



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

02.29.24



Photos By Traci Little

THE SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT swore in three new firefighters on Feb. 26 at 10 am at the 3700 Park Avenue West location in Ontario. Newly appointed Chief Adam Spellman is eager to see these upstanding young men desire to serve their community in this way. According to Spellman, they have strong character, determination and a passion to help others. (Top photo) Being sworn-in by Chief Adam Spellman are Collin Crider, Brody Worner and Noah Sgambellone.



RPH offering free home visits

Richland Public Health offers free home newborn visits for Richland County parents. Parents can receive advice and guidance from a registered nurse from Public Health Nursing. Specialized staff visits parents before a child's birth or while a baby is a newborn up to eight weeks old and provides an assessment of the mother and baby.

The mother's health, emotions, infant feeding, sibling rivalry, community information, new roles, baby's growth and development questions are covered. Schedule an appointment at 419-774-4540 or fill out a form at <https://richlandhealth.org/personal/newborn-home-visits/>

Ontario Board of Education approves hirings, volunteers

The Ontario Local Schools Board of Education met Feb. 13.

Ontario High School Principal Chris Smith, OHS math teacher Scott Kreger and OHS Intervention Specialist Sarah Krichbaum gave a math, modeling, and reasoning presentation.

The board employed Jim Buker, Ontario High School Industrial Technology, on a one-year contract as a returning retire/rehire teacher for the 2024-'25 school year.

The board approved the employment of temporary substitute teachers Camille Setty, Ontario Middle School/Ontario High School; and Uvarani Subramanian, Stingel, for the current school year.

Gwendolyn Alexander, food service, was hired as a substitute for the 2023-'24 school year.

The resignation of Ethan Clark, freshman boys basketball coach, was accepted, effective Jan. 26, 2024; as was the resignation of James Nelson, assistant boys basketball coach, effective Feb. 7, 2024.

The board approved the employment of extracurricular/supplemental staff personnel for the 2023-'24 school year including Mike Ellis, varsity baseball head coach, \$5,418; Doug Basham and Dan Hall, varsity baseball assistant coach, \$2,909 (three coaches sharing two positions); Jimmy Blevins, JV baseball coach, \$2,909 (three coaches sharing two positions); Cary Carcione, head boys tennis coach, \$4,364; Achilles Litao, volunteer boys tennis assistant coach, \$0; Evan Booker, boys tennis assistant coach, \$2,185; Brian Bayes, volunteer boys tennis assistant coach, \$0; Rachel Miller, track head coach, \$5,377; Meghan Willeke, track assistant coach, \$4,364; Jeremy Bolen, David Whittaker, Kyle Ward, Paige Vancura and Ethan Pensante, assistant track coach, \$2,618.40 (five coaches sharing three positions); Ryan Oliver, OMS Track Head Coach, \$3,752; and Samantha Landon, OMS Track Assistant Coach, \$2,080.

The board approved a contract with Sarah Morris to provide transportation for her child.

Donations were accepted from Dutchman Hospitality Group, Inc., \$400 for the swim team; Kiwanis Club of Mansfield Inc., \$235 for Key Club; Virginia Mateer, \$100 for the Marcia Baer Scholarship; Ronald, Marjorie and Greg Ridenour, \$20, Marcia Baer Scholarship; PepsiCo. Cybergrants, \$1,500 for track; PepsiCo. Cybergrants, \$1,740, girls soccer; James and Mary Jo Hull, \$500, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Kenneth and Sherry Berger, \$100, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Gayle Gorman Green, \$200, football in Memory

(Continued on Page 20)



THE B&O PACIFICS were often described as handsome locomotives, especially several clad with art deco style sheet metal.



ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN passenger locomotives passed through Mansfield in the 1800s until the line merged and name changed to Erie.

The Age of the High Wheelers

By Bob Carter

In the late 1800s, up until the late 1950s, you didn't have to be some some type of rail fan or train nut to tell a freight steam engine from a passenger locomotive. The passengers had higher wheels and were designed for speeds up to 70 MPH or more.

The early 1800s engines generally had two driving wheels. Smaller drivers were used on freight engines but six-foot tall wheels were used on passenger trains as much faster speeds could be generated. These early passengers were decorated with fancy paint jobs and trimmed with brass. Some were almost a work of art, meant to attract riders and investors.

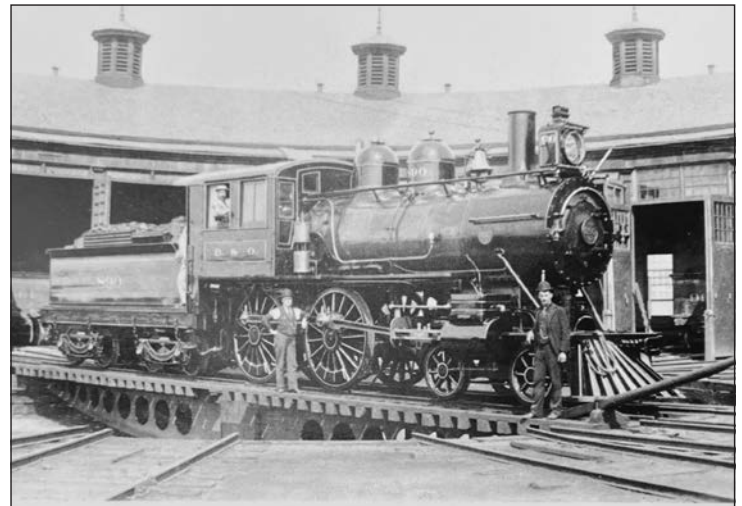
The first engines of what became a standard 4-6-2 wheel design were used on the west coast railroads thus the term "Pacific" was widely used. This was in 1906.

The Pennsylvania Railroad built or bought 425 of them between 1914-'28. They were used for passenger trains exclusively. They were 83.6 feet long, 15 feet tall and were equipped with 80 inch tall driving wheels. They were designed for speeds of 70 miles an hour or faster.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad also had a fleet of Pacifics, buying their first in 1906. Over the years they modified and improved them so that there were not many standard designs. Some were changed from rebuilt freight locomotives, but the same Pacific 4-6-2 wheel arrangement was the standard.

All had 84-inch driver wheels. Starting in 1924, they had 24x32-inch cylinders and 74-inch high driving wheels. They operated at 205 PSI pressure and weighed 277,200 pounds.

The B&O Railroad Museum in Camden Yards, Baltimore, Maryland, has the only saved B&O Pacific locomotive. By the late 1950s, all others had been scrapped and replaced by diesels.



PASSENGER ENGINE 890, built by Baldwin in 1892, is shown on the turn table at Willard roundhouse in 1895. The gleaming paint suggests that it has just been out shopped. Note the wood arm that was used to turn the table manually. Photo Courtesy the Coleman Collection, Ohio Historical Society.

Pond Clinic planned for March 13

Ponds can create a sense of serenity, a focal point and a source of recreation on a property. They can also be used as a source of drinking water, fire suppression and watering source for crops and livestock. Many people think creating and owning a pond is as simple as digging a hole and letting it fill up with water. There are a lot of factors you must consider which include how to stock and manage your pond.

Those who have questions about a new or existing pond can attend a free pond clinic on March 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Headwaters Education Center 151 Home Rd., Mount Gilead.

The clinic is co-hosted by Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District and Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD). Steve Fender of Fenders Fish Hatchery is the guest speaker and will be available to answer pond questions.


For more information on the clinic, contact a Soil and Water Conservation District:

Morrow SWCD: 419-946-7923 or <https://mrswcd.wixsite.com/morrowswcd>

Richland SWCD: 419-747-8697 or <https://richlandswcd.net/>

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News Briefs

Paul Lintern will present a 90-minute concert of "Altared" songs as a prelude to the Sixth Annual March of Prayer series of worship services, Thursday, Feb. 29, at 6 pm at Southside Christian Church, 2055 Middle-Bellville, Mansfield.

These songs reflect nearly 50 years of performing popular songs with lyrics adjusted to embrace faith in Jesus Christ. The mix of holy humor has been a hallmark for Lintern. The concert is free and open to all, and will kick-off the 31 evenings of prayer service that will begin the next night and continue until Easter Sunday.

Songs will include altered selections from Billy Joel, Elvis, Smokey Robinson, Woody Guthrie, The Beach Boys, Glenn Miller, The Drifters, Harry Chapin and Frank Sinatra.

The Richland County Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings are scheduled for April 24 and July 24 at 3:15 pm at Richland Public Health, 555 Lexington Ave, Mansfield, in the Corley Room. For information contact Richland County EMA 419-774-5686.

Crestview High School, 1575 St. Rt. 96, Ashland, will host the annual Road Apple Run 5K on Saturday, March 2. The race will begin at 10 am and proceeds go to the school's running programs.

The race is an out and back 5K race on a scenic country road in northern Richland County. Bordered by several peaceful Amish farms, the course is mostly flat with some slight upgrades.

For information or to register visit https://registration.midohiorm.com/events/2024-road-apple-run-5k-road-race-12202023124?fbclid=IwAR1_MhGbYTkJxjp1G1Q-1Yk51npySFnU9IORAqgDMX_RlAt3sFhCnBbaO8g.

The Sonshine Band will perform at the 9:30 am worship services at Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, on April 7. Members of the Sonshine Band are Gary Baumberger, Brian Payne, Wayne Magee and Thom Richards.

The Lexington Depot offers meals for \$9, served at the Lexington Senior Civic Center, 67 E. Main St., Lexington, from 11 am to 1 pm.

For information call 419-884-1676. On Feb. 29, the meal will be pepper steak over rice.

The Mansfield Area Community Hymnsing returns Friday, March 1, at 7 pm at New Liberty Baptist Church, Lexington Ave., Lexington (located a half mile south of Hanley Rd).

This is an audience participation event, where the congregation calls out the hymn number from the hymnals and everyone joins in to sing them. It is an evening of singing the older hymns of the church. The event is free and open to all.

Several of these events will be moved to the second Friday of the month because of schedule conflicts.

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am at Der Dutchman, Rt. 96, Bellville. Meals are \$15. The next meal will be held March 20, and will include roast beef. The Fun Center Chordsmen will perform. Those attending are asked to wear green.

The group will also meet March 6, for lunch at 11 am at Outback Steakhouse in Ontario.

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

A free Shelby community meal will be held at Awake Church, 3616 St. Rt. 39., Shelby, on the second Thursday of each month, from 6-7 pm. Dates are March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

For information visit www.awakeshelby.com or call 419-342-4636.

The City of Ontario will host Summer Concerts at Marshall Park this summer. The concert admission is free and those attending are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chairs. Concerts are at the Marshall Park Band Shell from 6-8 pm. The schedule includes June 11, Conne; June 25, Red Ball Jets; July 9, David Perry; July 23, Oolong Gurus; Aug. 13, Soul Town Live; and Aug. 27, Atermath.

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

A Think Spring & Thaw Out Event will be held at the Richland County Fairgrounds on March 16 and 17, from 10 am to 6 pm. Vendors will be in the Arts & Crafts Building, and possibly some outside depending on the weather. There will also be food available from a food and donut truck. Email deniseflores7423@gmail.com for more information.

Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter will host a free program on the 10 warning signs of Alzheimer's Disease Monday, March 18, from 1-2 pm at First English Lutheran Church.

The event will be held in the Emmaus Room, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield. Those attending are asked to enter the church on east side (closest to Walnut St.)

Pre-registration is requested by calling the church office at 419-522-0662.

Alzheimer's and other dementias cause memory, thinking and behavior problems that interfere with daily living.

Discussion will include how to approach someone about memory concerns, the importance of early detection and benefits of a diagnosis, possible tests and assessments for the diagnostic process and Alzheimer's Association resources.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Rev. Will Humphrey to speak on "A Love Beyond Belief" at 10:30 am on Sunday, March 3. For more information visit www.allsoulsuuohio.org.

The 47th Annual Maple Syrup Festival will be held at Malabar Farm Saturdays and Sundays, March, 2, 3, 9 and 10, from 12-4 pm. The event is free and open to the public.

To submit a news brief item send an email with information to news@tribune-courier.com.

IRAs should come with
some TLC.

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my
bank!**



Saskatchewan Sunset • Photo By Mark Shutt

John highlights single family housing tax credit

State Rep. Marilyn John (R-Richland County) is pleased to announce the application period for the Single Family Tax Credit program is now open.

Applications for fiscal year 2024 tax credit reservations will be accepted by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) until Friday, April 5, 2024 at 4 pm.

“This program will increase access to affordable housing across the state, ultimately continuing to uplift and strengthen Ohio’s workforce,” said John.

According to the OHFA website, the Single Family Tax Credit program leverages public-private partnerships to increase the inventory of affordable, single family housing for Ohio’s growing workforce. The program provides \$50 million a year for four years to fill the financing gap to develop or rehabilitate housing in Ohio.

Church Directory

Clay Memorial Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Carol Kilgore
Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Clear Fork Alliance Church

1008 State Route 97, Bellville
419-886-4333 • www.clearforkalliance.org
Rev. Matt Merendino

Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Sunday Evening 6 pm Home Groups
Monday Men’s Group 7:30 pm
Wednesday evenings: 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting
6:30–8 pm 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 Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield
419-524-4813 • mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com
Rev. Gregory Bibler
Office Hours: Tu., W., Th. 9 am to 1 pm
10:30 am Sunday Worship
Christian Builders, Sunday, 9:30 am
www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com
FB: FirstChristianChurch,Mansfield,Ohio

First Congregational Church

640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield
419-756-3046 • www.mansfieldfcc.com

Pastor Brad Bunn
8:30 am Chapel • 10:30 am Sanctuary
Sunday School 10:30 am

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
419-522-0662 • www.felc-mansfield.org
Interim Pastor Lisa Peterson
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Call about Prayer Groups, Small Groups, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, Pub Theology, Community Meals, Free Produce distribution and Senior Boxes.

Hope Lutheran Church

(Formerly St. Paul & St. Timothy)
2010 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
419-529-4351 • www.lutheranhope.org
Pastor Jonathan Stuftt
9:30 am Sunday Worship
10 am Thursday Bible Study
Free Breakfast 2nd Saturdays 9 am
Free Dinner 4th Sundays 5 pm

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
ADA Accessible Nursery
and Children’s Programming Available

Mansfield Baptist Temple

752 N. Stewart Rd., Mansfield
419-589-5413 • www.mbt.org
Pastor Rob Kurtz
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am & 5:30 pm Sunday Worship
7 pm Wednesday Service

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

St. John’s United Church of Christ

68 Park Avenue East, Mansfield
419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org
Pastor Faith Proietti
10 am Sunday Worship
Office hours: Mon–Fri 9am to 1pm
AA Meetings M & F 10 am & noon;
Wed. noon Brown Bag and Sat. 6 pm
Clothing Ministry by appt: 419-512-9817

Trinity Grace Fellowship

1592 Grace St., Mansfield
419-589-5890 • trinitygracefellowship.org
Pastor Larry Carnes
9:30 am Sunday Worship
11 am Sunday School
Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

G & M Body & Paint Shop

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

Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland
419-522-5211



Mechanics Bank expands to Ashland

Mechanics Bank has announced the addition of a new banking office to serve Ashland and surrounding communities. The new office will be located at 1040 George Rd. near Rt. 250, and construction work is expected to commence later this year.

“For years, Mechanics has been a trusted financial partner to many customers in the Ashland area, and we are pleased to share the exciting news of our expansion,” stated Mark Masters, president of Mechanics Bank. “We look forward to enhancing convenience for our valued customers, establishing new relationships, and becoming an active part of the Ashland community. From our perspective, it’s not just about opening another branch; it’s about offering Ashland and neighboring areas the unique benefits of the ‘Mechanics Way’ of banking.”

The Ashland location will be the tenth Mechanics Bank location and the fifth new banking office for Mechanics in 15 years. Mechanics Bank is a full-service, independent community bank.



This Week's Pet Looking for A Forever Home



Tenny

This little lady was between 10–12 months when she came in on May 18, 2023. Poor Tenny has been at the shelter for almost half of her life at this point.

Tenny is one of the most friendly dogs; she wants to be friends with everyone. She gets so excited when people walk by her kennel and will dance to impress them. She absolutely LOVES snuggling. She wants to be on people’s laps and will put her head on a shoulder. Tenny also loves playing —especially

tug of war — and loves zooming. She is also incredibly happy to sit next to someone outside and just observe everything. Tenny does absolutely love exploring. Sometimes she gets too excited and will sprint off on her leash. She also will sprint circles around the person walking her. Tenny is incredibly sweet.

Those interested in meeting any dog can contact or visit the Richland County Dog Warden’s Office and Shelter, 810 N. Home Rd., Mansfield. Hours are 11 am to 4:15 pm Monday–Friday and 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday.

Currently, adoptions are on a schedule, based on the time the dog has been at the shelter. Dogs that have been at the shelter for more than a year are \$50, dogs there more than six months are \$100, dogs at the shelter longer than three months are \$125, and dogs there less than three months are \$150. This fee includes spay/neuter, microchip, dog license, and some vaccines.

The shelter’s current needs are volunteers to walk and play with the dogs as well as fill kongs for the dogs to play with when they are in their kennel, help with laundry or dishes, or clean the yard. The shelter needs bleach, laundry detergent and treats.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

- William Lee Smith, February 13
- Charles Duane Alexander, February 14
- Marion Adeline Crawford, February 15
- Jackie “Jack” Eugene Lawhorn, February 18
- Carole Joanne Humbert, February 19
- Kenneth Allen Richards, February 19
- Sharon “Sherri” Lee Holden, February 20
- Barbara Ann Watson, February 20
- James Kenneth Bayes, February 22

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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- Ontario • 100 S. Lexington-Springmill Rd. • 419-529-2323
- Ashland • 308 Claremont Avenue • 419-289-1552

www.wappner.com

think Spring & thaw out event

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Richland Fairgrounds (Arts and Crafts Building) | 1st Annual Think Spring & Thaw Out Event | March 16-17, 10 am - 6 pm

Area Agency on Aging presents “Spring into Health” event

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. has announced the upcoming “Spring into Health” event, dedicated to enriching the lives of older adults in our community. This comprehensive event, scheduled for March 5, from 1–3 pm will offer a diverse range of educational sessions and valuable resources to promote healthy aging.

The event will include the following presentation topics:

Wellness: Certified wellness coaches will share the benefits of evidence-based classes including Active Living Every Day, Diabetes Empowerment Education Program, Matter of Balance, Stepping On, and Tai Chi. Attendees will learn how to sign up for these free wellness classes. Volunteer coaching opportunities are also available.

Nutrition: Greg Brandes, Nutritionist, will share how nutritional classes, tailored to older adults, can promote healthy aging, and enhance well-being.

Solar Eclipse Preparation: Rebecca Owens, Director of the Richland County Emergency Management Agency, will share tips on how to stay informed and prepared for the upcoming solar eclipse, with guidance on safety measures and optimal viewing. This segment of the presentation will be streamed from the Area Agency on Aging to various senior centers within our nine-county service area. To learn more about how your county plans to share this portion of the event, please contact your local senior center. Visit <https://www.aaa5ohio.org/resources/senior-centers/> to identify your local senior center.

Technology: Dennis Fox, Chief Executive Officer of ES Consulting, will share the benefits of embracing and utilizing technology tools, thus empowering older adults to live independent lives.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to explore resource tables from these participating organizations, in addition to 211 and Catholic Charities. Sign-ups will be available for the classes mentioned.

As a special highlight, “Spring into Health” will feature exciting door prizes and giveaways, adding a fun and rewarding element to this educational experience.

This free event is open to individuals aged 60 and older. The programs and classes presented at this event are available on a first come, first served basis for older adults over the age of 60, meeting specific eligibility criteria.

This event emphasizes the Area Agency on Aging’s commitment to fostering healthy aging, empowering older adults with the knowledge and resources they need for a fulfilling and vibrant future.

The event will be held at the Area Agency on Aging Hawkins Conference Center in the Magnolia Room, 2131 Park Avenue West, Ontario. RSVPs are not required. For more information call 419-524-4144 or visit www.facebook.com/aaa5ohio.

Fun Center Chordsmen to perform 50th anniversary celebration

This year the Fun Center Chordsman celebrates 50 years of a cappella singing in the community. The chordsmen will perform in a special 50-Year celebration event at 3 pm on Saturday, March 23, in the new Lexington High School auditorium.

“We performed our first show in 1975 at Malabar High School,” said Dave Kracker, founding director of the Fun Center Chordsmen.

“In 1974, an ad ran in the *Mansfield News Journal* seeking interested singers, and for the next 50 years, the chordsmen have spread their joy of singing at varied community events, especially those related to the holidays.”

The Fun Center Chordsmen has been a certified chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society since the fall of 1974. At one point, the chorus consisted of seventy plus men.

They have performed an annual show, thirty-eight of their fifty years at the Renaissance Theatre.

One of their favorite programs has been held annually at Malabar Fain during the Christmas season.

Many quartets have formed from within the group, and they, too, have entertained at various venues. Every Valentine’s Day, quartets travel within the community to bring smiles.

“Membership with this group has not required a man know how to read music nor that he have an exceptional singing voice,” said Kracker. “He just needs to love singing and enjoy good camaraderie. We rehearse every Monday night at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church on South Trimble Rd. All are welcome.”

Trevor Garrabrant is the current director of the chorus, and is assisted by Jim Frye and Dave Kracker. Four former directors will also be directing a song each at the upcoming March 23 event. Much historical paraphernalia will also be on display.

“Tickets are \$15 at the door for adults and \$5 for children. For additional information contact Dave Kracker at 419-544-5395.



Spring into Health
An event to help enhance the quality of your life.

Prizes and giveaways available for attendees!

Don't miss the diverse range of educational sessions:

- **Solar Eclipse Preparation:** Rebecca Owens, Director of the Richland County EMS
- **Technology:** Dennis Fox, CEO of ES Consulting
- **Nutrition:** Greg Brandes, Nutritionist
- **Wellness:** Certified Wellness Coaches from the Area Agency on Aging

March 5 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Hawkins Conference Center
2131 Park Ave W, Ontario, OH 44906

This free event is for adults aged 60 and older.

No registration required.

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By Mátiece Thomas
Let's talk fitness programs, there are so many out there, and it can be very confusing to know which ones to choose.

To be perfectly honest with you, nine times out of 10, they all have the ability to be successful. Success comes from you and if you are willing to be consistent with the program long enough!

For those of you that are extremely busy and don't want to have to follow too many rules, you can just choose to eat lean and green, cut all the crap (junk foods and drinks), drink 64 ounces of water a day and move 10,000 steps. If you do these few simple steps they will get you results over time.

I'll share with you another easy to follow program that you might want to try. For this program, you set three goals for 30 days. Your three goals could be something to do with fitness, nutrition and just overall well-being.

Goals could include just tak-

ing a walk or it could be training hard in the gym. It's up to you and what results you are looking for.

For 30 days you will do something each day for 30 minutes towards your goals. You will eat 30 grams of protein before your workouts and 30 grams of protein after your workout.

I like to use my protein powder with water before my workout. That helps me to be hydrated and get my protein source. And then I eat a lean protein after my workout...(It's important to eat an hour before and within the hour after).

Just a quick recap: set at least three goals that you will be consistent with for 30 days. You will spend 30 minutes a day working on your goals.

Remember to have 30 grams of protein before and after your workouts. At the end of your 30 days you can continue with these goals or you can change them to adapt with your progress.

I hope these few tips show you how easy it is to create your own program. If you eat healthy and move and stay hydrated, the only other thing you need is to be consistent!

Follow me at Instagram-5pts-fitness_trainergirl for nutrition and workout tips.



Photo by Damon Callis



kimmyscucina
By Kim Sterry

SHORT RIBS

Ingredients

- 4 Tbsp. olive oil
- 4-5 lbs short ribs
- 4 tsp. stock + spice montrealaise
- 2 tsp. salt and 1 tsp. pepper
- 1 leek, trimmed and sliced
- 1 bulb of fennel, sliced

Instructions

In a large cast iron skillet add olive oil, leeks and fennel. Rub ribs with montrealaise seasoning, salt and pepper. Place Ribs on top of leeks and fennel, cover and cook on 300 for 40 minutes. Uncover and raise temp up to 350 for another 20 minutes or until ribs are done.

LIKE Kimmy's Cucina on Facebook & Instagram



Day Trippin' With Damon – Fleming Falls Nature Preserve is located just outside Madison Township on 183-acres. The preserve is located at 2276 Fleming Falls Rd., Mansfield.

Wishes and Weddings



*Mr & Mrs. Nicholas Eyerly (Alora Domka)
July 9, 2022*

Officiant: Fr. Kishore Kottana

Ceremony: Apostolic Christian Church

Reception: The Legacy on Possum Road

Photographer: Black Fox Photo (Akron, OH)

Cake: Tucker & Shari Tucker

Gown: Kuhn's Bridal and Formal

Groom's Suit: Ticknors at Polaris

Parents: Daniel & Lolita Eyerly

Parents: Stephen & Brenda Domka

Residing: Mansfield, OH

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you'll Always
Remember*

Wishes and Weddings



Mr. & Mrs. Skylar Osborne (Alexis Reynolds)
September 23, 2023
Officiant: Tammy Wallhead
Ceremony & Reception: Tall Tines at The Blackfork
Photographer: Amy Smart Photography
Florist: Floral Gardens Florist
Cake: Cigi Cakes
Gown: Twirl Bridal Formal
Residing: Mansfield, OH



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Wishes and Weddings



*Krysta & Jacob
October 7, 2023
Officiant: Fr. Dan Dury
Ceremony: St. John Neuman Catholic Church,
Sunbury, OH
Reception: The Dempsey Event Center,
Delaware, OH
Photographer: Amy Smart Photography
Florist: Orchard Lane Flowers*



Amy Smart Photography

740-504-4763

Facebook/Instagram:
@amysmantphotography

Website:
amysmantphotography.com



Wishes and Weddings



*Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Malina (Isabelle Sazdanoff)
January 13, 2024
Officiant: Chris McMahon
Ceremony & Reception: Saint Louis Union Station
Hotel
Photographer: Liz Sloan & Meredith Marquardt
at L Photographie
Florist: Sisters Floral Designs
Cake: The Cakery
Gown: Mia Grace Bridal
Residing: Saint Louis, Missouri*

Allure
STUDIOS
SALON & SPA



Rubies banquet helps raise funds for healing program

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Rubies held its annual fundraising banquet on Friday, Feb. 23 at 6 pm at Deer Ridge Golf Course in Bellville. Rubies is a 12–18 month healing program for women struggling with addiction and/or coming out of human sex-trafficking.

Rubies allows women to discover themselves and their worth in Christ by learning to build a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, attending church and attending faith-based counseling.



The goal is to find healing physically, mentally and spiritually and have the opportunity to become employed, learn life skills, while being mentored and becoming integrated back into society with the proper support.

Rubies is family oriented. Many women have never experienced what a healthy family truly is. At Rubies, they eat, pray, and work through their problems together. The

core of this unconditional love and to remind these women that love conquers all.

Counseling is offered in group and individual settings and counselors are available through local agencies that Rubies partners with. Clients have one on one relationships with staff/mentors on a routine basis.

Rubies welcomes donations from families, individuals, community groups, churches, businesses, and even coupon stock pipers! Their general needs are as follows:

HOUSING NEEDS: laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, dish soap, toilet cleaner, floor cleaner, disinfectant wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, 13 gallon trash bags, Ziplock bags (gallon, quart and snack sizes), shower caddies, van for transportation (12 passenger), 4 drawer tall dressers.

FOOD/PANTRY ITEMS: Coffee supplies, sugar, sweet/low, creamer, coffee, k cups, meats, hamburger, pork chops/loin, roasts, chicken, canned vegetables and fruit, fresh produce.

HYGIENE NEEDS: Tampons/Pads, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, makeup bags.

Gift cards are also always appreciated! You can visit their website at <https://www.rubiesoutreach31.com/> or find them on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/rubiesoutreach31/>.

Read testimonies from some of the women at <https://www.rubiesoutreach31.com/testimonials>.

To donate visit <https://www.rubiesoutreach31.com/donate>.



March of Prayer returns to area churches

For the sixth year in a row, every night in March will feature a 6 pm prayer service in a different local churches, culminating in the 7 am Easter sunrise service at Kingwood Center.

The March of Prayer draws Christians from across the community to lift up officials, educators, first responders, needs of the community and calls for repentance, surrounded by praise and worship in many forms. Each congregation is asked to host in its typical authentic way, to celebrate the diversity of the worshipping community.

Paul Lintern, coordinator of the event, says that ironically, this will be the shortest March since the first was held in 2019.

“It was planned to be 31 days, each night in March, but the first year, by the middle of March, others were asking to participate, so it was extended 19 days to Easter that year,” said Lintern, adding that subsequent years went 65, 42, 35 and 40 nights, each going until Easter.

“This year, since Easter falls on the 31st, it will be the shortest March of Prayer we have had.”

This year’s theme will emphasize youth, praying for their salvation, safety, guidance and commissioning, according to Lintern, with each host deciding how they want to approach that.

In addition, he will offer a free prelude concert called “Leap of Faith” this Thursday, Leap Day, at 6 pm at Southside Christian Church, 2055 Middle-Bellville, Mansfield.

Some will lift up specific organizations in their nights, such as Child Evangelism Fellowship on March 9 at Woodville Grace Brethren, and Lifewise Academy at Open Bible Church on March 24. Grace Fellowship and Heart City will lift up specific youth ministries they offer in the community, and others will involve youth and pray for them intentionally as part of their service.

Mansfield Christian School will host on March 18, with an emphasis on student-led worship.

Each of the services begins at 6 pm with three exceptions: Rise FM will host the March 8 service at 7 pm at Linden Road Presbyterian and First English Lutheran will begin its Easter vigil at 7 pm on March 30, and the Kingwood Easter service begins at 7 am.

“This is a chance for anyone to worship anywhere, to experience the diversity of worship that truly shows that Mansfield is God’s field,” Lintern said. “I count 24 denominations represented in that list of 31 hosts. This is not a collection of people who worship the

same way, but rather who worship the same God.”

“It is a testimony that salvation is given to all who trust in the Lord. Visiting even a few of the churches along this March of Prayer will make obvious to whoever attends,” said Lintern.

- The schedule for this year’s March of Prayer is:
- Feb. 29 — Leap of Faith Prelude Concert at Southside Christian, 2055 Middle-Bellville
 - March 1, Clay Memorial, Bowman and Amoy East
 - March 2, Come Together in One Accord, 525 W Cook Rd.
 - March 3, The MAC, 291 W. Cook Rd.
 - March 4, Grace Fellowship, 365 Straub Road East
 - March 5, Salvation Army 47 S Main St.
 - March 6, Holy Trinity Lutheran, 525 W. Cook Rd.
 - March 7, Journey Life, 2578 Springmill Rd.
 - March 8, Rise FM at Linden Road, 160 S. Linden
 - March 9, Woodville Grace Brethren, 580 Woodville Rd.
 - March 10, Church Requel, 2 Marion Ave.
 - March 11, Mansfield Foursquare Gospel, 393 Davidson St.
 - March 12, Kingdom Grace Fellowship, 105 Reba Ave.
 - March 13, First United Methodist, 12 N. Diamond St.
 - March 14, The ARC, 378 Park Ave. West
 - March 15, Kingdom Life, 7 Consolidated Dr., Shelby
 - March 16, BibleWalk Museum, drama, 500 Tingley Ave.
 - March 17, Potter’s House, 374 Willowood Dr. East
 - March 18, Mansfield Christian School, 500 Logan Rd.
 - March 19, Paradise, 87 Illinois Ave. N
 - March 20, Heart City, 675 Straub Rd.
 - March 21, River Church, 152 Cline Ave.
 - March 22, Gracepoint - Lexington, 1887 W. Cook Rd.
 - March 23, Christian Life, 961 Springmill Ave.
 - March 24, Open Bible, 1150 Rayfield Dr.
 - March 25, Ontario United Methodist Church, 3450 PAW
 - March 26, Fusion-Madison, 2170 Park Ave East
 - March 27, Providence Baptist, 112 W. Sixth St.
 - March 28, First Christian, 200 W. Third St.
 - March 29, Fusion-Lexington, 220 Industrial Pkwy.
 - March 30, First English Lutheran, 53 Park Ave. West, 7 pm
 - March 31, (7 am) Kingwood Center, Trimble and PAW



LANA GARBERICH'S eighth grade students at Ontario Middle School volunteered their Saturday to help assist in the senior community painting class. Artist Juli Laser Parson was the artist teaching the class. There were 34 seniors and 11 students at the Saturday class.

Gigi's Tacos and Margaritas celebrates grand opening

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Gigi's Tacos and Margaritas celebrated the grand opening on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 3 pm at the 1111 W. 4th St., Mansfield, location, formerly Chris' Café.

Hector and Gigi Berber opened the Lexington Avenue location on Dec. 7, 2021. With this much larger second location, they will be able to offer more seating and incorporate some more fun surprises like salsa dancing on Friday evenings! Hector also enjoys having a larger kitchen to create more authentic Mexican food! Their Lexington Avenue location can only seat 44 people while this new location can seat around 150. It offers a cozy indoor vibe along with a breezy patio experience.

Gigi loves everything about Mansfield! She loves how everyone is so nice and friendly! She truly believes that God sent her to Mansfield for a reason and appreciates the warm welcome since arriving!

This famil- owned restaurant brings colorful and exotic featured dishes from Michoacan Mexico with the modern and vibrant flare of Chicago. Gigi and Hector were both born in Michoacan, Mexico. One of Gigi's goals was to show Mansfield how authentic and good the food is in Mexico! Customers may find new ingredients and flavors that they haven't tried before.

According to facebook, they had an amazing opening day and wanted to thank the community as it wouldn't have been a success without each and every one of you!

"Thank you for joining us and making it a memorable start to this delicious journey. We are looking forward to many more taco-filled moments together! Our gratitude knows no bounds. Gigi's wouldn't be where it is today without your unwavering support. Here's to the beginning of a flavorful journey together. We can't wait to serve you more delicious moments in the days to come."

If you are from this area, you may have seen this building sit vacant for quite some time. Now Gigi has added life, good food and family fun to this no longer empty building!

The City of Mansfield's Mayor, Jodie Perry said, "I've been eating at Gigi's restaurant over on Lexington Avenue since it opened, and she's been a tremendous part of the community! The city is so proud to be part of this project through our loan fund and I appreciate Economic Development Director Tim Bowersock's work on that and helping this come to life.

Richland County Commissioners, Tony Vero and Cliff Mears, congratulated Gigi on her amazing investment! City councilman, David Falquette also gave Gigi a warm welcome and said he's so glad to have her here in this part of Mansfield.

Sixth Ward Councilwoman Deborah Mount thanked Gigi for her investment in the city and gave her best wishes.

The City of Mansfield Finance Director, Kelly Blankenship, said she wouldn't miss this celebration! "I've known Gigi since she started the other area restaurant, and our sons are friends together. We are so blessed as a community to have your family be a part of it and we wish you all the success that you could imagine."

Fifth Ward City Councilman, Aurelio Diaz said, "In addition to

good food, it's a tribute to our diverse community with a strong Latino and Spanish presence. No one works harder than Gigi! She didn't have to come here at all, but she did and invested and I'm so excited for their family congratulations."

Gigi gave a heartfelt and emotional thank you, "I'm so happy today that I see a lot of people here I truly can call friends now. When I first came to this town, I missed my family so much. We have family from Indianapolis, Indiana and Chicago and that's where we came from. I came with my wonderful husband, who is an amazing chef, to start a restaurant. Three years ago we decided to come to Mansfield for this great opportunity and I thank God that it's been not only a place to have my business, but I have found friends who have become like family here. Thank you, Mansfield, thank you friends, for believing in us and for giving us the opportunity to offer what I have inside my heart. Thank you so much and I love everybody!"

Gigi would love to incorporate salsa dancing on Fridays music outside once a month. It's a beautiful building ready to be used to its fullest potential. Gigi said that one person who she didn't want to mention gave her the opportunity to come here and she just wanted to thank the person and their family for giving her this gift of an opportunity. "If it wasn't for this family I wouldn't be here!"

Hours are Sunday and Monday, 11 am to 9 pm, Tuesday-Thursday, 11 am to 10 pm, and Friday and Saturday, 11 am-11 pm.

Friends and customers on facebook have this to say about Gigi's: "Gigi's is known for Gigi! The fantastic owner that demands to know you and make you happy with good food every single meal and drink!"

"Family oriented and fabulous!"

"This is the place to enjoy authentic Mexican food! Gigi has gone above and beyond her cuisine with her fresh beyond delicious dishes. If you like salsa with a kick, ask for the green sauce."



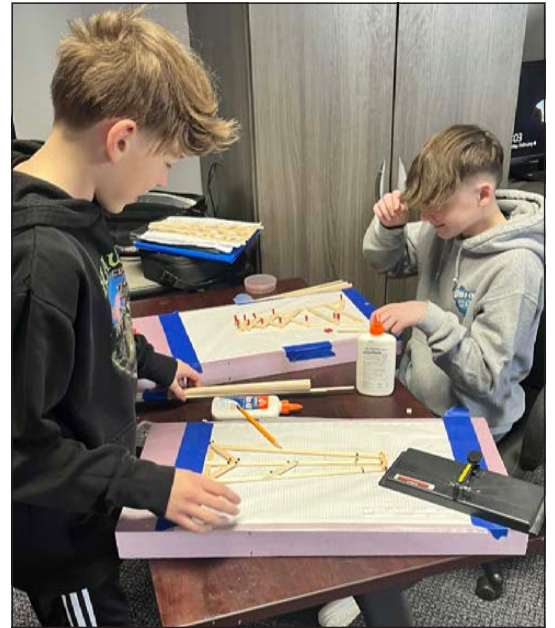
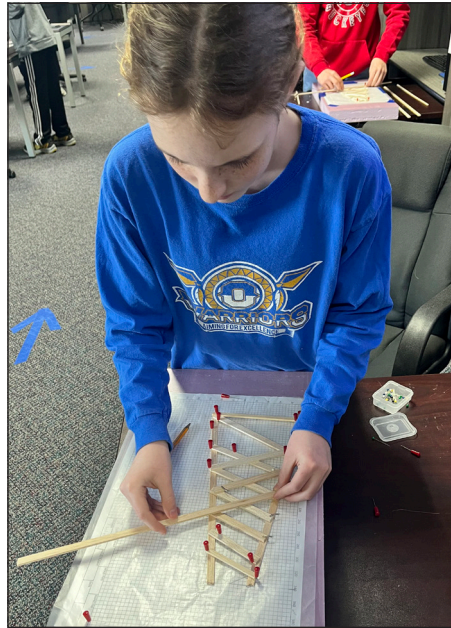
Gigi Berber, co-owner

Jefferson Twp. Fire Flapjacks • Feb. 24 • Photos By Jeff Hoffer



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT DAYS





A STUDY OF STRUCTURE is currently underway in Mr. Sager's pre-engineering class at Ontario High School. The strength of a structure is based on two factors: material and cross sectional shape. The students were asked to use a formula to calculate the area moment of inertia on their beams. They also designed efficient horizontal truss bridges on a software program called West Point Bridge Designer. Students are now working on the design of vertical towers made from balsa wood. They will be testing which towers are the most efficient at the end of the quarter.



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT INSPIRE is an experiential career-pathway program for high school students brought to life by our region's employers. This program exposes students to central Ohio's jobs, career opportunities and education pathways. Ontario High School students took part in the event recently.



KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS at Ontario sorted candy hearts and created a bar graph with the individual candy boxes. The class discussed in small groups what colors they had most and least and how each student's graph looked different from one another.

Pioneer CTC Board accepts donations

At the Feb. 19, meeting the Pioneer Board of Education approved the appointment of Gavyn Bazley to the Richland County and Huron County Tax Incentive Review Councils for 2024.

The Annual Pioneer Board Member/Administrator Dinner Meeting will be held on March 21.

The board approved revisions to job description and contracted services for the 2023-'24 school year.

Donations were accepted from Civista Bank, Shelby, \$500 to be used for the Annual Civista Bank Scholarship; Kim Compton, Willard, \$33.95 to the Pioneer Sharing Closet; Ann & Larry Kleilein, Jack & Jane Butler, Mel & Kay Coleman, Delaware, \$250 in memory of Lourita Hannafus Yore, to be deposited into the Art Barr Scholarship fund and used for annual student scholarships; Kenneth Owen, Shelby, \$200 to be deposited into the Art Barr Scholarship fund and used for annual student scholarships; and Dawn Wright-Smith, Blackbaud Giving Fund, Wells Fargo Bank, Charleston, SC; \$30 to be deposited into the Alumni Endowment fund and used for annual student scholarships.

The board approved student participation in competitive events including the State BPA Competition, Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH; March 6-8, 2024, for students Gavin Bishop, Plymouth, Cybersecurity; Jason Lambert, Goal Digital, Cybersecurity; Bradon Stidom, Shelby, Cybersecurity; Brice Browning, Celeryville Christian School, Cybersecurity; Wesley Cleveland, homeschool, Cybersecurity; Joshua Manuel, Shelby, Cybersecurity; Gabriel Melvin, homeschool, IT Support; Gaige Dishong, Northmor, IT Support; Em Maddox McCarthy, Lexington, IT Support; Carson Bricker, Ontario, IT Support; and Devin Marsh, Shelby, IT Support. Chaperones will be Fritz Fagan, IT Support Instructor/BPA Advisor and Dan Foss, CyberSecurity Instructor/BPA Advisor.

The board also approved the State DECA Competition at the Columbus Convention Center, March 8-9, 2024, for Bucyrus students Jenna Ashley, Malachi Bayless, Mack Booth, Noah Burke, Kimberly Burling, Daniel Campbell, Sawyer Cooper, Ethan Guerrero, Natalie Hankins, Brody Higginbotham, Grace Jackson, Addison Kemery, Tyson McDaniel, Christopher Neale, Rylee Powers, Seth Perry, Eli Sprague, Emma Tyrrell and Aysiz Wade. Chaperones will be Jeff Funigiello, Media Communications Instructor/DECA Advisor; and Jody Tackett, Marketing Instructor/DECA Advisor.

Attending the FCCLA State Leadership Conference at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus, April 25-26, 2024, will be Crestline students Bridget Belcik, Addi Giesige, Jalyn Tesso, Alyssa Cottrell, Jocelyn Noblit, Rachel Grunkemeyer and Alyssa Pittenger; and Lucas students Alyssa Shay, Isabell Iceman, Emma Hamm, Myah Midkiff, Ady Hauger, Hadley Williams, Olyvia Culler and Morgan Trumpower. Chaperones will be Maleesa Warner, Lucas FCS Instructor/FCCLA Advisor; and Kris Bruce, Crestline FCS Instructor/FCCLA Advisor.

The board approved leave without pay for Tessa Martin for March 27, 2024, a chaperone stipend for HOSA Regional Leadership Conference chaperone Michael Millward and Karrie Davison.

The board approved a Google Level 1 Certification Stipend for Dan George and Caleb Alt. Employment of certified substitute instructors and adult education personnel was approved. The board approved a contribution to the Fair School Funding Plan.

News Briefs in Education

Local students have been named to the 2023 Autumn Semester Dean's List at Columbus State Community College. To be named to the list, a student must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher and be enrolled for six or more credit hours.

Local students on the list are Noah Burton, construction management; Violeta Colon, associate of arts; Braxton Hall, associate of arts; Chloe Kaplan, digital design and graphics; Juan Nieves, architecture; Haley Shepherd and Jessica White.

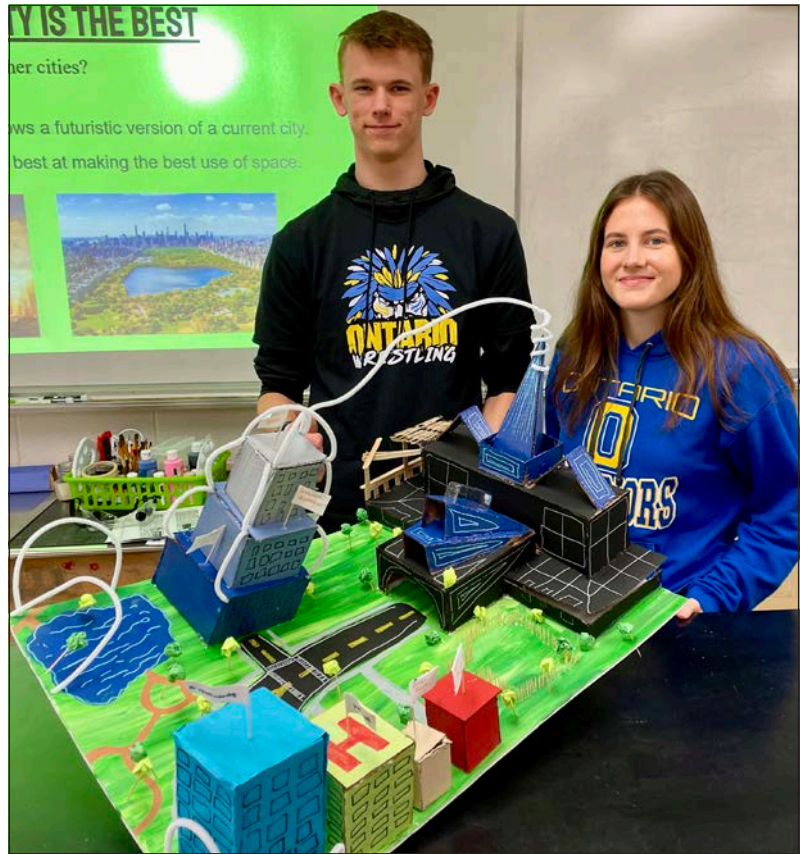


Onyx Ward, Class of 2027, of Lexington, was named to the dean's list at Tufts University for the Fall 2023 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tufts University is located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts.



Local students graduated from Columbus State Community College during Autumn Semester commencement held on Dec. 15, 2023. Local graduates are Jennifer Groff and Tiffany Miller.



MRS. WELCH'S Environmental Science class at Ontario High School constructed 3-D models of sustainable cities for their Urbanization unit.

Madison Local School Board approves employee hirings

Madison Local School Board held its regular meeting on Feb. 21, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

Board president Melissa Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by roll call from treasurer Bradd Stevens.

Mark Bobo of the Ohio School Boards Association was a special visitor. Eric Turlo, student services director, gave a presentation.

A donation of science equipment was accepted from Charles River Labs for the high school and middle school science programs.

A donation of \$2,000 was accepted from the Ohio Army National Guard for Madison's SkillsUSA chapter.

Resignations were accepted from Steve Zellner, assistant 7/8 wrestling coach, effective Feb. 8; and Victoria Kasberg, high school family & consumer science teacher, retiring May 23, 2024.

Supplemental positions for the 2023-'24 school year were awarded to Katherine Darnell, high school Key Club advisor; Tyler Amos, assistant 7/8 track coach; and Steve Zellner, assistant 7/8 track coach.

The board approved softball volunteers for the 2023-'24 school year including Jeff Barrett, Tim Carper and Andrea Gerich.

Substitute teachers hired on an "on call" basis, as needed for the 2023-'24 school year, are Elizabeth Wichterman, John Stewart, Juli Parsons (long term substitute for high school art), Alyssa Crytzer, Joseph Roberts, Patrick Browning, Delaney Wilson, Elizabeth Harvey, Patricia Laws, Olivia Todd and Emily Rich.

The use of a sick bank for 55 days was approved for Ryan MacCredie, high school art teacher, for medical reasons.

Substitute employees hired on an "on call" basis, as needed for the 2023-'24 school year, are KaLeyha Utt, custodian; Jane Lallathin, custodian; and Stacy Foote, bus aide.

Resignations were accepted from Hannah Hildebrand-Charles, MECLC, effective Jan. 31; Amanda Henry, special education 1-1 aide, Jan. 31; and Tori Walker, MECLC, Feb. 23.

Hirings included Amanda Henry, special education aide, Mifflin; Krystal Mayer, high school second shift custodian; April Moore,

second shift custodian, Mifflin; Carla Martin, assistant teacher, MECLC; Jenna McQuery, lead teacher, MECLC; and Kasandra Barr, lead teacher, MECLC.

Mike King has accepted the second shift custodian position at the high school, replacing Steve Wareham, who resigned.

Mark Pogue has accepted the maintenance worker position in the district, replacing Mike King who accepted another position.

Mike King has accepted the first shift custodian position at the high school, replacing Mark Pogue, who accepted another position.

The board approved membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2024-'25 school year.

The board approved the Madison Chorale and Women's Chorus participation in the Cedar Point "Trills and Thrills" competition on Friday, May 10, 2024.

The board also approved the overnight trip for BPA students who qualified for state competition to attend the BPA State Leadership Conference March 7-8, 2024, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus.

The high school roofing project was approved to include the purchase of project materials from Garland Roofing in the amount of \$97,706 to be paid from FY24 funds, and labor services from Mead Roofing Services in the amount of \$35,850 and Worner Roofing Company for \$39,480 to be paid from FY25 funds.

The Data Security and Privacy Agreement was reached between the Madison Local School District and Northeast Ohio Network for Educational Technology (NEOnet).

A cell phone allowance was approved for Mark Pogue, maintenance worker, for February through December 2024.

The board authorized the Ohio Schools Council Cooperative to advertise and receive bids for the purchase of one 84-passenger conventional-type school bus on the board's behalf. (This resolution does not obligate the district to purchase the bus.)

The next board of education meeting will be March 20, at 6 pm, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

Madison students will present *Seussical Jr.* March 15, 16 and 17

The Madison Music Department will presents *Seussical Jr.* on Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16 at 7 pm and Sunday, March 17 at 2:30 pm at Madison Middle School, 1419 Grace St.

Tickets are available during school hours from the school cashier at the high school and at the door prior to each performance.

Cost is \$8 per adult and \$6 for students and seniors.

Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and all of the favorite Dr. Seuss characters spring to life onstage in *Seussical Jr.*, a fantastical musical extravaganza from Tony-winners, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty.

Alzheimer's Association challenges Ohio to focus on brain health in 2024

Currently, two-thirds of Americans have at least one major risk factor for dementia. Science shows that modifying risk factors and promoting healthy behaviors can reduce the risk of cognitive decline and dementia — in fact, scientists estimate that up to 40% of dementia cases worldwide could be prevented by a change in habits.

The Alzheimer's Association is offering "10 Healthy Habits for Your Brain," simple everyday actions people can take to reduce their dementia risk.

Challenge Your Mind: Be curious. Put the brain to work and do something new. Challenging the mind may have short- and long-term brain benefits.

Stay in School: Education reduces the risk of cognitive decline and dementia. Encourage youth to stay in school and pursue the highest level of training possible. Continue your own education by taking a class at a library, school or online.

Get Moving: Engage in regular exercise and activities that raise your heart rate and increase blood flow to the brain and body.

Protect Your Head: Help prevent a head injury. Wear a helmet, a seatbelt and be careful of falls.

Be Smoke-Free: Quitting smoking can lower the risk of cognitive decline back to levels similar to those who have not smoked. It's never too late to stop.

Control Your Blood Pressure: Medication, eating right and engaging in physical activity can lower blood pressure.

Manage Diabetes: Type 2 Diabetes can be prevented or controlled by healthy eating, increased physical activity and medication.

Eat Right: Healthy eating can help reduce the risk of cognitive decline. Focus on vegetables and lean proteins, avoiding processed and high-fat foods.

Maintain a Healthy Weight: Talk to your doctor about your ideal body weight. Following these healthy habits and getting adequate sleep can help you maintain a healthy weight.

Sleep Well: Good quality sleep is important for brain health. Turn off all screens before bed to minimize disruptions. Address any sleep-related problems like sleep apnea.

"Research confirms what we have suspected for some time — people can lower their chances of cognitive decline with healthy habits," said Pam Myers, program director for the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio and Central Ohio Chapters. "Adopting as many of these 10 everyday actions as possible can decrease dementia risk. This is true even for people who have a history of dementia in their families. It's never too late or too early to take charge of your brain health."

To learn more, visit alz.org/healthyhabits.

There are 220,000 Ohioans older than 65 living with Alzheimer's disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association 2023 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures. That number is expected to hit 250,000 by 2025. A total of 493,000 Ohio caregivers provide 736 million hours of unpaid care each year.

To learn more about Alzheimer's or other dementia and to access free support and resources, visit alz.org/nwohio or call the Northwest Ohio Chapter at 419-537-1999 or the 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

Transporting audiences from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus, the Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos.

Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers, and he must also guard an abandoned egg that's been left in his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird.

Although Horton faces ridicule, danger and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

Bringing these characters to life will be Aiden Mooneyham as The Cat in the Hat, Sophia Parsons as Horton the Elephant, Karlie Wilson as Gertrude McFuzz and Emalie Green as Mayzie La Bird.

Other *Seussical* cast members include Audrey Ward as JoJo, John Keogh VI and Lillian Christian as Mr. and Mrs. Mayor, Brandi Bowles as the Sour Kangaroo, Sanaa Davis, Bri Studer and Piper Donahue as the Bird Girls, Jacob Ford as Yertle the Turtle, Ashley Anschutz as Young kangaroo, Connor Coey, Roman Hipfl and Beckham White as the Wickersham Brothers, Carson Tatum as the Grinch and Kristian Stoots as Vlad Vladikoff.

The colorful cast of Whoville Citizens include Loren Carmel, Courtney Cyrus, Emma Finley, Ashley Gusta, Lorelai Sly, Taelyn Kirsch, Erin Johnson, Gabrielle Kline, Tori Smith and Sophia Palmer.

•Ontario Board of Education approves hirings, volunteers

(Continued from Front Page)

of Roger Copeland/Marcia Baer; Local Project Pro LLC, \$100, Community and Family Engagement Fund; Philip and Andrea Downs, \$50, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Allied Supply Co., Inc., \$250, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Sue Orr, \$35, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Howard Zody and Paula Orr, \$50, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; MHS Industrial Supply, \$50, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Nicole and David Martinez, \$167, swim team; Ronald and Debra Chilcote, \$100, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Edward and Madeline Sauer, \$100, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; Barbara Hone, \$100, football in Memory of Roger Copeland; and Melissa and Sam Weiler, \$1,000, softball.

Anonymous donators gave \$3,000 for the OHS Band; \$2,000 for OHS Drill Team and Majorettes; and \$5,000 for the swim team.

The board approved the high school course offering guide for the 2024-'25 school year.

Facility requests were granted to the Stingel Elementary PTO (Adrienne Ruhe) for use of Stingel Elementary for a Stingel Elementary Carnival Fun Night Spring Fundraiser; Kim Upchurch and Trindon Flenoury for use of Stingel gym for basketball gym time; and Domyan Youth Basketball (Kristen Domyan) for use of the Stingel gym for basketball team training for spring tournaments.

Jerod Them gave a legislative report and Amy Hiner gave a community engagement report. Brett Baxter and Todd Friend gave an athletic council report.

The board entered into executive session. No action followed. The next meeting will be held on March 12.

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Developmental disabilities awareness events planned

Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities has announced the schedule for the 2024 March Awareness Activities.

The Fifth Annual Step into Spring event will be held Friday, March 1, at the Richland Mall in Ontario. Registration opens at 10 am and the walk starts at 10:30 am.

Richland Newhope, Richland Public Health, Richland County Children Services and the Richland Mall are sponsoring this free event open to the public to celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and promote community inclusion. In addition to the walk, several supportive community vendors will be in attendance.

Richland Newhope's Annual Bowling Awareness Event will be held Wednesday, March 6, from 10 am to 12:15 pm at Lex Lanes.

This annual event brings together junior high students and county dignitaries from the community for an afternoon of fun, camaraderie, and awareness-building surrounding developmental disabilities. The goal is to promote understanding, friendship, and inclusion while fostering a sense of unity among young individuals.

Richland Newhope's Annual Community Awareness Day is planned for Thursday, March 14, from 8 am to 1 pm at the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library.

Newhope, a leading advocate for community engagement and awareness, is thrilled to announce its Annual Community Awareness

Day, specifically tailored for members of Leadership Unlimited. This event aims to provide participants with a deeper understanding of local community needs, foster collaboration, and inspire impactful leadership within the developmental disability field.

A Family Day is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, from 4:30-6:30 pm at Buckeye Imagination Museum.

Families enrolled in Newhope's services will be welcomed to the Buckeye Imagination Museum to connect and play as a family. This event promises an evening filled with imagination, exploration, and family fun at the renowned Buckeye Imagination Museum, known for its innovative exhibits and commitment to inspiring creativity in visitors of all ages.

The Improvaneer Method will be held Thursday, March 28, from 6-7 pm. Theater 166, the world's first all Down syndrome improvisation troupe, will perform at Renaissance Theater 166! The Improvaneer Method uses improvisation to teach skills that significantly increase social, workplace, and lifetime opportunities for those with developmental disabilities.

Event celebrates movie premiere and local students

The "Expressions of the Heart" event was held Feb. 27, in the Bromfield Library on the OSU campus. This marked the debut of the poignant film *Symbol of Strength*. This production, a testament to local talent and produced by Leapyear studios, has been made possible through the generous support of the Phillips Family Foundation and stars students from our community.

The evening also celebrated the artistic brilliance of local students. In recognition of their creativity, awards sponsored by stalwart local businesses, each amounting to \$250, will be presented across various categories. These accolades aim to foster artistic expression among our youth and champion a message of non-violence within our community.

The award recipients include:

- Deanna Boyd, 9th grade from Mansfield Christian High School, for "Wilted Rose," presented by Sutton Bank.
- Haylee Shade, 9th grade from Mansfield Christian High School, for "Broken Pieces," presented by BP Electric.
- Andrew Martinez, 9th grade from Mansfield Christian High School, for "Mental Games," presented by Johnny's Motorcars and Johnny's Mattress & Furniture Superstore.
- Makayla Smith, 9th grade from Mansfield Christian High School, for "Trapped," presented by KOSI.
- Alyssa Lush, 12th grade from Lucas High School, for "Guilt," presented by The Phillips Family Foundation.
- Jordyn Trunnel, 9th grade from Mansfield High School, for "The Girlfriend," presented by Park National Bank.

In addition to these celebrations, the event featured an exhibition of works by guest artists from across Ohio, including Danica Zeise, Diana Rice, Brad Rice and Sophia Bailey, showcasing the breadth of Ohio's artistic talent. Explore the guest artist pieces at <https://www.thedvshelter.com/guest-artists.html> and view the art and poems at <https://www.thedvshelter.com/awards.html>.

Colleen Rice, Executive Director, expressed her excitement: "Expressions of the Heart transcends being merely an event; it represents a powerful beacon of hope and creativity within our community. By showcasing the *Symbol of Strength* film and celebrating the achievements of our young artists and poets, we are doing more than recognizing talent; we are advocating for a future free from violence. It is a privilege to amplify these voices and witness their profound impact."

For additional information contact Colleen Rice, executive director at crice@thedvshelter.com or call 419-774-5843 ext. 101.



MRS. SCOTT'S KINDERGARTEN classroom at Ontario had a hands-on approach to working on addition facts. Students used clothespins on hangers to show their two groups and solve the addition equation.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**CLEAR FORK VS WESTERN RESERVE GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL · FEB 22
CLEAR FORK WINS 45-11 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



Warriors have twenty District qualifiers, five All Ohioans

The post season for Ontario swimming started on Saturday, Feb. 10 with Sectionals held at the Malabar Pool. Four Warriors were Sectional individual winners in six events and two relays placed first. Those were Miri Trumpower, fly and back; Grantham Trumpower, 50 and 100 free; Logan Bernat, back; and Evan Ruhe, fly. The relay was Trumpower, Bernat, Ruhe and Owen Walter, 200 and 400 free relays

The team qualified a total of twenty swimmers on to Districts, the most in school history.

The following Friday, Feb.16, nineteen swimmers traveled to Bowling Green State University for the District meet. Miri was again first in her fly event and brother Grantham placed first in the 100 free. Earning All District (top 8) were Grantham Trumpower, 50 (3) tied school record and 100 free (1); Logan Bernat, 100 back (5); Evan Ruhe, 100 fly (8); 200 free relay of Trumpower, Bernat, Ruhe and Walter, 3rd and 400 free relay, 2nd; Miri Trumpower, 100 fly (1)

school record and 100 back (3); Katie Bolin, 100 fly (6); and 400 free relay of Trumpower, Joie Simmering, Lilly Secrist, Maddie Hedricks (8). This relay placed 27 in the state just missing the 24 that qualified to swim at State.

The following Thursday and Friday, Feb. 22 and 23, five Warriors traveled to Canton for the State swim meet. All five returned home as All Ohioans! It was an amazing two days with great swims. Leading the pack was freshman Mirielle Trumpower with a 3rd place finish overall. She set a new school record in prelims and broke it again in the finals. She also placed 7th in the 100 back.

On the boys side Grantham Trumpower placed 12th in his 50 free and 13th in the 100 free.

The other individual qualifier, Logan Bernat moved up three spots to place 21st with a time drop.

The 200 free relay of Trumpower, Bernat, Walter, Ruhe place 6th, while the 400 free relay took 8th.



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS ONTARIO BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL · FEB 23
CLEAR FORK WINS 62-55 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS ONTARIO BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · FEB 23
CLEAR FORK WINS 51-45 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Madison Rams Athletic Hall of Fame will induct seven new members in August

The Madison Rams Athletic Hall of Fame has welcomed seven new inductees in the Class of 2024. All inductees have contributed to the long, proud history of Madison Athletics. The Class of 2024 includes:

Jocelyn Pelasky, a 1997 graduate, was the 1997 Ohio Heartland Conference and District Player of Year for girls basketball.

She owns three season records (points in a season, FGs in a season, FTs in a season) and three career records (All-time leading scorer, FGs in a career, FTs in a career).

Pelasky was named conference Player of the Year in 1996 for Girls Soccer and she set the record for most career goals with 132. This record was broken by Taylor Huff in 2020.

She went on to play basketball at Illinois State and is currently the Director of Nursing in a Chicago area hospital.

Ray Peterson, a 1957 graduate, played football, basketball and baseball during his time at Madison.

He was a four-year letterman in baseball. Hit .512 and was selected All-Ohio his senior year. He received, but turned down (his parents) an offer from the Detroit Tigers to play professionally (\$25,000 and pay for his college education).

He received and accepted a scholarship to attend and play for Ohio State. He was a two-year letterman in basketball and was named All-Richland County.

He was a two-year letterman in football and was a founding member of the Madison Youth League Baseball/Softball Complex.

Peterson was an assistant varsity baseball coach for Tim Rupert and Rob Peterson for a total of 10 years.

He coached American Legion Ball for 30 years, recording 714 wins. He also coached in seven State Legion Tournaments

Coach Matt Godsil coached Madison's football program for 34 years. He was an assistant coach for Al Pease, Dana Woodring, Sean Conway and Jamie Masi.

From 1999–2008 he was Madison's head football coach.

In 2005, his football team won the OCC Championship and won the first playoff game in school history. He was a part of six conference championships and five playoff appearances.

Godsil was a part of two 10-win teams, which is the most wins in school history. He was recognized at the state level for his 30+ years of coaching high school football.

Doug Rickert is a 1987 graduate. As a high school baseball player, he lettered two years and was part of the 1986 conference championship.

He was a First Team All-Conference baseball player his junior and senior year. He was a First Team All-District his senior year.

As a high school basketball player, he lettered two years and won the conference championship in 1986. He still holds the records for assists in a game and assists in a season.

He played baseball for Division I Appalachian State and Ashland University and was the head coach of the Madison Baseball Program for 21 years. He amassed over 300 wins.

Rickert coached Madison Baseball to nine conference championships, 16 Sectional Championships, four District Championships and three Regional Finalists. Madison Baseball was the State Poll Champions in 2000. He coached ten Division I Baseball players and 47 college players.

As Madison's head basketball coach, he led the Rams to a Conference Championship in 2009. He led Madison to three Sectional Championships. He also led Madison basketball to their first District Championship in 63 years in 2011. In five years, his basketball record was 67–45.

Rickert coached junior high and ninth grade football for 12 seasons. He has been Madison's Athletic Director since 2014.

Justin Larrick is a 1998 graduate. In 1997, he was the Ohio Heart-

land Conference "Player of the Year" in football (quarterback).

He was voted First Team All Northwest District Quarterback in 1997 and was a Second Team All Ohio Quarterback in 1997.

In basketball, he was Ohio Heartland Conference "Player of the Year" in 1998. He was first team All Northwest District and was a second team All Ohio Selection in basketball.

He went to the University of Toledo to play football and transferred to Ashland University to play basketball.

Ray Ellison is the first Madison volunteer/community member to be inducted into the Madison Rams Athletic Hall of Fame.

He served as a volunteer at Madison Schools for over 60 years, as attendant at the northeast gate in football, and host for the visitors' locker rooms in football and basketball games.

He did this work even when living in Wadsworth for 10 years, driving two hours roundtrip sometimes twice weekly.

Later in his career, he volunteered at Friday night games within hours of leaving dialysis treatments.

When he ended that service at 88 years old, he still wished to be able to continue doing so. He recently passed away.

Greg Bartram is a graduate of the Class of 1984. While in high school, he ran track and cross country.

His senior year of high school, Bartram was All Cardinal Conference in cross country, as he finished fifth and led his team to a second place finish at the Cardinal Conference meet.

He was the track team's MVP, scoring 198 points that season. He also received the Best Track Event Award. He held the school record in the 800 meters, running 1:57.2.

Bartram currently holds the seventh fastest time in cross country at Madison High School.

He received a scholarship to Ashland University, where he ran indoor and outdoor track and cross country. He was a five-time All American while at Ashland.

As a junior at Ashland, in 1988, he finished sixth in the 800 meters at the NCAA Division II Indoor Nationals and seventh in the 800 meters at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Nationals in track.

As a senior, he was the NCAA Division II National Champion in the 800 meters in Indoor track with a time of 1:52.85, at the Dakota Dome at the University of South Dakota.

He was inducted into the Ashland University's Hall of Fame for track in 2003.

The Madison induction ceremony and banquet will take place on Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center. Dinner will begin at 6 pm and presentations will begin at 7 pm.

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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Local teams head to OHSAA tournaments

By Kris Leiter

This is the bittersweet time of year, as the regular season of high school hoops is winding down, but the post-season OHSAA playoffs will be sure to bring exciting action as well as some unexpected up-sets.

The local girls teams are currently in the midst the District rounds of the playoffs. The boys are just wrapping up regular season games this week. Sectionals should be kicking off this week as well.

Shelby Girls

Hats off to the Shelby girls team, head coach Natalie Lantz and her amazing coaching staff for a great season!

The team ended with a regular season of 17-5.

They entered the first post-season game against Rossford on Feb. 22 and defeated them handedly 61-18. This would propel them into the second round of sectionals on Feb 24, to a Toledo Central Catholic and would fall to defeat 62-52.

The Lady Whippets held their own through the first two quarters and then Toledo caught fire and took the lead 26-23 at halftime. At 1:50 in the third quarter, Toledo opened the lead to 10 points at 42-32.

The Whippets trailed in the fourth quarter, getting no closer than 7 points. At the end of the final horn, Toledo would be the victor at 62-52.

Ontario Girls

The Ontario Girls team finished the regular season at 9-14 and ended their post-season run on Feb 22, falling in the sectional semi-finals 50-28 to the hands of Mansfield Lady TYgers.

Girls Tournament Schedule

Division II – District Semi-Finals

Lexington Lady Lex at Bellevue, Feb. 29, 7:30 pm

Congrats to Lady Lex (9 seed), (13-11) as they are still on fire as they continue down the post-season trail, now entering the District Semi-Finals. They will battle Bellevue (2 seed), (19-5).

Division III – District Semi-Finals

Clear Fork Girls (3 seed) vs Colonel Crawford (2 seed) at Clear Fork Feb. 29, at 7:30 pm

The Clear Fork Lady Colts and Scott Sellers are still moving on in the post-season! They recently defeated Huron on Feb. 24 with a comfortable victory of 60-34!

Boys Tournament Schedule

Division I – Northwest Sectional

Madison (19 seed) vs Lima Senior (8 seed) at Lima High School on Feb. 27, 7pm. Winner will take on Sandusky on March 1 at 7 pm at a site TBA.

Division II – Northwest Sectional

Clear Fork vs Galion at Galion High School, Feb. 27, 7 pm

Mansfield Senior (5 seed) vs Ontario (10 seed) at Mansfield Senior High School on Feb. 27, 7 pm. Winner will take on Bellevue on March 1 at 7 pm at a site TBA.

Shelby (1 seed) vs Vermillion (11 seed) at Shelby Senior High School on March 1, 7 pm. Winner will take on the winner of the Bellevue vs Mansfield Senior or Ontario game on March 7, site TBA.

Division III – Northwest Sectional

Crestview (1 seed) vs Winner of Northwood vs Bucyrus at Crestview High School on March 1, at 7 pm

Division IV – Northwest Sectional

Lucas (3 seed) vs Crestline (12 seed) at Lucas High School on Feb. 28, at 7 pm Winner will take on the winner of the Sandusky Central Catholic vs Monroeville game on March 1, site TBA. Mansfield Christian (5 seed) vs New London (13 seed)

At Mansfield Christian High School on Feb. 28, 7 pm. Winner will take on the winner of Danbury Lakeside vs Norwalk St. Paul on March 1, site TBA.

Mansfield St. Peters (14 seed) vs Seneca East (2 seed) at Seneca East High School on Feb. 28, at 7 pm. Winner will take on South Central (11 seed) on March 1, site TBA.



MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL celebrated the senior winter sports athletes for boys and girls basketball, cheer and wrestling.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS MADISON VARSITY BASKETBALL SENIOR NIGHT · FEB 20
CLEAR FORK WINS 45-43 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS MADISON JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · FEB 20
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Mansfield Tygers stomp Yellow Jackets with 62-43 win

Photo and Article By Kris Leiter

It's been a few weeks since I had covered Mansfield Senior (10-3) and I hadn't had a chance to see Mount Vernon (7-7) play thus far, so it was a good opportunity for me to check the matchup on Jan. 23.

The kicker is that with a .500 team, such as the Yellow Jackets, you never know which way the game will go... that ole' curiosity thing I guess.

The Tygers have some great ball handlers and they are quick. Their defense is always looking to cause a turnover, and that can wreak havoc for an opponent.

At a mere 30 seconds after the tip-off, Mt. Vernon fouled Tygers Rashad Reed Jr. for a 3 point-play attempt and he would draw first blood with the first 3-bagger of the game, 3-0, Tygers were rolling!

However, the Yellow Jackets didn't come just to be spectators this night, as they would return the favor with a 3-pointer of their own, as they would tie the game 3-3 at 7:25.

At that point, the roar of the Tygers would unleash and the beast came alive with a 16-4 scoring run, including two more 3-pointers from Rashad Reed at 6:00 and Duke Reese at :05 seconds. As the first quarter concluded, the Tygers were resting quite nicely with a 19-7 lead.

The second quarter brought a tug-of-war, with both teams trading baskets fairly evenly, and the TYgers narrowly outscored the Yellow Jackets 10-7 in the quarter. A Big second quarter Kudos, as the TYger defense contributed two big steals from Karion Lindsay!

Going into halftime, the Tygers held a respectable lead of 29-14.

What would the third quarter bring? Would Mount Vernon counter and add the point total and close the gap?

At 7:35, Tygers Kyevi Roane notched two points of his own and continued the lead 32-14.

Adding to the fun, at around the 6:00 minute mark, Roane would add a block and Lindsay was back with another BIG steal!

As if Lindsay wasn't having enough fun already, at 5:35, he was back with another 2-pointer, adding to the tally and spreading the lead to a 20-point lead at 36-16!

As the third quarter would wind down, the Yellow Jackets would score 14 points, their highest quarter of scoring thus far. The TYgers would not be outdone, as they would one-up the Yellow Jackets by scoring 15 points.

Why not bring TYger Ahmann Thomas to join the festivities? He would notch 6-points of his own merit at 2:05, 1:00 and :30 seconds!

At the end of 3 quarters, the score would be in the commanding

hands of the TYgers of 44-28.

The fourth and final quarter would seal the deal by the TYgers with another scoring run of 18-15, as Ahmann would come bearing more gifts, with an amazing 10 points contribute at the 3:30 mark, the gap would be an incredible 20-point spread!

The Yellow Jackets would make a galant effort, but you can't keep a tiger caged very easily, hence as the final horn would sound, the TYgers would etch the final score of 62-43 in the books.

Leading the scoring for the TYgers would be 2 players in double figures, Karion Lindsay with 21 tallies and Duke Reese with 13 baskets as well!!

Otterbein Cardinals freeze Polar Bears 65-53

By Kris Leiter

It was a slow night for high school hoops in Richland County on Wednesday, Jan. 24, so I headed into Westerville to Otterbein University, only an hour south from Mansfield.

As I have mentioned before, if you ever get an opportunity, feel free to take in a small college hoops game and other small college sports in the Buckeye State.

The arena that the Otterbein Cardinals play their hoops in is called the Rike Center, built in 1974 and seats 3,100 spectators!

Having never watched a game there, I was amazingly surprised when I walked in, as it was almost reminiscent from the movie "Hoosiers". This is probably one of the most unique arenas I have ever been to.

Unlike with most gymnasiums with that age, they have chosen to keep the original wooden seating, as even most visiting teams are in awe of the rich history of the "older" style. The court is housed in a multi-purpose dome, that can be converted into an indoor track as needed.

The Otterbein Cardinals (11-6, 5-5 OAC), staffed by Andy Winters, in his fifth year were hosting the Ohio Northern Polar Bears (9-8, 4-6 OAC) with Neal Young in his second year, guiding the Polar Bears, as the two teams are also conference foes in the Ohio Athletic Conference.

They have had some good competitive games in recent years, so you can usually expect to get your money's worth full of excitement.

Otterbein has beaten the Polar Bears five of the last seven times they have battled each other, so you can imagine the visiting Polar Bears would be ready for some battle.

As the first quarter commenced, both teams rallied for the lead with Ohio Northern leading most of the first half.

At the 11:50 mark, Cardinal Jared Krager tied the game at 12-12.

The Cardinals continued to open the floodgates to a healthy 27-18 lead at the 3:00 mark in the first half.

The Cardinals were starting to show why they were 11-6, as they continued to pour in the points. At 11:23, they would be holding a comfortable 10-point lead over the Polar Bears 41-31.

The Polar Bears would be shooting only 30 percent from the field, which allowed the Cardinals to capitalize the lead by 14 points, 47-33 at 9:32. At 7:17, Cardinal Kreager would drop a BIG 3-pointer to add to the tally, making it 52-37.

As the clock would wind, the Polar Bears would only get as close as 10 points, with the Cardinals also taking advantage of free throws of 83 percent in the first half and in the second half, dropping to 55 percent, but continuing their healthy lead to the final horn of 65-53.

Leading the scoring for Otterbein in double figures was Jack Clement with 19 tallies, 8-12 from the field and 2-3 from the 3-point arc!

Let's not forget Julian Heckman with 10 points, also including 2-3 from 3-point land!



Mansfield Tyger Ahmaan Thomas

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Spartans leave Corral with 58-54 win over Colts

Photo and Article By Kris Leiter

It's always a challenge when you bring a sports team into Bellville. You're on the road, outside your familiar "home" environment.

Add some loyal Clear Fork fans in the Colt Corral and you have a recipe for a great game.

Oh, I forgot, be prepared, there's a very good chance the Colts are usually ready to kick up some dirt and you might just feel the stam-pede in the valley.

On Jan. 26, the two teams had an almost identical record. Head coach Tim Brafford and the Clear Fork Colts were 7-7 and the incoming Marion-Pleasant Spartans were 7-8, manned by Ben Snively.

Clear Fork has a lineup of 10 stout upperclassmen, five seniors and five juniors, as well as seven players ranging from 6' 0" to 6' 5"!

The Spartans also bring in some "tall trees" as well, with 9 upperclassmen, ranging from 6'-0" to 6'-3" As they say..."Game on!"

As the first quarter commenced, Pleasantlet it be known they were in the house. They notched the first two points on the scoreboard at 7:35. The Colts would say "ney" and two of Brafford's seniors started to kick up the dirt!

They dropped two big 3-pointers by seniors, 6' 2" Beau Dornbrier and 6' 0" Adam Vanausdle at 7:20 and 6:49 and took the lead 6-2.

Pleasant was not going away easily, like that pesky fly at the summertime picnic, and would drop another 2-bagger at 5:42, Colts still leading narrowly 6-4!

Both teams swapped baskets for the next few minutes. As the clock ticked away, the teams traded the lead three times, as one minute was left on the first quarter clock. At the horn, the Spartans held the first quarter lead at 16-10.

The Colts opened the second quarter at 7:13 with another two points by junior, 5' 9" Segno Ault, closing the gap 16-13. The Colts were within three points!

The Spartans went an 11-4 scoring run and opened the floodgates and by the time the second quarter would cease, the Spartans held a 10-point halftime lead of 27-17.

What words of wisdom would Tim Brafford say to his Colts in the

locker room at halftime?

As the third quarter kicked off, Brafford and his Colts must have come up with a bag of tricks. The Colts would waste no time in returning the favor and joining the scoring party again, bringing gifts of their own with 6-0, closing the gap to 4 points at 27-23!

As the ball was rolling, the Colts were not stopping any time soon.

At 5:58, Dornbrier was back! He would get fouled, drop all ends of hi 3-point play and close the gap to one point, 27-26!

As the third quarter continued, the Spartans started to open the gap again, and by the end of three quarters, they would again be holding a 7-point lead at 43-36.

The fourth quarter opened and the Colts weren't finished yet. At 2:56 left in the game, Vanausdle fouled and he dropped both ends of his trip to the foul line. The Colts took the lead 52-51!

At 1:40, the Spartans dropped a big 3-bagger to flip-the-script and take the lead back at 55-52.

And enter Colt junior, 6' 3" Garrett Hotz as he would get hot and drop a big 2-pointer at :40 seconds to close the gap, 55-54, the Colts within one point!

Could the Colts regain the lead in the final and the victory? The Spartans would now have the ball and the lead and the Colts would need to foul to stop the clock and get the ball back!

Within :30 seconds, the Colts fouled, sending the Spartans back to the line at :30 and :25 seconds, and the Spartans dropped 3 of 4 foul shots to open the lead to 58-54 and that would be the final digits as this game concluded.

Hats off to the Colts as they gave it a gallant, hard fought battle in the second half! The Colts leading scorer was Beau Dornier in double figures with 18 tallies! Also, a big shout out to Logan Richmond with 8 baggers and Adam VanArsdale with 7 points.

Employmentpalooza offers reverse job fair to high school students

High school students from across the county will showcase their skills and interests with the hopes of getting employed. A collaborative effort, spearheaded by the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development and Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ) Richland County, invites local employers to meet high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors who are seeking internships, seasonal work, part-time and full-time work after graduating. Students will have booths, and the employers will come to meet them. EmployMEpalooza is a "Reverse Job Fair."

Faculty members and mentors are currently working with students who are preparing to tell local businesses about their interests, skills, and aspirations. These students are crafting resumes and gathering items to display on their tables so employers can get an idea of what they would be like as employees.

The event will be held on March 6, from 10 am to noon at Richland Academy of the Arts, 75 N. Walnut St., Mansfield.

There is no cost to employers or students, but both must register for the event before attending. Students can register at <https://portal.richlandareachamber.com/events/details/employemepalooza-2024-student-registration-6126> Employers can register at <https://portal.richlandareachamber.com/events/details/employemepalooza-2024-employer-registration-6128>

For questions contact Clint Knight, Director of Workforce Development at cknight@chooserichland.com.



Clear Fork's Beau Dornbrier

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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS HURON GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP · FEB 24
CLEAR FORK WINS 60-34 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



CLASSIFIEDS

CITY OF ONTARIO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION PATROL OFFICER EXAM

The City of Ontario will conduct a Civil Service examination for the position of entry level police officer on Sunday, March 24, 2024, at the Ontario Municipal Building Community Room, 555 North Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio 44906. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. and the exam will begin at 9:00 a.m. No admittance after 9:00 a.m.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens and present a valid driver's license at the time of the examination. Must be at least 21 years of age (unless the candidate qualifies for the OPOTA exception) but not more than 34 years of age and must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalence. Passing Candidates who qualify in the top ten will be required to complete a physical strength and agility test. Candidates that are selected will be subject to psychological, polygraph, drug and alcohol screening along with a comprehensive background check.

NOTICE: Applicants must have their Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) Certification to apply. Applicants currently enrolled in an Ohio

Basic Peace Officer Training Academy are allowed to test but Certification must be complete by time of appointment.

The City of Ontario is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on any basis prohibited by law including military status. However, if you are applying for a civil service examination and elect to claim military service credit either as an honorably discharged veteran or as a member of the National Guard or a Reserve component as provided in R.C. 124.23, then please attach a copy of your honorable discharge from active duty, DD 214 or other proof of eligibility for this credit. Applications will be available at the Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, beginning February 19, 2024, at the Police Department window or online at www.ontpd.com. Applications will be accepted until Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at the Police Department window in the Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road. Those with questions may call the Division of Police at 419-529-2115 and ask to speak with a recruiter.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 2-22, 29, 3-7 '24) 63L

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 February 21, 2024.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 24-03 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE (SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR AN INFLOW AND INFILTRATION REDUCTION PROJECT LOCATED WITHIN THE SPRING VILLAGE SEWER-SHED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 2-29, 3-7 '24) 24L

LEGAL NOTICE

The annual financial report for the Madison Water District has been completed for 2023. The report is available at the office on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:00 P.M. located at 489 Indiana Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio.

Please send the bill to Madison Water District 489 Indiana Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44905. If you have any questions please email me or call me at 419-589-2135. Please send confirmation that you received this email and when it will be published.

Sue Cook
Madison Water District
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 2-29, '24) 17L

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Madison Township Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Madison Town Hall, 817 Expressview Drive, rear entrance. The requested hearing is as follows:

APPLICATION # 1-24

1. Legal Description - 1229 Ashland Rd, Mansfield, Ohio 44905 (Parcel# 0250904102000) with zoning district of B-3. A variance requesting to erect 240 sq.ft. Advertising sign on the front of building. Current regulation allows a 200 sq. ft. sign

At this hearing, all persons shall be given ample opportunity to speak "for, or against" the application. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether the applicants will be granted their request.

Board of Zoning Appeals
Dan Bishop, chair
Madison Township Trustees
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 2-29, '24) 26L



JACKSON SWIATEK installs a precipitation gauge on Ontario school grounds. Science Club members are serving as volunteer precipitation monitors for Richland Soil and Water Conservation District.

Tribune Forum

As a long-time Alzheimer's Association advocate, I understand fully the impact that Alzheimer's disease can have on a family.

My grandmother was diagnosed in 2013 and her doctor basically said "good luck with that," so I reached out to the Association and started using their free resources immediately. Since then, seven other members of my family have been diagnosed with some type of dementia and appealing to Ohio legislators to support funding for Alzheimer's resources is my personal mission.

The U.S. population of individuals over the age of 65 continues to grow, as will the number of Americans with Alzheimer's or another dementia. It was estimated that 6.7 million Americans were living with Alzheimer's in 2023. By 2050, that number is projected to grow to 12.7 million, barring the development of medical breakthroughs that can delay, prevent or cure Alzheimer's disease. Thousands of these are families and friends in Ohio.

What can be done about this public health crisis?

I am urging Reps. Jim Jordan and Bob Latta and their fellow Ohio congress members to continue supporting increases in Alzheimer's and dementia research funding as well as to support the reauthorization of the National Alzheimer's Project Act and the Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act this year.

I encourage you to do the same. We should also thank Sen. J. D. Vance and Rep. Greg Landsman for already co-sponsoring these very important bills.

It is more important than ever that we work toward increased funding for research that will impact the lives of those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. Recent advancements in FDA-approved treatments that are delaying the progression of the disease, give us more hope than ever that research and science are bringing us closer to a cure.

Thankfully, Congress can continue to play an important role in addressing this public health crisis. You, too, can play an important role by contacting your local legislators and asking for their support to realize a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

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