



# TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

04.21.22



## Madison Schools seek renewal levy

By Rob Peterson  
Madison Local Schools Superintendent

On May 3, the residents of the Madison Local School District will vote on a 5-year, 6.9 mill renewal levy that is vital to the continued operations of the district. The levy renewal is not a new tax and will not result in any additional costs to the taxpayers of Madison, nor will it generate any additional funds for the district.

Madison Schools has attempted to be good stewards of the funds that have been entrusted to the district, trying to be as resourceful as possible. The district has not asked the residents of Madison for additional operating funds since 1997 — 25 years ago.

I encourage Madison residents to get out to the polls on May 3 and vote YES to support the children of the Madison Local School District. Passage of the levy is critical to the district's financial stability as we continue to provide our students with excellent educational opportunities; recruit and retain high-quality teachers, support staff, and administrators; update and upgrade our technology, curriculum, and resources; and maintain our buildings, grounds, and facilities.

Thank you, Madison residents, for your tremendous support of our schools, our students, and our staff! Please vote YES for the Madison Schools' renewal levy on May 3. Go Rams!



Photo by Jenna Wolford

**THE ONTARIO RECREATION DEPARTMENT** held its annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 16, at Marshall Park in Ontario. The hunt, which was rescheduled after a rainy and snowy day April 9, was for children from birth through fourth grade. Volunteers helped to hide a total of 5,000 eggs, divided among multiple age groups. Some eggs included special prizes including oversized stuffed animals. Texas Roadhouse donated 100 eggs which contained free kids meal coupons. Ontario High School Key Club and National Honor Society members and City of Ontario employees helped prepare for the hunt, including hiding eggs in the rain. Thankfully the skies cleared before the children arrived. *(More photos on Page 7).*

## RPS announces Walk for Life goal of \$35,000

In celebration of the 35th anniversary, Richland Pregnancy Services will host Walk for Life on Saturday, June 4, at Mansfield's historic North Lake Park, and the start of the Richland B & O Bike Trail, at 270 Westbrook Ave., in Mansfield.

The Walk for Life is a family-friendly event that supports Richland Pregnancy Services in offering free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, STD testing, abstinence education, parenting classes, mentoring, material support and more.

By registering at [www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com/events/walkforlife](http://www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com/events/walkforlife), participants will receive access to their very

own website that will allow them to raise funds for Richland Pregnancy Services by asking friends and family to sponsor them as they walk.

Walkers will be eligible to win prizes from local businesses and state-wide attractions and entered into prize drawings the day of the event.

Walkers who register by May 15 and raise funds for RPS will receive a free Walk for Life t-shirt.

The first 200 walkers to register will receive a free goody bag.

RPS' goal is to raise \$35,000 for 35 years of serving the community.

Richland Pregnancy Services

is a faith based 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

For more information, call 419-522-8863, ext. 203 or email [amy@richlandpregnancy.com](mailto:amy@richlandpregnancy.com).

## MELC hosting pancake breakfast

Madison Early Childhood Learning Center, 1035 Grace St., Mansfield, will host an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 30, from 8-10:30 am.

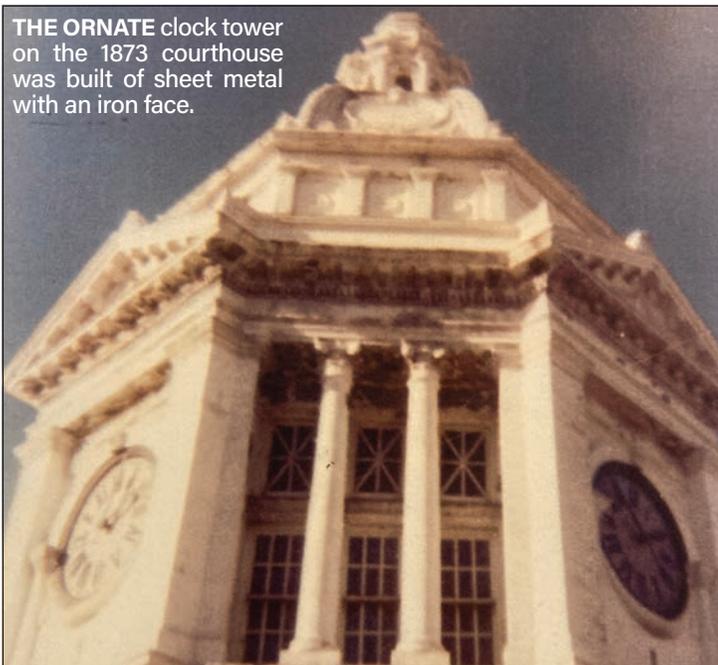
The meal includes pancakes, cheese omelet, sausage links and coffee, milk or juice. Orders can also be called-in at 419-589 7851. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under.

A basket raffle and 50/50 will also be available. Raffle tickets can be purchased at MELC April 19-29 and at the pancake breakfast. Winners will be announced April 30. Winners do not need to be present at the time of the drawing.

The proceeds will go toward supporting the summer childcare program. Everyone is welcome.



**THE OLD 1873 COURTHOUSE** with its 1909 clock tower (the original was destroyed by a storm) casts a long shadow across Mansfield's square. This picture was taken from the very top.



**THE ORNATE** clock tower on the 1873 courthouse was built of sheet metal with an iron face.

## The End of Time

By Bob Carter

It was in October of 1968 when time stood still. All Richland County Offices had been moved into the brand new courthouse. Then it was time for the old 1873 outdated, poorly maintained and inadequate building to be demolished.

An auction was held for left over items in and around the grand old lady, anything that would bring a buck. To onlookers surprise, Mike Byrne and friend William Carter bought all four tower clocks and the four-way gear mechanism that ran them which weighed nearly a ton. Included was the very long and heavy pendulum and bell strike mechanism, all of which went for the auction price of \$105!

From the street, the very ornate clock tower appeared to be constructed of stone and masonry, but it was actually tin and sheet metal supported by a steel frame. The clock faces were easily removed and carried down seven flights of stairs to the street.

One clock face had rather clumsily been replaced and the others showed signs of amateur repairs. Two of them possessed bullet holes, primarily from the south and east sides of town.

Volunteers, possibly scavenged from bar stools at a local tavern, were on hand to help handle the slightly higher than five foot faces and lower them down. The hour and minute hands were all original. The minute hands were two and a half feet long.

A very high construction crane was on the site knocking down the walls, and with some extra cash in hand (bribe is not a nice word), the operator was persuaded to stay after the work day and lower the heavy clock, cast iron stand, two heavy power weights, the winding wench and clock gears, to waiting trucks.

What to do with the clock faces was a puzzle. Both Byrne and Carter were good friends and a couple of characters. They talked jokingly about opening a bar called the "Clock Tavern." With the inoperable clocks mounted around the walls, any customer arriving home very late at night to a foot-tapping wife could use the excuse, "I didn't know what time it was."

The old four-way gear box had its trouble over the years. There were numerous times when all four clock faces could not agree on the correct time with two being 20 minutes to several hours off.

At the very top of the tower was a sheet metal statue of Lady Justice holding her scales aloft. A beautiful work of metal art she was blown off her perch, crashing to the roof below during a bad storm while the new courthouse was still under construction.

A few wryly suggested she may have been upset with the Richland County Court system and committed suicide.

As for the salvaged clocks, they were stored in an old barn Byrne owned out near the airport. A few years later it collapsed and whether anything was salvaged is unknown. Another buyer salvaged the very top of the metal tower in one piece and its location is unknown. Time marches on.



**ONE OF THE BETTER** CLOCK FACES is shown near the bell that chimed the hour. During WWII, observers were lookouts for enemy planes and sounded the alarm with the bell.

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# News Briefs

Knox County Career Center's Landscape Design & Management program will host the KC-CC Spring Plant Sale April 26-May 6 (or until sold out).

The sale is open to the public from 8:10 am to 10:45 am and 11:45 am to 2 pm. (Closed April 27, 30 and May 1).

For more information email [jcampbell@knoxcc.org](mailto:jcampbell@knoxcc.org)

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at Der Dutchman Restaurant.

Lunch begins at 11:30 am, followed by the meeting at 12:30 pm. Cost is \$13 for the meal.

Each month there are speakers and entertainment and members take several trips throughout the year.

Dues are \$5 per year. Guests are welcome to attend.

The meal on May 18 will be chicken. The group will celebrate its 48th anniversary and Dr. Lynda Dunn, pianist, will perform.

The group will also meet for lunch at Bucks Bar and Grill in Lexington on May 4 at 11:30 am. For more information call Darlene Lee at 419-886-4711.

The Ontario 4th of July Festival will be held Saturday, July 2 (rain date July 3), noon to 11 pm. The festival will be moved to Marshall Park, in the area of the baseball/softball complex.

The fireworks are being sponsored by the Niss Family.

Those who would like to volunteer for the 4th of July Committee can send an email to [mayor@ontarioohio.org](mailto:mayor@ontarioohio.org)

The 50th Class Reunion for the Madison High School Class of 1972 will be held Saturday, Sept. 17 at Westbrook Country Club, 1098 Springmill St., Mansfield.

Happy Hour with a cash bar will be held from 5-6 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. Dinner includes soft drinks, tea, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$50 per person and must be paid in advance no later than Aug. 1. The reunion will include a tour of the new middle school at 10 am the morning of the reunion.

For information contact Mike Bailey at 419-565-2777 or by email at [MbaileyW8HB@gmail.com](mailto:MbaileyW8HB@gmail.com). RSVP by sending reservation and fee to Madison Class of

1972, 1155 Briarwood Rd., Mansfield, OH 44907.

Ashland County Cancer Association is accepting donations for its rummage sale now through June 2.

Donations are accepted Monday through Thursday at 1011 E. Main St., Suite A, from 9 am to 4 pm. Call 419-281-1863 to schedule a drop-off time.

Donations should not include torn or stained clothing, broken items, books or magazines or old tvs. The sale will be held at the Ashland Fairgrounds June 9, 2-8 pm; June 10, 8 am to 5 pm; and June 11, 9 am to 3 pm.

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, April 23 and 24. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

An electronic recycling drive will be held Saturday, April 23, from 9-2 pm, at the Central School Gymnasium entrance in Shelby.

Accepted items include tvs, wires, phones, tablets, computers, typewriters, cd players, cameras, vacuums, kitchen appliances, calculators, fax machines, security equipment, microwaves, gaming devices, kids electronic toys, A/C adapters and old ink cartridges. CRT monitors require a fee of \$25.

Richland County Solid Waste Authority will also have a truck available to remove any items with freon including refrigerators and air conditioners.

In celebration of Ellen Lilly's retirement from Mansfield Christian School, the school is hosting a surprise card or letter shower sharing memories and words of appreciation. Cards can be sent to Mrs. Ellen Lilly, Mansfield Christian School, 500 Logan Rd., Mansfield, OH 44907 to be received by May 15.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Hayley

Young on Sunday, April 24. She will speak on "Beatles Sunday." Come Together as we dive into some of the Fab Four's most iconic songs exemplifying the human experience.

For more information visit [www.allsoulsuohio.org](http://www.allsoulsuohio.org).

The American Red Cross is reminding blood and platelet donors it's critically important to maintain a stable blood supply this spring to support those with chronic illnesses and other blood needs in the U.S.

Donors are urged to make an appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Those who come to give April 19 through May 19 will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice and will be automatically entered to win a new travel trailer camper.

Wednesday, April 20, 8 am to 8 pm, St. Peter's High School, 111 West First St., Mansfield; and 2-7 pm, Planktown Country Market, 1921 Free Rd., Shiloh

Sunday, April 24, 11 am to 5 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Wednesday, April 27, 1-7 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland

Mall, Ontario

Thursday, April 28, 2-7 pm, Lucas Community Center, 252 West Main St., Lucas

Friday, April 29, 8 am to 2 pm, Pioneer Career & Tech Center, 27 Ryan Rd., Shelby

The Franklin Township Ice Cream Social will be held on Saturday, June 11, from 4:30-7 pm at the fire station, 505 Boyce Rd., Shelby. Walk-ins welcome. Proceeds go directly to help support the non-profit Franklin Township Firefighters Association.

Savannah Lions Breakfast will be held Saturdays, May 14, from 6:30-11 am at Savannah Town Hall, 12 S. Main St., Savannah.

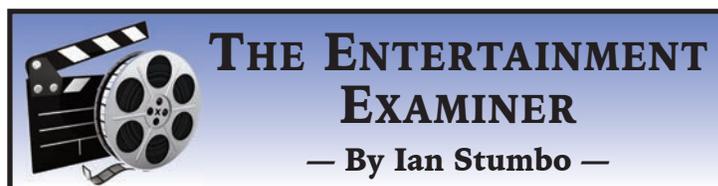
The menu includes pancakes, french toast, sausage, sausage gravy and biscuits.

Price is by donation. Proceeds go to Savannah Lions Scholarships. Used eye glasses will also be accepted for recycling.

Door Prizes will be donated by Miller's Hawkins Market.

To submit a news brief item, photo and caption or birthday, send an email with information to [news@tribune-courier.com](mailto:news@tribune-courier.com)

To advertise in the T-C, email [tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com](mailto:tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com)



The Harry Potter universe continues with *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*. This is the third film in the *Fantastic Beasts* series which takes place before the Harry Potter films. Following the events of Crimes of Grindelwald, Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) and his friends including Jacob (Dan Fogler), his brother and a couple newcomers band together with the help of Professor Dumbledore (Jude Law) to stop the evil Grindelwald (Mads Mikkelsen) from taking over.

This is definitely the most entertaining of the three *Fantastic Beasts* films as the second one was a big disappointment as it lacked any real substance, was overloaded with characters and plot lines. This one is quite a bit more fun and streamlined making it more accessible. These films still do not capture the magic of the Harry Potter films though as this one, even though

enjoyable, gets political as there is an election involved in the film. This makes it really slow down at the end, and is not as engaging as it could be.

Mikkelsen makes a terrific Grindelwald, as Johnny Depp, who played the role previously, dropped out over personal legal matters. Depp was great in the role but his costume and make-up almost looked like he didn't belong in that universe. Mikkelsen seems more assuming and treacherous just by looking more like himself and has great chemistry with Jude Law.

Definitely check out the new *Fantastic Beasts* film as it is just as good as the original and a far step up from the second. If you are a Harry Potter fan or a fan of any aspect of the wizarding world, give this one a watch.





Photo by Kingwood Center Gardens

A PEACOCK examines the April snow as it falls at Kingwood Center Gardens on Monday, April 18.

## Art class offered for seniors and adults at academy

Richland Academy of the Arts will offer a new art class for seniors and adults who love to explore their creative side, find joy in spending time with others, or those who just want to try something new.

Ken Barnett, former theatrical director and now craft artist, is bringing an opportunity for seniors and adults to enjoy the arts together. Decorative Folk Art Painting Workshop will give students experience painting a design of their choice on wooden cut-out pieces.

Decorative Folk Art Painting will gather on Monday evenings from 6:30-8 pm beginning April 25.

For information on registering for classes or lessons, call 419-522-8224 or visit the website at [www.richlandacademy.com](http://www.richlandacademy.com)

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Clear Fork Alliance Church

1008 State Route 97, Bellville  
419-886-4333 • [www.clearforkalliance.org](http://www.clearforkalliance.org)  
Rev. Matt Merendino  
Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor  
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship  
Wednesday evenings: 6 pm Prayer Meeting  
6:30 pm TeamKID and Youth Group

### Community Bible Church

1043 Springmill St., Mansfield  
567-560-8011  
[www.DiscoverCommunity.org](http://www.DiscoverCommunity.org)  
Pastor Sam Belsterling  
10:30 am Sunday Worship  
Live stream at <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityBibleChurchMansfield>

### Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 Church St. West, Lexington  
419-884-1330  
Rev. James Randas  
10:30 am Sunday Worship  
<https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Presbyterian-Church-117768414915815>

### McElroy Road Church of Christ

297 N. McElroy Rd., Mansfield (Madison area)  
419-589-2661 • [mcelroyroad.org](http://mcelroyroad.org)  
Minister Dean Jackson  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Sunday Worship  
6 pm Sunday Night • 7 pm Wednesday  
[www.facebook.com/mrccgrace](http://www.facebook.com/mrccgrace)

Email [advertising@tribune-courier.com](mailto:advertising@tribune-courier.com)  
to learn how to be added to this list

### Ontario Christian Church

1029 Lewis Rd., Ontario  
419-529-5684 • [ontariochristian.org](http://ontariochristian.org)  
Minister Steve Broughton  
9 am Sunday School  
10 am Sunday Worship

### Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West, Ontario  
419-529-4345 • [www.ontarioumc.com](http://www.ontarioumc.com)  
Rev. Christine Bell  
10:15 am Sunday Worship  
Bible Study: Check website for schedule

### Ridgeway Church of God

1380 Park Avenue East, Mansfield  
419-589-5385 • [www.ridgewaycog.cggc.org/](http://www.ridgewaycog.cggc.org/)  
Pastor John Dodds  
Associate Pastor Billy Saunders  
9:30 am Sunday School  
6 pm Sunday Family Events  
10:40 am Sunday Worship with live stream  
at [www.facebook.com/ridgewaycog](http://www.facebook.com/ridgewaycog)  
2 pm Wednesday Bible Study  
9 am Men's Breakfast 2nd & 4th Sunday



### G & M Body & Paint Shop

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

### Risen Savior Lutheran Church

1685 Lexington Ave., Mansfield  
419-775-1175 • [risensaviormansfield.com](http://risensaviormansfield.com)  
Pastor Brad Wright  
9 am Sunday Family Bible Time  
10 am Sunday Worship

### St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church

1630 Ashland Rd., Mansfield (Madison) 419-589-2114 • [www.mansfieldstmarys.org](http://www.mansfieldstmarys.org)  
Father Matthew Frisbee  
Worship: 4 pm Saturday & 11 am Sunday  
5:30 pm Tuesday Worship  
9 am Friday Worship • Faith Instruction & Bible Study on Sunday Mornings

### St. Paul Lutheran

2010 Park Avenue West • 419-529-4351  
[www.stpaulmansfield.org](http://www.stpaulmansfield.org)  
Pastor Jonathan Stufft  
9 am Sunday Worship  
10:15 am Monday Weekly Bible Study

### St. Timothy Lutheran Church

1262 Ashland Rd., Mansfield (Madison area)  
• 419-589-5252 • [sttimmansfield.org](http://sttimmansfield.org)  
Pastor Jonathan Stufft  
10:45 am Sunday Worship  
10:15 am Monday Bible Study  
Email: [secretary@sttimmansfield.org](mailto:secretary@sttimmansfield.org)

### Trinity United Methodist Church

1592 Grace St., Mansfield (Madison area)  
419-589-5890 • [trinityumcmansfield.org](http://trinityumcmansfield.org)  
Pastor Micahel W. Mack  
9:30 am Sunday Worship

### Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland  
419-522-5211



**AMONG THOSE ATTENDING** the ribbon cutting for Fresh Start were Commissioner Tony Vero, President and CEO of Richland Area Chamber Jodie Perry, Lynn Feldman, Cindy Weaver, Executive Director of Love INC Brenda Schwamberger, Coordinator of Love INC Barbie Waters, Fresh Start Store Manager Olivia Asbury, Cathy Boyer, Commissioner Cliff Mears and Mansfield Mayor Tim Theaker.

## Fresh Start celebrates grand opening with ribbon cutting

Photos and Article by Traci Little

Love INC (In the Name of Christ) mobilizes Greater Mansfield churches to transform the community in the Name of Christ. Its resale store, Fresh Start, celebrated its grand opening last Wednesday morning, April 13, with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Fresh Start is located at 115 Park Avenue West in Mansfield. 100% of the donations from these thrifted goods help those who need a hand up (instead of simply a hand out). The funds go to support Love INC who offers assistance by following Christ's example of giving to people in need. Continued funds will help transform current ministry growth.

This boutique style setting has everything from clothing, accessories, home goods, furniture, kitchen appliances and children's items.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, call 419-522-1432. There will be an interview and an application process to help everyone stay accountable. The ministry hopes to grow and offer classes on parenting and marriage, self-worth, nutrition, finances and more!

Love INC provides assistance that other agencies may not be able to fulfill. They partner with local churches to utilize everyone's gifts and abilities to serve the community well.

Fresh Start is currently open on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm with the hope of expanding their hours once staffing increases. Their vision is to see Christian churches in every community in this country and around the world united in the purpose of ministering the love of Christ to anyone in need in their area through the partnering strategy and model called Love In The Name of Christ.

Brenda Schwamberger shared with me a story about how one young woman, caught up in human trafficking was dumped in Mansfield. She found Love INC and they were able to help her get back on her feet and start fresh. She emphasized that the ministry does not want to enable people, but come alongside them and teach and mentor them towards true and lasting change.



## Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

- Joshua J. Guth, April 4
- Brian David Blevins, April 9
- Wesley Allen Hess, April 10
- Adele Manning-Allen (Susie Williamson), April 11
- Donald Lee Croyle, April 12
- Eugene Patton, April 12
- John Albert Cox, April 13
- Pamela L Salopek, April 13
- John E. Shafer, April 13
- Helen Burford, April 15
- Jerry Davis, April 15
- Cynthia S. Wilcox, April 15
- Garnet H. Huff, April 16

**View Full Obituaries and Arrangements at [www.wappner.com](http://www.wappner.com)**

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[www.wappner.com](http://www.wappner.com)



## Little Buckeye Children's Museum traveling exhibits win state award

Little Buckeye Children's Museum was awarded the 2021 Ohio Museums Association Award of Achievement for Best Education and Outreach (Under \$500,000) for its "Traveling Exhibits" program. The award was presented April 3 at the Cincinnati Art Museum.

The Ohio Museums Association (OMA) award program is an annual celebration of the outstanding achievement of Ohio museums in visual communications, individual and institutional achievement, and the tireless work museum professionals undertake to help advance Ohio's museum community both locally, and on a national level. Nominations for these awards are incredibly detailed. The in-depth process helps to illustrate how these institutions and individuals have gone "above and beyond" the normal call of duty to support their institution, serve their public and advance the cause of the museum community. Winners were recognized during the annual OMA Awards Ceremony.

The Little Buckeye Children's Museum Traveling Exhibit program was funded by the Shelby Foundation and the Malabar Farm Foundation with special thanks to the Marvin Memorial Library.

The program was launched in an effort make interactive play more accessible by loaning exhibits to schools, libraries, and daycares for free. The exhibits are hands-on and imagination play-based, and are ideal for children ages 4-8.

They include specially curated books matching each exhibit's theme, can be flexibly arranged in any 50 sq. ft. area, and can be borrowed (for free) for 4-12 weeks. Little Buckeye's Traveling Exhibits are designed to encourage children to explore and play in a fun, safe, and developmentally enriching way. Play opportunities are open-ended and self-directed, allowing children to build self-confidence and independence, develop their imaginations, and learn critical problem-solving skills.

The specially curated book displays that accompany the exhibits also promote literacy. Little Buckeye's Traveling Exhibits includes a Veterinary Hospital, Pizza Parlor, Train Tables, Dentist, Baby Doctor, Dollhouses and Farm.

One supporter of the program stated, "Each exhibit allows for open-ended free play, collaboration with others, and the development of life skills.... Children and adults alike are excited to see what we have and to play together."

Little Buckeye Children's Museum also took home a 2021 Honorable Mention in the Visual Communication category for their blog.

The mission of Little Buckeye Children's Museum is to provide families and children with the opportunity to learn and discover through the power play. The museum is a hands-on children's museum dedicated to learning through play and is located in downtown Mansfield, Ohio. LBCM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

## Native plant workshop and sale planned for Tuesday, May 3

As gardening season gets underway, Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) encourages you to choose native plants when planning your garden or landscape. Native plants are more suited to our climate and soil and typically do better in our gardens than non-native species.

They also provide excellent habitats and food for insects, pollinators and wildlife. Because they have a strong root system, more soil is held in place which slows stormwater runoff and filters pollutants before they enter rivers, lakes, and streams.

Richland SWCD is hosting a free workshop on native plants on Tuesday, May 3 at 3 pm at the Richland County Fairgrounds Nature Park at 750 N. Home Rd, Mansfield. For farmers enrolled in the United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Noah Cable of Pheasants Forever will review species selection, site selection considerations, site preparation, planting methods, and post-planting care.

For all landowners, Gale Martin of Natives in Harmony will share why native plants are important in our landscape, their benefits and how to choose plants.

The Native Plant Sale will take place after the workshop from 4 to 6 pm. Plant plugs cost \$3 each and are subject to availability. Flats

of plants may be ordered during the sale for \$96. Garden gloves and native seed packets will be available to purchase, also.

To register for the workshop or more information about the Native Plant Sale, please visit <https://richlandswcd.net/get-involved/calendar>, call 419-747-8685 or e-mail [Contact@Richlandswcd.net](mailto:Contact@Richlandswcd.net).

Richland SWCD develops, implements, and assists landowners, government agencies and our partners with a wide range of natural resource conservation services.



New England Aster

# ONTARIO RECREATION DEPARTMENT EASTER EGG HUNT



Photos by Jenna Wolford

# Scoops Frozen Treats opens in Mansfield

**Photo and Article by Traci Little**  
 Scoops Frozen Treats celebrated its ribbon cutting on Friday, April 15 at 11 am.  
 Helene Metoyer and Kevin Koszala came here from Chicago, IL, with a dream to own and manage an ice cream shoppe. It was exactly what they had been looking for in the Midwest region after traveling all over the country searching for something.

Ice cream shoppes are hard to find anywhere and Illinois was not an option for owning a business.  
 Her extended family made the trip to Ohio from Illinois to celebrate the grand opening of Helene and Kevin's dream. She would have loved to stay close to her family in the Chicago area, but the six-hour trip isn't completely horrible, Helene said.

Helene introduced Jacquie Halvax who has worked at the ice cream shoppe through two previous owners. "She came with the building, Helene said. From the moment we met, we became complete soul sisters. Jacquie has been doing everything to get this place up and running as she knows everything about ice cream and the restaurant business. I really hope you enjoy our new space because we are really proud of it!"

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Helene introduced Jacquie Halvax who has worked at the ice cream shoppe through two previous owners. "She came with the building, Helene said. From the moment we met, we became complete soul sisters. Jacquie has been doing everything to get this place up and running as she knows everything about ice cream and the restaurant business. I really hope you enjoy our new space because we are really proud of it!"



## Free milkweed seeds available

Free Milkweed seeds and planting instructions are available while supplies last, from Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD), located at 1495 W. Longview Avenue, Suite 205B, Mansfield, OH 44906. The seeds may be picked up from a basket outside the Richland SWCD office door.

In the fall, the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) spear-headed the Milkweed Seed Pod collection and was aided by other partners, such as Richland SWCD and the public, in the collection of milkweed seed pods in an effort to help foster habitats for Monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The seeds being given away were harvested from the collected pods and re-packaged by Richland SWCD volunteers, Pete Holmes and Marilyn Roe.

Pollinator Species are experiencing population declines across the United States. In particular, the monarch butterfly has drastically declined here in Ohio and in the wintering grounds of Mexico. Milkweed is essential to the survival of Monarch Butterflies in Ohio and Ohio is a priority area for Monarchs. The monarch butterflies that hatch here in the summer migrate to Mexico for the winter and are responsible for starting the life cycle all over again in the spring.

For more information about the programs, services and events Richland SWCD provides, call 419-747-8686 or visit the website at <http://richlandswcd.net/>

## Senior citizens invited to game night

A senior citizen game night will be held at Ontario Middle School on Saturday, May 14, from 6-8 pm.

The free event is sponsored by the City of Ontario Recreation Department and Ontario Middle School. It is open to all area seniors who are 65 and older.

Games will include euchre, chess, ping pong, corn hole, board games and more. Drink and snacks will be provided.

RSVP By May 10 to the Recreation Department at 419-520-2588 ext. 3202 or email [recreationdept@ontarioohio.org](mailto:recreationdept@ontarioohio.org)



## 4-H News Report

On March 20, 2022, the Ganges Happy Hearts 4-H Club met and discussed many important things. They started by letting the Trash Pickup and Clover Bud committees meet and go over important information. After that, the meeting officially started.

First, they introduced new members, recognized birthdays and introduced visitors. Afterwards, the officers went over the various reports for their different positions, along with the reports for committees. Next, they went over important information. This includes voting to keep the t-shirt and animals pen sign (for fair animals) designs, reminder to get animal resource guides and record books, reminder to reserve poultry animals for fair, reminder that rabbits must be born May 14, 2022, or 12 weeks before fair, and that larger animals must be tagged properly.

There were also some important dates that were discussed. These are Trash pickup ending Memorial Day, April 1, was the due date for project sign ups, tagging for larger animals (poultry will be tagged at fair) is May 17, and rabbits tattooed by the end of June, and public speaking is the 26th of April. The 4-H club went over all of this and more at the March 20, 2022 meeting.

Sawyer E., News Reporter



Ganges Happy Hearts committee members gather for a meeting.



Photo By Brandon Chambers

## Kindergarten registration ends April 29 for Madison Local Schools

Kindergarten registration for Madison Local Schools will be held April 4–29. Children are eligible to attend kindergarten during the 2022–’23 school year if they are five years of age on or before Aug. 1, 2022.

The first step in the registration process is to complete the online registration through FinalForms. The registration link can be found at [www.mlsd.net](http://www.mlsd.net) under Madison FinalForms or using the link under kindergarten registration. Those who do not have internet access can schedule an appointment to complete the online forms with their child’s assigned building.

Current Madison South Preschool students moving into kindergarten will need to log into FinalForms to complete the 2022–’23 forms and schedule an appointment for kindergarten registration.

Once all online forms are completed, an appointment should be scheduled with the elementary school in which the parent resides: Madison South Elementary, 419-522-4319; Mifflin Elementary, 419-589-6517; and Eastview Elementary, 419-589-7335.

Documents which should be brought to the appointment are student birth certificate, parent/guardian driver license, custody papers (if applicable), parent/guardian proof of residency (see FinalForms for approved list) and immunization records.

Required immunizations for school attendance are four doses of DPT (five doses if four were given before fourth birthday); three or more doses of Polio with final dose after fourth birthday; three doses of Hepatitis B; two MMR’s; and two Varivax (Chicken Pox) or history of having disease.

## RRLC country rib dinner is May 7

The Richland Rural Life Center, 969 E. Crall Rd., Mansfield (Madison area), will host a BBQ Country Rib Dinner on Saturday, May 7, from 4–6 pm.

Meals include BBQ country ribs, potato or macaroni salad, baked beans, roll, beverage and homemade vanilla ice cream. Extra ice cream quarts will also be available for purchase.

Cost is \$12 for adults and \$7 for children 10 and under. Tickets are sold at the door. Carry-out and dine-in will be available.

Proceeds from the event help to keep the RRLC grounds open and available for use by Richland County 4-H and Boy Scouts.

The center also has three buildings available for rental throughout the year.

The entrance is located between Stewart Rd. and Rt. 545.

For more information call 567-307-4220. Visit the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RichlandRuralLifeCenter>

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# Honor and Merit Rolls

## Clear Fork High School 3rd Nine Weeks

### ALL A HONOR ROLL

**Seniors:** Brooke Beer, Jessica Brown, Maddie Clark, Zacharias Clark, Trinity Cook, Sarah Fitzsimmons, Addeline Haring, Zoe McCue, Grace Mellott, Isabella Molina, Evan Moody, Ian Price, Hannah Pryor, Ashtynn Roberts, Michael Rowe, Ethan Staley, Justin Stewart

**Juniors:** Blaze Chapman, Cael Clark, Zoey Duffey, Kylee Helinski, Zachary Hotz, Rachel Kovacs, Charles Myer, Gracie Palmer, Jordan Pfeifer, Lillian Pfeleiderer, Benjamin Pryor, Collin Reed, Reagan Roby, Elaina Shutt, Brooklyn Walker, Brooklynn Worner, Lillian Wortman

**Sophomores:** Christina Carroll, Carter Coile, Zoe Daniels, Lincoln Dill, Emma Dormaier, Beau Dornbirer, Caden Freitag, Cooper George, Emilee Greene, Peyton Hoskins, Kiley Howell, Collin Johnson, Abigail Kern, Abigail Kitzmiller, Annika Labaki, Rachel Lefever, Nate Lind, Olivia Markley, Christopher Mazzola, Emma McCoy, Madison McKenna, Allison Montgomery, Evan Picchioni, Kasey Swank, Kayleigh Walker, Katelen Wimer, Avery Wine, Savanna Wolfgang

**Freshmen:** April Berry, Jayden Bowman, John Carey, Bobbie Fliger, Jay Jackson, Carter King, Trevor Kinnamon, Bailey McKee, Fisher McLaughlin, Madison Merendino, Emily Montgomery, Leah Mortimer, Madison Oswald, Rebecca Pryor, Reina Rehberg, Arianna Reid, Alexis Rodriguez, Baylie Salkovick, Christian Walker

### HONOR ROLL

**Seniors:** Isabelle Annis, Andrew Blausen, Aaron Brown, Madison Caudill, Maddie Clark, Rebekah Conrad, Caitlyn Drockton, Taylor Grossman, Hannah Lee, Jackson McLaughlin, Ayden Oswald, Avery Pleshka, Joseph Pritchard, Darren Raike, Jadin Sansom, Lily Stepp, Alyssa Swank, Tatum Swihart

**Juniors:** Keith Beard, Claire Blubaugh, Marissa Bradley, Haley Cotton, Benjamin Gehrisch, Allyson Hoffer, Grace Knell, Elizabeth Langer, Chloe Lewis, Emily Mansfield, Audrey Mason, Hannah Nutter, Charles Penney, Madelyn Shields, Victor Skoog

**Sophomores:** Heather Atherton, Zain Brown, Jessica Brown-Gassner, Jackson Dudley, Killian Finnegan, Saylee Fowler, Alton Jeffries, Jada Lamp, Marissa Lawhun, Macy Ousley, Mackinnley Perkins, Taylor Ramey-Wolf, Honesty Rimar, Lawson Rohde, Abigail Sauder, Stephen Schlosser, Tyler Sellers, Aria Stage, Piper Stepp, Andrea Swainhart, Kylee Swank, Grace Weikle, Gavin Welch, Linzy Weyhmeller

**Freshmen:** Chandler Ball, Ava Beard, Addison Blakley, Merista Brown, Venessa Eicher, Jessica Hecht, Damon Hoskins, Grant Keep, Kylie Lorentz, Brooklyn Lutzmann, Isabella Oswald, Alexander Ousley, Mackenzie Palmer, Lauren Perry, Regan Pore, Katrina Rogers, Mason Sansom, Kaybria Sims, Dawson Staley, William Stewart, Haylee Swank, Anna Taylor, Claire Wallis, Hunter Weikle, Dillion Wheeler, Hayden Wilson

### MERIT ROLL

**Seniors:** Leah Argenio, Braden Ball, Shianna Caldwell, Kaytlin Coffman, Lawrence Firmi, Noah Jordan, Logan Myerholtz, Ryan Peterson, Saylee Shoemaker, Sydney Thorne, Joshua Welch Browning, Kaden Wilson

**Juniors:** Pawie Ault, Josiah Bailey, Brooklyn Black, Joseph Callen, Cooper Conking, Lyvia Davis, Liberty Dulaney, Lauren Firmi, Logan Harriman, Shayla Mack, Frederick Proto, Kaden Riddle, Lauryn Robinson, Aaliyah Rogers, Kaitlyn Schneider, Kirsten Sidle, Caroline Tilton, Keegan Wilson, Adrian Wuertz

**Sophomores:** Renee Anders, Kylie Belcher, Bethany Bowman, Milo Burgholder, Christian Carver, Timothy Conkling, Erica Gillis, Victoria Haas, Connor Hauger, Sydney Kime, Walker Kirkpatrick, Mikka Knapik, Brianna Patterson, Sophia Perry, Hayden Roberts, Jonah Sharp, Taya Shultz, Luke Sparks, Ariel Stage, Stetson Wendling, Kendall Windsor

**Freshmen:** Dalton Bailey, Liam Beer, Melodie Blubaugh, Jared Bowman, Lexie Colegrove, Savannah Colliflower, Emily Conrad, Cheyanne Dearth, Charlee Feeman, Grace Johnson, Joseph Kurtz, Kylie McGinty, Rilynn Montgomery, Chloe Mowry, Logan Pfeleiderer, John Proto, Peyton Rader, Joseph Schlosser, Blake Silliman, Lola Stillion, Evan Tahmalwash, Mason Wade, Lillian Weikle I hope you can add this to your editorial calendars for Friday afternoon....



**ST. PETER'S SCHOOL** held an Urban Iditarod – Race to End Hunger Friday, April 8 and raised more than \$6,000 for the Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo HOPE Pantry. The race was the first after a two-year hiatus. Students in grades 5-12 race around the St. Peter's campus and up W. 1st. St. Each student-led team raced with a shopping cart that they decorated. Students in grades Pre-K-4 cheered on the teams. The "Wreck-It Ralph" team won the overall competition and Team "Duos" won the fifth/sixth grade race. The event was founded several years ago in honor of Matt Faylor (Class of 2000), who is a competitive dog sledder in Alaska. Last month, he completed his 10th running of the Last Great Race, finishing 30th.



Photos by Jenna Wolford  
**THE ONTARIO LIONS CLUB** held its second annual Easter Egg Hunt for Visually Impaired Children on Saturday, April 16, in Marshall Park. Inclement weather caused the hunt to be moved from the previous Saturday. Children were helped by Lions Club members as they hunted for eggs that made a beeping sound. The participating children also received baskets and Ontario United Methodist Church donated extra goodies for them to take home. The Ontario Lions plan to continue the hunt each year and are hoping to reach more families. For information about future hunts, call 419-709-1576.



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# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



**NORTH CANTON YMCA GYMNASTICS** hosted the Regional Meet at North Canton Hoover High School, April 8-10. Twenty-four clubs and 527 gymnasts competed throughout the North Canton, Toledo and Cincinnati areas. McKenna Gorbett of Ontario Schools competed at the Diamond Level and received Vault Champ and then was named All Around Champ for the Regional Meet. She placed first on Vault, second on Bars, third on Beam and fourth on Floor. Megan Hicks of Ashland Schools received second on Beam, second on Floor, seventh on Vault, 11th on Bars and sixth All Around. Macey Wade of Mansfield City Schools received third on Bars, fourth on Vault, fifth on Floor, fifth on Beam and third All Around. The Ashland YMCA team consisting of McKenna Gorbett, Megan Hicks and Macey Wade were presented with the third Team Banner at the meet. The girls are coached at the Ashland YMCA by Lisa Ferguson and Keirsten Proulx. (Left photo) McKenna Gorbett, Macey Wade, Megan Hicks. (Right photo) All Around Champ and Vault Champ, McKenna Gorbett.



**NORA KELLY** won the Ontario Youth Sports egg decorating contest with her cactus egg. The contest was held on the OYS Facebook page April 14-15 with votes being taken Saturday, April 16. Nora's winnings included a \$50 Target gift card and \$50 Visa gift card.



**THE ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL Tennis Team** won the Jim Grady invitational. Pablo Sanchez Vidal is the champion at 1st singles. Eli Selser came in fourth place at 2nd singles. Lance Miller is the champion at 3rd singles. 1st doubles team of Brody Phillips and Alex Ellis came in third place and 2nd doubles team of Aiden Frankhouse and Hunter Pettit are the champions. The team won overall.

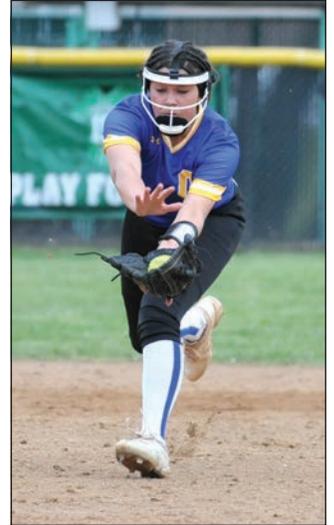
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 Mansfield, OH 44903  
[oakhillcottage.org](http://oakhillcottage.org)

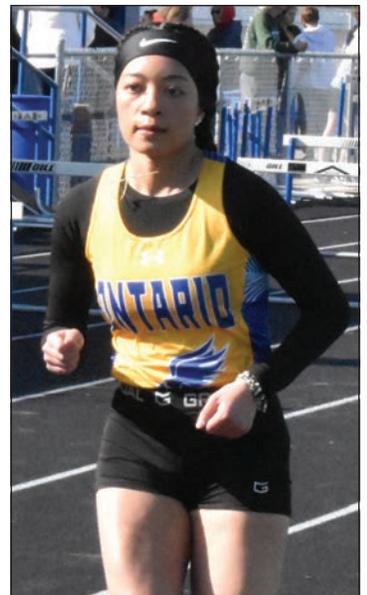
# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Ontario vs. Clear Fork Softball • April 12 • Photos By Jeff Hoffer



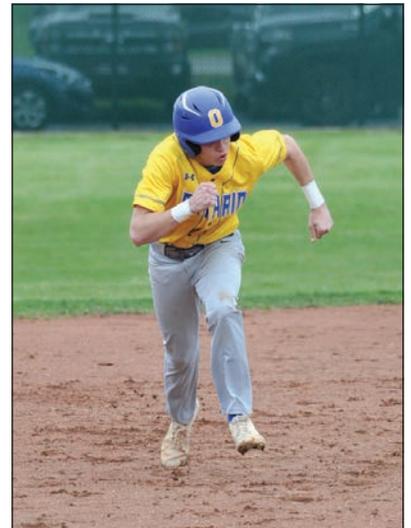
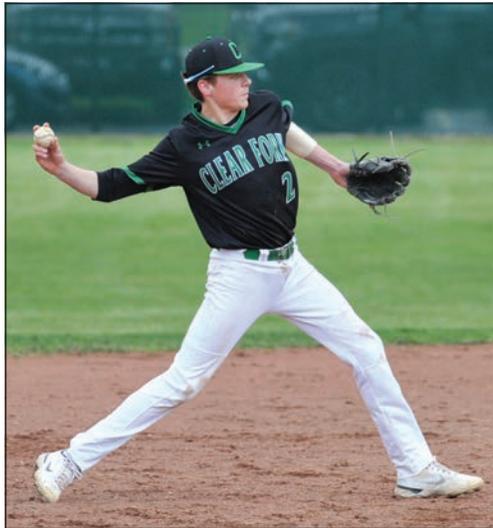
# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Ontario High School Relays • April 14



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Clear Fork vs Ontario Baseball • April 12 • Photos By Jeff Hoffer



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**RICHLAND NEWHOPE** Board of Developmental Disabilities donated books to all of first grade at Stingel Elementary. The students loved listening to the story, reading with friends and even painting a craft connecting the story to another one (*The Dot*).



**STUDENTS IN MRS. RHODES' TEXTILE DESIGN** class at Ontario High School have been learning how to hand sew. They learned four different types of stitches and they completed their first sewing project, a felt animal.

## Congressman Gibbs announces retirement at 117th Congress conclusion

Congressman Bob Gibbs (OH-07) announced his retirement at the end of the 117th Congress and released the following statement:

"I have had the honor of serving the people of Ohio's 18th, then 7th Congressional District since 2011. In that time, I helped reform federal water resources project policy, made clean water utilities more affordable for low-income communities, lowered taxes and red tape for millions of American families and businesses, and fought for a cleaner, safer Lake Erie. I am proud of this work and am grateful for the opportunity to do it on behalf of Ohioans.

"While America still faces considerable challenges, many of which are self-inflicted crises by President Biden and the radical socialist policies in Congress, I am confident in the future of our nation and the prospects of a Republican majority in the House to stop the worst instincts of the Biden administration and the progressive liberal agenda. These prospects are bright despite the circus redistricting has become in Ohio. These long, drawn-out processes, in which the Ohio Supreme Court can take weeks and months to deliberate while demanding responses and filings from litigants within days, is detri-

mental to the state and does not serve the people of Ohio.

"It is irresponsible to effectively confirm the congressional map for this election cycle seven days before voting begins, especially in the Seventh Congressional District where almost 90 percent of the electorate is new and nearly two thirds is an area primarily from another district, foreign to any expectations or connection to the current Seventh District.

"This circus has provided me the opportunity to assess my future. To that end, after considerable deliberation, I have decided to not seek re-election this year. This was a difficult decision, one which I did not make lightly. I want to thank family, friends, and supporters for their encouragement this election and the voters' confidence in me the previous six elections. It has truly been an honor to advocate for Ohioans in Congress. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity. Thank you to my family, especially my wife Jody, for putting up with the long drives, late dinners, and my weeks away from home. I will use this opportunity to spend more time with her, my children, and grandchildren."



**VOLUNTEERS HELPED** to clean Charles Mill Lake in recognition of Earth Day which is April 22. The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) celebrated with a Cleanup Challenge at the lake on April 16. The public was invited to join in the effort and have chance to win a cooler full of goodies. A cleanup was also held at Clendening, Pleasant Hill, and Tappan Lakes on April 16. Additional clean-ups will be held on April 23 at Atwood, Piedmont and Seneca Lakes. Free camping coupons will be issued to volunteers — one per household. For groups wishing to participate, contact Ethan Zucal at 330-556-4814 or ezucal@mwcd.org. Cleanup details for each lake are available at [www.MWCD.org](http://www.MWCD.org). Those unable to attend an organized clean-up are encouraged to grab a pair of gloves and a trash bag to pick up litter between April 16-24. Post photos of cleanup to an MWCD Facebook or Instagram page using #MWCEarthDay2022 and be entered into a drawing for a cooler filled with prizes and gift certificate.

## Nominations being accepted for senior awards until May 20

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is now accepting nominations for the Outstanding Senior Citizen and Community Service Awards. The deadline for nominations is May 20.

Award recipients from a nine-county area (one awardee from each county) will be honored by the Area Agency on Aging. Nominees must be at least 60 years of age, a legal resident of Ohio for at least five years, and have made significant contributions to the community.

A husband and wife may receive the award jointly when both have been involved in community service.

Community Service Awards are targeted toward an organization, agency, service club, a media outlet or a business that has made an outstanding contribution to the community on behalf of senior citizens. One award will be presented for the nine-county area.

Nomination forms, can be found at [www.aaa5ohio.org/events/awards/](http://www.aaa5ohio.org/events/awards/) or by contacting Susie at 567-247-7105 or [sdanuloff@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:sdanuloff@aaa5ohio.org). Nominations can be mailed, faxed or emailed.

## News Briefs in Education

Ohio Wesleyan University presented its Golden Bishop Awards on April 12 to recognize students for outstanding achievements in leadership and community service during the 2021-'22 academic year.

At the event, Clay Sturts of Mansfield, was honored with the Bridge Builder Award for work to create connections on and off Ohio Wesleyan's campus.

Sturts and all of the 2021-'22 Golden Bishops represent the best of the best on campus. More information on the award is available at [www.owu.edu/GoldenBishopAwards](http://www.owu.edu/GoldenBishopAwards)

★

Joshua Hassmann of Mansfield has been named to the winter 2022 quarter Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Florida campus in Port Orange, Florida.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, California; and Port Orange, FL.

## Richland County Foundation schedules annual meeting for May 18

The Richland County Foundation will conduct its annual meeting Wednesday, May 18, at 11:30 am at Kingwood Center Gardens, Mansfield.

During the meeting, chair Jessica Gribben and president Brady Groves will review the foundation's work during 2021.

Two board of trustee members will be recognized and thanked for their years of service and dedication: Beth DeLaney and Debbi Adams.

The foundation invites anyone in the community who is interest-

ed to attend the luncheon.

Online registration is available at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org), click the events tab. The cost is \$30 a person. To register by mail, send a check to 181 S. Main St., Mansfield, OH 44902.

For more information call 419-525-3020.

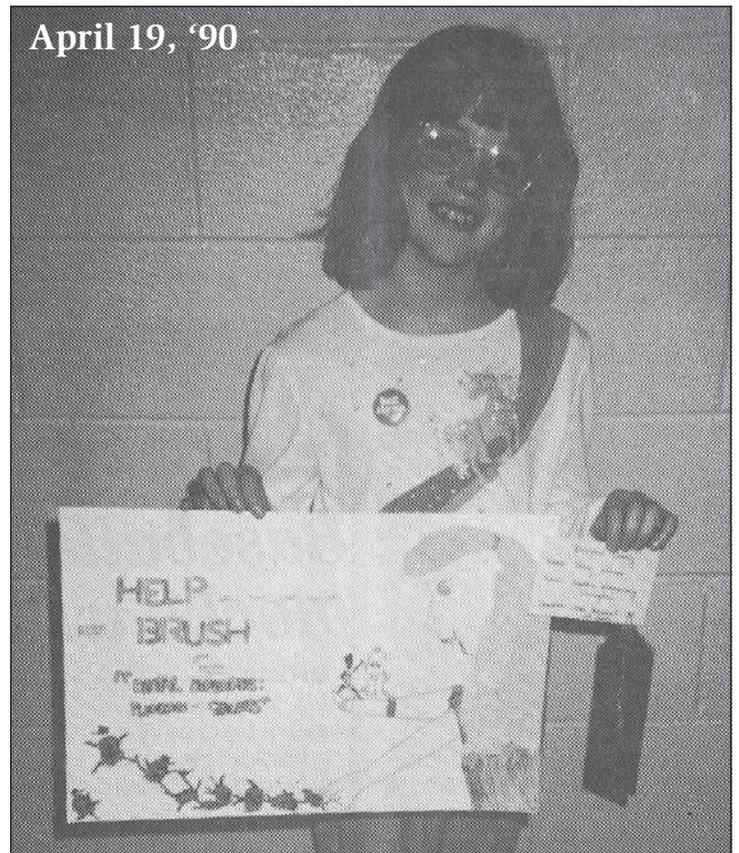
The Richland County Foundation, a not-for-profit 501c3, was established in 1945 as a way for individuals to pool and invest their gifts for the long-term good of Richland County and its residents.

LOOKING BACK • THIS WEEK IN TRIBUNE-COURIER HISTORY



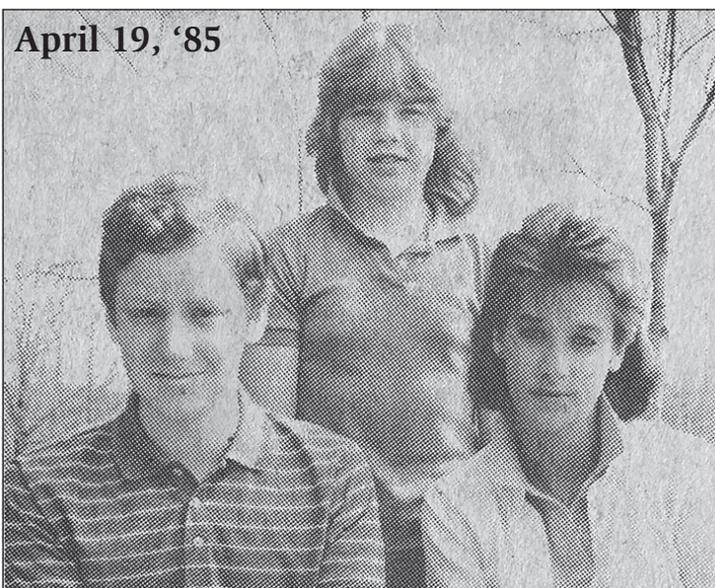
April 22, '04

**PINEWOOD DERBY** – The Ontario Girl Scouts held their first Pinewood Derby this month. Approximately 30 girls and their fathers participated in the event. Junior Girl Scout winners were Tory Leuthold, first; Nicole Johnson, second; and Cassandra Johnson, third. All are Ontario Stingel students. Submitted Photo



April 19, '90

**TRACY JOHNSON** won the dental health poster contest held at Eastern Elementary School in Lexington. Her poster was entered in the Richland County Dental Health Poster Contest.



April 19, '85

**OUTSTANDING STUDENTS** — Madison South Junior High School has recently chosen its outstanding students for the third nine weeks grading period. They are (back) Amy Mellick, seventh grade; (front) Matt Sechrist, ninth grade; and Amy Berg, eighth grade.

Marc Stumbo



April 19, '85

**OWA STUDENT OF THE MONTH** — Roger Borden has earned the student of the month award for his achievements in the Occupational Work Adjustment Program at Madison Comprehensive High School. The recognition is based on job performance, grade average and attendance. Roger is currently working as a clean-up person in the bakery at Hawkins Market. Pictured with Roger are bakery manager Bob Frye (left) and Dave Donatini, store manager.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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 April 6, 2022.

The complete text of these Ordinances 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-25 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITION AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ONTARIO, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-08 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE STANDARD METHODS OF PROCUREMENT AND THE MANDATED AFFIRMATIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FOR VENDORS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-09 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 WRITTEN PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ARPA SPECIFIC EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-10 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S ROAD SALT PROGRAM FOR THE AWARD OF ROAD SALT NEEDED DURING 2022 AND 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker  
 Clerk of Council  
 City of Ontario, Ohio  
 (T-C 4-14, 21 '22) 46L

National Day of Prayer recognized May 5

The local observance of the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 5, will be held from 11:30 am to 1 pm at the gazebo on the square in Mansfield.

Each year, the first Thursday in May is recognized as a day to lift in prayer the blessings and concerns, the challenges and opportunities, the heritage and hope.

"We come with rejoicing, reflection and repentance, knowing that all things are in the hands of our Redeemer," said Rev. Dr. El Akuchie.

"We will pray specifically for

those elected to serve, those called to respond to needs, those in whose hands our children's education is held, and those who move our economy for the benefit of all."

"We will recognize our officials, first-responders, educators and businesspeople in our time together and hope you will be part of that contingency."

This year's theme, "Exalt the Lord, who has established us," Colossians 2:6-7, is a call to praise in prayer. The painting that accompanies the theme is created for this day by renowned

Christian artist, Ron DiCianni. It shows Gods people joining His angels in exalting Him as we pray, because He is God Almighty.

Rev. Akuchie continued, "We have bold access to His throne and passionate confidence as we pray, because He has established us in this nation and is working in the heavenlies to accomplish all that He has purposed, as we pray for America!"

If inclement weather, the alternate venue will be at First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave. West, Mansfield.

American Red Cross celebrates National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week is April 17-23 and the American Red Cross Central & Southern Ohio Region honors the work of its volunteers who give their time to help people in need.

Across the country, more than 300,000 Red Cross volunteers serve their communities by responding to thousands of disasters; supporting the collection of blood to help patients receive the critical care they need; aiding members of the military and their families; helping communities prepare for emergencies around the globe and much more.

"National Volunteer Week is time to honor all of our volunteers for their constant service and support," said Stephanie Byrd, Regional Chief Executive Officer, Central & Southern Ohio Region. "They are true heroes who give their time day and night to help their local community."

Last year, Central & Southern Ohio Region Red Cross volunteers provided food, shelter, comfort and hope to more than 2,000 local families who faced emergency situations.

They trained over 64,000 people in lifesaving skills and provided over 6,300 services to military members, veterans and their families.

Those interested in becoming a Red Cross volunteer can visit [redcross.org/volunteertoday](http://redcross.org/volunteertoday)

The Disaster Action Team helps with smaller disasters such as home fires. Volunteers help comfort and support local families in need by providing food, shelter, clothing or supplies, and connecting families to recovery assistance.

The Disaster Health Services Team volunteers use their professional skills as a licensed healthcare provider to deliver hands-on care and education to

shelter residents during a large disaster. Free online training can count towards nursing continuing education units. If the need arises, volunteers are asked to commit to multiple local shifts of 4-12 hours each. Qualified licenses include RN, LPN, LVN, EMT, Paramedic, MD, DO, PA, NP, APRN. Only RNs have full scope of practice.

The Shelter Support Team

helps during large disasters, by registering residents, helping with meal service, distributing cots, blankets and hygiene supplies, and providing information and other assistance within a shelter. If the need arises, volunteers are asked to commit to multiple local shifts of 4-12 hours each.

Other volunteer positions are also available.

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