



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

04.06.23



THE ONTARIO LIONS PANCAKE DAY was held at Ontario High School on Saturday, April 1. The breakfast included pancakes, sausage and orange juice or milk. Members of the Farmhand Friends 4-H Club helped to keep the tables cleared and stocked with tableware. A large crowd came out for the spring breakfast. *More Photos on Page 9.*

Fish sale orders being taken

Pond fish can be ordered through the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) pond fish sale now through April 13.

Species for sale are Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Hybrid Bluegill, Largemouth Bass, Redear Shellcracker, Yellow Perch, White Amur, and Fathead Minnows.

Pond conditioner, fish food, plastic bags and string may also be ordered through the sale. This is the only pond fish sale Richland SWCD will sponsor this year. Orders will need to be picked up Friday, April 21 at 10 am at the Richland County Fairgrounds.

For recommendations on stocking rates and to place an order visit <https://richlandswcd.net/event/pond-fish-sale/> or call 419-747-8686. (See Ad on Page 2)

Friends of the Library Sale is this weekend

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) Evergreen Bookshop will be open for the monthly Friends' Used Book Sale on Friday, April 7, from noon to 4 pm, and Saturday, April 8, from 9 am to 1 pm.

A preview sale will be held for Friends of the Library members only on Thursday, April 6, noon to 4 pm. Memberships may be purchased at the preview sale (\$3 per year for individuals).

This sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. Materials (adult, teen and juvenile items) are library discards and public donations are offered for sale at discount pricing. The bookshop is stocked with "new to the store" items each month. Proceeds from the monthly sales sponsor enrichment activities provided by the main library and its branches. The bookshop is located in downtown Mansfield at 37 N. Walnut St., corner of West Third next to the main library.

Kingwood Center Gardens hosts 67th Annual Sunrise Service

Kingwood Center Gardens will host the annual Easter Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 9 at 7 am in back of the Gatehouse which serves as the main entrance, off Trimble Rd.

This is the second year the service has been held in that area, and it is the sixth location of the service in the Garden's area since its inception 69 years ago.

St. Mark's Lutheran sponsored the event each year until last year, when a group of organizers known as "Mansfield is Godsfield" took responsibility for the service.

Glory Way will again sing several songs, as they have for more than a dozen years, and Pastor Paul Lintern of Oakland Lutheran and Southside Christian churches will bring the messages. Other leaders in the service include Pastor Dave Rentzel of Abundant Life, Dr. Wanda Sprinkle of Kingdom Grace Fellowship, Pastor Mark Pierce of Church Requel, and the Rev. El Akuchie of Fusion Church in Lexington and the Richland Prayer Network.

Susan Hitchman Evans will accompany group singing; Metronome Music is donating use of an electronic piano.

"The story of the Resurrection takes place in a garden, and so Kingwood is an ideal location for the 'discovery' of an empty tomb," says Lintern, who has been involved in the service for more than 20 years.

In the event of inclement weather, the service will be inside the building there, but Lintern warns that the weather will have to really warrant it.

"The crowd that comes each year, those who have made this such a tradition, is a hearty bunch. They like the early time, you know, 'Jesus rose from the dead, let's get out of bed.'"

"And, I really think they like to brag to family and later church goers about the weather they endured to welcome the Day of Resurrection."

Only twice in the last 25 years has the service been sent inside, and the twice since its inception has the service been cancelled — once during a remodeling time, when it was moved to the brickyard downtown, and once during COVID.

The offering receive offsets costs of the service and will support the creating of the Jericho Wall of Remembrance and Recovery in the Imagination District of Mansfield, for families of the casualties of addiction.

National Medication Take Back Day returns Saturday, April 22

National Medication Take Back Day is Saturday, April 22, from 10 am to 2 pm.

Richland County locations are Richland County Solid Waste, 1125 National Pkwy., Mansfield; Richland Co. Sheriff's Office, 597 Park Ave. E., Madison area; Bellville Police Department, 320 Bell St., Bellville; Lexington Police Department, 44 W. Main St., Lexington; Plymouth Police Department, 48 W. Broadway St., Plymouth; and Shelby Police Department, 31 Mack Ave., Shelby.

Collection programs protect children, water and food supplies, and decrease prescription drug abuse by making it easier to properly dispose of unused or expired medication. This is a completely confidential program. No personal information will be collected. Prescription labels should be removed before arriving.

Accepted items include prescription medicines of any kind, over-the-counter medications, medication samples, pet medications, vitamins, inhalers, medicated ointments and lotions and liquid medications in leak-proof containers.

Items not accepted include needles, syringes, lancets, thermometers, aerosol cans, IV bags, hydrogen peroxide, bloody or infectious waste, empty containers and personal products.

The Story of Trappers and Mike Fink

By Bob Carter

Mike Fink was described as a drunken bully but also with strength to pull a keel boat up river. He was six feet tall and weighed 200 pounds. He claimed he could out run, out shoot, throw down, drag out and "lick" any man in the country. He was also an excellent marksman.

With his wide fame, the Aug. 21, 1823, edition of the weekly *Manfield Gazette* published, in large print a front page story, on the alleged demise of fur trappers and Fink:

"St. Louis, July 16 1823, A report was in town yesterday that a party of the Missouri Fur Company returning from their winter hunt near the mountains was attacked about ten miles from the Crow Village by a party of Black Feet Indians. They were passing a narrow defile in the mountains. Two of the leaders, Robert Jones and Immel, were shot down first."

"The men left without a commander, decided to fight ,and were cut to pieces. The company had about 25 packs of beaver, horses, mules, traps and supplies plus the loss of Jones and Immel, two of the best traders in Missouri was very great. William Gordon, who was also with the party, had been sent on to hunt and the Indians let him pass. He traveled about 600 miles alone to Ft. Mandan. This statement comes from a man lately arrived from Ashley and Henry's expedition."

Also from Missouri Repository, no date:

"Also by a letter received in town from Ashley's expedition we are informed that a man by the name of Mike Fink, well known in this quarter as a great marksman with a rifle, and is the same one who sometime since, in this place shot off a negro's heel to enable him, as he said to 'wear a genteel boot' was engaged in his favorite amusement of shooting a tin cup off another man's head, when aiming too low, shot his companion in the forehead and killed him. Another man of the expedition remonstrated against Fink's conduct, to which Fink replied he would kill him likewise, upon which the other man drew a pistol and shot Fink dead on the spot. "

Life in the west was a little rough, wasn't it.

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Vol. 62
No. 27

Tribune-Courier

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THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

John Wick Chapter 4 is one of the best entries in this series about an assassin who just wants to get out of his former organization and live a normal life.

Nobody thought the original film would be anything other than a run of the mill action film though with terrific direction, an increasing level of stunning action sequences and solid work by Keanu Reeves in the lead role, this has become one of the better franchises in recent years.

This fourth entry picks up where the third film ended, where Wick has been excommunicated from his society and now there is a worldwide hit on him for the sum of millions of dollars. Wick does not know where to turn or where to go or who to trust. The manager of the Continental, a hotel that does not allow violence of any kind, named Winston (Ian McShane) has become an ally of Wick's though it is really up to Wick to take down the head of the high table organization, very well played by Bill Skarsgard.

With each entry, the stakes of the action scenes have gone up and up to the third movie where I personally can remember being in the theater just amazed at what the team had come up with. They absolutely up the ante with this entry as Wick travels around the world to defeat this organization.

While Reeves's lack of dialogue and short sentences can be a little annoying, the entire cast, including Reeves, steps up their work in this film and new characters add so much.

There are three action scenes that are definitely worth writing

about. The first is a sequence around the Arc de Triomphe in Paris that has Wick in a shootout while cars are driving in circles around them. The second is a fantastic shootout (all of these movies are pretty much continuous shootouts) in a large mansion.

The camera view is from the ceiling the whole time and goes from room to room and it's just riveting to watch. The third sequence is on a large outdoor staircase and it's amazing to see the stunt work and choreography that goes into it.

The John Wick franchise has become increasingly reliable and it's rare for a series to get better and better with each entry though this one accomplishes it. Sure, there is not much to write about in terms of the script or the story, though it has a component cast and lead actor in Reeves and keeps pushing the boundaries in terms of stunt work, action choreography and this makes for fun entertainment.



Pond Fish Sale

Order By Thursday, April 13
Pick-up Friday, April 21

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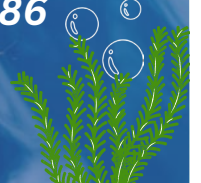
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Redear Shellcracker
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News Briefs

Community Bible Church, 1043 Speingmill St., Mansfield, will hold a Good Friday service, April 7, at 6 pm.

★

The 2nd Annual Senior Citizen Prom "A Night to Remember" is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, from 5:30-8 pm, in the Ontario Middle School Commons, 447 Sjelby-Ontario Rd., Ontario.

The free semi-formal dance is for senior citizens of the City of Ontario and surrounding area. There will be a live band, food, photo booth, raffle prizes and lots of dancing.

An RSVP is required By May 1 to the City of Ontario Recreation Director at recreationdept@ontarioohio.org or call 419-529-2588 ext. 3202. In RSVP, leave full name, number of people attending and their names along with a phone number.

The event is sponsored by the City of Ontario Recreation Department, Ontario Middle School, Ohio District Area Agency On Aging and VFW #7651.

★

Ohioans who need help with winter heating bills can contact the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after Jan. 1. Applications for the HEAP program must be received by May 31, 2023.

HEAP helps Ohioans at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines pay their heating bills. Anyone age 18 and older may apply for this assistance. Those 60 and over can get assistance with filling out the application. All heating types are eligible, including electric, wood, coal, natural gas, propane and kerosene.

For a list of required documents, contact the Area Agency on Aging at 419-524-4144 or 800-860-5799 Monday-Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. To be connected to a local energy assistance provider, call 800-82-0880 (hearing impaired dial 711) or visit www.energyhelp.ohio.gov.

★

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. The meal on April 19, will include turkey. Those attending are encouraged to bring non-perishable food to donate to the Salvation Army. Cost is \$15 for the meal. Guests are welcome. For information visit www.lexasc.org. Dues are \$10 per year.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, April 29 and 30. 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.

★

Holy Week services are scheduled at Trinity Church, 1592 Grace St., Madison area. The Maundy Thursday, April 6, service will remember the night before Christ's death at 7 pm. An Easter sunrise service will be April 9, at 7:30 am followed by breakfast. An Easter morning service is scheduled for 9:30 am.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Rev. Elaine Strawn Sunday, April 9, at 10:30 am. Strawn will speak on "Resurrection in a Traumatized World." For more information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

★

The Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center will have free produce giveaways on the fourth Monday of the Month, April thru October. Dates will be April 24, May 25, June 26, July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25 and Oct. 23. Line-up begins at 8:30 am and the giveaway begins at 10 am at Clear Fork Alliance Church (across from Clear Fork High School). A photo ID is required by Cleveland Food Bank.

★

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) will host a free Rain Garden and Rain Barrel Workshop April 25. The workshop begins at 6 pm at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary, 3774 Orweiler Rd., Mansfield.

This workshop will help those interested in pollinators, gardens,

conservation and nature. Attendees will learn about rain barrels and rain gardens, and how they benefit the environment. Information on how to purchase a rain barrel through Richland SWCD and light refreshments will be available.

Parking is limited so those attending are asked carpool if possible and enter through the gate with the Richland SWCD event sign and proceed to the education building for the workshop.

Although the workshop is free, registration is encouraged due to limited seating. Register at <https://richlandswcd.net/event/rain-garden-and-rain-barrel-workshop-2/>. For information call Dan at 419-747-8077 or email MS4@richlandswcd.net.

★

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave. West, Mansfield, will be offering senior boxes on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year 'round. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank has a program called "Senior Boxes" whereby anyone 60+ who falls in the "low income" guidelines can register and then pick up a 30 pound box of non-perishables including two pounds of cheese and a 15 pound box of pre-packaged produce.

Age is a qualification, so those attending should bring a current identification card complete with date of birth and proof of income. Distribution is on the east side of the building between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm to get registered and pick up a box. There is no cost. Call 419-522-0662 for more information.

★

The Richland Democratic Party will be hosting candidate luncheons at the McCartney/Reid Building, 16 S. Park St., Mansfield. The schedule includes Rollie Harper for Law Director, City of Mansfield, April 12, 11:30 am; Antoinette Daley for 4th Ward Council, City of Mansfield, April 19 at 11:30 am; and Alomar Davenport for 4th Ward Council, City of Mansfield, April 26, 11:30 am.

★

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is hosting a Shred-It event in the parking lot of Hawkins Corner, 2131 Park Avenue West, Ontario, on Saturday, April 22, from 9-11 am. This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Karen at 567-247-6487.

Please note our Easter hours

We will be closed on:

Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8
We will reopen on Monday, April 10.



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Iceland • Photo By Mark Shutt

Ohio District 5 presentation will help explain Medicare

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., in partnership with the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program, will host a "Welcome to Medicare" event for Ohioans new to Medicare on Thursday, May 4, from 2-4 pm at Hawkins Corner, 2131 Park Avenue West, Ontario.

This is a free informative event. Area Agency on Aging staff will be available to assist with additional outreach resources.

For information about this or other events contact the Benefits Enrollment Center (BEC) at the Area Agency on Aging at 419-525-6749 and your call will be returned. No registration is required to attend the event.

Last year, OSHIIP through its different engagement services counseled and educated nearly 600,000 people and saved Ohioans on Medicare \$46 million by helping them identify suitable coverage options and financial assistance.

To access the free in-person and virtual Welcome to Medicare events schedules, visit insurance.ohio.gov. OSHIIP representatives are also available at 800-686-1578 and oshiipmail@insurance.ohio.gov to answer Medicare questions.

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., located in Ontario, Ohio, provides leadership, collaboration, coordination and services to older adults, people with disabilities, their caregivers and resource networks that support individual choice, independence and dignity.

Church Directory

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 TeamKID and Youth Group
Wednesday Ladies Bible Study 6:30-8 pm

Community Bible Church

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

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
419-522-0662 • www.felc-mansfield.org
Pastor Miguel Acosta
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Tuesday Bible Study 1 pm (East entrance)

Lexington Presbyterian Church

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

Mansfield 1st EPC

399 Trimble Rd., Mansfield
419-756-7066 • www.mansfield1st.com
Rev. Joseph Yerger
9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School
10 am Sunday Worship

Oakland Lutheran Church

2045 Olivesburg Rd.
419-571-9920
Pastor Paul Lintern
9 am Sunday Worship

Ontario Christian Church

1029 Lewis Rd., Ontario
419-529-5684 • 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 • ontarioumc.com
Pastor Christine Bell
10:15 am Sunday Worship
10:15 am Kingdom Kids

Southside Christian Church Disciples of Christ

2055 Middle-Bellville, Mansfield
Streamed on Paul Lintern Facebook Page
Sunday 10:45 am
"A Refuge for Hymn-singers!"

St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church

1630 Ashland Rd., Mansfield (Madison) 419-589-2114 • www.mansfieldstmarys.org
Father John Miller
Worship: 4 pm Saturday & 11 am Sunday
5:30 pm Tuesday Worship
8 am Friday Worship • Faith Instruction & Bible Study on Sunday Mornings

St. John's United Church of Christ

68 Park Avenue East, Mansfield
419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org
Pastor Faith Prioretti
10 am Sunday Worship

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Photos By Jenna Wolford

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Grace St., Madison area, held its Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1. Because of the windy weather, children attending were given a bag of Easter eggs instead of them hunting them on the lawn. Children were also able to choose an Easter basket filled with items and had the opportunity to make a craft and decorate cookies. All in attendance were treated to cookies and punch.

This Week's Pet Looking for A Forever Home



Sabin

Meet Sabin!! Sabin came into the shelter after being dumped in a field with his brother and sister in September. The shelter had to use a live trap to get him, which took about two weeks, because Sabin would run away if he heard or saw someone approaching.

The first couple of times someone at the shelter attempted to walk Sabin, he would re-

fuse to walk, and he would have to be picked up and/or coerced with treats.

Since being at the shelter, Sabin has gotten much more confident and friendly with volunteers, employees, and even new visitors. Recently, some visitors asked if they could play with Sabin. He confidently trotted into a play room and immediately picked up toys to show them! Sabin loves to be loved on. He will jump up to say hi to his friends, and he thinks he is a lap dog.

He can't get enough pets and affection; he is also incredibly sweet. Sabin wants to be the best boy possible and does his best to take cues from humans he is with. Sabin is about two years old and is absolutely phenomenal!

Sabin is available at the Richland County Dog Shelter in Mansfield. Those interested in meeting him or any other dog, can contact or visit the Richland County Dog Warden's Office and Shelter. Hours are 11 am to 4:15 pm Monday-Friday and 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday.

Adoptions are \$175, which includes spay/neuter, microchip, dog license and some vaccines.

The shelter's current needs are volunteers to walk and play with the dogs. The shelter uses a lot of bleach, laundry detergent, and dog treats and welcomes donations.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Alan Eugene Karbula, March 28

James Orville Broadus Sr., March 30

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www.wappner.com



Photos By Jenna Wolford

THE ONTARIO RECREATION DEPARTMENT hosted the City of Ontario Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1 in Marshall Park. Eggs were placed and children and families were waiting for the noon siren to start the event, but unexpected weather made it necessary to start the hunt a few minutes early. Hail was reported to be coming and the decision of "now or never" was made. The eggs were gone and parking lot cleared in a matter of minutes. A few families stayed to meet Miss Ontario and the Easter Bunny and children who won were able to claim their special prizes.



Dear Madison Residents,

The heart of our community is our school system. The district has been prudent with its funds and has not asked for additional operating funds in 26 years (1997). Help us continue the proud tradition of Ram Pride and a well-rounded quality education for our students.

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for our school levy.



For more information go to
www.MadisonLevy.com

Paid for by the Madison Levy Committee, Matt Blankenship/Brian Nikolaus, Treasurers

Holy Week Services

Holy Thursday, April 6, 7 pm

Easter Sunrise April 9, 7:30 am
(followed by breakfast)

Easter Sunday, April 9, 9:30 am

Trinity United Methodist Church

1592 Grace St., Mansfield

419-589-5890 • www.trinityumcmansfield.org/



Historical book focuses on Titanic passengers with Ohio connection

By Jenna Wolford

The book *Ohio Tales of the Titanic* is an amazing collection of historical stories of 55 passengers with ties to the Buckeye State.

I had no idea the myriad of connections the Titanic and its travelers had to Ohio. Many were traveling to the promise of manufacturing and farming jobs, some were coming to visit relatives, others were returning home and some were coming to establish their lives in a new land.

Written by Janet A. White and Mary Ann Whitley, this compilation of backstories was well researched and carefully formed to give readers insight into the lives of the passengers boarding the R.M.S. Titanic on her maiden voyage.

The mini-biographies give details on passengers' family history, schooling and employment and the story of how they came to be passengers on the fateful trip. Photos of the passengers, their graves or monuments and even their homes or businesses are often included.

A few of the stories contain men whose businesses helped to shape Ohio's economy at the turn of the century.

The writers even go as far as to tell of aid offered by various organizations to those who survived the sinking and in which hotels they were housed as they were brought to New York City. Sometimes insurance claims and the actual payouts received have been recorded.

Gathering a collection of this magnitude and keeping all the facts straight was definitely no small feat. Each passenger is organized in chapters by region of the state.

A common theme in the survivors' stories is the belief that things were under control and the striking of the iceberg did not result in immediate panic — the rhetoric was that she was unsinkable, after all.

One passenger, predicting smooth sailing, wrote letters to her family about the pleasant trip they had and their safe arrival. Those letters went down with the Titanic, but thankfully, Lucy Risdale made it onto lifeboat 13 and lived to see another three decades.

The writers do a wonderful job with tracking the travels of many of these passengers, with many traveling by other boats to arrive at their boarding destination.

I also learned that some of the Titanic's passengers had actually purchased tickets for other sailings. Some were set to depart on the Philadelphia from South Hampton on April 6, but due to a coal strike resulting in a shortage, its coal, and subsequently its passengers, were transferred to the Titanic.

I'm sure many of those passengers were excited to be aboard the brand new ship and thought it just a slight inconvenience for the massive upgrade. Unfortunately, as we know all too well, their excitement was short lived.

The book also contains a local connection. Frank J. W. Goldsmith Jr. was a 9-year-old survivor of the Titanic. After losing his father during the sinking, he grew up in Detroit with his mother, but later came to Mansfield. He owned and operated Mansfield Photo Supplies, Inc., for 27 years before retiring to Florida. Although his ashes

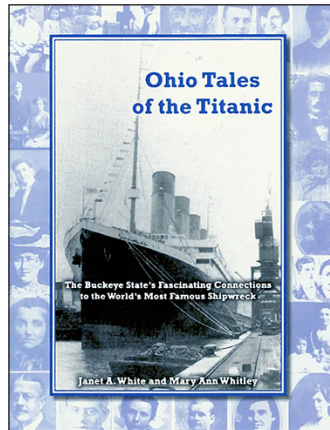
were scattered over the Titanic wrecksite, a memorial was placed at Ashland Cemetery.

In addition to the stories of the passengers and their relatives, the book also includes history on Ohio and its cities. Did you know Ohio had the first suspension bridge in the United States — spanning from Cincinnati to Covington, KY?

I highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in the Titanic and its passengers. It's definitely a book I will read again in the future.

My family and I will be visiting the Titanic Museum this summer in Pigeon Forge, TN, so watch for an article all about the experience later this year. I have long been interested in the history of the Titanic and its maiden voyage and look forward to exploring a museum dedicated to its artifacts and exhibits.

Ohio Tales of the Titanic and other books and gifts can be purchased at the museum's online store at <https://shop.titanicattraction.com>. For information on the museum visit <https://titanicpigeonforge.com>.



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Sorellé, moving forward since The Voice appearance

By Traci Little

Lexington's sister trio, Sorellé, performed in front of a national audience of 6.3 million viewers during their blind audition on NBC's The Voice last month, March 6. They are currently contestants on the 23rd season of The Voice, the popular singing reality show.

I visited with the delightful sisters in their Lexington home this past Monday morning. The trio earned a spot on the show when Blake turned his chair, followed by Chance the Rapper. Madi (22), Ana (20) and Bella (15), have been watching the show since they were little girls. They described it as a weird and cool shift from one day watching others perform on television, thinking how amazing the experience must be, to now becoming those people!

Singing comes naturally for these sisters, with an effortless three-part harmony and gifted with perfect pitch. The group name, pronounced /so'rella/ means sisters in Italian. The girls are very proud of their Italian roots, so the name was a perfect fit!

The oldest of the sisters, Madi, likes to brainstorm new song concepts by taking things from everyday life and presenting them for a new song idea. "For the most part, I take on the big sister role. I like to lead from a logical mindset, thinking through things a bit more." Something unique about Madi is she hates to be cold. Her boyfriend got her a space heater for valentine's day, and it's her favorite gift she's ever received. She uses it all the time. She enjoys the warmth of the sun and can usually be found inside by her heater if it's cold outside.

Ana enjoys anything and all things creative! "I try to look for creative things to do all of the time. I'm a DIY girl. I love everything from cutting up a shirt and figuring out how to sew it into a skirt, to drawing something new, or buying random white hats from the store and painting them. I have a whole jewelry kit and make jewelry all the time to keep my mind moving. When I was 8 years old, I was diagnosed with ADHD/ADD, high anxiety, and a speech imped-

iment. Music has always been a magical, mysterious force to calm my brain, body, and emotions. My hope is that the music I write and perform will provide an escape for my listeners, like it does for me. While my brain wants music, my soul needs it."

The youngest of the sisters, Bella, stands apart with her dark hair. "People think I'm adopted." Her sisters describe Bella as very grounded and willing to change and grow. She still holds her own and will speak up and give her input about a song. She's extremely strong for being so young. Bella joined Madi and Ana in 2019, so she's still very new to performing in front of audiences. The pandemic set them back for a little while.

Sorellé was chosen for the taped blind auditions for The Voice, from nearly 40,000 submissions across the country. They had the support and the song, and now it was time to perform. What were some of the emotions during the blind auditions for these young women?

Well, thankfully they didn't have to wait around that long before performing. They were originally fifth in line and then quickly got bumped up to second. It was good because they didn't have time to overthink it which would have been scarier. Other performers had to wait around most of the day. "We were just glad to get out there and find out our fate right away, having the rest of the day to celebrate!" they said.

"You would think performing to the back of chairs would be less nerve wracking, but it is actually more unsettling. When you can't see the judges' faces or body language, it is very unnerving as a musician," said Ana.

"The only thing you can think about is, please turn around. We got to a certain part in the song that we had thought maybe if they

(Continued on Page 10)



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday Service
April 6, 7:00 PM

Good Friday Service
April 7, 12:00 NOON

Easter Sunday Worship Services
April 9, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

First Congregational Church
640 Millsboro Road, Mansfield



Photo By Traci Little

Madi Heichel (22), Bella Heichel (15) and Ana Heichel (20)



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ONTARIO LIONS PANCAKE DAY



Photos By Jenna Wolford

•Sorellé, moving forward since The Voice appearance

(Continued from Page 1)

didn't turn around by that point, they wouldn't at all. Well, we had passed that point in the song. Then before we knew it, Blake turned his chair, followed by Chance at the end of the song. Now we had to choose! It was an overload of emotions all at once and we had to process it all very quickly," said Madi.

Before the show, the sisters guessed they might receive chair-turns from either Kelly Clarkson (a fellow female artist) or Niall Horan (a former member of the boy band One Direction and who understands the dynamics of a trio).

We didn't think much about Chance, but you have to remember that he's a writer, composer, singer, rapper, director and a producer. He's so creative in every way, shape and form," Ana said.

Kelly Clarkson commented, "it's really hard to hold onto those dissonant harmonies all at once and not waiver, that was really well done, and I'm really stoked to see what you're going to do on the show."

Coach Niall Horan said that he immediately regretted not turning after listening for the 90 seconds. Chance mentioned that he began to appreciate the harmonies throughout the audition, and it gave it a theatrical/show tunes vibe and said it was really Dope.

The girls all really appreciated that the judges took the time to listen to what they created as artists. It's an honor that they turned for us, each having only ten spots on their team. None of the judges recognized their version of Queen's song, "Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy". After their audition, Chance challenged them to sing a harmony on the spot from Wiz, and it really changed their outlook. He chose to challenge us and once we huddled together, it was a unanimous decision that we were going to go with Chance as our coach.

What's given the girls such thick skin in this industry? "Being on-line for so long has given us thick skin. We've also been raised with honesty and taught kindness by our parents. They have been our biggest cheerleaders. The negative comments online have not really gotten to me thankfully. I think some of the negative comments on social media have hurt our parents more than they've hurt us," Madi said. They have always instilled confidence in the sister trio and always encouraged them to pursue their dreams.

"Sometimes I'll take some of the constructive criticism and grow from it. You're not always going to be everyone's cup of tea. I heard someone say once, you could be the juiciest orange, but the person might be looking for an apple. So, if someone doesn't like you, that's okay. There's an audience that does, so focus on that," said Madi.

"Knowing who you are and being confident in that is important. This show has given me so much confidence, it's crazy. Before the show, I didn't even know if I could do it, but every round and hearing all of the love and support these legends are giving us is unreal,"

said youngest sister Bella.

Bringing that third voice in has changed everything for the Heichel sisters. It changes the way you think and processes the harmonies and gives them the ability to make them so much different and unique. It's made the process more creative. "We're pretty much like triplets and read each other's minds," they all agreed.

In 2012, when Madi and Ana were just 10 and 12 years old, they performed the National Anthem at a Cavalier's game. The girls remember being extremely disappointed that they couldn't go trick or treating that night, since the game fell on Halloween. Looking back, that opportunity opened up so many doors for them to sing at so many different events over time. I guess a little less candy ended up being worth it in the long run!

The girls grew up singing with their family. Whether it was in the car or at different family gatherings where her dad would pull out his guitar. Their dad's mom, their grandma, was actually a beautiful jazz vocalist. "That's where I got my love for jazz music," said Ana. "I'm the alto and the base of the group. Getting into jazz music felt like a good fit for my lower vocal range."

Ana is the melody alto, and Madi and Bella tend to be the melody soprano. "We change it up all the time throughout a song, or even in the same line," said the girls.

Growing up, the Heichel girls were immersed in sports and the arts. Their parents wanted them to be well rounded and find out their own passions. As a sports' lover, the girl's mom thought they might enjoy sports, but quickly found that her daughters' true passion was for music and entertainment.

"I took tap, jazz and ballet for 10 years, began professional vocal training and acting classes at the age of 7, and I learned to play the piano and the guitar," said Ana.

The older two girls performed in pageants which helped them learn how to speak in front of audiences. Madi won the title for Miss Ohio's Outstanding Teen in 2016, and Ana won the same title in 2018.

Both Madi and Ana credit their backgrounds in pageants with helping them prepare for their current role. "They don't typically have those speaking classes in school anymore like my parents had growing up. We learned how to sing, perform and speak in front of people. Our mom wanted us to get into those pageants to be able to learn these important life skills and we are very thankful she did," said Madi. Besides vocal lessons, they have also performed in many theatrical performances over the years.

Every night at 11:11 pm, the girls make a wish. They would find themselves running out of their bedroom, announcing the time, and yelling out, "don't forget to make your wish!" They never would share what they were wishing for, but in 2019, Bella's dream to join her singing sisters came true.

Bella grew up sitting in the audience, watching both of her sisters perform on the stage in musicals and pageants. She also listened in on their vocal and acting training. While she was too young to participate back then, she was absorbing every second of it. She found herself humming along to the harmonies without even realizing it.

"When Madi and I interviewed for Nickelodeon's America's Most Musical Family, they asked us if we had anyone else in the family that could sing. We weren't sure if Bella was too young but told the producers about our little sister. They asked us to film a clip of Bella singing with us, and to our surprise, they loved her," said Ana.

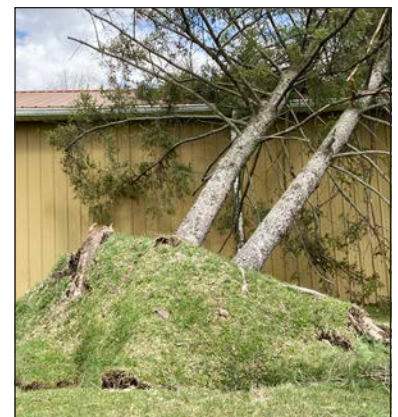
"We were cast as The Heichel Sisters and that was my first ever performance with my sisters on national TV in front of a live audience," said Bella. The girls made it through two rounds of that show. They described host Nick Lachey

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Madison Twp. Hall



Photos By Jenna Wolford

MADISON TOWNSHIP residents had a busy April Fool's Day as they worked to clean up a mess left by high winds around 2:30 am Saturday morning. The area of Express-view Dr., Rafield Dr. and Beal Rd. had major damage to homes, buildings and trees. The Madison Township building received major damage to its roof. The property owned by Ron and Stella Smith on Beal Rd. saw major damage to many trees and a garage was completely demolished. High winds all day Saturday made cleanup difficult as crews worked to restore power to the area.



Photo By Brandon Chambers

Hospice of North Central Ohio receives Summertime Kids Grant

The Richland County Foundation (RCF) Summertime Kids advisory committee has approved a grant in the amount of \$1,250.00 designated for HNCO's 2023 "Camp Hope" children's bereavement camp. The camp was established by HNCO in 1996 for grieving children ages 6-17 who have lost a parent through death. This year's camp will be held on June 16, 17, 23 and 24 at Pleasant Hill Campgrounds of Mohican State Park.

Rebecca Pfister, MSW and bereavement camp supervisor stated, "Specialized grants for Camp Hope are our primary funding for some of the specialized activities that we do with the campers. This year's grant monies will be allocated toward the purchase of a 'stuff

your own' stuffed animal for each of the campers. The animals that will be purchased have Velcro closures into which the camper can place notes to loved ones or other small tokens of remembrance. We utilize various crafts and activities to assist our campers with both expression of grief and remembrance of loved ones."

Ralph Tomassi, HNCO Chief Development Officer/Senior Administrator added, "We have been blessed with a capable and caring bereavement staff that help guide children through their grief and embrace life in a safe and supportive atmosphere. We are grateful for the Richland County Foundation's continued support of this special program."



Photos By Jenna Wolford

THE ONTARIO LIONS CLUB hosted an Easter egg hunt for the visually impaired on Saturday, April 1, at Marshall Park. The special eggs contain a beeper to help children locate them. The uncooperative weather led to a small turnout, but anyone wishing to take part next year can call the Ontario Lions Club.



•Sorellé, moving forward since The Voice appearance

(Continued from Page 10)

as very dreamy, and thought it was a fun and exciting experience. Lachey is from Ohio and called them his "Ohio girls" which made them feel extra special. The girls stepped into social media stardom when they filmed their cover of Meghan Trainor's "All About That Bass" which went viral after Meghan reposted the video.

The sisters have released seven singles so far. They dropped their first single "Ghost" in 2021. Sorellé released four singles in 2022, including "Mr. ReLIEable" and "Varsity Heartbreaker." They are also best known from their TikTok audience of over 3.2 million followers. Their goal is to inspire other young people by showing them that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible!

"We write all of our own music and pull our ideas from everyday life. It may be a phrase from our favorite television show where we will then take it into the studio and expand on it. We work with our producer and a bunch of different writers," Madi said.

"We're still very new to the writing scene, so we are just soaking everything up as we learn about it. We love getting into a writing session with more experienced artists and unlocking that section of our mind through the writing process. Our brain is always taking notes and I get most of my ideas in the shower," said Ana.

"You have to learn from more experienced people in order to grow and become the best version of yourself. We have a great group of people that we are learning and growing from alongside us. Being on The Voice has definitely helped me gain confidence in my voice and us as a trio, so that's a big thing I've taken from this experience," Bella said.

"This is an amazing platform and opportunity," Ana said. "The exposure gives you a leg up in the music industry, where writers and producers can see if they want to work with you."

"It can be a little scary to think about what life might look like at the end of all of this, but it's what we've been working so hard at and preparing for. It's exciting and we're ready for it!" said Madi.

Last Monday's premiere of the Battle Rounds on March 27, the trio paired against fellow Team Chance singer Manasseh Samone, from Texas in a magical duel set to Adele's "Someone Like You." The emotional interaction they had with one another was pure gold! It gave me goosebumps, tears, and caused me to get choked up throughout the performance. I could listen to it over and over. The performance brought the judges to their feet and Chance yelled, "That's my team!"

"Blake was wondering how differing voices would blend together, and now he wants to hear Sorellé and Manasseh perform together all the time! Blake said, "it was almost hard to believe that was live the way you all sang with such attack and so tight with one another." Niall Horan said "it sounded like a record, and you would struggle to get a record to even mix that well. It was a wall of harmonies."

Chance said, "I am so proud of you guys, that was a masterful performance." Chance ended up choosing Sorellé as the winner of the battle and giving his one "Playoff Pass" to Manasseh, advancing her on and allowing her to skip the Knockout Round.

The fate of Sorellé on The Voice has mostly been decided. Every episode of the show up until the live performances have already been filmed. The next performance for Sorellé comes in the knockout round, and they already know how it ends; they just can't tell anyone.

"Make sure you tune into the knockouts starting April 17. "This is one of our favorite songs we have sung together. We like to bring something different each time we perform. It's a different genre than we usually do but it is still true to us," said Madi.

"It's fun and you'll want to get up and dance and it is sure to put a smile on your face," said Bella.

"Every time we perform, we like to show a different aspect of ourselves, so this is something that will be really entertaining and fun. We think people will really enjoy it." Said Ana.

What helps keep the girls calm before going on stage? Bella enjoys reading, which has been very relaxing for her. Ava likes to draw and color, which gives her mind and body an escape. Madi said, nothing really can keep her calm. She usually resorts to listening to the song over and over, so she can keep it fresh in her mind.

"Nerves will always be there, but that shows you really care about what you are doing," Madi said.

"If you don't have nerves, you aren't passionate about it!" said Ava.

The girls will be watching each episode as it airs, surrounded by family and friends. They've truly felt the love and support from their family, and it is something they will always be grateful for.

Regardless of how far the sisters make it on the show, they know they want to keep focusing on making music. Their dream is to win a Grammy one day and even become the sister version of the Jonas Brothers.

"It would be a dream to make a living doing what we love," Ana said.

Playoffs will be coached by Reba. The girls say that she gives the best hugs and is cute as a button. The hope is that through this experience it will give the sisters more opportunities outside of the show to keep growing.

"We hope that The Voice and our coach Chance, continue to give us a chance!" said Sorellé. Be sure to follow Sorellé's journey every step of the way by finding them online at sorellemusic.com, on Instagram @sorellemusic, and by visiting linktr.ee/SorelleMusic.

May 2 Primary early and absentee voting is underway

Absentee/early voting for the May 2, Primary Election commenced Tuesday April 4, either by mail or in person at the Richland County Board of Elections, 1495 W. Longview Ave., in the lower level classroom.

The closest entrance is in the back of the Longview Center by the "Vote Here" sign and flag. If you enter through the front entrance, you must take the stairs or elevator down to the lower level.

Those who have requested absentee ballots by mail will have their ballot mailed out soon.

Absentee applications to vote by mail are available online at <https://www.boe.ohio.gov/richland/> or by calling the office at 419-774-5530 to have a request form mailed.

Early voting will be held at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave., lower classroom (use rear, lower level parking area, southwest door).

- April 4–21, 8 am to 5 pm, each weekday
- April 24, 26, 27 and 28, 7:30 am to 7:30 pm, each weekday
- Tuesday, April 25, 7:30 am to 8:30 pm
- Saturday, April 29, 8 am to 4 pm
- Sunday, April 30, 1–5 pm, early voting ends
- May 2nd, Election Day. Polls will be open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm on May 2.

Early voting ends Sunday, April 30, at 5 pm. There will be no early voting on Monday, May 1.

All precincts in Richland County will be open. Voters in the City of Mansfield may request a Republican, Democrat or an Issues Only ballot. Voters in the City of Ontario 2nd ward may request a Democrat or Issues Only ballot, the remaining wards in the City of Ontario will have an Issues Only ballot.

The remaining Richland County voters will have an Issues Only ballot.

The only procedure available under Ohio Election Laws to change a party affiliation is to request the party's ballot in a Primary. It does not matter which party a voter is currently affiliated with in their voter registration records. The voter simply states to the poll worker which ballot they want to cast for that election.

To view a ballot online visit <https://www.boe.ohio.gov/richland/candidate-voter-tools/> and go to voter lookup search, enter last and first name and submit. On the right side, click sample ballots and choose which ballot style to view.

Trinity United Methodist schedules VBS dates

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1595 Grace St., Mansfield, will hold its annual Vacation Bible School from 6–8:30 pm the week of July 16–20 for ages kindergarten through sixth grade.

More details will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

Elementary students bring cheer to Dayspring

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Twenty Sherman Elementary students helped brighten the residents' day at the Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Center in Mansfield.

On Wednesday, March 29, the small cafeteria was filled with sparkling eyes and huge smiles as the second-grade students entertained the room by singing a few songs and telling some pretty hilarious Easter Bunny jokes. They even brought cards and gifts their entire class made which they passed out to the residents.

The students paired up with different men and women throughout the room to color Easter eggs during a small party in the cafeteria at 3220 North Olivesburg Road in Mansfield.

Sherman school counselor, Linda Zakrajsek, helped the kids read their jokes and helped lead them in a few songs. She's been coming for over twenty years now and will be retiring in May of this year after over 31 years in the educational system. She started out for a couple years with the Crestview school system and the rest of her time has been with the Mansfield City School system. She made 10 dozen hard-boiled eggs, which ensured that the residents and students had plenty to color.

"I love working with the kids and will miss being a school counselor. I am a professional clinical counselor so I will continue working for Family Life Counseling in the Shelby office," Linda said.

Mr. Michael Howard also came with the group from Sherman to help out with the event. He helped with many things like passing out the eggs to everyone. Not too long afterwards, the plain white eggs turned into beautiful variations of pink, blue, green, purple, orange and yellow. It was neat to see some softer hues and also some deeper and more vibrant colors. Howard mentioned that Sutton Bank provided a gift card for the school to help purchase the candy and eggs which was really thoughtful.

The students also brought cards and gifts their school made to pass out to their new friends. The smiles from everyone were refreshing to see. Very soon, any nervousness or apprehension from students and adults alike broke down after spending time with one another. I think it's great to see different generations being able to do things like this together.

Community leader Doc Stumbo of Shelby supplied the potato chips and soda for everyone. "I've been coming here for over twenty years now and I think it is a special time for everyone! I've really enjoyed it!" said Stumbo. Back in 2003 they began this amazing partnership while Doc worked at Graham Auto Mall. Since retiring three years ago, Doc didn't want to see the event end, so he kept it going by providing the Lays potato chips, Pepsi and Coke each year. They also do other events throughout the year like a Spring cookout in May and an annual Christmas party and Valentine's Day event. "I never get tired of it," he said.

Linda Zakrajsek has appreciated her time over the years doing these events with the children. "These are the types of things children can't learn from a book and can only appreciate through experience. Every so often she will run into former students, now adults, and they fondly remember their time coming to the Richland Dayspring facility. "This teaches our children empathy and the impor-

(Continued on Page 15)



EIGHT-YEAR-OLD students Brynn and Carter display their dyed eggs with U.S. Army resident Michael Bowman



•Elementary students bring cheer to Dayspring

(Continued from Page 14)

tance of giving to others," she said. "I'm really going to miss it," Linda said.

The room was filled with men women of different ages, a few who were Vietnam and Army Veterans. They began sharing stories with one another about their time in the service and some of their memories. The residents told me they really look forward to the students coming each year.

The lyrics from the first song the students sang, went like this, I know I can, be what I want to be. If I work hard at it, I'll be where I want to be. I know I'm loved no matter what I do. If I try every day, I'll do what I'm supposed to do. I believe I can, be what I want to be. If I work hard at it, I can rock this day!

We can learn many important lessons from the bold joy these children sang with from their heart.



Photos By Traci Little



EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Jackson Munsil with resident Gary



Madison kindergarten registration underway

Kindergarten registration for Madison Local Schools will be held April 3–28, 2023. Children are eligible to attend kindergarten during the 2023–'24 school year if they are five years of age on or before Aug. 1, 2023.

The first step in the registration process is to complete the online registration through FinalForms. The registration link can be found at www.mlssd.net under Madison FinalForms or using the link under kindergarten registration. Those without internet access can schedule an appointment to complete the online forms with the child's assigned building.

Current Madison South Preschool students moving into kindergarten will need to log into their FinalForms account and complete the 2023–'24 forms and schedule an appointment for kindergarten registration.

Once all online forms are completed, parents or guardians can schedule an appointment with the elementary school in which they reside: Madison South Elementary, 419-522-4319; Mifflin Elementary, 419-589-6517; Eastview Elementary, 419-589-7335.

Documents that should be brought to the appointment include the student's 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.



CAT BROOKS AND RILYNN LOZIER colored eggs and helped pass out gifts.

ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT WINNERS



OVER 600 EASTER EGGS were hidden throughout the Ontario High School building, including six golden eggs. The golden eggs were gift certificates. The grand prize was a \$50 VISA card.

Ohio House approves historic state transportation budget

The Ohio House of Representatives yesterday passed House Bill 23, the historic state transportation budget for fiscal years 2024-25, State Rep. Marilyn John (R-Richland County).

As a result of this legislation, the state will invest \$13.5 billion in Ohio's transportation system over the next two years, the largest infrastructure investment in Ohio's history.

"This historic budget promotes job growth and infrastructure development throughout Ohio," said John. "I am pleased to have voted in favor of this important legislation."

The State's transportation budget allocates funds for the Department of Transportation's infrastructure maintenance and improvement plans over the next two years as well as makes other permanent law changes.

Key components of the bill are as follows:

Funds \$2.2 billion for pavement, \$717 million for bridges, \$360 million for dedicated safety upgrades, and \$1.5 billion for large, capacity adding projects such as reconfiguring urban interstates.

- Provides reliable transportation routes for workers in rural parts of the state who otherwise might be forced to relocate in order to gain employment.

- Invests \$15 million to establish the Ohio Workforce Mobility

Partnership Program, which allows one or more regional transit authorities (RTA) to work together to provide service for the workforce between the territories and supporting the employment needs of economically significant employment centers.

House Bill 23 awaits the Governor's signature.

State Representative Marilyn John is currently serving her second term in the Ohio House of Representatives. She represents the 76th House District, which encompasses all of Richland County.

Church rummage sale planned

Mansfield 1st EPC, 399 S. Trimble Rd., Mansfield, will host a rummage sale on Friday, April 21, from 9 am to 4 pm; and Saturday, April 22, 9 am to noon.

The semi-annual rummage sale will offer a selection of clothing, toys, housewares and much more. Proceeds are used for local missions.

The church is located at the corner of Trimble Rd. and Millsboro Rd.

For information call the church office at 419-756-7066.

Red Cross offering exclusive Snoopy t-shirt to donors

April is National Volunteer Month, and the American Red Cross is celebrating the millions of people who volunteer to give blood, platelets and plasma throughout the year. This month, the Red Cross and PEANUTS® are joining forces as a reminder that it's cool to be kind and help save lives.

Donors of all blood types, especially type O blood donors and those giving platelets, are needed now to keep the blood supply strong enough to support critical patient care all season long.

People coming together to care for one another is the humanitarian spirit shared by the Red Cross community and PEANUTS. Donors are encouraged to take a page from the comic strips that have charmed generations and take care of one another by making a blood or platelet donation.

Book a time to give by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

As a thank-you, all who come to give April 1-23 will receive an exclusive Red Cross and PEANUTS t-shirt featuring Snoopy as Joe Cool. Those who come to give April 1-30 will be automatically entered for a chance to win a three-night trip for two to Sonoma County, California. This getaway includes flights, hotel, a \$1,000 gift card and special tours of the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Snoopy's Home Ice, courtesy of Peanuts Worldwide.

Local bloodmobiles are scheduled for:

Wednesday, April 5, 10 am to 4 pm, OSU Mansfield/NC State, Eisenhower Center, 1760 University Dr., Mansfield; and noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Thursday, April 6, noon to 6 pm, Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center, 1125 Aspira Ct., Mansfield

Friday, April 7, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Tuesday, April 11, noon to 6 pm, Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 48 Church St., Bellville

Wednesday, April 12, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario; and 1-6 pm, Planktown Country Market, 1921 Free Rd., Shiloh

Thursday, April 13, noon to 6 pm, Mosaic at Park Avenue Baptist Church, 296 Park Ave West, Mansfield

Friday, April 14, 10 am to 3 pm, YMCA, 750 Scholl Rd., Mansfield

Wednesday, April 19, 8 am to 2 pm, St. Peter's High School, 111 West First St., Mansfield; noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario; and 2-8 pm, St. Peter's High School, 111 W. First St., Mansfield

Thursday, April 20, 2-7 pm, Lexington High School, 103 Clever Ln., Lexington; and 2-7 pm, Lucas Community Center, 252 W. Main St., Lucas

Friday, April 21, 8 am to 1 pm, OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital, 335 Glessner Ave., Mansfield

LEGO exhibit coming to Kingwood

Sean Kenney's Nature Connects Made with LEGO® Bricks, an award-winning and record-breaking exhibition that uses works of art made from simple toy blocks to explore animal endangerment, the balance of ecosystems and mankind's relationship with nature is coming to Kingwood Center Gardens from June 2 to Sept. 17.

Produced by Imagine Exhibitions, Nature Connects depicts important topics that the New York artist, Sean Kenney, holds dear, from protecting an animals' habitat to planting a garden.

Nature Connects further shows that just as LEGO pieces interconnect, everything in nature is interconnected in a delicate balance. The narratives, along with the intricate displays, also explore the importance of conservation, the balance of ecosystems, predator/prey relationships, as well as the relationships between humankind and the natural world.

Most importantly, the exhibition allows visitors to appreciate both nature and the sculptures as something beautiful, and to inspire them to go home and create something wonderful themselves.

Tom Zaller, CEO of Imagine Exhibitions shared, "Imagine Exhibitions is proud to partner with Sean Kenney to bring the creative vision of Nature Connects to Kingwood Center Gardens. The messages in the exhibition about our connection to nature are beautifully presented and effectively weaved into the story in the hopes of inspiring visitors to think more about mankind's impact on the greater world around us."

Fifteen sculptures will be on display throughout the gardens. Kingwood will offer special features during the exhibit including pop-up educational activities and a Community Creations competition, free-form nature-based sculptures made by community members of all ages.

Kingwood will be open daily to the public from 10 am to 7 pm. Online-timed tickets are required for all guests and members and will be available to purchase beginning April 15 at kingwoodcenter.org or by calling 419-522-0211. Learn more at kingwoodcenter.org.

Imagine Exhibitions is currently producing over 40 unique exhibitions globally in museums, science centers, zoos, integrated resorts, and non-traditional venues, with millions of people around the world visiting our exhibitions each year.

In addition to developing traveling exhibitions, Imagine Exhibitions designs, opens and operates permanent installations and venues, and consults on building, expanding, and directing museums and attractions. For more information visit www.ImagineExhibitions.com.

Sean Kenney is an award-winning artist who uses LEGO pieces as a medium for contemporary sculpture, portraiture, and commercial art. He is recognized as one of the leading experts in the field and is a founding member of several global programs that aim to encourage and support this emerging art form.

Nominations being accepted for Ohio District 5 AAA awards

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 April 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.

One Outstanding Senior Citizen Award will be presented for each county in our service area (Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot).

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.

Additional information, including on-line nomination forms, can be found on the Area Agency on Aging website at www.aaa5ohio.org/events/awards/ or by contacting Susie at 567-247-7105 or sdanuloff@aaa5ohio.org.



4-H News Report

Country Champions had a meeting on March 26.

Mandee Lantz called the meeting to order.

The following members did a health and safety talk or a demonstration: Maggie Lantz, Mandee Lantz, Cody Wolford, Chloe Hursh and Brice Perkins. We discussed what items that we would have at our bake sale on April 8 at TSC. This will be held from 9 am to 2 pm at the Ontario location.

Our next meeting will be April 16 and we will be meeting at the fairgrounds for a beautification project and then back at Clay Memorial Lutheran Church to do another beatification project for them. We will finish with our meeting.

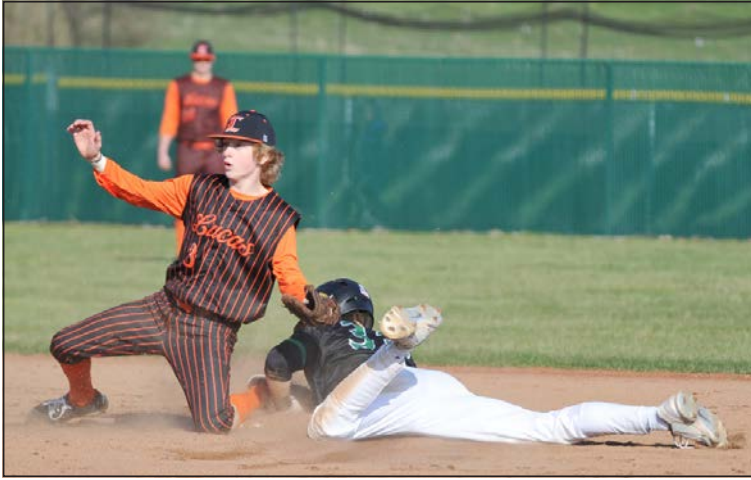
Annalise Trovato, News Reporter

4-H Bake Sale

Saturday, April 8, 9 am to 2 pm, TSC Ontario

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS LUCAS BASEBALL · MARCH 30 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



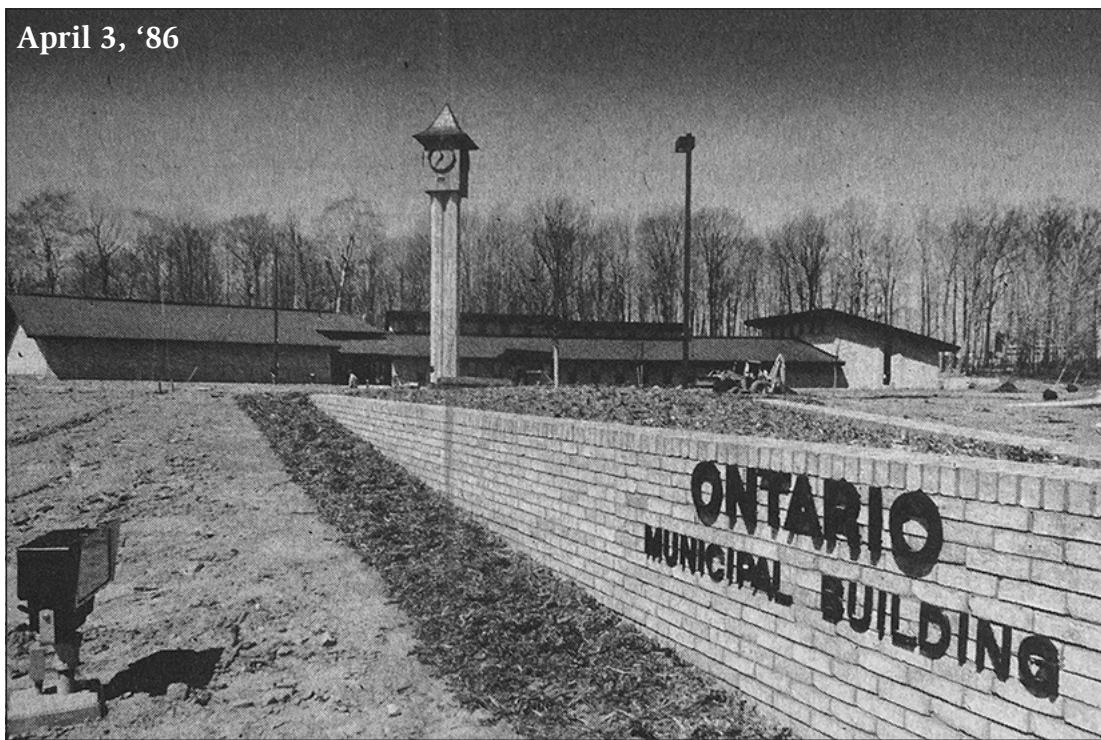
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO TENNIS AT MADISON COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL · MARCH 24



LOOKING BACK • THIS WEEK IN TRIBUNE-COURIER HISTORY

April 3, '86



NEARS COMPLETION — The Ontario Municipal Building, which has been under construction for the past year at the corner of Stumbo Rd. and the Expressway in Ontario, will become occupied this Friday, April

4, as the village offices and safety services move into the structure. Open house at the new building will be Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18, with formal dedication ceremonies planned for that Sunday.

Marc Stumbo

April 5, '85



CHAD PEARCE, 8, is pitching in to help clean up the damage caused by the tornado to the home belonging to his grandmother, Wanda Pearce. The high winds tore the roof off the garage and blew it into the back yard. The tornado struck Lexington and damaged more than 30 structures, uprooted trees, destroyed power lines, damaged motor vehicles and ripped apart signs. Only one injury was reported. Eastern Elementary sustained an estimated damage of \$40,000 as part of the roof was ripped off.

April 2, '81



Photo by Betty Stumbo

ONTARIO GIRL SCOUT Troop 382 has been busy delivering cookie orders taken earlier this year. The troop delivered Dr. Craig Callen's cookies last Tuesday to his office on Park Avenue West. Troop members pictured are Natalie Miller, Andie Toms, Alison Shaw, Terri Otterbacher, Sarah Bochenek, Jennifer Ault, Heather Kauf, Betsy Schoenman, Lynn Miller, Jamie Davis, Lisa Schnittke, Jenny Staley and Kim Bryant. Leaders of the troop are Nancy Shaw, Kay Ault and Shirley Schoenman.

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CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed bids for the 2023 Resurfacing Program, City of Ontario, Ohio will be received by Kris Knapp, Service-Safety Director, at 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio 44906 until 10:30am, local time Monday April 24, 2023, and then, at said office, publicly opened and read aloud.

Contractors will be required to purchase and download an electronic set of plans and bid documents via the KEM Web Site by visiting <https://kemccartney.com/project-bids/>. If you would prefer a hard copy be mailed, we will do so upon receipt of payment in the amount of \$50.00 per set, along with your UPS or FedEx account number so that shipping charges can be applied to your account. Checks shall be made payable to K.E. McCartney & Associates and all documents become the property of the prospective bidder, with no portion of the payment being refunded. Should you have any questions during the bidding process please contact jburgholder@kemccartney.com.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities. Contract will be awarded based on the lowest and best bid. The City of Ontario may reject any or all bids on any basis and without disclosure of reason. The failure to make such disclosure shall not result in accrual of any right, claim or cause of action by any unsuccessful bidder against the City of Ontario.

Each bid must be accompanied by either an Ohio Revised Code Section 153.571 Bid and Performance Payment Bond in an amount equal to 100% of the bid; or, a cashier's check, bid bond, letter of credit to be duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon, a surety company approved by the Owner in the amount of 10% of the bid.

Each bid must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. The Owner intends and requires that Dunlap Drive, including the parking lots, be completed by June 16, 2023. All remaining work for the project shall be completed by September 1, 2023.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Richland County and City of Ontario, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division, 614-644-2239.

Kris Knapp
Service Safety Director
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 4-6, 13 '23) 67L

Premier Financial Corporation named highest performing community bank in Ohio

Premier Financial Corp., holding company for Premier Bank and First Insurance Group, has been recognized by S&P Global Market Intelligence on its annual list of the best-performing large US community banks of 2022. Premier Financial Corp. was ranked the highest performing community bank in Ohio and number 28 among US community banks in the \$3 billion to \$10 billion asset size.

"We are proud that Premier was able to successfully navigate the effects of interest rate volatility influenced by the Federal Reserve's actions taken to address inflation concerns. The hard work and dedication exhibited by the Premier team helped us to strike the right balance of both near-term and long-term objectives, and remain laser focused on creating long-term franchise value. It's an honor to be recognized as the highest performing community bank in Ohio, and it illustrates our ongoing commitment to top-tier performance," said President & CEO, Gary Small.

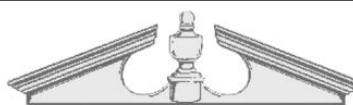
To compile this ranking, S&P Global Market Intelligence calculated scores for each company based on seven metrics: pre-tax return on tangible common equity; efficiency ratio; cost of funds; five-year average operating revenue growth; five-year average net charge-offs to average loans and leases ratio; nonperforming assets and loans 90 days or more past due as a percentage

of total assets; and leverage ratio. "We're delighted to see these banks and credit unions continue to serve their local markets as they weather swift increases in interest rates and elevated inflation," said Nathan Stovall, Director of Financial Institutions Research at S&P Global Market Intelligence in a prepared statement. "Quality data and insights continue to be a vital source for the market especially during these volatile times, and we are committed to providing transparency through these rankings

to help the market make informed decisions."

"Our Premier team is the driving force behind our success every day. Their hard work and dedication allows us to continue to be the banking partner of choice for our clients and a reliable source of stability in the markets we serve," explained Small. "As we look to 2023 and beyond, we will continue to focus on strategic growth, operational excellence and providing our clients the best in community banking."

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Holy week services are scheduled

First Congregational Church, 640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield, has announced it will host a Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm in the sanctuary and a Good Friday Service, April 7, will be at noon in the chapel.

Easter Sunday Worship Services will be at 8:30 am in the chapel and 10:30 am in the sanctuary.

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