



# TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

03.14.24



**RICHLAND ACADEMY** hosted the EmployMePalooza 2024 Reverse Job Fair for Richland County students on March 6. Students showcased their skills to prospective employers. (Right photo) Ontario freshman Alexandria Fender participated in the event.

## Area students participate in EmployMePalooza

Photos and Article By Traci Little

EmployMePalooza 2024 set the stage for high school talent to shine in Richland County's Reverse Job Fair.

On March 6, from 10–12 am, high school students from across the county showcased their skills and interests with the hopes of getting employed at area businesses. The event was held at Richland Academy of the Arts, 75 N. Walnut St., Mansfield.

Richland Academy of the Arts had a wonderful time hosting EmployMEpalooza this year. A special thank you to everyone who came and made this event a success!

This was a collaborative effort, spearheaded by the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development and Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ) Richland County, as they invited local employers to meet these amazing high school leaders.

A wide range of ability, experience, and what they were seeking as far as internships, seasonal work, part-time, and full-time work after graduating was in the room.

Some employers and organizations represented included Attendee Company, Alumni Roofing Co., Avita Health System, Bob and Bob Door Co., Central Star Home Health, Charter Next Generation, Covert Manufacturing, Inc, Dream Huge Realty, Freedom Caregivers, Hope419, House of Pieces, Kingston of Ashland, Local Project Pro LLC, North End Community Improvement Collaborative Inc, Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Heartland Community action Commission, Ontario High School, Richland Newhope, Richland Outreach Center, Shri Om LLC, Spherion Mid Ohio, Surge Staffing, and Techniplas (formerly Nanogate).

I enjoyed meeting these bright young individuals who truly set the bar high at this year's "reverse job fair".

Faculty members and mentors worked with these students ahead of time, helping them prepare to engage with local business owners regarding their interests, skills, and aspirations.

Each student crafted a professional resume and gathered personal

*(Continued on Page 16)*

## Lexington discusses park improvements, sign posting during eclipse

The Village of Lexington Council meeting held Feb. 19 with Keith Bacin, Adam Gongwer, Wynn Kearns, Kim Little, Jeff O'Brien and Todd Wise attending.

Also present were Attorney John Studenmund, Chief Troy Weaver, and Village Administrator Peter Them, Finance Director Jim Banks and Park Superintendent Todd Ward.

Charles Comstock of Essex Road thanked council for quick action regarding potholes throughout the parks. He also recommended the village post parking availability during the total eclipse. He attended the last solar eclipse in Kentucky, and without signs, motorists were stopping in the middle of streets. Mayor Jarvis agreed. Chief Weaver will have plans. Weaver noted that the schools will be closed and their parking facilities barricaded.

Judge Badnell introduced himself to council members.

Donald Zehner, Republican candidate for Richland County Sheriff, introduced himself to council and revealed his strategy if he was elected as sheriff.

A public utilities budget meeting was scheduled for March 4. A

project with KEM was to be discussed. The remote read water meter install has been well received within the village. Prior to the new equipment, there had been unusual water leaks. The village is now seeing more accurate readings.

A street and sidewalk committee had meeting was held recently to discuss capital expenditures. The next meeting will be June 4.

Banks reported that the month of January has been balanced. He Banks welcomed new council members.

As reported by finance director Peter Them, two employees were selected for a grievance committee. Tristan Kraft will represent the service departments and Mike Davis will represent the safety department.

The fort at Bicentennial Park has exceeded its service life. The playground equipment is over 25 years old. The coating is completely gone, the decks are rotting, and many other safety issues exist. This was to be addressed at the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting following the council session.

*(Continued on Page 14)*





**AN 18 FOOT-SIX INCH** waterwheel with a three foot face powered the Kister mill. A new one will be installed, hopefully this year.



**KISTER MILL** is located in Millbrook, Ohio. This photo was taken before restoration. It now has new siding and a new roof.

## Herb workshop planned for April 2

The next Conservation Creation Arts & Crafts Workshop hosted by Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) will take place Tuesday, April 2 at 6 PM at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave., Mansfield. The evening will focus on herbs with Christine Libby from Alta Florist & Greenhouse sharing her expertise. Participants will plant a trio of oregano, chives and parsley seeds in a container to take home and enjoy.

Richland SWCD provides all the materials needed to plant the container. The cost is \$12 per person and reservations are requested by March 29. Visit <https://richlandswcd.net/event/conservation-creation-arts-crafts-workshop-tbd-3/> or call 419-747-8685 to register for the workshop.



## The Kister Water Powered Mill

By Bob Carter

The Kister water powered grist mill, saw mill, machine shop and cider press is the last water power in this part of Ohio. It's in Wayne County, just off State Route 3, between Loudonville and Wooster. It's in the crossroad community of Millbrook.

The mill has a long history, dating back to the early 1816s when John Nimmon built the first grist mill there. It operated until 1845 and then converted to a woolen mill until 1875.

In 1881, John Kister bought the property and restored it as a grist mill. The entire mill and building was later entirely rebuilt.

John Kister ran the mill until 1934, when he turned it over to his son, Guy Kister. All the Kister men were skilled millwrights including Guy's grandfather, George Kister. All worked at the trade on other area mills.

In the 1870s they even built a paper mill in Wooster and worked on many other mills of all types.

For generation, the family guarded the oak wood lot on the family farm. For strength and durability, white oak is used particularly on water wheels and mill gearing.

The late Guy Kister built a new water wheel in his later years from those oak trees, which he cut on his saw mill. The wheel lasted for over 20 years. When he died, the interesting property went through a couple of owners who never operated the mill. Then, after those years of just sitting, Richard and Cindi Boyer purchased the mill and property and began restoration.

Amazingly enough, Rich, his carpenter father and friends built a new water wheel to replace the original weather damaged one. This was accomplished by using the wood patterns left by Kister when he built the previous wheel.

The white oak will not deteriorate if kept wet and Boyer made one mistake by leaving the new wheel dry for long periods of time. It broke down. The aging mill was recently sold to the Western Reserve Land Conservancy and a complete restoration has begun with generous donations.

A new roof, siding and windows are in place and a new water wheel is now in the works. The interior line shaft powering the machinery was still intact, as was the hydraulic cider press. Guy Kister's father had designed and built two special saw machines to manufacture small wooden paddle-like flights used for horizontal augers. These had to be made from apple wood as flour would not stick to it. They were shipped all over the country. Guy Kister once told of standing on a stool when he was eleven years old and making wooden flights all day long.

Kister's mill is being reborn. The new metal roof, along with new modern siding are most notable. A new waterwheel will soon bring the mill back to life. Guy Kister would have liked that.

When he died in an automobile accident, he left money for a craft building and tool collection for the Wayne County Historical Society. The building contains an unbelievable collection of tool and implements and is on the grounds of the Historical Society.

Vol. 63  
No. 23

**Tribune-Courier**



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# News Briefs

There will be two sessions of the Senior Citizen Luncheon at Madison Comprehensive High School's Ramble Inn, 600 Esley Ln., on Thursday, March 21. The first session will be at 11 am, and the second will be at 12:30 pm. The cost is \$8 per lunch. Reservations must be made by noon on Tuesday, March 19. Call the board office at 419-589-2600, ext. 65001, or email rlyons@madisonrams.net to make a reservation. If there is a two-hour delay or school is cancelled, the luncheon will be held on the next full day of school.

★  
Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, will hold several services during Holy Week.

A Palm Sunday service will be March 24, during the regular 9:30 am service. Palm branches will be waved to commemorate Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

On Holy Thursday, March 28, a 7 pm service will consist of a drama presentation titled "Table Talk and Communion."

On Good Friday, March 29, Trinity will participate with other area Global Methodist churches in a 7 pm service at Hayesville Global Methodist Church, 44 S. Mechanic St., Hayesville.

On Easter Sunday, March 31, a 7:30 am sunrise service will be held, followed by breakfast at 8:30, then the regular service at 9:30 am.

★  
Franklin Township Fire Department, 505 Boyce Rd., Shelby, will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 6, from 7 to 10 am.

★  
Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, will sponsor its annual Madison Community Easter Egg hunt March 23 beginning at 3 pm for children up through sixth grade. There will be a 15-minute program in the church, followed by a hunt for 4,000 eggs. Children will return inside to make a special craft and decorate cookies to take home. Children also will receive an Easter gift.

★  
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.

★  
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.

★  
For information visit [www.lexasc.org](http://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](http://www.awakeshelby.com) or call 419-342-4636.

★  
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.

★  
The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Richland County will hold its monthly Board meeting on Tuesday, March 19, at 5:30 pm at 87 E. First St., Mansfield. For additional information call the board office at 419-774-5811.

★  
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.

★  
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 Christopher Reynolds to speak on "Everyone Born Is A Christ: Astrological Codes In Greek Christianity" at 10:30 am on Sunday, March 17. For more information visit [www.allsoulsuohio.org](http://www.allsoulsuohio.org).

★  
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/>

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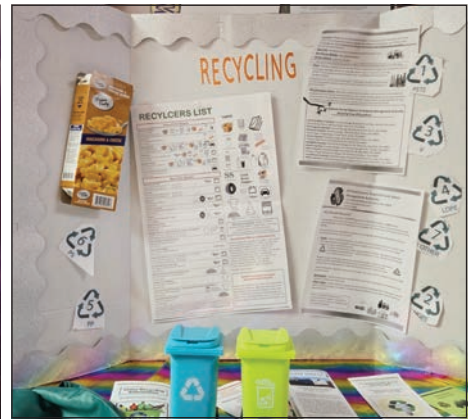
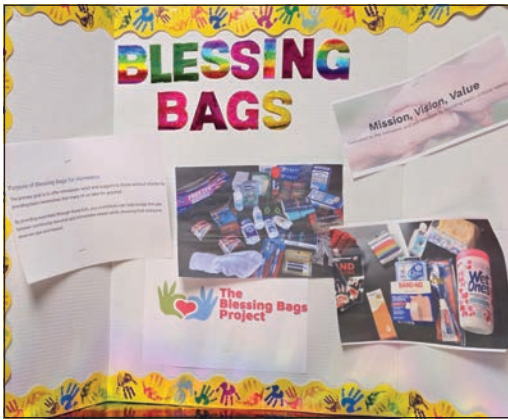
[helpmepat.org](http://helpmepat.org)

Low-stress banking should be a high priority.

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**ONTARIO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, 3540 Park Avenue West, Ontario, is doing "40 Days of Kindness" during this season of Lent. Children's ministry leader, Joni Davis, brought an idea of helping area non-profit agencies or businesses that help better our community to the youth (young thru teens) and they responded with enthusiasm. Nine projects include Project Noelle, Richland Outreach Center, Blessing bags for homeless, ARC Empowerment Center, Richland County Recycling, Humane Society of Richland County, OUMC sundae cups for shut-ins, OUMC Peanut Butter & Jelly ministry and Wayfinders (homeless shelter in Richland County). Parents helping to implement the projects are Dana Wynn, Trish Ludwig and Ashley Orewiler. For information on any of the projects or to make a donation of items (no monetary donations accepted) call Joni Davis at 419-545-6646.

# 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com)  
FB: FirstChristianChurch,Mansfield,Ohio

## First Congregational Church

640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield  
419-756-3046 • [www.mansfieldfcc.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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

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419-522-5211





**Obituary Listings for  
Wappner Funeral Directors**

- Charles Duane Alexander, February 14
- Camille Diane Carbetta, February 28
- Ann Thomas, March 1
- John Amos Cordle, March 4
- Rodney Paul Rickert, March 4
- David Allen Conner, March 6
- Frank Gene Daugherty, March 8
- Joseph Leroy Lawrence Sr., March 8

**View Full Obituaries at [www.dignitymemorial.com](http://www.dignitymemorial.com)**

*Memorial Arrangements*

**Joyce A. Ramey**

Joyce A. Ramey, age 83, of Shelby, passed away peacefully Friday night, March 8, 2024 at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Dave and Diane, in Lexington.

Joyce was born Oct. 13, 1940 in Ontario to the late Bowman and Opal (Brown) Frederick. Being raised in Crestline, Joyce graduated in 1958 from Crestline High School. Joyce worked for 28 years at Shelby Auto-call Company retiring in 1992. She attended the Crestline Church of the Nazarene.

Joyce was truly a kindhearted woman with many hobbies and interests. She loved flower gardening and often had visitors stop to enjoy her work. She also enjoyed sewing and crocheting, crafting and antiques, feeding the cardinals, and trips to Amish Country. Always young for her age, Joyce kept extremely active walking and was often seen on a stroll around town.

Joyce is survived by her children: Teresa (Ed) Vore of Lexington, Dave (Diane) Ramey of Lexington, and Jeff Ramey of Shelby; her grandsons whom she absolutely adored: Joey Vore and Ben Vore; and other relatives and friends. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Robert Lee "Bob" Ramey, on January 29, 2012 and eight brothers.

Graveside services and visitation will be private with burial in Oakland Cemetery, Shelby. Pastor Bob Weaver, her pastor, will officiate the services. Care for Joyce and her family is being provided by the Penwell Turner Funeral Home, 168 West Main Street, Shelby. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association at ([Diabetes.org/Donate](http://Diabetes.org/Donate))

Online condolences may be left on Joyce's obituary on the funeral home's website ([PenwellTurner.com](http://PenwellTurner.com)) or their Facebook page ([Facebook.com/PenwellFuneral](http://Facebook.com/PenwellFuneral)).

**DAV to host virtual career fair**

DAV (Disabled American Veterans) and RecruitMilitary® will co-host the National Virtual Career Fair, March 19 from 11 am to 3 pm CST. The event is free to veterans, their spouses, active-duty military personnel and members of the National Guard and Reserve.

More than 80 employers actively seeking the unique talents of America's veterans will be on-site representing a range of industries, from construction to medical to administrative and logistics, with career opportunities from entry level to senior management. In addition to employment assistance, the veterans expected to attend can utilize career counseling and resume assistance, network with fellow veterans and military personnel, and get support with their Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and claims assistance—all at no cost.

This year, DAV will sponsor more than 90 in-person and virtual job fairs. Since the inception of its employment initiative in 2014, there have been nearly 274,000 attendees and more than 167,000 job offers.

To register for the National Virtual Career Fair and access additional no-cost resources for veterans and their families, go to [jobs.dav.org](http://jobs.dav.org).

**The Little Shops of Shelby adds new items daily**

Visitors can step into a treasure trove of local finds at The Little Shops of Shelby. They can browse two floors brimming with unique home decor, handcrafted art and fashion boutiques.

Guests can discover hidden gems like sparkling jewelry, locally sourced maple syrup and one-of-a-kind collectibles.

Shoppers can pamper themselves or others with handmade bath products and soy candles, or find the perfect gift for a furry friend with pet accessories. With over 50 vendors adding new items daily, The Little Shops of Shelby offers an ever-evolving shopping adventure.

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VOTE

**Matthew James Mayer for Richland County Sheriff**

**MATT MAYER**...dedicated 36 years to enforcing law and order

**MATT MAYER**...will restore Honor and Integrity to the Office of the Richland County Sheriff

**MATT MAYER**...will be a hands-on working Sheriff. Committed to protection of our County's citizens

**MATT MAYER**...will ensure a safe jail to prevent unnecessary deaths to inmates, injury and law suits

**MATT MAYER**...is committed to fiscal responsibility

**MATT MAYER**...will strongly support the METRICH Drug Task Force to fight the drug epidemic

**MATT MAYER**...has a history of excellence when working with other law enforcement agencies

**MATT MAYER**...believes in treating others the way you want to be treated. He is a conservative, Catholic Christian who believes in trust and integrity

**MATT MAYER**...is a loving family man. Married 39 years to his high school sweetheart. They have 3 children and 4 grandchildren

**MATT MAYER**...is a life-long resident of Richland County and a proud member of a family of 12 with a legacy in criminal justice

**MATT MAYER**...received his Bachelor's Degree at the Ohio State University, received his OPOTA certification from the Ohio State Patrol Academy and has thousands of hours of continuous police training

**Affiliations:** Fraternal Order of Police, Knights of Columbus, St Mary's Parish, St Peter's Parish, Richland Co. Fish and Game Club, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Volunteer Hunter's Safety Instructor, NRA

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Website: [www.mayerforsheriff.com](http://www.mayerforsheriff.com)

**New London Rotary approves HNCO grant**

The grants committee of The New London Rotary's Area United Fund has approved a grant in the amount of \$1,200 in support of Hospice of North Central Ohio's "Camp Hope" children's bereavement camp.

Camp Hope was established by HNCO in 1996 in response to a growing need to provide a safe and supportive environment for grieving children who have lost a loved one through death.

The 2024 Camp Hope is scheduled for June 17, 18, 20 and 21 at Pleasant Hill Campgrounds on the Ashland/Richland County line. Qualified children, ages 6-17, are eligible to attend Camp Hope. The camp is free-of-charge excluding a small deposit to help organizers with project staffing and meals.

Camp Hope is staffed by a team of bereavement counselors and trained volunteers.

Ralph Tomassi, HNCO Chief Development Officer/Senior Administrator said, "Addressing the needs of grieving children in our area continues to be a high priority and core mission program at HNCO. We are indeed grateful for the continued support we receive from the New London Rotary's Area United Fund which helps fund the cost of delivering this special program."

**Library hosting special exhibit**

In recognition of Women's History Month, the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library presents "Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence," a poster exhibition organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery. The exhibit will be displayed at the main library at 43 W. Third St., Mansfield, March 4-22.

This exhibit celebrates the Nineteenth Amendment, which prohibits the government from denying U.S. citizens the right to vote based on sex and explores the complexity of the women's suffrage movement and the relevance of this history to Americans' lives today.

The main library is open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 8 pm; Friday and Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm; and Sunday, 1-5 pm.



**VOTE**  
**MATT MAYER**  
**FOR SHERIFF**

**REPUBLICAN**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Matt Mayer for Sheriff





**CHICKEN WITH BRIE & TOMATOES**

**Ingredients**

- 2 Chicken breasts (halved and flattened)
- 1/2 to 1 cup flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 8 Roma Tomatoes
- 1 wheel of brie (scrape rind off)
- 1 cup olive oil
- Fresh basil leaves, chopped

**Instructions**

In a saucepan add olive oil and chopped tomatoes, heat slowly. Add Brie and warm over low heat until it has melted, stirring continually. Turn off heat and set aside. Have flour, egg and bread crumbs in three separate dishes. Dip chicken in flour, eggs and bread crumbs. Place on oil coated baking sheet and cook in 350 degree oven until cooked (20-25 minutes). Remove chicken and cover with Tomato/Brie Sauce.

*LIKE Kimmy's Cucina on Facebook & Instagram*



Chicago • Photo By Mark Shutt



Photo by Damon Callis

**Day Trippin' With Damon** – Butternut Cave Trail at Malabar Farm is a 0.8-mile loop trail near Perrysville. This trail is great for hiking, running and walking. Malabar Farm State Park offers several short hiking trails for visitors.



**By Mátiece Thomas**

Growing up there was something my mom would always say to me, “If you’re gonna do something, don’t do it halfway.”

This advice got me thinking this week about all the things that have more than one side to it. For example, in my kick-boxing class she is teaching us defense and offense. Without knowing both, I wouldn’t be a well-rounded fighter. It is just as important to know how to block as it is to punch!

When it comes to a fitness plan, there are also two sides. You have your movement or exercise, and on the other side you have your nutrition. Together they work as a team. Without one, you fail to reach your goals.

It’s important to create a bal-

ance in what you are trying to achieve.

Nutrition is not just the food you put in your body, it is also the fluids. It’s not going to help you to eat healthy but then drink sugary drinks or high calorie alcohol.

An example would be to eat healthy, but not take in enough water for your body to let go of your fat and be hydrated enough for your day.

When it comes to creating your exercise plan, there’s also two sides. You have your exercise that’s building your muscles and making you stronger.

But on the other end of that equation, you have to remember to stretch those muscles and rehabilitate them so you don’t get injured.

I want to encourage you today with whatever you’re doing. Make sure you’re doing it 100% and not halfway. No being all-in could be what is sabotaging you and you don’t even know it.

Follow me at Instagram-5pts-fitness\_trainergirl for nutrition and workout tips.





Susie Danuloff



# Seniors attend Spring Into Health

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. had an amazing turnout at their Spring into Health event on March 5. The event took place at the Hawkins Conference Center, 2131 Park Ave West, Ontario, from 1-3 pm.

The agency provides leadership, collaboration, coordination and services to older adults, people with disabilities, their caregivers & resource networks that support individual choice, independence and dignity.

The goal of this event was to help enhance the quality of the life of seniors in our community. Prizes and giveaways were made avail-

able to the attendees.

Presentations took place from 1-2 pm in the Magnolia Room. The open house/resource tables were open from 2-3 pm in the Evergreen and Cedar Rooms.

There was a diverse range of educational sessions provided such as Solar Eclipse Preparation led by Rebecca Owens, Director of the Richland County EMS; Technology led by Dennis Fox, CEO of ES Consulting; Nutrition led by Greg Brandes; and Nutrition and Wellness led by Michelle Bailey, certified wellness coach from the AAA.

I spoke with the Area Agency's Chief of Community Living, Trae Turner, who expressed overwhelming excitement regarding the Spring into Health event. Turner oversees the administration of programs in his division such as Care Coordination, Evidence Based Wellness Programs and Adult Protective Services.

"Today is going to give us an opportunity to present services and support that promote health, active living, and quality of life connection with the community. We're going to be able to actually connect people with tangible next steps and resources which will make it very practical! While it is great to share information, we saw this as a unique opportunity for us to be able to give the attendees more of a hands-on learning approach."

Turner is very thankful for the Healthy Aging Grant provided to them through The Richland County Board of Commissioners. It not

*(Continued on Page 9)*

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Trae Turner



Rebecca Owens

# •Seniors attend Spring Into Health

*(Continued from Page 8)*

only enhances the current services that they offer, but it allows the Agency to go a step above and offer some of these tangible next step resources like technology and nutrition classes.

Some technology classes that were offered included learning the basics about devices and education or entertainment trends, May 20, Staying Health with Technology and learning about Health & Wellness Apps and Engagement, June 5, and how to Stay Safe, learning about Internet Safety & Security, June 18.

These educational classes will be presented by technology professionals from ES Consulting. To sign up, call Karen Hagerman at 567-247-6487. These series of classes are free and open to Richland County residents 60 and over.

Offering these types of classes allows the aging community to learn new tips and tricks when it comes to operating devices. Equipping and teaching seniors on how to use and operate technology in a safe way makes them feel empowered.

They've seen more of a push to have seniors feeling like they can have an email address to sign up for a vaccination, or it might look like a senior whose health insurance wants them to sign up and navigate an online portal.

Regarding the solar eclipse, having the opportunity to talk about things like eye safety and handing out solar glasses was a huge deal. The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. advises individuals to always contact their medical professionals for instructions and advice on how to properly use the Eclipse Glasses.

Rebecca Owens, the director for EMA spoke about how to be prepared when it comes to picking up any medications ahead of time, rescheduling doctors' appointments, and so on. For more information, contact EMA at 419-774-5686 or visit richlandcountyoh.gov.

Catholic Charities had a table letting people know about their amazing services! Catholic Charities offers a choice food pantry to give individuals the opportunity to select food compatible with their dietary needs.

Healthy choices such as whole wheat pasta, brown rice, no-sugar added canned fruit, vegetables and soups are provided. Catholic Charities also help with medications and medical bills. Call 419-524-0733 for more information.

The H.O.P.E Pantry Wish List includes canned vegetables, fruit, cereal, pasta, ramen noodles, canned meats, meal helpers, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, deodorant, toothpaste, and shampoo. Financial donations can be mailed to Catholic Charities, 2 Smith Ave., Mansfield, OH 44905. You can also give them a call at 419-524-0733.

Those who need help should first call 2-1-1. An alternate phone number is 419-522-4636 or call toll free at 877-795-2111. The line offers free, confidential, service assisting you in finding the non-emergency help 24/7, 365 days a year.

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PIONEER NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY (NTHS) members are front, Konner Summers, Nevaeh Gallagher, Mia Felder, Natalie Frye, Anderson Roll, Jamie Wilson, Audreana Whited, Chloe Clayborne and Nicole Watkins; and back, Lorelei Reed, Elizabeth Roberts, Josie Rank, Chloe Hursh, Ellie Rinehart, Cody Griffin, Taylor Carper, Allison Wright, Parker Harbolt and Brianne York.

### Pioneer celebrates National Technical Honor Society members

Pioneer Career & Technology Center has announced the induction of 20 outstanding students into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). The induction ceremony, held on Tuesday, March 5, was a momentous occasion where students were recognized for their dedication to excellence in their career technical program, academics, and their commitment to the core values of NTHS.

During the ceremony, students participated in a program of events and lit candles to symbolize the seven key attributes of the NTHS: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship, and Leadership. Each member received their certificate of membership award and the seniors received NTHS Honor Cords, as a symbol of their achievement.

In order to be inducted into the NTHS, students must exemplify good character, honesty, and responsibility, and must have made a personal commitment to excellence. They must also meet the NTHS Standards of Conduct, which includes maintaining a high GPA, ex-

cellent attendance record, and receiving recommendations from faculty and staff.

The Pioneer NTHS advisors, Vickie Hunt and Emma Jenkins, have been instrumental in guiding and supporting these students on their journey to academic excellence. Their dedication and commitment to the success of each student is truly commendable.

NTHS students are:

Two-Year Members: Mia Felder, Galion; Natalie Frye, Willard; Natalie Kline, Ontario; Lorelei Reed, Shelby; Anderson Roll, Shelby; Jamie Wilson, Northmor; and Allison Wright, Buckeye Central.

2024 Inductees: Nevaeh Gallagher, Northmor; Cody Griffin, Crestline; Chloe Hursh, Shelby; Ellie Rinehart, Galion; Taylor Carper, Willard; Chloe Clayborne, Lexington; Parker Harbolt, Northmor; Josie Rank, Plymouth; Elizabeth Roberts, Lexington; Konner Summers, Lexington; Nicole Watkins, Plymouth; Audreana Whited, Northmor; and Brianne York, Northmor.



STINGEL ELEMENTARY PARTICIPATED IN RIGHT TO READ WEEK, March 4-8. The building theme was "Reading Land: Where Reading is Sweet!" Many teachers invited mystery readers to their class daily. Students and teachers participated in daily themes. One day was Reading Colors the World — wear rainbow colors! The second grade teachers each wore a color of the rainbow. The building was specially decorated. Shown is mystery reader Superintendent Keith Strickler reading to a class.





**THE FINDLAY UNIVERSITY CCP** students from Ontario High School went on a field trip to tour the campus. Students viewed various chemistry and biology labs observing a lot of new laboratory tools and interacted with some staff members. The tour then included the planetarium, lunch and concluded with a visit to the animal studies barn where students saw various stages of farm life and even some sheep giving birth.



**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** in Miss Reichenbach's class at Ontario recently competed in Richland Newhope's Annual Bowling Event to celebrate the start of Developmental Disabilities Month. The students met new friends from area schools and had a fantastic time bowling together.

## Seedling sale to benefit FFA

Area residents can help Clear Fork FFA while helping manage stormwater and prevent soil erosion at the Clear Fork FFA Alumni Tree Seedling Sale held in partnership with Richland Soil and Water Conservation District. The sale proceeds benefit Clear Fork FFA programs.

The sale will be held at the Richland County Fairgrounds Nature Park on Friday, March 22, from 9 am to 6 pm, or until all seedlings are sold; and in the Clear Fork High School back parking lot, Friday, March 22 from 8 am until noon or until all seedlings are sold. Any leftover seedlings from Clear Fork High School will move to the Richland County Fairgrounds.

Orders larger than 30 bundles should be placed by March 8 by calling Clear Fork High School weekdays at 419-886-2601 or Jim from 4-8 pm, daily at 419-564-3881. Those who wish to purchase left-over seedlings can call Jim at 419-564-3881.

Bundles of seven of the same tree species are \$10 and sales are first come, first served with cash, or checks only being accepted.

Tree species are Norway Spruce, White Pine, Douglas Fir, Balsam Fir, Fraser Fir, White Cedar, Red Mulberry, Ohio Buckeye, Common Pawpaw, White Flowering Dogwood, Redbud, White Oak, Sugar Maple, Persimmon, Tulip Poplar, Red Oak, Scarlet Oak, Pin Cherry, Black Walnut and American Chestnut.

Birdhouses will also be available for \$15 each. An order form and information regarding the sale may be found at <https://richlandswcd.net/event/clear-fork-ffa-alumni-tree-seedling-sale-3/> or [https://cfcolts.org/?page\\_id=2838](https://cfcolts.org/?page_id=2838).





**STUDENTS IN MRS. RHODES' CAREER AND LEADERSHIP READINESS** class at Ontario High School completed a mock interview for a baker position at Crumbl with the hiring managers being our administrators. Each student completed an application prior to the interview, and each student brought their updated resume and cover letter with them to the mock interview. After the interview, students wrote a thank you email to their hiring manager.



**KCCC STUDENTS** Tanner Banbury, William Smith, Brock Stute, Lane Warner, Zachary Butler, Hope Moore, Matthew Milligan, Bryson Shaffner, Jordan Coole, Honesty Rimar, and Jaxson Kaiser earned "BT Elite" status recently and received their hoodies and interview shirts. Bryantt Kline also earned "BT Elite" status but is not pictured.

## KCCC students earn Building Trades Elite status

The Knox County Career Center Building Trades program recognized twelve students who earned the status of "Building Trades Elite."

"Building Trades Elite" (BT Elite) is a program generated by Colby Clippinger, KCCC Building Trades instructor, and the KCCC Building Trades Advisory Council that began in 2019-'20.

The program's criteria centers a point system around attendance, discipline, industry credentialing and extracurricular activities. Students can lose points for being tardy, absent and for discipline issues.

In order to earn "BT Elite" status, students must earn 250 points and must maintain 250 points or higher until graduation to keep the "BT Elite" status.

The "BT Elite" program is completely company-sponsored according to Clippinger. Students who earn "BT Elite" status are awarded a hoodie and an interview shirt.

The companies pay for the hoodies and interview shirts. The hoodie has the Building Trades Elite crest on the back along with the company sponsors. The student's name and "BT Elite" are on the front of the hoodie. The interview shirt has "BT Elite" and the

student's name on the front.

Clippinger commented, "We appreciate the companies who have partnered with us on the "BT Elite" program. The "BT Elite" program creates a well-rounded and ready-to-hire student."

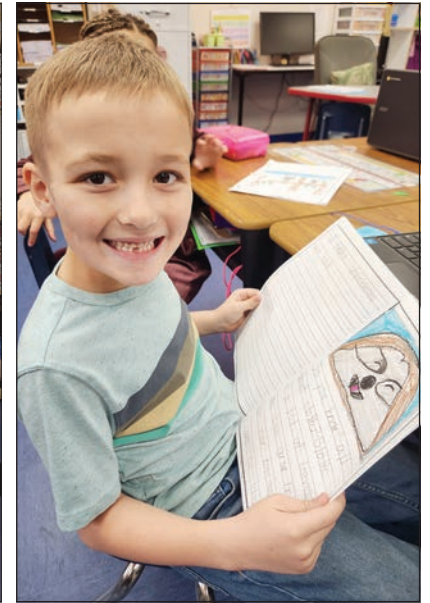
Forty-five students from the Building Trades program have now earned "BT Elite" status since its inception.

"The BT Elite program has had a profound impact on the students. It continually helps keep students accountable for themselves and they are now encouraging other students to attain the same level. This will only improve the quality of tradespeople entering into the workforce," added Clippinger.

KCCC & the Building Trades program would like to thank the companies who sponsor "BT Elite."

Thank you to J & B Acoustical, Ohio Contractors Association, ProTech Basement Solutions, LiUNA! Local 1216, Kokosing, Corna Kokosing, Brennstuhl Construction, Modern Builders, Gray Mechanical, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America Local 735, Holmes Rental & Sales, Meade Roofing Services, Small's Sand & Gravel, Ellis Brothers, Igel, Ruhlin, and Rietschlin Construction.





**PENGUINS & CHAMELEONS & KOALAS, OH MY!** The first grade student in Mrs. Eddleblute's class at Ontario spent the third quarter learning how to write informational text. They learned to write about different animals and "published" their very first books.

## Madison students to present *Seussical Jr.* this weekend

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.

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.

## Donors needed to keep supply growing

As spring approaches, the American Red Cross urges donors to give blood or platelets now to continue to strengthen the national blood supply. People of all blood types – especially those with type O blood – are critical to ensuring hospitals can meet the daily demand for lifesaving transfusions.

During Red Cross Month in March, the Red Cross celebrates volunteers and blood and platelet donors. To book a time to give, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS. As a thank-you, all who come to give by March 24 will get a \$10 e-gift card to a pet supply merchant of choice, plus a chance to win one of five \$3,000 gift cards. Donors who give March 25 through April 7, will receive an exclusive *Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire* and Red Cross t-shirt, while supplies last.

- Monday, March 18, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario
- Tuesday, March 19, 1-6 pm, Crossroads Church, 1188 Park Ave West, Mansfield
- Wednesday, March 20, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario
- Friday, March 22, Wednesday, March 20, 11 am to 5 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario
- Monday, March 25, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario
- Wednesday, March 27, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario
- Thursday, March 28, 2-7 pm, Community Building, 21555 Pealer Mill Rd., Butler
- Friday, March 29, 11 am to 5 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario

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# •Lexington discusses park improvements

(Continued from Front Page)

"I am working with Councilman Wise regarding the crosswalk on Plymouth Street," said Them. "We will meet again next Wednesday morning, money is available."

There has been an issue with the Poggemeyer and Kleinfelder merger. The ball was dropped on the Rt. 42 bridge repair project.

Councilman Wise asked that the village set a time line for opening the pickle ball court and basketball court. Wise said the village needs to set a date when the courts will be open. Ward, supervisor of Parks and Maintenance, stated they do watch the weather but having the gates to the courts do offer an option. Councilman Wise asked him to speak to his committee regarding the gates.

Councilman Bacin noted the line of sight at Holiday Hill is very bad. Chief Weaver added that there is an overgrown tree in the southbound lane and the northbound line of sight is often blocked by overgrown shrubs. The chief also noted that a truck is frequently parked in the driveway and blocks the view. Councilman O'Brien said the truck belongs to the old owner. The house has recently sold but the new owners need to be told to trim the bushes.

Councilman O'Brien requested corporation limit signs be placed throughout the village so guests can recognize when they have reached the village. O'Brien noted, "We are the biggest village in Richland County and it is important to identify where our corporate line begins." Councilman O'Brien observed no corporate signs at crossroads Orchard Park and Middle-Bellville Roads, and Lexington-Ontario Road. He said, "It is important that we announce, 'This is where Lexington begins.'"

Mayor Bob Jarvis reported, "I met with Jeremy Secrist, superintendent of Lexington Schools, and he addressed the coming eclipse and expected spectators. Chief Weaver has plans for patrolling during the eclipse and Pete Them will be taking care of the utilities for the Village of Lexington."

Chief Weaver added that this is nothing out of the ordinary for the officers. "We have handled big races where at least 150,000 spectators attend for the weekend."

Mayor Jarvis said, "I received an email from Rob Dorns regarding prevailing wages for the remote water meter project. I have talked with John Studenmund and he states we are good. But we do need a prevailing wage administrator."

Jami Kinton-Sluss asked to hold an egg-hunt for the village at noon on March 24 in Patriot Park. This was approved as long as the area is cleaned after.

"I attended the Richland County Planning Commission meeting," said Jarvis. "Nothing has been decided regarding the feasibility grant, but it is looking favorable."

"We submitted a grant application to the State of Ohio via State Representative Marilyn John. I had to resubmit later to Senator Romanchuk."

Councilman Bacin asked if the mayor received any feedback and Mayor Jarvis replied that the only comment Marilyn John made is that the village will not be getting the 5.7 million we applied for. Mayor Jarvis added he will be calling Senator Romanchuk.

Chief Weaver reported, "I will be putting something together for the eclipse event in the next couple of weeks."

Councilman Bacin thanked the Parks Department for covering up the graffiti on the bike trail. Administrator Them also thanked supervisor Ward for his pro-active actions.

An ordinance to approve and adopt a discernment policy for the Lexington-Troy Township Union Cemetery was approved.

Councilman Kearns explained the action by the Cemetery Board. The Ohio Revised Codes clearly define the laws regarding townships and municipalities, but the Union Cemeteries section is very brief; there is no legislation regarding disinterment. Attorney Studenmund added that the ordinance reflects the township language creating a policy where, currently, there were none. Councilman Bacin stated this action is long past due.

A resolution approving the hiring of Andrew Smallstey as a part-time consultant and declaring an emergency was approved.

Councilman Little asked how much money Smallstey would be paid. Attorney Studenmund replied, that it is up to the council to decide.

Councilman Kearns noted that many consultants charge \$200 to \$250 per hour, whereas Smallstey is broken down to quartered hours. Mayor Jarvis suggested \$75 per hour and not \$100. Councilman Kearns asked where the money will come from. and the mayor replied from zoning department.

Kearns noted this transition was not given much time to carry over. Councilman O'Brien asked who will keep track of the hours worked. Councilman Wise stated council could be capped. Councilman Bacin asked if there was a time frame for the contract. Attorney Studenmund stated very little time or none.

Councilman Kearns noted it is a rate without benefits. Wise stated he trusts Peter to use it wisely. Council President Gongwer asked if it was possible to use a number that is divisible. Councilman Kearns and Councilman Bacin both agreed, \$80 is good. Gongwer asked if there is a deadline to the contract and was told no.

Councilman Kearns announced that Elizabeth Michalski has been appointed as Troy Twp Fiscal Officer, and has also been elected as Lexington-Troy Twp. Union Cemetery Board Treasurer. She is a Delaware Street resident with an excellent financial background and has already started in her new role.

Mayor Jarvis requested Attorney Studenmund and Administrator Them to attend an executive session.

Councilman Bacin has heard too often that "sheds" or barn" are loosely termed and in reality it is an Air BNB. Attorney Studenmund noted that there are other words that are being applied to Air BNB.

Mayor Jarvis added that the Planning Commission will be meeting next week to review the zoning code and that Gene Parkison will be meeting with Attorney John Burton to update zoning laws.

Bacin said being concerned about its arrival is no longer valid; they are here. Councilman Kearns commended the analogy especially with race weekend traffic.

## Foundation welcomes new community investment officer

Bobby Rhea has been named the community investment officer at the Richland County Foundation.

"The community investment officer is our liaison to the non-profits in our community. This is a vital role at the Foundation, and we are excited to have Bobby join our team," said Foundation President Brady Groves.

Rhea most recently was employed as the community engagement manager at the Renaissance Theatre. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and is a graduate of Crestview Local Schools.

Rhea will work alongside Siera Marth-May as she steps into the position of senior community investment officer. Marth-May has been the community officer since she joined the Foundation in December 2018. She is a graduate of Clear Fork High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Ohio State University.

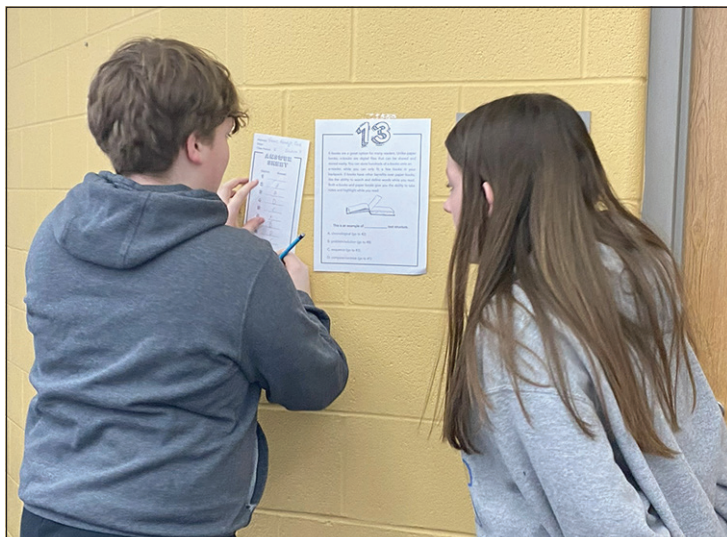
"Over the past five years, Siera has grown the impact we've been able to make with both college and career technical education scholarships and has led the Nonprofit Director's Alliance," said incoming President Allie Watson.

Groves has announced he will retire April 16. Watson, who is the senior community investment officer, will assume the role of President & CEO. Watson has been with the Foundation since 2012 facilitating grants and supporting nonprofit organizations. Watson helped to create the Osborne Meese Academy, a capacity building workshop for nonprofit organizations and Mansfield Rising, an investment plan for the Central Business District.

Watson is a native of Mansfield and has a strong commitment to the Foundation's mission which is to improve the quality of life in Richland County through strategic philanthropy and community leadership.







**LITERATURE STUDENTS** in seventh grade at Ontario recently had a chance to review nonfiction text structure with a scavenger hunt activity in the library. Students had 13 stations to identify the text structure for a posted passage.

## Fun Center Chordsmen to celebrate 50th anniversary on March 23

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.

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 over seventy men.

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.

## Area churches continue March of Prayer events

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, Easter falls on the 31st.”

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.

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. 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.”

The remaining schedule for this year’s March of Prayer is:

- March 14, The ARC, 378 Park Ave. West
- March 15, Kingdom Life, 7 Consolidated Dr., Shelby
- March 16, BibleWalk Museum, (CANCELLED)
- 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

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**KNOX COUNTY | MT. VERNON**  
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Station Break Senior Citizens Center  
160 Howard Street, Mt. Vernon



**ASHLAND COUNTY | ASHLAND**  
Healthy Living For Your Brain and Body  
Thursday, March 28 - 4:00 PM  
Brethren Village Community Center  
2130 Center Street, Ashland



# •Area students participate in EmployMePalooza

*(Continued from Front Page)*

items to help creatively showcase themselves. Some had display boards, computer slideshows, vision boards and more to show employers who they were and what they had to offer.

This collaborative effort aims to bridge the gap between students and businesses, fostering a community of growth.

"The students at this year's EmployMEpalooza definitely brought their 'A game,'" said Clint Knight, Richland Area Chamber Director of Workforce Development.

"All 35 were poised and ready to engage with employers. The room was buzzing and the energy was high."

"Multiple students let me know that they already had interviews set up for positions, and we hope to find that quite a few of them will get opportunities out of the event."

"For me, it's important that our employers and business owners get the chance to engage with these young adults and understand how they want to work, how they create, and how they communicate. We're dealing with a generation gap in today's workforce and it is going to continue. As employers, we're going to need to continue to be creative about how we engage with new talent, and this is a good opportunity to do that."

Local students attending the event included Baileigh Cordrey, a senior at Crestview Local School seeking full time summer work. She currently works Guard Drill weekends the first weekend of every month at the Ohio Air National Guard in Mansfield. She does paperwork and computer training for when she leaves for basic training and she assists the mechanics and learns how to do checkups.

Scott Graham is a junior at Madison Comprehensive High School seeking to obtain a position in the field of welding. He's part of the welding technology program at Madison. He has experience using heavy machinery, is able to take a leadership role, and is capable of flux core welding and cutting. He was selected for varsity on the tennis team and is certified in OSHA for welding.

Aaliyah Dombroff is a junior at Madison Comprehensive High School. She is seeking to obtain a position in the field of Precision Machining. She's certified on a lathe, bandsaw, drill machine, milling machine, is able to read micrometer and pitch micrometer and is experienced with hand and manual thread.

Allyssa Blasini is a junior at Madison Comprehensive High School in the Early Childhood Education program. She loves working with children and would like to obtain a position in this field.

William Gretzinger is a junior at Madison Comprehensive High School in the Welding Technology program. He is experienced at GMAW welding, able to weld flux core, spray transfer, and is trained in stick welding.

Emma Bell is a freshman at Ontario High School who is a dedicated, hard-working and responsible individual. She has an energetic attitude, is organized, has great communication skills and can multitask. Her hard skills include google forms, google documents, google drive and presentations.

Aaliyah Caldwell is a freshman at Ontario High School who is looking to be a valued employee and interested in being a nurse in the future. Her current GPA is 3.8 and she volunteers at Crossroads Community Church.

Kaylei Chandler is a freshman at Ontario High School who is a passionate and dedicated student athlete with a strong work ethic and drive for success! Her extracurriculars include being part of the Internationals Soccer Club, Ontario Warrior Soccer and the Ontario Leadership Club.

Raiden Rhinehart is a sophomore at Ontario High School with a 4.2 GPA. He is on track to graduate from high school with an associate degree. He's part of the Ontario Warrior Wrestling, Baseball and Golf teams. He would love to study Sports Medicine or Engineering one day.

Leila Stevens is a junior at Ontario High School who has worked at Warrior Pizza and Ice Cream since 2021. She plays soccer and her hard skills include google forms, drive, documents and cashier skills.

Zyairriah Lindsay is a freshman at Ontario High School who is a motivated individual seeking to gain experience and contribute to a team-oriented environment. She is a member of the Maddox Memorial Church of God and Christ and involved in their church programs.

Alexandria Fender is a freshman at Ontario High School who is hoping to expand her skills and better advance herself. She wants to be a Trauma Surgeon one day and wants to help people and be able to save lives and make a difference in this world. She needs volunteer hours this summer. She currently has a 4.1 GPA and enjoys

*(Continued on Page 17)*



Ontario freshmen Kaylei Chandler, Aaliyah Caldwell and Emma Bell



Madison students Allyssa Blasini, Aaliyah Dombroff, Evan Merlino and Jaden Fisher



Scott Graham from Madison





Zyaiiriah Lindsay



Alyssa Blasini



Leila Stevens

## •Students participate in EmployMePalooza

*(Continued from Page 16)*

cross country. She is organized, goal oriented, while able to problem solve and be adaptable.

Grace North is a freshman at Ontario High School with leadership skills who is motivated and self-driven. She has strong interpersonal skills including being empathetic, an active listener, has a positive attitude and is dependable. She volunteers at Crossroads Community Church and volunteers at Magnolia Terrace, providing emotional support for residents.

For further information about this event, contact Clint Knight at [cknight@choosericland.com](mailto:cknight@choosericland.com). #richlandrocks #RichlandWorks



Jalesa Windham (Branch Manager, Surge), Baileigh Cordrey (Crestview Senior) and Lovonia Weatherspoon (On-Site Supervisor, Surge)



Raiden Rhinehart



Photos By Traci Little



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## OHSAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT AT THE SCHOTTENSTEIN CENTER, COLUMBUS DIVISION II · PHOTOS BY JILL SCHLOSSER



Jacob Ohl, Ontario senior, 113 lb., Third Place



Luke Schlosser, Clear Fork Senior, 165 lb., Sixth Place



Mike Thomas, Madison Comprehensive senior, 120 lb.



Aedan Nicol, Lexington senior, 285#



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## OHSAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT AT THE SCHOTTENSTEIN CENTER, COLUMBUS DIVISION II · PHOTOS BY JILL SCHLOSSER



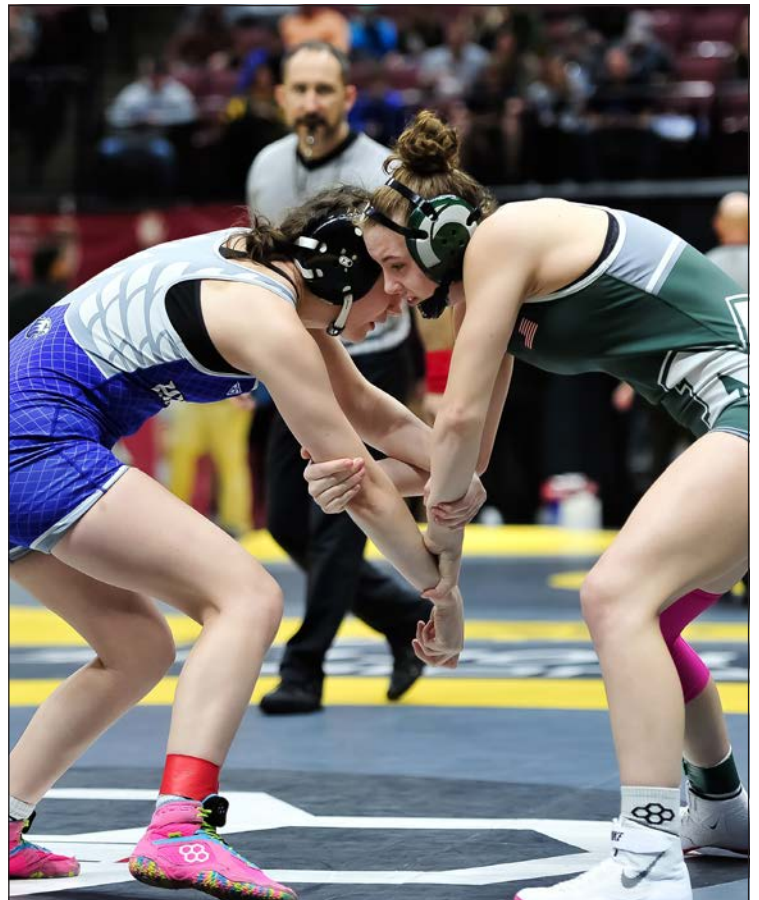
Mason Turnbaugh, Ontario junior, 138 lb., Third Place



Aiden Ohl, Ontario sophomore, 106 lb., Second Place



Cole Dille, Ontario senior, 157 lb.



Estella Koppert Smith, Madison Comprehensive sophomore, 130lb.



Landon Campbell, Ontario senior, 215 lb., Fifth Place



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Whippets basketball continues on tournament trail

Photos and Article By Kris Leiter

This week, March 11–17, a local basketball celebrates moving further along in the 2024 OHSAA boys tournament.

We are entering week four of the boys hoops brackets!

Needless to say, last week was a wild week, a good week and a bittersweet week, all rolled into one.

Last week we had six teams still on the tournament trail, and as of this column, we are down to one team.

We bid farewell to Crestview, Lexington, Lucas, Mansfield Senior and Mansfield, who all had a great tournament run!

Congrats to the Shelby Whippets, as they are still blazing a trail to Dayton!

First things first, and credit where credit is due...

Even though the Ontario Warriors bowed out the previous week to Mansfield Senior, I have to give a big hats off to Ontario High School and athletic director Jeff Fisher and his staff for hosting a great double-header for the Division II District games last Thursday for the semi-finals and Saturday for the finals.

Shelby (1 seed) defeated Mansfield Senior (5 seed) 60–55. The four teams had a great double-header with Mansfield taking on Shelby in the opener at 6 pm and Lexington versus Willard in the night-cap at 8 pm.

It was a night full of exciting hoop. It's a shame that someone had to lose between these four great teams.

The opener was a re-match of the Mansfield Tygers and big rival Shelby. Even being non-conference opponents, it's always fun watching these two teams go at it!

Would the Tygers get redemption from the loss back on Jan. 27, when the two teams battled it out and the Whippets came out as victors 73–55?

A little teaser if you will, this would be a very ironic game to say the least. As the tip-off commenced, the Tygers wasted no time in showing the Whippets they were present and accounted for.

In less than a minute, at 7:11, Mansfield's Kyevi Roane struck first blood and dropped the first two points!

The Tygers held the Whippets scoreless until 5:03 in the first quarter when Whippet Casey Lantz notched the first two points with a big dunk! However, the Tygers would counter-offer.

As the first quarter continued, the Tygers were not letting Shelby forget the last time they met and poured in the points. They would continue with Tyger DJ Corbin dumping in two more points, making it 8–4, Tygers at 3:00.

It was the Whippets turn when Karsen Homan tipped the cart for the Whippets and they took their first lead of the game 9–8 at 1:55.

The Tygers would say no way and continued to take advantage of the first quarter defensive rebounds with an incredible 75% to the Whippets 44%. By the time the first quarter horn sounded, the Tygers had the edge at 16–13! Remember, I said ironic earlier?

As the second quarter began, the Tygers had out-rebounded the Whippets 61% to 25% and also outscored the Whippets in the second quarter alone 13–8. The Tygers took the halftime lead of 29–21.

Heading into quarter number three, the Whippets were still alive and well, but the Tygers would still maintain a comfortable gap of 6 to 7 points as time ticked away in the third quarter.

Shelby started to close the gap little-by-little and Whippet phenom Alex Bruskotter brought a big field goal at 4:00 to close the gap to 6 points, 35–29, the Tygers still keeping the lead.

It seems like even when things look grim, Shelby finds a way to find a way. As the third quarter wound down, the Whippets were getting warmed up!

Whippet Issaiah Ramsey, dropped 2-points at 1:25 and closed the gap by two points, to 37–35!

By the time the third quarter ended, the Whippets outscored the Tygers 17–13! The Tygers were holding their own, but the Whippets were digging in and not going away.

For three quarters, Mansfield dominated, but in sports, anything can happen. Shelby was relentless and took no prisoners as they totally dominated the fourth quarter.

As the final quarter began, the score was 42–38, the Tygers still holding. However, the Whippets would start to claw and scratch and fight their way back, as they seem to have done all year long.

At 6:49, Bruskotter dropped two, bringing both teams deadlocked at 44–44! At 7:45, Alex Bruskotter continued to pour in two more. Karsen Homan added four points as well at 4:34 and 2:15.

At 2:46, the two teams were again be deadlocked at 50–50! This is what tournament basketball is all about!

Shelby then opened the gap to 6 points with tallies by Homan and Ramsey and at 1:07 left, it was Shelby holding the lead 56–50.

With 10 seconds left, Shelby had the lead 57–53 and with less than a minute remaining, Mansfield could do nothing more. As the seconds wound to zero, the final of 60–55 showed the Whippets as victor!

Again, hats to the Tygers as they would give a gallant effort and another great year on the hardwood!

Scoring for the Tygers was led by two players in double figures: Kyevi Roane with 18 points and an amazing 12 rebounds and teammate DJ Corbin with 13 tallies.

Shelby's scoring leaders were three players in double figures. Issaiah Ramsey had 15 points, Casey Lantz had 12 points and Alex Bruskotter had 11. (See photos of this game on Page 23)

Congrats to the Whippets for another hard fought battle which moved them forward to the Regional semi-finals at Bowling Green.

As the night continued, Lexington (2 seed) defeated Willard (3 seed) 59–57 in overtime. Lexington and Willard brought an intense game to a sold-out capacity crowd in the night cap of the double header at Ontario.

There was a lot on the line for Big Lex. If they could beat Willard, they would face the winner from the earlier game (Shelby). What a scenario! The stakes were higher at this point, it's tournament time

As the first quarter commenced, Willard, who is no stranger to tournament basketball started the party with some "gift" baskets and dropped the first three points. By the end of the first quarter, Willard would have gone on a 15–11 scoring run, not allowing Lex one single lead change.

As the second quarter would ring in, the Flashes would again notch another run of 11–9 for a lead of 26–20 by halftime. Would Big Lex turn things around as they have on many occasions this year?

Chime in the bell for the commencement of the third quarter, and Lex began the march, as soldiers do.

Lexington's Brayden Fogle dropped four big points at 7:29 and 7:06 to close the gap to two points!

At 7:06, Lex pulled the reins and tightened the formation at 26–24! This seemed more the norm from Big Lex that we have seen all year. As the Minutemen were lighting the sky with buckets, they continue, and alas, they tied the knot 4:55 with Joe Caudill dropping a well needed contribution of two points, 28–28!

Things were looking hopeful for Big Lex, or so it seemed. Willard was hanging around a bit longer and wasn't heading homeward bound quite yet!

For the next few minutes, the Flashes countered back with another 13–12 run, adding to the tally, for a third quarter ending horn of 39–32, the Flashes were relentless!

The fourth quarter opened and Lex was not shaking the Flashes by any stretch! Lex would have to bring a BIG eight minutes to stay in this game! As they say, speak and the door will be open!, and hence the Minutemen would be putting up fireworks to dominate the fourth and final quarter!

They went on an incredible 21–14 run!

Minuteman Seven Allen wanted to join the party and that he did! He dropped six points alone in the fourth round!

(Continued on Page 21)



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## ● Whippets basketball continues on tournament trail

*(Continued from Page 20)*

Was it enough to seal the deal and march back to Lexington with their muskets proudly in formation?

At :41 seconds in regulation, the Flashes had the lead 53-50! A mere :41 seconds can seem like an eternity especially in this case.

Remember Brayden Fogle? He would show his true form and drop a Big Lex 3-pointer with :36 seconds. The knot was tied once again at 53-53!

As the time wound down in regulation, Lex held the ball. Mr. Clock keeper, please put 4:00 minutes on the clock. We have overtime!

Big Lex...could they, would they pull out a win in this almost fairy-tale like game?

Mr. Fogle was back at 3:40 on the overtime clock as he poured in two points putting Lex in the lead, 55-53, breaking the tie! Well, if you didn't need your blood pressure pills by now, I sure did!

Willard countered with two of their own, tying the knot again, 57-57! Would we encounter another overtime? Would Lex or Willard notch the final basket?

Well, as Lex has done all year, Fogle was determined to seal the deal and with 1.7 seconds left. He dropped a big 2-pointer as time ran out. Lex made this night theirs as Fogle's basket edged the Flashes 59-57!

Leading scorers for Lexington were Seven Allen with 19 points, and Brayden Fogle with 18 points and 8 rebounds. *(See photos of this game on Page 24)*

The next day, the crowd returned to Ontario for the Division II Northwest I District Finals with Shelby (1 seed) versus Lexington (2 seed).

As some had speculated what may happen, Lexington and Shelby fought through the Sectionals. It was a perfect re-match of two great teams with a little more excitement.

Shelby had not forgotten about Dec. 30, in Lexington, when the undefeated Minutemen downed the Whippets, 61-57.

Let the showcase showdown begin!

Shelby's Alex Bruskotter, a Wright State prospect, started things off by going on a scoring frenzy and dropping nine points in the first quarter alone! He scored seven of those tallies in less than two minutes, from 5:15 to 4:05. Can you say a productive day at the office!

Would it be fair to say the word "redemption" was on Shelby Coach Greg Galloway's clipboard?

Shelby was leading 14-7 at 3:51.

As they say, sometimes, you need a little help from your friends and Shelby's Issaiah Ramsey wanted to join the fun and dropped 4 points, with back-to-back field goals, opening the lead even more at 2:21. Shelby was holding a nice 10-point lead, 19-9.

It was time for Lexington to drop a few by Gavin Husty with a big 3-bomb at 5:45! Shelby was still leading, but Lex was getting warmer at 23-17.

By 3:55, Lexington scored 7 points, by Husty and Brayden Fogle and closed the gap to 26-22, Whippets, but Big Lex was on the war-path! Shelby wasn't done yet either and with 1:30, Shelby's Casey Lantz drained a 2-pointer and extend the lead to 6 points, 28-22!

There was no doubt about it, Shelby was firing on all cylinders! However, Lexington has seen this scenario time after time!

As the first quarter rang out, the Whippets held a lead 23-11.

Lexington would say "never say die" as the second quarter helped close the gap with Brayden Fogle dropping a 2-bagger at 6:45 to put the Minutemen within three points!

At 5:33, along comes Lex teammate Joe Caudill with a gift of his own — 2-points, to put Lex within 1 point, 28-27, Shelby with a narrow lead!

Lex phenom Fogle dropped another two, putting the Minutemen over the top with lead 29-28 at 5:12.

As the next few minutes wound down, Shelby capitalized on free throws and opened the gap to 41-33, with Shelby leading at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter would remain and this game would send the winner to Bowling Green for the Regionals! Would Shelby continue or would Lex close the gap and regain the lead?

It was time for Shelby's Casey Lantz to add to the mix with a hot hand in the fourth quarter, as he started things off at 6:57 with a 2-bagger, Shelby leading by 7 points, 43-36.

Shelby's Brayden Devito came to the aid of the party at 5:17 with a huge 3-pointer, pushing the lead 47-36.

For the next few minutes, Lexington would attempt to foul Shelby in order to stop the clock, but Shelby took advantage of the trip to the charity stripe and Devito added two big free throws, and furthered the lead 52-38. As the clock wound down, Devitodropped another 2 bagger and Shelby held at 56-43.

*(Continued on Page 22)*

Shelby was named District Champion at Ontario last Saturday night against Lexington.



Karsen Homan



# •Whippets basketball continues on tournament trail

(Continued from Page 21)

And the seal on the deal would be a big dunk by Issaiah Ramsey at :56 seconds left on the clock. Shelby had the commanding lead 60-48. Lex dropped another two by Elijah Hudson at :54 left.

At the final buzzer, the final tally was 62-52.

Lex ends another great season and the Whippets continue on.

Leading scoring for the Minutemen was Brayden Fogle with a double-double of 13 points and 11 rebounds and Gavin Husty with 11 points.

In the scoring column for the Whippets is four players in double figures. Alex Bruskotter had 20 points and 11 rebounds, Issaiah Ramsey had 13 points, Brayden Devito had 11 points and Casey Lantz has 10.

The Whippets will play tonight, Thursday, March 14, at 8 pm, on the Campus of Bowling Green State University at the Stroh Center in the regional semi-finals. Good Luck Whippets!



Brayden DeVito scored 11 points against Lexington in the district final game at Ontario



Shelby's Alex Bruskotter (5)



Elijah Hudson and Joe Caudill collect the trophy for Lexington who was named district runner-ups.

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# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**SHELBY VS MANSFIELD SENIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · MARCH 7**  
**WHIPPETS WIN 60-55 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**





# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS WILLARD VARSITY BASKETBALL · MARCH 7  
MINUTEMEN WIN 59-57 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER







MRS. SECRIST'S third grade students at Ontario ended the nine weeks and their science unit on states of matter with a physical and chemical change experiment. Kids witnessed a physical change when they created an Ooblek mixture. They then ended with a delicious chemical change experiment, root beer floats.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICE

The Troy Township, Richland County, Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on April 10th, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Troy Township Hall, 247 South Mill Street, Lexington, OH. The purpose of this meeting will be to consider an application for a variance for Josh Wendling who wants to build a 24 X 14 shed in his back yard at his property located at 1996 Kings Corners Rd E, Lexington, Ohio.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and address any concerns.

Kevin J. Angle,  
Secretary, Zoning Board of Appeals,  
Lexington, Ohio  
(T-C 3-14 '24) 17L

## 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 March 6, 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. 24-05 – AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A SIX (6) MONTH MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE, CONSIDERATION AND/OR GRANTING OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL LICENSING APPROVAL, AND/OR ANY ZONING, OCCUPANCY, OR OTHER PERMITS RELATING TO CULTIVATORS, PROCESSORS OR RETAIL DISPENSARIES OF MARIJUANA WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker  
Clerk of Council  
City of Ontario, Ohio  
(T-C 3-14, 21 '24) 27L

## Garden summit coming to Kingwood

Raising Richland, the 13th Annual Community Garden Summit's theme will be "Planting for the Future."

The free summit will be held Thursday, March 14, from 5–8 pm at Kingwood Center, 50 N. Trimble Rd., Mansfield

Registration will be held from 5–5:30 pm and the schedule will include Josh Steffen: Welcome to Kingwood, 5:30–5:35 pm; and Daniel Neef of Green Patch Gardens "Heirloom: The Past is the Future," 5:35–6:15 pm; Break for refreshments and vendors, 6:15–6:45 pm; Seth Meehan of High Desert Greens "Planning a Grow Space," 6:45–7:30 pm.

Registration for children K-sixth grade is 5–5:30 pm with Judy Villard Overocker, extension educator, presenting "From Seed to Harvest to the Table" with displays, story time and crafts, from 5:30–7:30 pm.

Local vendors will also be available. Kingwood's Gateway Café Garden & Gift Shop will be open until 7 pm. For more information call Suzy at 419-522-1611 ext. 127.

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