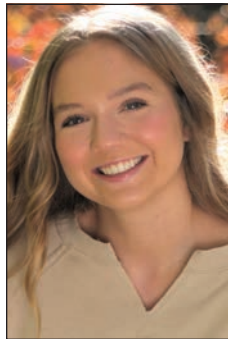
Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates 2025



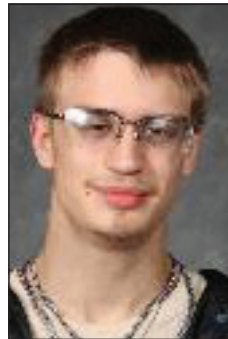
**Zachary
Lawhorn**



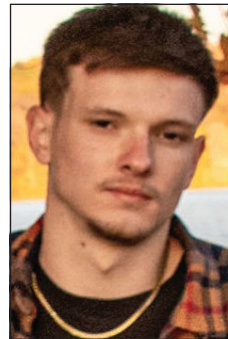
**Elijah
Lewis**



**Clairra
Lowe**



**Samuel
Lugo**



**Gage
Lykins**



**Logan
Mapes**



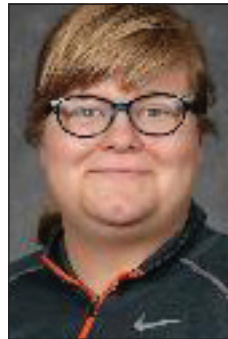
**Natalie
Markle**



**Hannah
Markley**



**Gage
Masters**



**Veronica
Mawer**



**Zion
McCraney**



**Gavvyne
McDaniel**



**Allison
McKown**



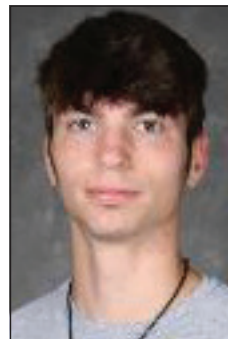
**Mason
McPeck**



**Evan
Merlino**



**Emily
Merritt**



**Colton
Miller**



**Ayeziah
Mitchell**



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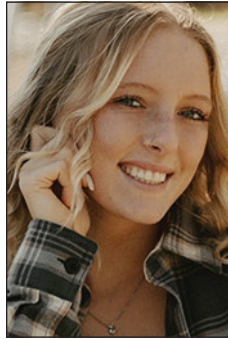
Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates



**Keira
Mooneyham**



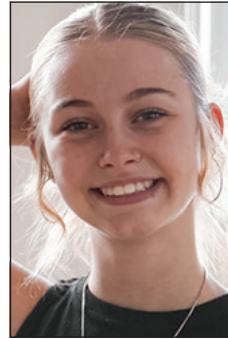
**Carter
Moore**



**Rudy
Moore**



**Emily
Musgrove**



**Katie
Myers**



**Samantha
Myers**



**Jada
Neal**



**Calvin
Nelson**



**Braden
Nungester**



**Brady
O'Brien**



**Claire
O'Brien**



**Isaiah
Ortiz-Martinez**



**Ian
Parker**



**Damon
Parnell**



**Jordan
Parnell**



**Sophia
Parsons**



**Paige
Patton**



**Jillian
Pennington**



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**Mavenny
Perkins**



**Dakota
Perseitz**



**Sydney
Phillips**



**Josslynn
Pryor**



**Drake
Ramey**



**Nevaeh
Rhein**



**Landon
Rhinehart**



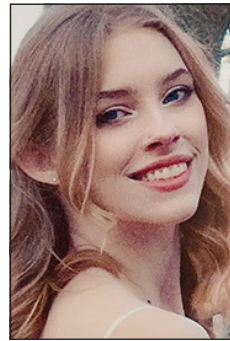
**Camden
Rhodes**



**Elizabeth
Rine**



**Emily
Ringer**



**Meghan
Roberts**



**Alexa
Rose**



**Madison
Sackman**



**Larissa
Sarow**



**Brody
Savage**



**Cheyenne
Schmidt**



**Bresendra
Shaum**



**Ellieanna
Shindeldecker**



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2025

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**Faith
Smith**



**Lucas
Smith**



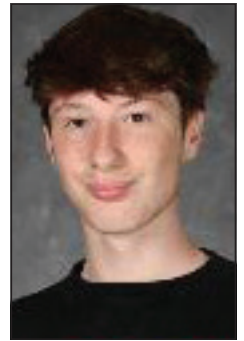
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Snavelly**



**Lillie
Southerland**



**Emma
Speelman**



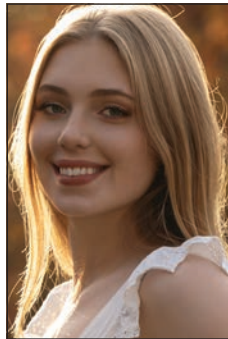
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Speelman**



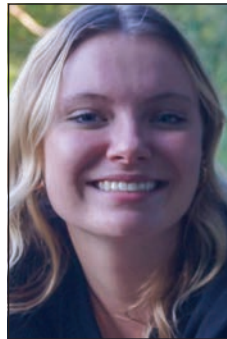
**Brody
Spicer**



**Rhea
Stanfield**



**Emma
Stankovich**



**Layni
Stollings**



**Lucas
Stollings**



**Kristian
Stoots**



**Brianna
Studer**



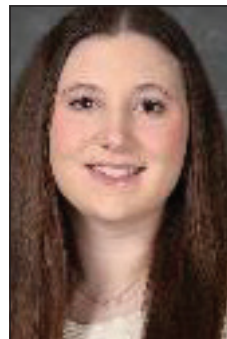
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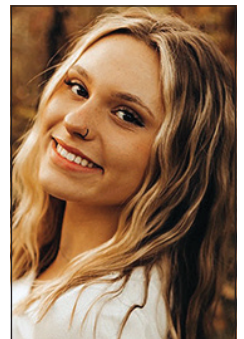
**Alivia
Szymczak**



**Leah
Thomas**



**Maggie
Thomas**



**Lillian
Truax**

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Vance**



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Vega**



**Trevon
Walker**



**Adam
Weatherford**



**Kady
Webb**



**Nathaniel
Weightman**



**Owen
Wigton**



**Angela
Williams**



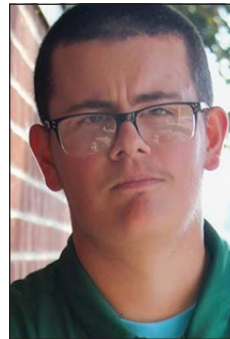
**Braylon
Williams**



**Christopher
Wurth**



**Nathan
Yarman**



**Wyatt
Yarman**



**Derek
Yates Jr.**



**Lela
Zehner**

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Noah Alexander
Brandon Baich
Tristan Blevins
Daniel Bowman Jr.
Jari Broomfield
Zayden Burks
Bailey Caudill
Chloe Clark
Garrett Edinger
Ja'Karri Favers
Ra'Janae Fellure
Cody Filter
Alexzander Fisher
Torrie Fisher
Shane Franklin Jr.
Kayden Fulton
William Gretzinger
Ethan Hasenauer
Donovan Holiday
Josiah Holiday
Trent Howell

Haylee Isenhart
Dalton Knipp
Xy'Mara Lee
Makayla Lewis
Natalie Lewis
Robert Lloyd III
Zachary Lucas
Nicholas McKean Jr.
Mason Merritt
Dominic Molloy
Isabella Montgomery
Aubrey Older
Isabella Rivera Hill
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Madison Comprehensive High School Class of 2025 Valedictorians and Salutatorian

Aleigha Bebout, Valedictorian

Aleigha Bebout is the daughter of Brook and Jeremiah Bebout.

She completed 46 college credits with A's and was accepted into OSU Columbus with direct admission into the College of Nursing. She participated in two years of women's chorus and chorale, receiving 1's at district and state for three consecutive years.

After high school, she plans to attend OSU, majoring in nursing and minoring in Spanish. Later, she plans to become a neonatal nurse.



Emily Bogner, Valedictorian

Emily Bogner is the daughter of Amber and Shaun Bogner.

She is a member of National Honor Society, Spanish Club, symphonic band, jazz band, pep band, Mansfield Symphony Youth Orchestra and Academic Challenge.

Emily is also section leader of the Madison Marching Band.

She plans to attend The University of Akron for nursing with a minor in Spanish.



Dryden Durbridge, Valedictorian

Dryden Durbridge is the son of Stuart and Jill Durbridge. He is a member of the cross country, swim and tennis teams. He is former captain of the cross country team.

Dryden is vice president of National Honor Society and a four-year letter winner in cross country and swimming. He is a two-year letter winner in tennis, a member of Business Professionals of America and received an academic letter. He plans to attend The Ohio State University Mansfield for film studies.



Ryleigh Foley, Valedictorian

Ryleigh Foley is the daughter of Hannah and Doug Foley.

She is a member of band and serves as the flute section leader. She is also a member of the track team and is the senior cheer captain.

She received varsity letters, academic letters and is on the honor roll.

Ryleigh plans to attend North Central State College for nursing.



Elijah Fox, Valedictorian

Elijah Fox is the son of Jeff Fox and Christi Fox.

He is a three-year varsity letterman in baseball.

He is also an expert of the carpentry program.

He works for Next Level Remodeling.

Elijah plans to continue working as a carpenter.



Hannah Markley, Valedictorian

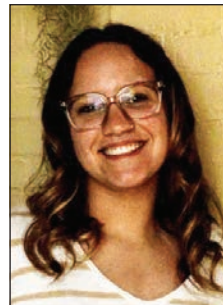
Hannah Markley is the daughter of Dawn Myers and Kendale McFarland.

She is a varsity letter winner for swim for all four years. During those four years, she went to districts twice.

Hannah is a three-year letter winner for marching band and a member of symphonic band, jazz band and concert band.

She has been a part of National Honor Society, student council and OCC Leadership.

Hannah plans to attend Kent State University to major in computer science.



Gage Masters, Valedictorian

Gage Masters is the son of Kristen Masters and Bret Binns.

He is a member of National Honor Society, OCC Leadership, Northwest Regional President of Skills USA, captain of football team, 3 year varsity letter winner in football, 1st Team All Conference, 2nd Team All District, Noon Optimist Club Quality Student award winner. He plans to enroll at the University of Cincinnati to major in civil engineering.



Samantha Myers, Valedictorian

Samantha Myers is the daughter of Maryann Myers and Jason Myers.

She is a four-year member of symphonic and marching band, two-year member of jazz band, three-year member of pep band and two-year member of the Ashland University Community Concert Band.

She is Spanish Club president and in her high school career has been a member of Writers Club, National Honor Society, the JV Academic Challenge Team, Varsity Academic Challenge Team, Womens Chorus, Upward Bound and Drama Club.

She is an honor roll recipient and earned first place at MOESC Academic Challenge competition in grades 10 and 11 and second place in grades 11 and 12, superior rating at OMEA districts for band in grades 9 and 12 and in choir in grade 12. She received an excellent rating at OMEA districts for band in grades 10 and 11, superior rating at OMEA State for choir as a senior and in band as a freshman. She received an excellent rating at OMEA State competition for band as a senior. She plans to attend the University of Akron to major in computer engineering.



Jada Neal, Valedictorian

Jada Neal is the daughter of Tina Neal and Josh Neal. She is a three-year member of OCC Leadership, three-year letter winner in soccer and received Offensive Player of the Year her freshman season and Most Valuable Player her junior season.

She ran track during her freshman year and received a varsity letter. She played basketball her freshman and sophomore years and lettered once. Jada is in the Diversified Health Occupations program. She will attend Hiram College to study nursing and play soccer.



Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates 2025

Madison Comprehensive High School Class of 2025 Valedictorians and Salutatorian

Ian Parker, Valedictorian

Ian Parker is the son of Charles Parker and Rachel Reed.

He is a member of OCC Leadership, National Honor Society, Senior Executive Committee, Spanish Club, the track team and Academic Challenge.

He received a silver OCC medal and went to regionals alongside friends in Academic Challenge and qualified for state competition in symphonic band. He received an ACT score of 29 and scored in the 92nd percentile on the ASVAB.

Ian had over 90 hours of community service for National Honor Society and was recognized by the Mayor of Ashland and "Our Community Salutes" alongside peers for commitment to the armed forces and the potential risks in doing so. He was offered the Governor's Merit Scholarship for being in the top 5% of his graduating class.

He enlisted with the United States Navy in the Nuclear Propulsion program and will be shipping out to basic training on June 16. He will serve six years active duty, and two years reserve duty. After that he plans to either re-enlist or work at a nuclear power plant somewhere in the United States.



Sydney Phillips, Valedictorian

Sydney Phillips is the daughter of Laura and Larry Phillips.

She is a student council member, the secretary of Spanish Club, member of National Honor Society, member of the Drama Club, and has been in three high school plays.

She received the Quality Student Award from the Optimist Club.

Sydney plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in aquatic and marine biology.



Angela Williams, Valedictorian

Angela Williams is the daughter of Matthew and Kimberly Williams.

She is a member of National Honor Society.

She is a licensed cosmetologist and is employed at City Nails.

Angela will be attending North Central State College to study business and she will also continue a career in cosmetology.



Isaiah Ortiz-Martinez, Salutatorian

Isaiah Ortiz-Martinez is the son of Diego Ortiz-Martinez and Sara Ortiz-Martinez.

He is a Microsoft Office Specialist. The certification was earned in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) Madison Career Tech program.

Isaiah plans to become a goldsmith and will start by going to the Drouhards Jeweler School.



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GRADUATE 2025

Congratulations Class of 2025



Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates

Jacelyn Barley advances to SkillsUSA Nationals

Photo and Article By Traci Little

Madison Comprehensive High School senior Jacelyn Barley is headed to the SkillsUSA National Championships in Atlanta, GA, taking place June 23–28. A student in the Culinary Arts program, Jacelyn has made her mark not only in the kitchen but also as a powerful public speaker in the SkillsUSA program.

Jacelyn's connection to SkillsUSA runs deep. Her great-grandfather, Don Harris, and her grandmother, Mrs. Laurie Dean, both served as SkillsUSA advisors. She fondly recalls her grandmother encouraging her to join the program. That encouragement paid off as Jacelyn earned top honors at both the regional competition on Feb. 4 and first place at the State competition in Columbus on March 1.

"It was a dream come true," she said, reflecting on the State event, which hosted more than 7,000 attendees. She competed against 15 to 16 students in her category. The highlight of her journey so far has been delivering a 5–7 minute speech in front of three judges—an experience that was both nerve-racking and exhilarating.

Jacelyn's speech, titled Igniting Your Potential, left a lasting impression. She creatively linked the theme to the different colors of a flame, weaving in quotes from Alicia Keys and drawing a meaningful connection to the SkillsUSA logo. Each flame color represented a quality for success in life and the workplace:

- White: Thought and contemplation — "Think before you act or do," she said, relating it to goal setting.
- Blue: Safety and efficiency — emphasizing the importance of rules and protecting others in the workforce.
- Red: Fast-burning energy, admiring those who eagerly share their ideas and talents.
- Gold: The hottest-burning flame—symbolizing passion and purpose. "There's no workplace without you," she concluded.

Jacelyn has a message for young people. "I want people to know that we as students may be young, but we're just as capable as anyone else. I want to do something good in life and be proud of how far I've come and accomplished."

Her journey hasn't always been easy. Jacelyn says her junior year "slammed her in the face," as she was forced to make some serious life choices. Joining the Career Tech program at Madison marked a major turning point.

"I needed to decide for myself who I was, and who I wanted to become. This is necessary to move forward," she shared.

Though she comes from a family of cosmetologists, Jacelyn followed her heart into the culinary program, her number one choice. "Following my family's footsteps into cosmetology would have been

the safe choice, but I wanted to do something for myself that was different."

Baking is where she truly shines. Among her favorite recent creations are Snickers cheesecake, caramel apple cheesecake, and a Moose Dome with white chocolate and raspberry compote.

She credits the Career Tech program at Madison for giving her a head start in life and the workplace. She's earned her Manager SERV Safe certification, which qualifies her to manage a kitchen. "I love that our teachers and advisors treat us like adults and really believe in us," she said. "I can walk the halls with confidence because I know they truly care about us—not just as students, but as the successful adults they believe we will become. Mrs. VonStein is my second mom."

Karen VonStein is the Career Tech Assessment Coordinator, Resident Educator Coordinator, and the SkillsUSA Lead Advisor at Madison Comprehensive High School. She had this to say about Jacelyn:

"I couldn't be prouder of Jacelyn and all that she has achieved. She's a natural leader who is confident, capable and always ready to take initiative. If

something needs to be done, she's the one you can count on to make it happen. I'm incredibly excited to head to Atlanta and witness the next chapter of her journey unfold. One of the most rewarding parts of SkillsUSA is watching these students grow from eager young learners, into poised, purpose-driven adults. I know this trip will be an unforgettable experience, full of opportunities that will continue to shape Jacelyn's future!" said VonStein.

Jacelyn currently works as a cook at The Black Dog Tavern, where she thrives in the fast-paced environment. Outside of work, she enjoys sushi, writing, playing the flute, dancing, acting, speaking, and — of course — baking. "I just want to make an impact and inspire people to do the same!"

Her dreams are just as big as her heart. She hopes to one day become a writer, food blogger, food critic, or cookbook author. She plans to pursue further education in culinary science with a minor in English.

As she prepares for Nationals, Jacelyn is excited for the opportunities ahead—meeting new people, learning new skills, applying for scholarships, and representing her school and state with pride.

Her greatest cheerleader is her mom. "She says I'm her greatest accomplishment in life, and I just want to make her proud," Jacelyn said.

For Jacelyn Barley, the journey is about more than just trophies and titles — it's about growth, courage, and embracing the potential within; and she's just getting started!



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Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates 2025

MCHS commemorates milestone with 100th graduating class

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Madison Comprehensive High School honored the Class of 2025 during its commencement ceremony, a heartfelt event filled with tradition, pride, and celebration.

The ceremony began with the classic processional "Pomp and Circumstance," accompanied by Colleen Mowry, setting the always emotional tone for this milestone occasion. The National Anthem was performed by All That Jazz.

High school principal Sean Conway welcomed guests and introduced the platform speakers, followed by opening remarks from Valedictorian Sydney Phillips.

Superintendent Robert Peterson introduced this year's outstanding group of valedictorians and salutatorian.

Valedictorians Dryden Durbridge, Angela Williams and Sam Myers delivered inspiring graduate addresses, reflecting on the class's journey and the bright futures ahead.

The Class of 2025 was formally presented to the Madison Board of Education by Principal Conway and accepted by board president Douglas Mosier.

The Madison Board of Education, includ-

ing Amy Walker, Melissa Walker, Tim Wigton, Mary Kotterman, and Bradd Stevens, joined Mosier in presenting the diplomas to the 209 graduates. Class President Braden Nungester led the turning of the tassel and gave the closing remarks, marking the official transition from student to graduate.

The evening concluded with the class's alma mater performed by All That Jazz and a recessional by accompanist, Colleen Mowry.

This year's class motto was, "Looking

ahead, but remembering our past," captured the spirit of the evening. The class song, "Never Grow Up" by Taylor Swift, echoed throughout the venue as students embraced their final moments together. Their class flower was the white carnation, and the class colors — green and white—decorated the celebration in school pride.

Congratulations to all the graduates of Madison Comprehensive High School's Class of 2025!



To Our 2025 Madison Senior



Kristian Stoots

Congratulations!

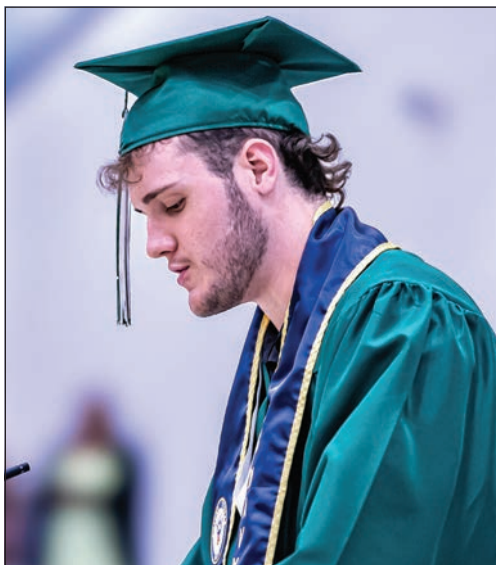
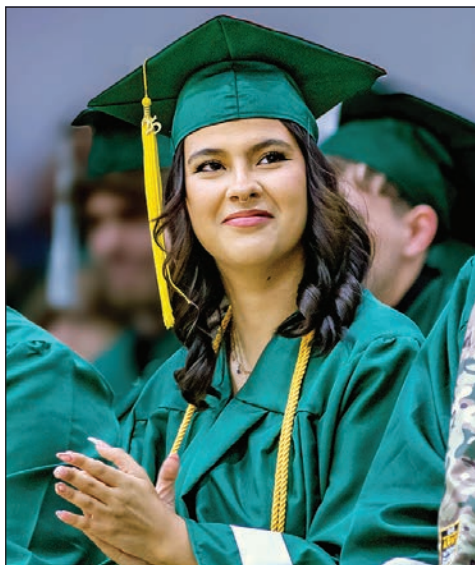


Summer Registration is open for dance, music, theatre, visual arts, film and martial arts offering classes for all ages.

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2025

Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates



Photos By Traci Little



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Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates 2025



Photos By Traci Little



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2025

Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates



Photos By Traci Little

Congrats Graduates!

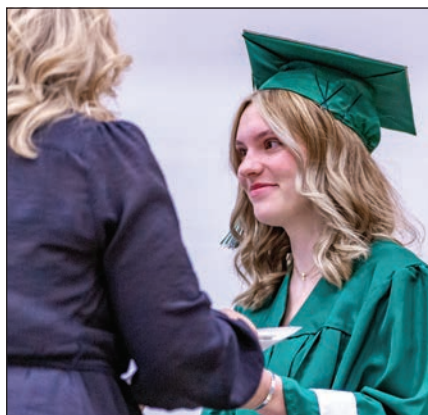
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Madison Comprehensive High School Graduates 2025



Photos By Traci Little






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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



Ontario Lady Warriors
2025 Girls Division II 4x400 State Champions

Ontario girls bring home state relay title and make school history

By Kris Leiter

As a 1982 graduate of Ontario, I'm proud to have been a Warrior. It gives me goose bumps every time I see one of the OHS Sports teams do well. I'm sure you all probably feel the same way with your alma mater.

And (drum roll) as of this past Saturday on the campus of The Ohio State University, Jesse Owens Stadium.

The Ontario girls have taken the state title for the 4x400 relay in Division II. The team on Arialyn Bischak, Tessa Crum, Sasha Bulakovski and Audrey Mahon crossed the finish line in fine fashion as victors and state champions with a time of 3:52.39.

Not only did they win the state title, but they did it as the first 4x400 track relay team in the history of Ontario.

It will be a day that head coach Rachel Miller will not forget. Miller also donned the state winner's column at OHS in 2017, as she captured the 300-meter hurdles state championship.



THE LEXINGTON BOYS are OHSAA Division I State Runner-Ups.



LEXINGTON'S 4X800 METER RELAY team of Chance Basilone, Nate Reed, Will Perkins and Latrell Hughes are state champions. Senior Chance Basilone had an All-Ohio performance in the 3200 meter run where he broke his previous school record by twelve seconds running a time of 9:01.51.



LEX'S 4X400 RELAY MEMBERS Dantrell Hughes, Bryston Hess, Will Perkins and Latrell Hughes had an All-Ohio state runner-up performance in the 4x400 meter relay. Dantrell had a PR, Will ran his second 47 second split of the day, Bryston ran a lifetime PR of 49.1 and Latrell ran a 46.5. They shattered the school record running 3:14.50. In the 800 meter run, Latrell Hughes threw down a school record performance of 1:51.00 and ran his way to his second state title of the weekend. Will Perkins had an All-Ohio performance in the 400 meter dash. He shattered the 400 meter record, running 47.34.



LEXINGTON SENIOR Emily Thomas was named All-Ohio for her 300 meter hurdles race at state. Senior Megan Haring is also All-Ohio after completing her 400 and 100 meter races.



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RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTHCARE SPOTLIGHT

Highlighting the People and Places That Keep us Well

A Feature by Traci Little

(Continued from Page 8)

services, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, radiology, and lab services. Families can also schedule appointments with specialists in areas like cardiology, neurology, and developmental pediatrics — all in a familiar, local setting.

“We work closely with local pediatricians and family doctors to ensure seamless care for each child,” Coffman notes. “That partnership is key.”

He also highlights the importance of addressing not just physical health, but the whole child — including their emotional and social well-being. “Sometimes families just need to know they’re not alone — and that we’re here to walk alongside them,” he says.

Nationwide Children’s Hospital is also partnered with Richland Pediatrics, offering primary care in both Mansfield and Shelby, with same-day sick appointments and walk-in hours. “They’ve integrated behavioral health services too,” Coffman adds. “Helping children deal with emotional and behavioral issues like depression, anxiety, ADHD, and even school-related problems like bullying.”

Home Care Services are another critical offering, including an infusion pharmacy and home medical equipment delivery — everything from wheelchairs and feeding supplies to diapers and wound care supplies. “We have a lot of services that I think the public might not even be aware of,” Coffman notes.

Beyond the patient care, Coffman says the center’s supportive, family-like culture translates into better care for families. “It’s a great place to work, and that excitement and pride show in how we care for kids.”

It’s inspiring to hear how world-class pediatric care is being delivered with heart right here in Richland County. As Coffman puts it: “We’re not just part of a nationally ranked hospital — we’re your neighbors, your community, and we’re here for your kids. We’re more like a family.”

For families seeking more information, Nationwide Children’s encourages them to talk to their child’s doctor or visit NationwideChildrens.org. Together, we’re working to ensure that exceptional pediatric care — and health equity for every child — is not just a promise, but a reality right here at home.



Local construction projects cause road, ramp closings

Richland County construction projects are anticipated to affect ODOT roadways. All outlined work is weather permitting and is subject to change.

State Route 13 northbound and southbound, from Hanley Road to Chilton Avenue, will have long-term lane closures. The northbound and southbound lanes will be closed. Traffic will be maintained in 10’ lanes in each direction with barrels.

The South Main Street entrance ramp to SR 13 north is closed for 60 days for resurfacing work. Access from Chilton Avenue to SR 13 is closed for 60 days. The estimated ramp reopening for both is July 4.

The SR 13 north exit ramp to Cook Road is closed for 60 days. The estimated ramp reopening is Sunday, July 13.

The Cook Road entrance ramp to SR 13 south is closed for 60 days with a reopening date of Friday, Aug. 1.

State Route 39, just south of Leppo Road, will have single lane closures in each direction for a culvert repairs. A minimum of one 11’ lane will remain open in each direction. Traffic will be maintained by flaggers when necessary. Estimated completion is June 2025.

Interstate 71 northbound, between SR 39 and U.S. 30, will have single lane closures. Estimated completion in November 2025.

State Route 181 will have single lane closures from just south of Main Street in Crestline to SR 309. Project work includes pavement repairs and bridge maintenance work. Traffic will be maintained by flaggers. Estimated completion is September 2025.

State Route 314 from the Morrow County line to the City of Ontario corporation limits will have single lane closures. Traffic will be maintained by flaggers. Estimated completion is this month.

Beginning the week of June 16, State Route 603 through Richland and Ashland County, from SR 39 to Mowery Road and from the Village of Mifflin to Franklin Church Road, will have single lane closures. Traffic will be maintained by flaggers. Estimated completion is September 2025. Rt. 603 between Welty Road and Schrack Road is closed for a culvert replacement. Estimated completion is June 13.



JUNIOR MADISON HENKEL OF SHELBY had a Division II state-winning long jump with 18-9.25. She faulted on her first two attempts in prelims. With only one jump remaining, an 18-6 jump moved her into the finals and to the second overall seed. On Henkel’s second jump in the finals, she soared 18-9.25 to take over first place, a jump that held the remainder of the event. She placed fifth her freshman year and third her sophomore season. Also of Shelby were All-Ohioans, the 4x100 relay team of Brady Bowman, Gavin Baker, Renner Gano and Brayden DeVito who took sixth place and a podium spot with a 42.71 time. Brayden DeVito is a three-sport All-Ohioan for football, basketball and track. Gavin Baker also earned sixth place and a spot on the podium in the 110 hurdles with a 14.56 time.

News Briefs in Education

Local students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2025 semester at Grove City College in Pennsylvania.

Among those on the list are Isabel Golias of Lexington is a junior Biblical and Religious Studies major; Mary Golias of Lexington is a junior Design and Innovation major.

Students eligible for the list have a GPA of 3.40 to 3.59.

★

Following the completion of each semester, Ohio University recognizes the academic achievements of its students by publishing the president's, dean's and provost's lists.

The dean's List recognizes undergraduate students who complete a particular semester with a GPA between 3.5 and 3.999 with a minimum of 12 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA. Local students on the list are Dylan Burks of Mansfield, Haley Carpenter of Ontario, Paige Danuloff of Ontario, John Hinton of Mansfield, Peyton Mandusic of Mansfield, Maci Myers of Mansfield, Emma Odson of Lexington, Sam Prinz of Mansfield, Taylor Thoman of Mansfield and Paige Thomas of Mansfield.

The president's list distinction is presented to undergraduate students who exhibit an exceptional commitment to academic excellence each semester. Criteria for the list include a 4.0 GPA for the given semester with a minimum of 12 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA. Local students on the list are Meredith Bise of Ontario, Olivia Bise of Ontario, Rachel Kocher of Mansfield, Elizabeth Nagel of Mansfield, Evan Porter of Mansfield and James Williams of Mansfield.

Ohio University College of Arts and Sciences student Enyce Sewell of Mansfield has been named to the provost's list. The provost's list recognition is shared with high-achieving, part-time undergraduate students who exemplify academic success. Qualifying students must possess a 3.5 or greater GPA and between six and 11.99 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA.

★

Ohio Wesleyan University has announced its dean's list for spring semester 2025. To qualify for OWU Dean's List recognition, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all applicable classes. Local residents recognized for the academic achievement are: Cooper Christie, Olivia Humphries, Will Kepple, Arianna Morris, Jameson Myers and Ava Swanson, all of Mansfield.

★

Local students have been named to the dean's list for the spring 2025 semester at the University of Mount Union. On the list are Alex Depperschmidt, Jacob Hathaway, Anna Perkins and Lucas Starling, all of Lexington.

To be eligible for the list, students must have completed at least 12 credit hours of traditionally graded coursework while achieving a grade point average of 3.550 or better with no letter grade below a B.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their regular meeting held on June 4, 2025.

The complete text of this Ordinance may be viewed and copies obtained at the Office of the Clerk of Council, Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio, during regular business hours.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-05 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO BE NAMED MAYOR FOR THE DAY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-12 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT THROUGH BUCKEYE ENERGY BROKERS FOR THE GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.8 PER CCF, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 6-12, 19 '25) 28L

LEGAL NOTICE

The Springfield Township, Richland County, Ohio invites asphalt contractors to bid on Township's Road work

for 2025. Sealed bids will be accepted until 6:00 p.m. on JUNE 23, 2025, at the Trustee's Office, 3700 Park Avenue West Ontario, Ohio 4'.'1903 at which time they will be publicly opened and read by the Fiscal Officer. Asphalt road resurfacing will be according to specifications available at the Trustees' Office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday Beginning JUNE 5, 2025. Also BID PACKETS can be printed from the springfieldtwprc.org website. The Road Foreman will be available to answer questions at (419) 529-2565.

All bids must be accompanied by a personal tax statement in accordance with state law and Ohio Workers Compensation and prevailing wage rate. Each bid will include a 10% bid bond as required by R. C. 153.54. Bids shall be clearly marked "2025 Road Improvement."

The Springfield Township Trustees reserve the right to reject any and all bids. All materials and equipment must meet state standards. All materials and equipment must meet state standards. The Trustees reserve the right to add or delete roads to stay within budget. The completion date is October 31, 2025.

Anita Kochheiser
Springfield Township
Fiscal Officer
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 6-5, 12 '25) 40L

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JUL 25	Luke Watson	Grunt Grub
AUG 8	EKG	Mad Meltz
AUG 22	Jevan Cole	Black Willow
SEP 5	Tom's Kitchen Table	Cub Country
SEP 19	Emily Raff	Exclusively Yours

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