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09.11.25



A RIBBON CUTTING was held Sept. 5 to celebrate the opening of a newly renovated courtroom at the Richland County Courthouse.

Milestone marked at Richland County Courthouse

Photos and Article By Traci Little

A vision years in the making became reality Friday morning, Sept. 5, as Richland County proudly unveiled its new courtroom in the Court of Common Pleas, General Division. Judges, commissioners, community leaders, and guests gathered for the 11 am ribbon-cutting ceremony on the second floor of the County Administration Building at 50 Park Avenue East. The event celebrated not only the completion of a state-of-the-art courtroom, but also the progress of a multi-year renovation project designed to enhance the delivery of justice and public service for the community.

The event began with the Pledge of Allegiance — a reminder of the court's daily work and solemn mission. From there, the theme of the day quickly became clear: teamwork, progress, and service to the people of Richland County.

Judge Phillip S. Naumoff praised those who helped bring the project to life, singling out Court Administrator Tammy Wurthmann for her tireless leadership. "It's a beautiful courtroom, folks. It really is," Naumoff said with pride. "This has been in the works for years, and it's truly a necessity for our county. We thank the commissioners, our staff, and everyone who made this possible."

The atmosphere reflected not just relief at the project's completion, but genuine excitement for what it means to the community. As one official remarked, "This just shows what teamwork can do. The commissioners, court staff, county maintenance, contractors — everyone came together to make this happen."

Beyond its striking appearance, the new courtroom brings meaningful improvements in security and efficiency. Judges noted that the space will be used for jury trials, bench trials, bond hearings, civil protection order hearings, visiting judges, and even oral arguments for the Court of Appeals, which are once again being held locally after COVID.

"This is going to be a really beneficial thing," one judge shared. "Citizens of Richland County are entitled to speedy justice. This courtroom will help us deliver that quicker — we're estimating about 33% faster. That means more cases resolved and fewer delays for the public we serve," said Judge Brent Robinson.

The new facility also offers a safer, more secure environment compared to the previous hearing room. "We're ready to start using it right away," Robinson added. "This is about serving the people of Richland County better, every single day."

Commissioners echoed those sentiments, emphasizing how collaboration across departments and organizations made the project possible without borrowing funds.

"This was not an easy thing to get together, but it turned out beau-

tiful," Commissioner Cliff Mears said, acknowledging the efforts of Josh Hicks and the county maintenance crew, Craig G. Christie, and architect Brad Maurer of MAD Studios. Special recognition was also given to the McCready Interiors design team for their work on furnishings and finishing touches and the Imhoff Construction team for going "above and beyond" throughout the process.

Commissioner Tony Vero added that more celebrations are ahead. "In about another month, we'll be showcasing the other improvements that are part of this renovation project," he said. "This is progress for Richland County and today is just one important step."

The ribbon cutting brought out a wide array of dignitaries and community members, including Mayor Steve Schag, Mansfield City Councilman Rev. Eleazer 'El' Akuchie, Judge Kelly L. Badnell, Judge Beth A. Owens, County Prosecutor Tony Schumacher, Andrew Keller, Richland County Administrator, Adam Gongwer, Ontario Service-Safety Director and Ellen Heinz, President of the Richland Area

(Continued on Page 5)

Kiwanis Club of Mansfield to host 3rd Annual Field of Honor Ceremony

The Kiwanis Club of Mansfield and Schmidt Security Pro/Schmidt Fire proudly invites the community to its 3rd Annual Field of Honor Ceremony, a moving tribute to the courage and sacrifice of our military personnel and first responders. The event will take place on Thursday Sept. 11, at 12:30 pm at the Area Agency on Aging, Ohio District 5, 12131 Park Avenue West, Ontario,.

Flags and dedications will be on display and open to the public from Saturday, Sept. 6–12.

Bob Miller will be the emcee and Doug Theaker will be the keynote speaker. Remarks will be given by Ontario Mayor Kris Knapp and Mansfield Mayor Jodie Perry.

The 179th Cyberspace Wing will present the Colors and Retiring of Colors and an invocation will be given by Rev. El Akuchie.

Jaslyn Lopez, Miss Ontario 2023, will sing the National Anthem and a prelude, special music and postlude will be presented by Douglas Keppler.

Flag dedications will be by Bob Miller.

The Kiwanis Club of Mansfield was chartered in June 1920 and is part of a global organization of clubs and members dedicated to serving the children of the world. For more information visit www.kiwanis.org.

LOST IN A BOOK



A Book Review
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



These Summer Storms by Sarah MacLean is like *We Were Liars*, but for adults. It's a bit cliché, but still a page turner for sure.

The Storm children are all adults called back to the private island in response to a sudden death in the family. To claim their inheritance, they must complete a series of tasks.

All four struggle in their own way, but Alice has been estranged and living a normal life independent from the family money for many years. She will have tough decisions to make and truth pills to swallow.

This story is filled with forbidden love, gold diggers, family secrets and a small hope for redemption. What could go wrong

with so many high emotions trapped together on an island?

My rating is because the characters are just okay, but the plot line really kept me intrigued.

My rating: ★★☆☆☆
Follow my blog at Green Gurneys at GreenGurneys.com

Summer assistance program concludes on September 30

The Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc.'s summer assistance to help Ohio's income-eligible families stay cool during the hot summer months ends Sept. 30.

The Summer Crisis Program assists low-income households or those that have a disconnection notice, have been shut off, are trying to establish new service on their electric bill, require air conditioning or those with a person 60 years or older living in the home, or who can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for their health. Qualifying medical conditions can include lung disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, asthma and others.

To qualify, Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a family of up to eight members, and 60 percent of the State Median Income for a family of nine or more members.

Starting this year, applying for assistance and managing an account has been streamlined in an online portal at energyhelp.ohio.gov. To get started, Ohioans must register for an OHID account, which provides a secure and convenient way to access their HEAP account.

Visit energyhelp.ohio.gov. For more information contact Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. at 419-524-4144.



THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

The Conjuring films have been one of the most enjoyable horror franchises in recent years. Even though there have been quite a few highs and lows, the stories have been at least memorable.

The reportedly final Conjuring film has just been released with *The Conjuring: Last Rites* which welcomes the return of Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga as real life supernatural investigators and authors Ed and Lorraine Warren.

This, their final case, takes place in 1986. A family in Pennsylvania are the targets of some terrorizing poltergeists as the mother brings her daughters home a creepy looking mirror that turns out to be carrying a demonic evil that will not go away. Ed and Lorraine want to leave their ghost hunting days behind them, though their daughter Judy also has her mother's gifts and is driven to help this family get rid of these evil spirits.

I will preface the review portion by saying I am overall recommending this movie though not without some problems.

Wilson and Farmiga are again truly excellent in these roles and have become so reliably great over the years. There are some good scares that come from events happening to this family and the final 15 minutes are what really elevate the film.

The biggest problems were that the writers wanted to wrap up so much involving the War-

ren family while telling an engaging ghost story.

The ghost story really works in this multigenerational family and their house is scary too, plus the haunted mirror angle really works. Though, too much time being paid to the Warren family having house parties, playing ping pong and Judy getting engaged take away from the central driving force of the movie.

Director James Wan, who directed the first two excellent movies, did not direct this movie or the previous third installment and it shows.

This movie should have gone right into the haunting and just gone nonstop until the conclusion.

Sure, bringing in some of the Warren's life is fine though too much time is spent with them. The scares that work really do though there were one too many set ups that were easy to spot.

The Conjuring: Last Rites is getting a marginal favorable review for some great haunting moments and good story and performances. The movie is too full though of a side story that can be there though not for over half the film. It takes too much away from what really works and that is too bad because this could have been a top tier Conjuring film.



Miss Ohio 1st Annual 5K Run/Walk planned for Saturday, September 13

Mansfield will host the Miss Ohio 1st Annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Sept. 13. Themed "Chasing the Crown on Hallowed Ground," the event will be held at the historic Mansfield Cemetery, 389 Altamont Ave.

The event is for both runners and walkers and registration begins at 8 am with the 5K run beginning at 9:30 am and the walk beginning at 10 am. Families are welcome and kids 10 and under participate free with a registered adult.

Miss Ohio Olivia Fosson and Miss Ohio Teen Allison Payton both plan to attend.

Registration can be completed online at <http://run.missohio.org>, or on the day of the event. Cost is \$30. Every dollar supports the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program, empowering young women to achieve their educational and professional dreams.

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News Briefs

The City of Ontario will have its Trick or Treat night on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5:30–7:30 pm.

★

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Richland County will hold its annual board meeting event on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 5 pm at the Dan Lew Exchange, Kobacker Room, 28 N. Main St., Mansfield. For additional information call 419-774-5811.

★

Richland County EMA will host its 2nd Annual Community Preparedness Fair in partnership with Avita Ontario and the Ontario Center.

Last year, the Richland County EMA partnered with Avita Health Care and The Ontario Center to host a Community Preparedness Fair, which included 24 community partners. This year, the event has expanded to include not only preparedness information but also other valuable community resources and information.

The fair will be held Saturday, Sept. 20, from 1–4 pm in the Avita parking lot at The Ontario Center, formerly Richland Mall.

★

Final preparations are being made for the annual rummage and bake sale at Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield.

The sale will be held Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 1–4. Hours are 4–7 pm on Oct. 1; 9 am to 7 pm on Oct. 2; 9 am to 2 pm on Oct. 3; and 9 am to noon on Oct. 4.

Food will be available for purchase to eat in or take out.

The event is coordinated by Mary Reynolds and Peg Tinkham.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Sept. 27 and 28. 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 welcome Christopher Reynolds on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Remember There Is A Heaven, pt. 2: The Message of Johnny Appleseed and Swedenborg."

For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

★

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 Sept. 17, with broasted chicken.

Hospice of Western Reserve will be in attendance and a collection will be taken for Richland County Humane Society. Those attending are asked to bring paper/cloth towels, cleaning supplies, newspapers, wipes, disposable gloves, canned food and Purina Cat or Dog Chow. For information visit www.lexasc.org. Dues are \$10 per year.

★

Trinity Grace Fellowship Church, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, will hold community prayer meetings from 6:30–7:30 pm, Oct. 12 and 19. The public is invited.

★

Richland Early American Center for History will host the 9th Annual American Heritage Days at Southpark, 100 Brinkerhoff Ave, Mansfield, Oct. 4 and 5, from 10 am to 4 pm. Living history reenactors will demonstrate life in America in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Throughout the day there will be crafts, trades, demonstrations and activities, including blacksmithing, games and children's activities, open hearth cooking demonstrations and civilian and military reenactments. Admission and parking are free to the public. A food truck will be on-site.

★

The world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales eight-horse hitch will be harnessed to the iconic turn-of-the-century beer wagon on Sept. 12, from 4–6 pm, at the Bellville Street Fair. The Clydesdales have been the mascot of Anheuser-Busch since 1933, when a team was presented to August A. Busch Sr. to celebrate the repeal of Prohibition.



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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
10:30 am Sunday Worship
Office Hours: Tu., W., Th. 9 am to 1 pm
Christian Builders, Sunday, 9:30 am
www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com
FB: FirstChristianChurch,Mansfield,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 Church of the Cross

236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington
419-884-2150 • Churchofthecrosslex.com
Pastor-Rev. Dr. Edna Stahl
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Junior Church for 10 and under • Wesley Class 10:45
5th Sunday of the month-Do Something Sunday AA, Girl Scouts,
Yoga, Knotty Ladies
and Bible Study.

Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 Church St. West, Lexington
419-884-1330 • 10:30 am Sunday Worship
Pastor Denny Nezrick
<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
Rev. J.P. Snyder
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 School • 11 am Sunday School
Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

•Milestone marked at Richland County Courthouse

(Continued from Front Page)

Chamber & Economic Development. Beloved community member Doc Stubbo also joined the celebration, underscoring the sense of pride shared across the county.

As the ribbon was cut, the moment symbolized far more than the opening of a courtroom. It represented a commitment to the future — one grounded in efficiency, transparency, and community growth.

"This new courtroom is a testament to what can be accomplished when people work together," the Board of Commissioners noted. "We are proud to continue making improvements that benefit our

residents — and to do it responsibly, without borrowing funds. It's about making sure Richland County is ready to meet the needs of today and tomorrow."

With the ceremony concluded, judges and staff quickly returned to jury trials and hearings — a fitting reminder that this new space isn't just symbolic, but immediately practical. More than bricks and mortar, it represents a lasting investment in the people of Richland County and the delivery of justice. As the courtroom doors open to jurors, attorneys, and citizens alike, it stands as proof that when Richland County works together, progress follows.



Walking and biking event on Sept. 29 will promote mobility and falls prevention

To promote mobility and falls prevention, a walk and bike event will be held Monday, Sept. 29, at the B&O Bike Trail, North Lake Park, 625 Hope Rd., Mansfield.

The event is free and open to the public from 9–11 am. There will be an opportunity to win a free wellness basket.

This event is an opportunity for social engagement and physical activity and will have information and resources provided by the Area Agency on Aging, Richland County Mobility Management and other community partners. Participants can bring a bicycle for individual and/or group riding opportunities. Water will be provided.

Free RCT bus rides will be available to and from the walking event by calling 419-522-4504.

This event will be cancelled for inclement weather. No registration is required and for more information call 567-247-6487.

Special needs event planned at carousel

For the fourth year in a row, the Hastings Group is sponsoring a special needs event at the Richland Carrousel Park, 75 N. Main St., Mansfield, Friday, Sept. 19, from 5–7 pm.

Refreshments will be provided and attendees will receive unlimited rides on the carousel. The carousel will be modified for this one evening to address the concerns of the special needs community.

This year's attendance is expected to exceed last year's, which saw more than 80 members of the Mansfield special needs community enjoy time at the carousel on behalf of the Hastings Group.

For more information or to register call 419-522-4223.



Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Frank "Bill" William Radler, September 1

Sharon Kaye Friend, September 2

Thomas "Tom" Mark Kyff, September 3

David Bruce Yeagley, September 5

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www.wappner.com



Hot air balloons lift spirits for children losing vision

Photos and Article By Traci Little

The glow of a late-summer sunset lit Freer Field on Saturday, September 6, as the Visual Bucket List Foundation (VBLF) launched its debut Eyes in the Sky event.

Neighbors, loved ones and supporters gathered to share an evening of joy, laughter, and unforgettable sights designed to bring wonder to children living with vision loss.

As the breeze gave way to stillness, anticipation turned to pure magic. One by one, five children and their families were lifted into the sky in the baskets of tethered hot air balloons provided by Ashland Balloon Rides. Against the backdrop of a golden horizon, their laughter and astonishment echoed through the field.

"This is about creating unforgettable moments," said Jess Berry, VBLF's Director of Operations and Special Events, who has volunteered with the foundation since 2020. "Even just a few minutes in the air can spark joy that these children—and their families—will carry with them for a lifetime."

Founded in 2016 by Steve and Christine Myers after their daughter Lizzy was diagnosed with Usher Syndrome Type 2A, VBLF has granted nearly 25 personalized wishes for children nationwide. From Broadway shows and lake vacations to backyard retreats, each wish is created to capture treasured sights before vision fades.

Saturday's event lifted that mission to new heights—literally—as colorful hot air balloons decorated the evening sky. On the ground, families gathered with excitement. Children bounced in inflatables, lined up for creative balloon animals, and played yard games across the grass. Local favorites — On The Rise BBQ, The Looney Lemon, and Kona Ice — served up treats, while music and conversation turned Freer Field into a festival of joy and hope.

Several current and past grantees joined the fun, sharing their stories of resilience.

Morgan Cook of Lexington, who received a pink "She Shed" during COVID, now a student at the Ohio State School for the Blind, still treasures her shed as a retreat.

Peter Heath of Loudonville, diagnosed with Batten Disease, inspired "Peter's Train Park" at his family's church and became a published author at age nine. His debut, *The Adventures of Marshmallow and Peter*, sold over 500 copies in its first week, with proceeds benefiting the Batten Disease Support and Research Association Foundation. "The Visual Bucket List is a blessing, and we feel privileged to benefit from their desire to help kids with vision loss have amazing experiences!" said his mom, Beth.

Grayson Naff of Tipp City, also battling Batten Disease, enjoyed a family trip to Lake Cumberland thanks to VBLF. His mom, Emily Blackburn, reflected: "What a wonderful experience! These kids had the time of their life. This was truly a night Grayson and our family will remember and think of often."

The Hess family of Bucyrus, recent applicants to the program, were invited to join the celebration. Mom Heaven said, "I think it is really amazing that they do events like this," after sharing that her children Zula and Zabel were diagnosed with Optic Atrophy last year.

At the heart of it all was Lizzy Myers, now 15, who inspired the foundation's beginning. A sophomore at Lexington High School, Lizzy dreams of becoming a teacher for the visually impaired and one day helping lead the very organization her family started.

(Continued on Page 7)

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•Hot air balloons lift spirits

(Continued from Page 6)

The event was made possible by countless partners and sponsors. WMFD's Chelley Kemper emceed the evening, calling it "an incredible weather night for a balloon lift."

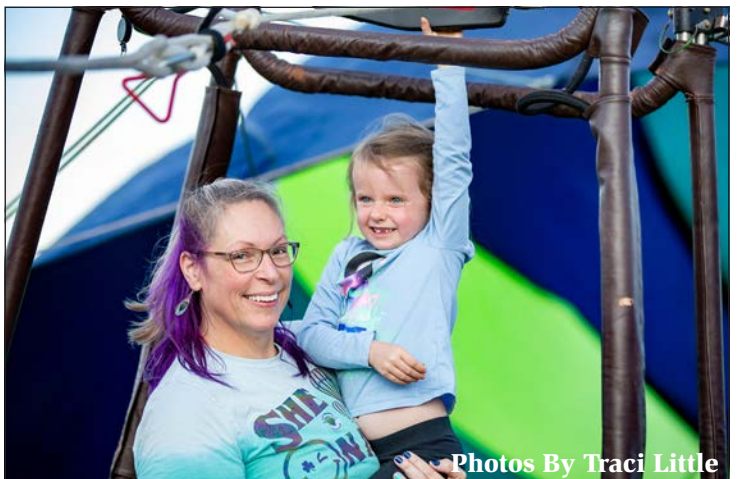
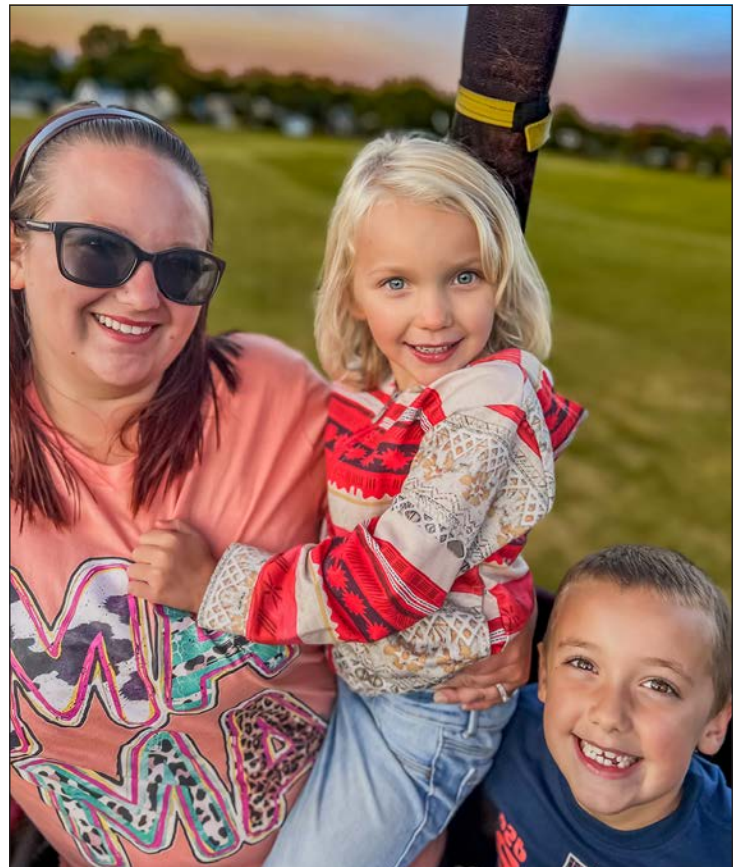
Ashland Balloon Rides thanked Illuma Screens, fellow balloonists, and local sponsors on Facebook: "What a night! Thank you to everyone who made it possible." Major support came from Park National Bank, Modern Woodmen Financial, Bill Harris, Farmers State Bank, Armstrong, University Hospitals Samaritan Medical Center, and local Lions Clubs. Illuma Screens contributed a giant digital display to showcase the festivities.

On The Rise BBQ summed it up perfectly: "This amazing organization assists families with children facing visual impairment to experience bucket list activities. Tonight was a night they won't forget."

With its 10th anniversary approaching in 2026, VBLF continues to grow, with upcoming events including the OSU vs. Purdue Pregame Reverse Raffle on Nov. 7, at the Buckeye Imagination Museum, and participation in Richland Gives on Dec. 2.

Donations can be made via PayPal or Venmo. Visit them at www.thevisualbucketlistfoundation.com or follow them on Facebook.

As the balloons glowed against the night sky, the Visual Bucket List Foundation once again fulfilled its promise: bringing the world to children who are losing their sight.



Photos By Traci Little



Bloom Boutique rebrands as Bloom and Fizz to become Mansfield's first dirty soda bar

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Happy anniversary to Janelle Blake — and what a way to celebrate! “If anyone can make things bloom, fizz and pop in Mansfield, it’s this lovely lady,” said Jennifer Wagner of the Richland Area Chamber.

Four years ago, Bloom Boutique opened its doors at 48 Park Ave. West, offering bohemian-modern fashion and accessories that quickly became a local favorite. Now, Janelle is marking this milestone with an exciting new chapter: the rebrand to Bloom and Fizz.

The celebration kicked off on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 4:30 pm at Bloom and Fizz, 48 Park Ave. West with a ribbon cutting celebration hosted by the Richland Area Chamber and Economic Development. Stop by to experience the new look, taste the fizz, and join in the fun!

The refreshed boutique promises a space filled with classic, clean, modern styles, curated with care and intention. But Janelle also wanted to bring something fun and fresh to the community. After noticing TikTok buzzing with creative “dirty soda” recipes, she thought, why not? — especially since nothing like that exists in the Mansfield area.

That spark led to Fizz, Mansfield’s very first storefront dirty soda bar, now opening inside Bloom’s boutique. It’s a one-of-a-kind concept pairing fashion with flavor, and it’s set to add even more energy to downtown.

September Menu Favorites include:

Cherry Checkup – Dr. Pepper, Cherry, Vanilla Cold Foam

Blueberry Buzz – Sprite, Blueberry, Vanilla Cream

Fluff It Up – Root Beer, Marshmallow Drizzle, Toasted Marshmallow, Vanilla Cold Foam

Classic Berry Cola – Coke, Raspberry, Fresh Lime, Vanilla Cream

Dew Me Dirty – Mt Dew, Blue Raspberry, Raspberry Cold Foam

Strawberry Skies – Pink Slush Alani, Strawberry, Vanilla, Blue Raspberry Cold Foam

Peachy Promise – Lemonade, Peach, Strawberry, Peach Boba

Bewitching Buzz – Witches Brew Alani, Caramel Drizzle, Vanilla Cold Foam

Feeling adventurous? Create your own by choosing from your favorite sodas, lemonade, Alani drinks, bobas, syrups, and toppings to craft a one-of-a-kind Dirty Soda made just for you. The flavor possibilities are endless — let your creativity fizz!

With plenty of sugar-free options available, there’s something for everyone. I tried the Skinny Fluff It Up, and honestly, I couldn’t drink it fast enough — it was that good! So stop by, sip and celebrate — your next favorite drink might just be waiting for you. Find them on Facebook and Instagram at Fizz.48.





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SAVE THE DATE : 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Saturday, September 13

SCAN ME!



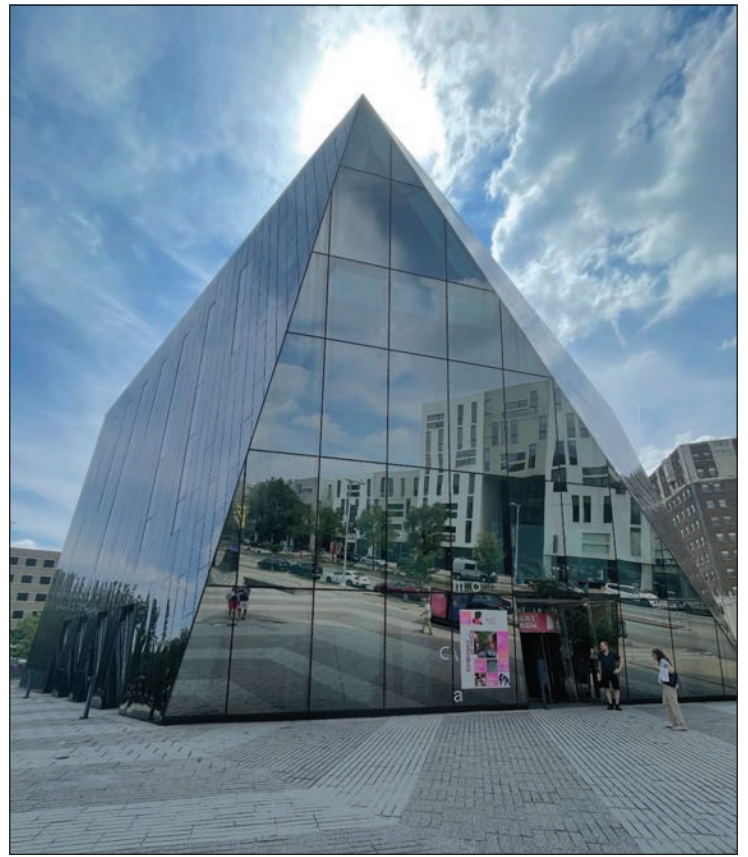
alz.org/nw ohio/walk





Richland Carrousel Park 75 N. Main Street , Mansfield

Event Details : Check in 9:00 am | Ceremony / Walk at 10:00 am



Photos by Damon Callis

Day Trippin' With Damon – The Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, 11400 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH, offers free admission for everyone living in Ohio and all youth 18 years old and under. Cost is \$10 for adults living outside of Ohio. The museum is open Thursdays and Fridays, from 1–8 pm; and Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 am to 5 pm. Self-guided tours explore the museum's architecture, highlights and art elements through self-guided experiences. Each visit can reveal something new. Tour cards are available at the Welcome Center. Target Talks are held every day at 2 pm where guides lead deeper, drop-in discussions about the works in the galleries. An artist talk and book tour will be held Friday, Sept. 26, with Sharon Loudon: Last Artist Standing, from 6–8 pm. Sharon Loudon is an artist, educator, advocate, consultant, community builder, founder and director of the Institute for Sustained Creativity, and editor of the *Living and Sustaining a Creative Life* series of books. The event is free for all. A Sensory Sunday will be held Oct. 26, from 12–2:30 pm. For more information or to learn about more events and exhibits visit <https://www.mocacleveland.org>.

Interior design inspo



Transitional STYLE



Transitional Style

Transitional style decor blends traditional and contemporary design elements to create a balanced, timeless look. It's characterized by clean lines, neutral colors, and a mix of textures that create a sophisticated yet inviting atmosphere.

Committee will host 29th Anniversary Earth Stewardship Awards Ceremony

The Earth Stewardship Steering Committee has announced the conclusion of the 29th Anniversary Earth Stewardship Celebration with its annual awards ceremony.

The awards ceremony will recognize the many projects, organizations, sponsors, and participants who have made the Earth Stewardship Celebration a success, including those who participated in the 14th Annual Take Pride Contest.

The 14th Annual Take Pride Contest will have award winners in each of the following categories: Business, Schools, Neighborhood, Government and Non-Profit/Church who submitted before and after photos of their projects. The grand prize award is the People's Choice Award, determined by votes via the Earth Stewardship Celebration Facebook Page.

The committee will also be announcing the five winners of the Star Award, which recognizes a project in five different communities in Richland County.

The awards ceremony will be held at the Gazebo in Central Park in Downtown Mansfield on Friday, Sept. 12, at 11:30 am. It will be moved to DLX in the case of rain.

The community is invited to join in this celebration to recognize the culmination of the many projects completed throughout the months of April, May, June, July and August, and those who have given of their time, money and energy to make Mansfield/Richland County a more beautiful place to work and live.

Members of the Earth Stewardship Steering Committee include the City of Mansfield, Downtown Mansfield, Inc. North End Community Improvement Collaborative, OSU Extension, Richland Area Chamber and Economic Development, Richland Public Health, Richland County Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and Richland Soil & Water Conservation District.

For information visit <https://www.facebook.com/p/Earth-Stewardship-Celebration-100067326255561/>



Mansfield Chamber Music Players

Memorial concert is October 5

The Mansfield Chamber Music Players will present the Twenty Ninth Annual Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Concert on Sunday, Oct. 5 at 4 pm in Riedl Hall at The Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus.

Music by Ulysses Kay, Charles Lefebvre, and Richard Strauss will be performed by a string quintet, a woodwind quintet and a ten person piece combining the winds and strings.

These concerts were organized by Carol Bernhardt in memory of her late husband, Donald Bernhardt who was concertmaster of the Mansfield Symphony and the Ashland Orchestra, as well as an avid chamber music player. Since the first concert in 1997, the Mansfield Chamber Music Players have performed over 100 different pieces on these concerts.

Included on this year's varied program is Six Dances for Strings by Ulysses Kay, Suite Opus 57 by Charles-Edouard Lefebvre and Siegfried Idyll by Richard Strauss.

Performing this year will be: violin, Michael Sieberg and Steve Domka; viola, Jim Froelich; cello, Robert Rashid; bass, David Lenigan; flute, Carol Oberholtzer; oboe, Carol Bernhardt; clarinet, Pamela Ellis; French horn, Keely Krumweide; and bassoon, Jane Price. Grammy winning conductor, John McLaughlin Williams who played violin on the first three Memorial Chamber Music Concerts will conduct the Siegfried Idyll.

The concert is provided by the Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Fund at Chase Bank in cooperation with The Ohio State University – Mansfield Campus.

Food vendor applications open for October Savor & Sip event

The Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development is planning its 9th annual Savor & Sip Auction and Food Tasting for Oct. 23 from 5-7:30 pm at the Mid-Ohio Conference Center in Mansfield.

Businesses in the food industry, such as restaurants, caterers, and food trucks, are invited to have a table at this event to offer tastings of their food and promote their businesses. There is no charge for Chamber member businesses to provide tastings. A non-member rate is also available.

The Savor & Sip event is a celebration of all things culinary in our area from some of the area's finest restaurants, caterers, bakeries, delis and beverage companies. Entertainment and a silent auction will also happen throughout the evening.

This event is limited to 550 guests and is typically a sell-out crowd. Entry for attendees is \$30 per person when registered by October 15. Attendees will enjoy food samples from 20+ food vendors, and a cash bar will also be available. The public is encouraged to attend to enjoy the food and live music, along with getting a jump on holiday shopping by bidding on a vast number of auction items.

Attendees are encouraged to register via the event calendar at richlandareachamber.com.

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ONTARIO TEACHER Mrs. Reese's students participated in play centers.

Four KCCC students earn "On Track with HVAC" status

The Knox County Career Center HVAC program recognized four students who earned "On Track with HVAC" status. Mason Flack, Clayton Vance, Josiah Colon, and Logan Miller all completed the necessary requirements to earn "On Track with HVAC" status.

"On Track with HVAC" is a program generated by Brad Schmidt, HVAC instructor at KCCC, and the KCCC HVAC Advisory Committee. In order to earn "On Track with HVAC" status, students must complete all credentials that are provided in the HVAC program, pass a drug test, miss a maximum of eight days or less of school in their junior year, and be employed through a local company through KCCC's Work-Based Learning program.

Students who earn "On Track with HVAC" receive a tool bag full of hand tools and an electric meter to kick-start their career in the HVAC field. This opportunity is made possible by the HVAC Advisory Committee, which is made up of local industry partners who support KCCC's HVAC program and industry.

"It is a great privilege to reward a student that works hard to succeed, and is determined to take on the next steps. This is the first group of many that will be part of "On Track with HVAC". Congratulations, we are proud of you!" said Schmidt.

KCCC & the HVAC program would like to thank the businesses that sponsor "On Track with HVAC". Thank you to Lapp Heating & Cooling, IBEW 688, Universal Enterprise Inc., Coffing Electric, Advantage Air and Mac Heating & Cooling.



Mason Flack, Clayton Vance, Josiah Colon and Logan Miller

Sutton Bank adds financial advisor for Investment Services Division

Sutton Bank has announced that Hunter Mariotti has joined the Investment Services Division as a financial advisor. Through Sutton Investment Services, Hunter offers retail and business customers a broad array of financial services including financial planning, retirement planning, fixed and variable annuities, IRAs, college planning, estate planning and insurance products.

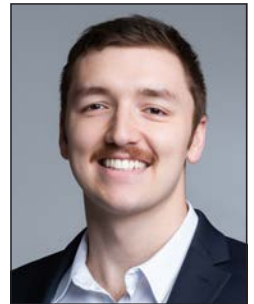
"We're happy to welcome Hunter Mariotti to our investment services team," said Tony Gorrell, CEO of Sutton Bank. "His passion for helping people achieve their financial goals aligns perfectly with Sutton Bank's commitment to building lasting relationships with our customers. We're confident he'll be a great resource as clients plan for the future and navigate important financial decisions."

Sutton Bank offers an investment services program through Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. As a longstanding leader in financial planning and advice, Ameriprise helps clients reach their financial goals through a personalized, collaborative approach.

Prior to joining Sutton Bank, Mariotti was a Client Service Specialist with ClearCourse Wealth Advisors in Columbus, Ohio, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. There he collaborated with financial advisers to help clients develop strategies to manage their personal and business finances. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from Ohio Wesleyan University.

"I'm excited to join the Sutton Bank team and help clients feel more confident about their financial future," said Mariotti. "Whether they're just getting started on their investment journey or they're at a point in their life where they are aggressively planning for retirement, I enjoy providing clients clear guidance and personalized solutions to help them every step of the way."

Mariotti will serve clients across the Sutton Bank's seven full-service branch network from the 863 N. Lexington-Springmill Rd., Ontario office. He will also be available to meet with clients at any Sutton Bank location. For more information call 419-747-7712 or visit suttonbank.com.



Kaleidoscope series to present Dr. Lerone Martin on October 2

The Kaleidoscope Speaker Series returns this fall with an evening of powerful conversation featuring Dr. Lerone Martin, nationally respected scholar and Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University. The event will take place on Thursday, Oct. 2, at 5:30 pm at the Renaissance Theatre.

A dynamic voice at the intersection of religion, race and American politics, Dr. Martin's work uncovers how institutions shape our society — and how empathy and awareness can help heal deep divides. His keynote will explore today's most pressing issues through the lens of history and lived experience, offering a path forward grounded in truth, accountability, and connection.

Following the event, attendees are invited to stay for a post-discussion networking reception in the Renaissance Lobby, where they can connect with fellow community members and continue the conversation.

This event is part of the 2025 Kaleidoscope Speaker Series, a collaborative initiative from the Richland County Foundation, Richland Source, the Renaissance Performing Arts Association, and the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. Built on the idea that lasting progress requires a willingness to see challenges from new angles—like a kaleidoscope—the series invites all community members to lean forward together.

Tickets are pay-what-you-can, with a suggested price of \$25, to ensure accessibility for all and are available at www.RenTickets.org.

Richland County Transit (RCT) is providing complimentary door-to-door transportation to the upcoming Kaleidoscope event on Oct. 2. This fare-free service is available to residents of Mansfield, Ontario, Madison and Lexington, ensuring broad community access to this vibrant local gathering.

To schedule a ride, call RCT at 419-522-4504. Advance reservations are encouraged, though same-day scheduling may be accommodated depending on availability.

The free rides are made possible through the generous support of the Richland County Foundation, helping to eliminate transportation barriers and promote inclusive community engagement.

A follow-up engagement session, "Authentic Conversations," will take place on Thursday, Oct. 16 at 5:30 pm in the Community Room at the Ontario Branch of the Public Library. All are welcome to attend and dive deeper into the ideas sparked by Dr. Martin's talk.



ONTARIO STINGEL ELEMENTARY has a brand new special this year being offered for kindergarten through fifth graders. Mr. Johnson is teaching STEM to students daily.



Free guitar lessons available at Ohio State Mansfield

New and beginning guitar players can attend "Community Workshop Series: Guitar Fundamentals," a series of free guitar lessons offered by The Ohio State University at Mansfield, in partnership with Metronome Music of Mansfield.

Through a series of in-person lessons that begin Oct. 22, participants will gain in-person lessons, including live performances, hands-on practice and interactive Q&A with Nate Weiland, community outreach director at Metronome Music Inc.

Sessions will be offered Oct. 22 and Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12 and 19, and Dec. 3 and 10. Each session is an independent event, meaning attendance at all sessions is not necessary. Participants of all ages are welcome and those under 18 must attend with a legal guardian.

"Everyone deserves a chance to learn how to play a music instrument, but some people can't afford lessons," said Mantra Das, desk-top and education support specialist at Ohio State Mansfield.

"Our new guitar program offers a welcoming space to explore a new hobby and connect with the local music scene. We're just bringing people together to have fun and make friends with other musicians."

The lessons are a community engagement initiative, done in collaboration with the Office of Academic Affairs, with generous support from the Mellon Foundation. This innovative program offers free guitar lessons to everyone, regardless of their enrollment status at Ohio State, promoting inclusive access to music education across the region.

Ohio State students can also earn academic credit if they actively engage in the workshops and course work, and are enrolled in Theatre 2000.09. Students who enroll in the class can borrow a guitar to use for the semester for free.

The public workshop series closely follows the Beginning Acoustic Guitar Music Lessons curriculum from LinkedIn Learning. Ohio State students have free access, and the Richland Library provides free access to LinkedIn Learning for all participants.

Each session will be held from 4-4:50 pm, in Riedl Hall Room 151. For more information and to RSVP visit <https://go.osu.edu/guitar>

For additional information, Mantra Das is available at das.409@osu.edu or 614-292-7692.



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Or Visit <http://eepurl.com/hnS9N9>



NAMI Richland County opens new facility in Ontario

Photos and Article By Traci Little

NAMI Richland County is officially home in Ontario! On a gorgeous Monday afternoon, Sept. 8, community leaders, supporters, and staff gathered at 2131 Park Avenue West, Suite 200, to celebrate the grand reopening of the organization's new facility. The move to a larger, more welcoming space reflects the steady growth of NAMI's programs and its continued mission to support, educate, and advocate for those affected by mental health conditions.

The celebration was filled with heartfelt appreciation. The Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development helped kick off the event, noting, "Their mission is to support, educate, and advocate—and they do so much more than that. They provide hope to so many, and their outreach is beyond measure. We are excited to welcome them to their new home here in Ontario."

Local and state leaders echoed that gratitude. State Representative Marilyn John congratulated the team on behalf of the State, saying, "To NAMI, and all that you have done in our community over the years, we just want to celebrate with you. Congratulations, it's

beautiful!" Mansfield City Councilman David Falquette added, "Congratulations on your new space. I know how much work you do with law enforcement, and we really appreciate it." Ontario Councilwoman and NAMI volunteer Rose Feagin shared, "I'm honored to be here. I definitely believe in the mission. Thank you."

For the City of Ontario, the new location was especially meaningful. Mayor Kris Knapp welcomed the organization warmly: "We are very grateful for this organization and very thankful that they are making their home here in Ontario." Service-Safety Director Adam Gongwer, drawing from his experience as a former police officer, reflected on NAMI's impact: "I know how many resources NAMI has provided us and the area law enforcement agencies. Thank you, and best wishes for success here in Ontario." Mansfield Law Director Rolie Harper summed it up simply but powerfully: "Very necessary and so needed. It's a pleasure to be here, and I'm thankful."

Community voices joined the chorus of praise. Doc Stumbo smiled as he called NAMI "a great agency" before offering his congratulations. Chamber President Ellen Heinz spoke from the heart about the team's hard work: "I know it takes a lot of blood, sweat, and tears to do what you do, but you do it with grace and with great energy. You're a bold team. We're so proud to have you here, and you provide such a critical resource for our community." Councilman Aurelio Diaz reflected on the progress made in addressing mental health openly: "The fact that we live in an age where we can talk so openly, without fear of stigma, about mental illness—that is huge. NAMI is a very big asset to our county."

NAMI Richland County is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families affected by mental illness. Through peer-led support groups, educational presentations, care navigation, and outreach to schools, businesses, and community institutions, the organization ensures dignity, respect, and access to resources for those navigating mental health challenges. Based in Ontario, the affiliate serves both Richland and Ashland counties, making vital services widely accessible across the region.

Founded in 2001 by Darlene Reed and Mary Kay Pierce, NAMI Richland County has grown into a trusted and responsive community resource. Today, it is led by Executive Director Aubrie Hall, who honored the organization's beginnings during the event: "Our organization started in 2001 by two wonderful women—Darlene Reed and Mary Kay Pierce—who set the most critical foundation for us to grow to this point." She is supported by a dedicated team including Youth Program Coordinator Alexie Lorenz, Adult Program Coordinator Laura Beckett, Care Navigator Megan Davidson, and Marketing Intern Makenna Domka. Oversight is provided by a committed Board of Directors, headed by President Joe Jerger and Vice President Jim Kulig.

The afternoon felt less like a ribbon-cutting and more like a family celebration. With its new Ontario location, NAMI Richland County is ready to keep growing, supporting, and breaking down barriers around mental health in the community.



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Madison Community Youth Park: The Field of Dreams

Photos and Article By Kris Leiter
(Part 2)

Last week, we talked about the history and vision of long-time board members of the Madison Youth Park and the beautiful complex as it sits today.

Of course, we all know that in order to bring a dream to reality it takes money. The vision of the Madison Youth Park was no different. As a matter of fact, board members from years gone by had the vision, but ran into a dead-end when it came to the funds to make it happen.

For years, young athletes played on nine different elementary school fields spread across Madison and Mifflin townships. Tasks such as mowing, lining the foul lines and food service, were completed by the passionate people supporting the fields.

A central park was needed to facilitate over 600 youth. The old saying, "It takes a village" applied, but in this case, it took a village to raise a baseball complex.

In any construction project, just obtaining a piece of real estate can be monumental. After some struggle to find the right land, the plot across from Forest Hills Golf Course, just up the road from Mifflin Elementary on Rt. 430, was chosen.

"Local businessman Gary Parton reached a point where he was selling some of his businesses. He had the Burger King franchise as well as local places. The land just worked out at the right time and he was able to donate it."

But that was just the beginning as funds were still needed for laying block, running electric lines and all the necessities for building a sports complex.

So how did this fundraising for this project begin?

"Connections," said youth park board member Gary Boyd. Parton also helped to get the ball rolling for sponsorships.

"We start piecing the promised donations together, because when you start something, you have to enough to get it off the ground."

"From the very beginning we started adding businesses. We were just letting everybody know our plans."

"It took four years to get the money for the construction. Back then there were meetings every two or three days. We just could not get away from it."

"I went to the architect for plans and back then, when you have nothing but a grass field, and you're starting out, that's a lot of money for architect fees."

As the committee looked at the land, it still looked challenging. How were they going to fit four fields?

"It wasn't prime real estate. It was a challenge, so we stayed highest on the first field. We had pretty good natural drainage, so we stepped the fields down toward the back field."

"I started checking around for excavating. And then we had a stroke of luck. Cooper Excavating got word that we were in need."

"I got a call from Cooper and he asked if he could help out. He was a former president of the Ashland baseball Association."

"It would have taken much longer without their help. Local residents also came to lay block and were willing to come out and help wherever we needed them. There were a lot of trades type people in Madison. You could go to them and say, we're looking to do this and they would help us out."

"Most of the guys would get off work, come out here and go home around nine or ten o'clock at night."

Board members Dave Miller and Steve Kanz reflected back, "We had the footers poured in the restrooms. And that would have been in maybe the deepest part of February. In order to keep the footers from freezing, we had to have kerosene heaters."

"Somebody had to come out here at two o'clock in the morning for at least a week until it dried. We came out every four hours and filled those up."

"We started grading (excavating) about 1987," said Boyd.

Current board member John Eswick wasn't initially involved in the project, but since he lived close his curiosity got the best of him. He soon joined forces with the baseball program.

Eswick smiles, "My first awareness as a member of the community is what were they doing there?"

"I wasn't even aware at that time, but had to find out what was going on. I made some calls and here I am."

In part three of this series we will look at how far the complex has come.



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Lexington Minutemen battle Clear Fork in epic 31-28 win

By Kris Leiter

Last week, the Lexington Minutemen varsity football team (2-1, OCC) went up against the Clear Fork Colts (2-1, MOAC). This was the game to see! It was a big non-conference match-up and always a big rivalry.

Clear Fork drove the wagon train into Big Lex territory and gave the Minutemen a big handful all the way into the fourth quarter. The Colts ended the first quarter leading 7-0 — a good start, especially on the road!

The Minutemen would countersuit and score 10 points going into halftime, holding the Colts to 7.

Both teams scored seven points in the third quarter with Lex now leading 17-14.

Lexington brought another seven points with a 43-yard pass from Joe Caudill to Brayden Fogle early into the fourth quarter, Lex was now leading 23-14.

The Colts made a surge in the middle of the fourth to make this an epic game. Marcus Hoefflich ran 11 yards for paydirt, but the extra point would not happen. The Colts were still within reach of the victory, 24-20, Lex leading, and the Colts were moving the momentum quickly!

Eleven minutes later, Lex opened things up and gave some breathing room as Seven Allen would bust-a-move with an incredible 60-yard run into the end zone for another Lex touchdown, and the extra-point would split the upright.

Lex was now in the lead 31-20.

As the quarter neared the end, would the Colts make another surge being down nine points?

As seven minutes ticked away, the Colts scored another from Hoefflich who connected on a 17-yard pass to Devyn Oswalt for another six points and good 2-point conversion. The Colts were now just three points away from winning!

As the quarter wrapped, the Lex defense kept the Colts at bay, and would not allow them to get into field-goal range to tie the game. The Minutemen pulled out the win 31-28!

Hats off to both teams for a well-played, hard-fought battle!

This week, the Colts will host and tangle with the surging Ontario Warriors, who toppled Madison handily 57-6! Another big rival and a good week four match-up!

Big Lex will battle it out at home with the Akron North Vikings, who lost to North Canton Hoover last week, 64-0 and are currently 1-2 in the Akron City Conference.

ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS CLEAR FORK VARSITY FOOTBALL · SEPT. 5
LEXINGTON WINS 31-28 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS CLEAR FORK VARSITY FOOTBALL · SEPT. 5
LEXINGTON WINS 31-28 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MANSFIELD SENIOR VS CLEAR FORK BOYS VARSITY SOCCER • SEPT. 6
TIED GAME 1-1 • PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS GALION GIRLS TENNIS (SENIOR NIGHT) · SEPT. 5
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MANSFIELD SENIOR VS LEXINGTON GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER · SEPT. 4
LEXINGTON WINS 11-0 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS MANSFIELD SENIOR BOYS VARSITY SOCCER · SEPT. 2
LEXINGTON WINS 6-2 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



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 September 3, 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. 25-09 – A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 9-11, 18 '25) 22L

Raffle basket will include signed jersey

The Friends of the Galion Public Library has a Cincinnati Bengals raffle basket worth approximately \$450 and features Bengals and other football items.

Items include a Bengals t-shirt, blanket, key chain, tumbler, Joe Burrow Hat, cups, a M&S Pizza gift certificate for a large three-item pizza, three books, flag and snacks and utensils for game day.

The basket also has a signed and authenticated Ja'Marr Chase jersey. The basket will also be on display during the fall book sale Oct. 9, 10 and 11.

Tickets can be purchased at the library, 123 N. Market St., 419-468-3203, through Oct. 11. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 with the drawing on Oct. 13. All proceeds go to the library.

Richland County behavioral healthcare partners celebrate 2025 National Recovery Month

Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board celebrates Recovery Month annually during the month of September. This year the board and its community partners are hosting events that promote recovery.

By coming together with partnering agencies, the board increased awareness and understanding of mental and substance use disorders. The board celebrates those in recovery and supports those moving toward recovery. This year's theme is, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger."

In 2024 the Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board in collaboration with Richland Recovery Network <https://richlandrecoverynetwork.com/> partners served 10,714 unique individuals with 3,520 of them being youth (0-17) and 7,194 being adults (18+). For resources and other information regarding recovery visit www.richlandmentalhealth.com.

September 1-30: Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) will ask students in schools they work with to create "Peace Pins" for a mental health boost. Peace Pins are created by writing a healthy, calming, coping action on a wearable pin that can be attached to an article of clothing, accessory, or student planner. They are a reminder to help students and others stay focused on safety, health, and emotional peace throughout each day. For more information, please contact the CACY office at 419-774-5683.

September 1-30: CACY will offer Deterra medication disposal pouches at no charge to the public. Bags are a convenient and safe way to dispose of unused and unwanted medications. For more information or to receive a free pouch, call at 419-774-5683.

September 1-30: Stop by the CACY office or at our booth at community events to create your personal colorful "Soothing Stones" made of quick-dry clay. Soothing Stone motions are used to help with focus, grounding, mindfulness, and stress relief. Simple and portable; they offer quick and simple emotional support.

September 1-30: Catalyst Life Services will have the Crisis Helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you or someone you know is dealing with a mental health or addiction crisis, reach out for help by calling 419-522-HELP (4357).

September 1-30: The Behavioral Health Urgent Care at Catalyst Life Services offers access to services without an appointment. Offers initial assessments or brief and solution-focused counseling for Mental Health and Addiction related concerns. The Urgent Care is located at 741 Scholl Road in Mansfield. Open Monday and Friday 8 am to 4 pm; and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 am to 5 pm.

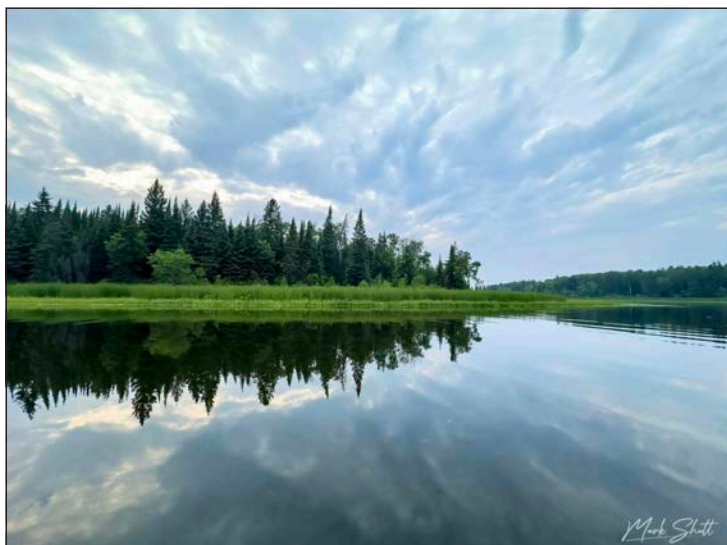
September 1-30: The Warmline will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for those not in crisis but have questions or concerns regarding mental health. The Warmline can be reached by dialing 419-522-5300.

Sept. 16 from 9:am to 5 pm: Join Mansfield UMADAOP for a tour of its recovery housing facilities. Mansfield UMADAOP owns and operates seven Recovery Houses in Mansfield. These programs are based around client accountability and offer a wide range of services to clients to help them resume normal activities such as working and going to school. This environment can support sobriety and help clients adjust to their new substance-free lifestyle. For more information, please call Mansfield UMADAOP at 419-525-3525.

Sept. 16, from 5:30-7:30 pm: Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board will host its Annual Meeting at DLX. Keynote Presentations will be done by Anthony Tambasco, Forensic Scientist with Mansfield Police Department and Bob Ball Richland County Coroner.

Sept. 20th, 12-3 pm: Celebrate September as Recovery Month at Family Life Counseling and join us for the 2nd Annual Recovery Chili Cook-Off! The event will feature live music, food, kid's games, community connections, and more! Guest speaker, Chad Evans, will share his story of recovery, strength, and hope. Bring your family, friends, and appetite! The event will be held at 240 Marion Avenue in Mansfield. Call 419-774-9969 for more information.

For updates on this calendar visit www.richlandmentalhealth.com or call 419-774-5811.



Lac du Bonnet, Canada • Photo By Mark Shutt



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