



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

05.02.24



Lara Newman named Mrs. Richland County

Photo and Article By Traci Little

Lara Newman's newly gained title of Mrs. Richland County is not something she would have ever imagined holding. The 2005 Ontario High School graduate moved away for about 15 years to Columbus. Her family has come back home to the Richland County area and settled in the Bellville area. She absolutely loves Ohio and can't ever see herself moving away. She enjoys experiencing the beauty of all four seasons. She loves living on 5.5 acres and truly thrives in a simpler, homestead life.

Lara exudes a beautiful, humble confidence and really wants to make the most of this experience in every way! She is a lover of all kinds of animals and can be found cuddling her cats and bunnies.

She homeschools her three children (ages 10, 7, and almost 5) and they are her top priority! She's been married to her amazing husband Andrew for 11 years in August. They make a great team and he's truly supportive in all she does. He is the level-headed one and keeps her grounded, especially during the craziness of this new adventure.

Lara is a Christian and her faith in God comes first above all else. She wants to give Him the glory in all she does and make her family proud. Lara is a photographer and owns Bridle & Bustle in Bellville.

A pageant is something she never imagined doing, but when her daughter Presley won Little Miss Blueberry in 2022, she asked her mom why she hadn't ever done a pageant before. Some reasons she allowed her daughter to compete in a local pageant were to learn the important skills of public speaking and to be given the opportunity to make a difference in her community. After her daughter asked her that question, she stood there befuddled with no good answer, "so here goes nothing!"

She's already been able to represent her community as Mrs. Rich-



land County in several ways. While her children have always been her number one priority, she realized she kind of lost herself in the mix after becoming a mom. This has been a fun way to get creative and do the things she loves to do as Lara, sharing the gifts God has given her. She's been able to find herself again, while still remaining true to her family and values.

Former Mrs. Ohio America, Kimberly Yeager Miller told her to get ready because this will become like a full time job. Lara is quickly realizing she was one hundred percent correct.

As we chatted in the cozy Nickel & Bean coffee shop in Lexington, Lara enjoyed her decaf lavender latte. As we talked, we quickly discovered that we were two kindred souls simply having coffee together.

Our love of coffee, photography, and our faith really bonded us. When I asked Lara what one large dream of hers is, she said,

"It would be an absolute dream one day to build a large, black barn on our property with a couple white horses that we could dress up like unicorns for birthday parties. I envision hosting fun Christian gatherings around a large wooden table in the center of the barn with beautiful hanging Edison lights. I would have an upper loft in the barn that would be a photography studio."

Lara has been through many hardships and adversity in her life that has made her an empathetic, strong, bold, and confident woman. When she was a young girl, she was picked on a lot. She remembers being bullied quite a bit and people telling her she looked too skinny and would even hear comments as awful as "why don't you just go kill yourself."

(Continued on Page 5)

Prayer Parade set for National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2

The second annual "Prayer Parade" will highlight the National Day of Prayer in Mansfield, Thursday, May 2.

The parade will begin at 6:30 pm from the five-way light at Mari-on Avenue and Park Avenue West, following a festive hour of music, food and preparation.

The service, which will begin about 7 pm at the gazebo in Central Park, will feature music and prayers for local and national leaders, first responders and schools and families.

The parade is coordinated by Amanda Nichols, director of Project One and the ARC Empowerment Center, 378 Park Avenue West, and is a culmination of a vision she first had nearly 20 years ago.

"Last year's event was a great joy and good mix of praise and worship, festivity and solemnity. It celebrated the victory won for all in Jesus, the call to be a nation in prayer before God, and the opportunity to worship in a nation that protects and cherishes that right," said Nichols. "This year will build on that first year's event."

(Continued on Page 8)

MACC

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THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

Luca Guadagnino's *Challengers* is an interesting film about professional tennis players surrounding a story about a love triangle that works to influence the outcome of a match.

Zendaya plays former tennis star Tashi Duncan, who, after an injury, became a coach to her husband Art Donaldson (Mike Faist), also a tennis player who has had a series of unfortunate games.

Art used to be on a team with his best friend Patrick Zweig (Josh O'Connor). Both Art and Patrick were romantically involved with Tashi. The movie chronicles, through a series of time jumps back and forth, the reasons for their dating, their various tennis matches and how everything leads to this one big game at the end.

Guadagnino has a very unique and European style of filmmaking as evidenced in his earlier film *Call Me By Your Name*. He truly brings out some of the best performances from all of these actors and films the tennis sequences with ease.

Challengers is just not very interesting beyond the on again, off again relationships. The movie does not shy away from showing intimate scenes between Tashi, Art and Patrick though sometimes the movie be-

comes too obsessed with which guy will Tashi go for next instead of advancing an interesting plot line.

I feel like I am in the minority on this film because it is getting rave reviews. There is much about the movie to be appreciated. As said before, the performances are truly great, as are the tennis scenes and Guadagnino's way of weaving a storyline. None of these characters are particularly interesting though outside of them being athletes.

There is also an electronic score that pulses very loudly through most of the scenes (even some of the dialogue) that becomes really distracting and annoying.

I wanted to like *Challengers* very much because this cast and director are usually top notch though there was something about it that keeps it from being recommended. Maybe more reliance on deceit between the characters and more captivating actions to keep one from winning the game instead of making Tashi undecided through most of the movie would have driven the plot along and made it more riveting.



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KCCC program to host cruise-in

Knox County Career Center's (KCCC) Collision Repair program will host a car show/cruise-in on Saturday, May 11, from 11 am to 3 pm at KCCC.

Local food trucks will be on-site along with food from KCCC's Culinary Arts program.

There will also be raffles for prizes along with awards for Best Car, Best Truck, Best Motorcycle, Best 80's and Below, Best Burnout and Best Junker. The awards will begin at 3 pm.

The entry fee is \$20. All proceeds from the car show/cruise-in go to Knox County Food for the Hungry.

The event is being sponsored by Fredericktown Chevrolet.

Napa, O'Reilly's, Advance Auto, Thorpe Garage, Mid Ohio, Valley ATV and Donley Ford donated items for this event.

For information about the car show and cruise-in or to pre-register contact Cory Adams, KCCC Collision Repair instructor, at cadams@knoxcc.org.

To create the next chapter of your Ontario Library!

**OPEN
MAY
6**

Opening May 6, the temporary Ontario Library!

Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall.

We recommend parking on the Stumbo Rd. side, south entrance.

For full details and to follow along with the renovation, go to mrcpl.org.

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Tribune-Courier

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News Briefs

The St. Peter's Music Series presentation of the BlueWater Chamber Orchestra will be held on Sunday, May 5 at 4 pm in St. Peter's Church, 60 S. Mulberry St., Mansfield.

BlueWater Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of artistic director Daniel Meyer, returns to St. Peter's with a program featuring world renowned guitarist Jason Vieaux as soloist. He will perform Vivaldi's Guitar Concerto in D, as well as a new work for guitar and strings by Israeli composer Avner Dorman entitled "How to Love."

Ending the program is Beethoven's 7th Symphony. This is family friendly and played without intermission. Admission is free and open to the public. Call 419-524-2572 ext. 2113 for information.

★

The Richland County Foundation will conduct its annual meeting Friday, May 10 at 11:30 am at Kingwood Center Gardens, 50 Trimble Rd., Mansfield.

The foundation invites anyone in the community who is interested to attend the luncheon. Registration is online at richlandcounty-foundation.org, click the events tab. The cost is \$30 per person. Payment can also be made by mailing a check to 181 S. Main St., Mansfield, OH 44902 or call 419-525-3020 for additional information.

★

State Route 309 eastbound, between the West 4th Street interchange and U.S. 30 interchange, will close Monday, May 6 for 10 days for bridge repairs on the Home Road overpass. The detour route for eastbound motorists is Lexington-Springmill Road to U.S. 30 east. Traffic on SR 309 westbound and traffic on Home Road will be maintained. Estimated completion is Wednesday, May 15.

★

A showing of the movie "Screenagers: Under the Influence- Addressing Vaping, Drugs and Alcohol in the Digital Age," will be held by Communiuty Action for Capable Youth (CACY) on May 7 at 5:30 pm at Linden Road Presbyterian Church.

The movie examines the impact of our digital age on teens' decision-making in relation to substances such as vaping, drugs and alcohol. The film highlights the changing landscape of the substances themselves, offering solutions for how to best empower teens as they face decisions about what they will and will not be influenced by.

★

Ontario will be offering a basic lifeguarding class on May 23, 24 and 28 from 9 am to 4 pm, each day. Participants must attend all three days. The cost is \$150 to Ontario students and \$200 for others. If interested contact Debby Henry at 419-571-8772 by May 1. Classes will be held at the Ontario High School pool.

★

U.S. Senate Candidate Bernie Moreno will be the keynote speaker at the 2024 Lincoln Day Dinner hosted by the Richland County Republican Party on Friday, May 10.

The event will be held at 1285 Winery at the Blueberry Patch, 1285 W. Hanley Rd., Mansfield, with a VIP reception for sponsors at 5 pm with doors opening at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6 pm.

For tickets visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-lincoln-day-dinner-richland-co-republican-party-with-bernie-moreno-tickets-872436760837?mc_cid=77f890111a&mc_eid=e86c4aabb3.

★

First Congregational Church Chancel Choir will present Te Deum by Karl Jenkins under the direction of Dirk Eachus on Sunday, May 5, during the 10:30 am worship service. The church is located at 640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield.

★

State Route 598, between Dinninger Road and Henry Road, will close Monday, May 6 for a culvert replacement. The detour route will be SR 589 north to SR 98 north to SR 61 north to SR 598, and reverse. Estimated completion is Monday, May 20.

★

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 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.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, April 27 and 28. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

★

The Mansfield Area Community Hymnsing will be the second Friday in May because of scheduling conflicts. It will be at 7 pm at New Liberty Baptist Church in Lexington on Lexington Ave, a half mile south of Hanley Rd. All are welcome.

★

The Richland County Republicans will host a First Monday Luncheon from 11:45 am to 1 pm on Monday, May 6, at The Kobacker Room, DLX Events and Catering, 28 N. Main St., Mansfield.

Guest speaker will be Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General. RSVP to (Continued on Page 8)

ANNUAL COUNTRY RIB BBQ

Saturday, May 4, 4-6 pm

Slow Cooked Boneless Country Rib, Potato or Macaroni Salad, Baked Beans, Roll, Beverage & Homemade Vanilla Ice Cream

Adults: \$12 • 10 & Under: \$7

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Richland Rural Life Center
969 E. Crall Rd., Mansfield

MAY 2024

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Presented by the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter



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CRAWFORD COUNTY | GALION
Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia
Monday, May 20 - 5:30 PM
JAG Healthcare Galion
925 Wagner Ave, Galion



SENECA COUNTY | TIFFIN
Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia
Thursday, May 23 - 2:00 PM
St. Francis Home (Multipurpose Room)
182 St. Francis Avenue, Tiffin



SENECA COUNTY | TIFFIN
10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's
Thursday, May 23 - 2:30 PM
St. Francis Home (Multipurpose Room)
182 St. Francis Avenue, Tiffin



Monument Valley, Colorado • Photo By Mark Shutt

RRLC rib dinner is Saturday

The Richland Rural Life Center will host its annual country rib BBQ on Saturday, May 4, from 4-6 pm.

The dinner will be held at the Richland Rural Life Center, 969 E. Crall Rd., Mansfield (entrance located between Stewart Rd. and Rt. 545, Madison area).

The menu includes a slow cooked boneless country rib, potato or macaroni salad, baked beans, roll, beverage and homemade vanilla ice cream.

Cost is \$12 for adults and children's meals (10 and under) are \$7. Homemade ice cream quarts will be available for \$4. Tickets are sold at the door and dine-in and carry-out are available.

For more information call 419-544-2418 (leave message).

The Richland Rural Life Center is a non-profit organization that supports 4-H and Boy/Cub Scout troops. Proceeds from dinners and events help maintain the RRLC land and facilities.

The RRLC also has three buildings available for rent throughout the year for reunions, weddings, graduations, birthday parties, anniversaries and other events. To inquire about rentals call 419-589-3206 and leave a message.

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 Stuft
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 Nezzrick
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

•Lara Newman named Mrs. Richland County

(Continued from Front Page)

Her platform is substance abuse. She's had family members and friends battle the disease and she even lost her own brother Joseph to substance abuse and suicide. She also had a close friend overdose and pass away. She's very passionate about educating the younger generation and helping children, teens and college students gain the proper coping skills and knowledge surrounding substance abuse.

She's teamed up with Mansfield Richland County Public Library to get books into their system that help educate young children about the risk factors involved. They've been so helpful getting new resources into her hands and they are working on something big together.

Some books the library is currently working on getting in to their circulation are *Mommy's Getting Sober*, by, P. Casey Arrillaga; *A Kid's Book About Addiction*, by, Nicole Lendo; *Floating Away*, by, Andrew Bauman; *Dad's Addiction*, by, Susan Justice; *A Kid's Book About Coping Skills*, by, Megan Knipe; and *When Harley Has Anxiety*, by, Regine Galanti.

Lara's calendar is quickly filling up and she's so excited about serving the community leading up to the actual pageant. It's so much more than designer gowns and pretty crowns and learning how to walk and talk.

"I feel incredibly blessed to have this platform which gives me opportunities to do things in our community I otherwise may not. God has always placed me exactly where He wants me. This one has taken me by complete surprise and I'm so ready to see how He uses me in all of this," said Newman.

Behind the scenes she's been busy on zoom meetings, preparing with her director Kristi Miller Nunn as she's just about eight weeks away from the Mrs. week! She's finally completed shopping for her

wardrobe and was at Henri's this past weekend spending time with a walking coach. She also had her first mock interview with a panel of judges. She received high marks with one constructive critique which is to loosen up her body as this portrays nerves! With more practice, this will become muscle memory. She really tries to have good posture and keep her shoulders back.

"I've learned how important it is to have good posture, not only because it exudes confidence and strength, but because it can actually lead to heart failure which happens to run on both sides of my family! I'm happy this process has brought attention to this for me. It's been fun to push myself out of my comfort zone, learn new skills and have more fun doing it!"

Lara has been in conversation with her local mayor finding out ways to best get plugged in and serve her community. She's working on getting on the horn with police stations in our area, calling local schools for speaking engagements, messaging local chambers, partnering with small businesses, and gaining sponsorships. Please reach out to Lara on Facebook if you would like to become a sponsor.

The Mrs. Ohio pageant will be located at The Woodward Opera House in Mount Vernon on June 22 of this year.

The Wishmaker House will be sponsoring a fun Sip & Support Wine Pull Fundraising Event on May 28 at 6:00 pm. Black & White attire is requested. There will be live music, a silent auction and raffle items. Please RSVP - 419-886-WINE.

"We are honored to be sponsoring Mrs. Richland County Ohio, Lara Newman, for Mrs. Ohio America. Our Wishmaker House Restaurant will be open for wine, cocktails and dining. To donate in advance towards this fundraising event or donate a silent auction item, please contact 419-866-WINE."

The Mrs. Ohio America Pageant dates as far back as 1839 and is still sharpening women and creating sisterhoods in 2024! Lara has done more in just one month than she ever realized she could. "Give me the title as Mrs. Ohio America, and see what I can accomplish in a year!"

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Stella Mae Taylor, April 6
Jeremy Russel Gill, April 17
Nathan Earl Kegley, April 19
Rebecca June Stoots, April 19
Juanita Kiser, April 21
Joyce Marie Paige, April 21
Clarence Lee Branham, April 22
Betty Lou Brewer, April 22
Gloria Ann Hart, April 22

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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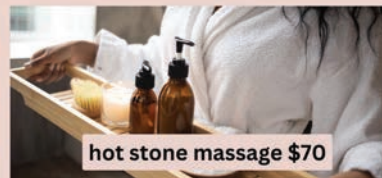
spa mani & pedi \$75



deluxe day spa package \$125



hour massage or facial \$55



hot stone massage \$70



Clover Hill Early Learning Center earns 5-Star accreditation

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Natasha Repp has always dreamed of opening her own early learning center ever since she began her career in early childhood education 26 years ago. She was the principal of an early childhood program for a large school district for the past nine years. Through that experience, she learned a lot about how to manage a preschool and childcare program.

She gained the confidence to take the big leap to achieve her dream at the end of May 2023. Natasha and her husband purchased a building in Ontario with the goal of opening her own Early Learning Center.

There was quite a bit of work that went into fixing the new place up to make it a safe and high quality center. Knowing what was ahead of them, they persevered and accepted the challenge. They spent the next 5 months remodeling the building from top to bottom!

The center had its state licensing inspection in the middle of November and received the go ahead to open. Clover Hill ELC celebrated their grand opening to the community on Nov. 8, 2023, and began welcoming children on Nov. 27.

At Clover Hill Early Learning Center, their mission is to create a community of learners by providing a high-quality preschool and childcare program that promotes continuous growth through best practice.

The staff at Clover Hill Early Learning Center are highly trained and experienced in early childhood education. Everyone is very passionate about working with children and are committed to providing the best possible care and education for each child. Meet the staff by visiting <https://cloverhillelc.com/meet-the-staff>.

The center offers an infant, toddler and preschool program to meet the individual needs and interests of each child. The Creative Curriculum promotes a child's development and learning by supporting them through play and exploration while creating strong family connections.

Clover Hill Early Learning Center has announced it was just awarded a 5-Star Step Up to Quality rating from the state of Ohio! SUTQ is Ohio's rating and improvement system for early learning and development programs that exceed licensing health and safety regulations. The rating scale is 1-5 stars with 5 stars being the highest. This is a huge honor and achievement to receive in just 90 days!

There are still a few openings left in their Summer School Age Program! Enroll now to reserve your child's spot! The program begins May 23 and goes through the middle of August. Children in the summer school age program (kindergarten to fourth grade) are

offered a variety of learning experiences to help support their social-emotional health, cognitive and physical development through hands on activities in a play based environment.

They will be providing the following learning opportunities:

- Ontario Library Summer Reading Program
- CACY (Community Action for Capable Youth) Education Visits
- Pound Classes (Music & Movement)
- Science / STEM Activities
- Special Animal Visits
- Nature Trails & Outdoor Activities
- Water Play
- Small Ratios
- One-on-One Learning

Call 419-723-0001 for more information. There is both part time and full time options for families.

Families love Clover ELC's solid mission for education and safe learning which makes them feel comfortable sending their kids there. They love the clean, safe, and calm environment and the friendly staff. The open concept and calming earth tones throughout the building, provide a peaceful and calm area to play, learn and grow together.

Another huge plus that families love is the excellent communication they receive throughout the day electronically. Parents and caregivers get plenty of updates and pictures about their little ones.

"They have helped my son with social skills and with his developmental milestones. They are like family. I can't imagine being anywhere else," commented one parent.

Throughout the day, children are encouraged to use their five senses by listening, smelling, touching, moving and observing while they learn. Hands-on learning opportunities help them discover and explore their own interests. The centers in the room consist of art, science, writing, dramatic play, blocks/trucks, manipulatives, math, reading and sensory.

Family grouping is practiced in the six weeks to 2 ½ year old class. The goal of family grouping is to help children experience being the youngest and the oldest in the classroom while building sustained relationships. This helps develop language, social-emotional development, and older children become role models for the younger children. Children also keep their same childcare providers for a longer period of time to give them more opportunities to build attachments for more personalized care as they grow and develop.

Clover Hill Early Learning Center is located at 2986 Park Avenue West in Ontario. Visit www.cloverhillelc.com and find them on facebook at www.facebook.com/cloverhillelc.





kimmy's cucina
By Kim Sterry

PEACH, PROSCIUTTO AND BURRATA GALETTE

Ingredients

1 Pie Crust
1/2 cup Olive Oil
4-5 cloves Garlic
1-2 Peaches, peeled, sliced and grilled
5-6 Thin Slices of Prosciutto
1/4 Thin Sliced Vidalia Onion
Parmesan
1-2 Balls of Burrata
Fresh Basil, rolled and sliced in strips
Salt & Pepper

Instructions

Put olive oil and garlic in a saucepan and heat on low heat until garlic becomes soft and can easily be crushed, 10-15 minutes. While the oil and garlic are doing their thing, roll out your pie crust into a large round. Place on parchment paper on a baking sheet. When garlic oil is ready, you want to mash the garlic really well. (I have an avocado masher that works perfect for this). When you begin to assemble, envision a circle 2-3 inches smaller than what you have rolled out, because you are going to fold edges up over your ingredients. Then brush garlic oil onto the bottom of the crust. Sprinkle with some of the Parmesan cheese. Add the thin sliced onion and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Arrange the grilled peaches around the crust next. (To prepare peaches I just peeled, sliced and grilled, that simple). Next layer slices of the prosciutto. I just pulled pieces apart and placed them over the peaches. Sprinkle some more Parmesan. Go all around and fold crust up. It will overlap. Just tuck and fold all the way around. Bake in 350 degree oven loosely covered for 20 minutes and then uncovered for 15 minutes more. Keeping an eye on the crust to make sure it does not get too brown. If it seems to be, just cover it back up. Cut your burrata up in quarters and place all around the tart. Sprinkle with Basil.

LIKE Kimmy's Cucina on Facebook & Instagram



Photo by Damon Callis

Day Trippin' With Damon – Punderson State Park is a 741-acre public recreation area located in Newbury Township, OH. The landscape surrounding Punderson State Park features evidence of the last glacier to scrape across Ohio. A natural kettle lake, Punderson Lake is the largest and deepest of its kind in Ohio. The lake provides a destination for paddling, fishing and relaxing. Other outdoor pursuits include camping, hiking, and golfing (both traditional and disc golf). For information visit <https://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/punderson-state-park>.

•News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

419-528-8223 or rcoghogp@gmail.com. Lunches (optional) are \$10.

★
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Rev. Elaine Strawn to speak on "A Few Home Truths" at 10:30 am on Sunday, May 5. For more information visit www.all-soulsuohio.org.

★
The 3rd Annual SPT Charity Golf Outing will be held Friday, May 17, at Twin Lakes Golf Course, 2220 Marion Avenue Rd., Mansfield. Entry includes breakfast, dinner, beverage, snacks, golf, cart and prizes. Specialized Pipe Technologies seeks to utilize golf to spark a day of generosity to benefit the Richland County Special Olympics.

For more information call 419-834-8366 or email aaron@sptohio.com. To register visit <https://files.constantcontact.com/5fc06e-c5201/3f846a90-7d29-4b37-83cd-bd19efb80b6a.pdf?rdr=true>

★
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.

★
The Lexington Kiwanis will host the fourth annual golf outing at Twin Lakes on Friday, June 7. Registration is at 12:30 pm and shotgun start is at 1:15 pm. This is a four-person scramble format. New this year is a \$10,000 Hole-in-One Challenge.

Dinner will be served at 5 pm. Those unable to golf can come at 5 pm. Cost is \$300 per team of four includes green fees, cart rental, soft drink, chips and hot dog at the turn, dinner and prizes.

Alcoholic beverages are not included in the cost, but will be available at discounted prices. All teams and money must be in before May 29. Proceeds help support Kiwanis youth services. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/231093806474054>. For more information email lexkiwanispresident@gmail.com.

★
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 May 15, and will include chicken. This will be a celebration of 50 years.

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

★
First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West, will be offering senior boxes of nonperishable food provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. This comes with a 15 lb. box of fresh produce and a 2 lb. box of cheese. These items are free to those who qualify by age (60+) and low-income guidelines. Participants must have at

least one person age 60 or older in the household.

Senior boxes are available on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year round. They may be picked up between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.

Due to the volume of clients, distribution is moving to the Mulberry St. parking lot at the corner of Park Avenue West, beginning in May. This is directly across the side street from the church.

Those attending should pull in and follow signs and directions.

★
Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) provides free quitting tools and support to help area residents plan to reduce or quit smoking. CACY quit specialists give new tools at each meeting to help reach goals. Meeting just 4 to 6 times for 15–30 minutes can increase success of kicking the nicotine habit.

Call 419-774-5683 or email anderson@cacyohio.com.

★
State Route 97, between Kelly Avenue and Bellville-Johnsville Road, will close Monday, May 6 for two consecutive culvert replacements. The detour route will be SR 97 east to I-71 north to SR 13 south to SR 97, and reverse. Estimated completion is Friday, May 17.

★
A Lexington High School Alumni Celebration will be held Saturday, June 8, in the Lexington High School Cafeteria and Auditorium.

Registration, social hour and tours of the new grade 7–12 facility begin at 4 pm. Opening remarks will be at 5:45 pm with dinner at 6 pm. Dress is casual and the dinner is \$30 per person. The dinner will include a buffet of pulled pork, grilled chicken, cheesy potatoes, green beans, garden salad, dessert, rolls and beverages.

The tour will involve walking but an elevator is available.

After the meal, those attending will adjourn to the auditorium for entertainment and updates, including recognition of this year's scholarship awards. Register by Tuesday, May 21 by emailing 48val.wal66@gmail.com. Follow the event on Facebook at Lexington Ohio Annual Alumni Banquet.

★
The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps Ohioans at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines pay their heating bills. Ohioans can visit energyhelp.ohio.gov to apply online or download a copy of the application. Senior citizens may go to their local Area Agency on Aging office for help with assembling the required documents and completing their HEAP application.

Individuals will need to have copies of most recent utility bills, list of all household members (birth dates and social security numbers), proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types), proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members and proof of disability (if applicable).

HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after Jan. 1. The last day to apply for the regular HEAP benefit is May 31, 2024.

Those who need immediate assistance with energy bills should contact their local Energy Assistance Provider. For information or assistance with applying call 419-524-4144.

•Prayer Parade set for National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2

(Continued from Front Page)

Congregations, church groups, Christian schools and local businesses will enter the parade with floats, decorated vehicles, walking groups and musicians, although Nichols reiterates a caution.

"We want people to enter the parade without agenda except lifting up praise to the Lord," she said.

Worship coordinator is Rev. El Akuchie, who with Ben Mutti has led the Richland Community Prayer Network for more than a quarter century.

"After a joyful parade, we plan a time of fervent prayer, in many areas, by several church leaders. This is an event for young and old, traditional and contemporary, for all Americans to lift up this time and place to the Lord," Akuchie says.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," he proclaims, then smiles as he adds, "And remember, Mansfield is Godsfeld."

The National Day of Prayer has its roots in proclamations by Presidents Washington and Lincoln, and at various times by others presidents, but became an annual observance in 1952 when President Harry Truman responded during the Korean War.



Survivor
Libby Whitten

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Photos By Jeff Hoffer

THE 23RD ANNUAL MOHICAN WILDLIFE WEEKEND was held April 26-28. A program was held at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary, 3774 Orweiler Rd, Mansfield. 2024 Keynote Speaker was Gail Laux, founder of the Ohio Bird Sanctuary.

Shelby's downtown revitalization will highlight music series

Downtown Shelby will launch of a new music series, funded by a generous grant provided by The Shelby Foundation.

The cornerstone of the series is the "Last Tuesday" concert series, featuring performances scheduled for the last Tuesday of the month April through August.

In addition to the Last Tuesday series, the project will feature eight pop-up musicians during Shelby Farmers Markets, held on Saturday mornings. These performances will infuse the market atmosphere with live music, enhancing the shopping experience and celebrating the local talent of our region.

Shelby Foundation Board Chair Dr. Marissa Miller, expressed her excitement for the project, stating, "When the Foundation invest-

ed in Black Fork Commons Plaza, it was with the vision the plaza would be full of people and activities. The Foundation appreciates the Community Improvement Corporation of Shelby (CIC) and their leadership and is happy to financially support plans to activate the space."

Cody Albert, vice-president of the CIC, emphasized the series' contribution to downtown revitalization efforts, remarking, "The creation of this music series demonstrates our commitment to fostering a vibrant downtown environment. These concerts and pop-up performances will attract visitors, boost economic activity, and foster a greater sense of community pride."

Visit Facebook.com/ShelbyCIC for information.



ASHLEY SCOTT'S kindergarten class learned all about plants this week. To close out the week, student ate plants and decided if they liked them. The students sampled roots – carrots, stems – celery, leaves – lettuce, flower – broccoli and seeds - sunflower seeds.

Middle school students invited to apply for two-day coding camp

Students entering sixth through eighth grade for the 2024-'25 school year are invited to apply for a new "Code a Carnival" experience on June 17 and 18 from 9 to 1 pm.

Students will create their own arcade carnival game such as whack-the-mole over the two days using Microsoft's MakeCode Arcade and a micro:bit device.

North Central State College and the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development are hosting the camp. The camp will take place at the NCSC Kehoe Center, 175 Mansfield Ave., Shelby.

Crystal Dean, NCSC Testing Center Specialist/Professional Tutor/ Workforce Development Training Leader, will lead students through the skills-based activities. "I am beyond excited to lead this coding class and work with our local area students," Dean said. "For many students, learning basic coding can be an empowering experience that teaches a wide range of skills: creativity, problem-solving, perseverance, confidence, and more".

The "Code a Carnival" experience will help students explore cod-

ing and computer science as an interest and potential career pathway. Students will learn block-based coding, engineering, and physical computing. Beginners to advanced coders will find activities at their skill level. Students will learn critical thinking, assessment, and hands-on development of software applications.

Participation is free. Code a Carnival camp is funded by a Microsoft TechSpark grant, the North Central State College Foundation, and the Mansfield-Richland Area Educational Foundation.

A Micro:bit device will be needed. Students should have a Windows, MacOS, or Chromebook laptop to participate. A limited number of loaner laptops will be available upon request. Snacks and lunch will be provided each day.

Apply by May 7 at <https://ncstatecollege.edu/summer-coding-camp/>. There are only 30 seats available.

For more information contact Randy Blankenship, manager, workforce development at 419-755-4767 or rblankenship@ncstatecollege.edu.



News Briefs in Education

Dennis Head was among the 126 Northeast Ohio Medical University College of Medicine students to learn their medical residency match during a celebration for National Residency Match Day, held March 15, in the NEW Center Ballroom.

Head learned they will be serving a Urology Research Year residency at Penn State U in Hershey, PA. He is currently a fourth-year medicine student at NEOMED, and will move on to their residency following graduation this spring. A Commencement celebration will be held Saturday, May 4, 2024.

The residency match is a culmination of four years of hard work and dedication to train to become a physician and transformative leader in the field of medicine.

★
The University of Mount Union hosted its 17th Annual Student Celebration Honoring Our Latest Academic Research (SCHOLAR) Day on Tuesday, April 23.

SCHOLAR Day is traditionally a campus-wide, day-long event filled with presentations showcasing academic excellence and scholarly research conducted by Mount Union students.

Adriana Russel of Mansfield was selected to give a Poster presentation titled The Effectiveness of Herbal Materials versus Common Antibiotics in Controlling Bacterial Growth, during Mount Union's SCHOLAR Day.

The university is located in Alliance, OH.

May recognized as Mental Health Month

Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and its partnering agencies continue to observe the tradition of celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month. This national event began in 1949 and was designed to bring attention to the importance of mental health and well-being of everyone. This year's theme is "Where to Start: Mental Health in a Changing World."

Several events are scheduled to celebrate the fact that mental health is treatable and with proper treatment people do recover and manage their diagnosis. The goal with celebrating Mental Health Month is to educate people and reduce stigma.

May 1-31, CACY will be distributing free Deterra medication deactivation pouches to properly dispose of unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter medication. Deterra pouches are made from environmentally friendly materials which allows the pouch to biodegrade without hurting the environment. For packets contact Brandy at the CACY office at 419-774-5683.

May 1-31, Catalyst Life Services will have Helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you or someone you know is dealing with a mental health or addiction crisis, please call 419-522-HELP (4357).

May 1-31, The Behavioral Health Urgent Care at Catalyst Life Services offers access to services without an appointment. Patients can receive an initial assessment or brief and solution-focused counseling for Mental Health and Addiction. Located at 741 Scholl Rd., Mansfield, the urgent care is open Monday and Friday 8 am to 4 pm and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:30 am to 7:30 pm.

May 1-31, The Warmline will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for questions or concerns regarding mental health. For more information call 419-522-5300.

May 1-31, The Richland County Mental Health Board will be supporting the Crisis Text Line Text4Hope and encourages individuals who may not want to interact on a personal level with someone to reach out for help via text. This line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can access this free service by texting 741-741.

May 4, 11, 18 and 25, 10 am and 11 am, OhioHealth Ontario Health and Fitness is offering free Yoga for veterans, their family members, and anyone else who may benefit from the class. The classes will be held at 1750 W. Fourth St., Mansfield. During the one-hour class participants will focus on mindful breathing, gentle movement and posture, deep breathing and gratitude meditation.

May 4, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm, Richland County NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), in collaboration with Richland County Youth and Family Council, will host a Resource Fair at Richland Carrousel Park 74 N. Main St., Mansfield. This is a free event offering fun and education for the whole family. There will be information available including social-emotional learning, health resources. There will be carousel rides, a Mother's Day craft, giveaways, animal balloons, food and much more. For more information visit namirc.org or call 419-522-6264.

May 6, at 7 pm, on behalf of the City of Shelby Mayor Steve Schag will offer a proclamation to help Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board celebrate Mental Health Month. The event will be held at Shelby City Hall.

May 6 thru June 10, NAMI will offer NAMI Basics which is a six session educational program for parent, caregivers and other family who provide care for youth (ages 22 and younger) who are experiencing mental health symptoms. For more information on this please visit namirc.org or call 419-522-6264.

May 7, 5:30 pm, CACY is hosting a showing of *Screenagers: Under the Influence- Addressing Vaping, Drugs and Alcohol in the Digital Age* at Linden Road Presbyterian Church. The movie examines the impact of our digital age on teens' decision-making in relation to substances and explores the latest research to learn more about the personal experiences of teens and families. The film highlights the changing landscape of the substances themselves, offering solutions for how we can best empower teens as they face decisions about what they will and will not be influenced by.

May 7, 7 pm, The City of Mansfield and Mayor Jodie Perry will offer a proclamation to help Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board celebrate Mental Health Month. The event will be held at Mansfield City Hall.

May 14, at 4:30 to 6:30 pm Catalyst Life Services will host its Annual Kids Carnival at 270 Sterkel Blvd., Mansfield. The event is free and open to the public. There will be snacks, games and prizes.

May 16, 3:30 pm, Substance Abuse Treatment Court Graduation will be held at the Life Celebration Reception Center, 129 S. Main St., Mansfield. Refreshments will be provided.

May 18, at 11:33 am, 33 Forever will host the 3rd Annual 33 Forever Mental Health Birthday Walk which will begin at the square in Mansfield and end at the Carrousel. It will be a 3.33 km (2 mile) family friendly walk. There will be a \$33 registration fee for walkers who are encouraged to get sponsors to help raise money for mental health and 33 Forever. To register go to <https://33forever.life/>.

May 18, 12-4 pm, Healing Hearts Counseling Center is working in collaboration with Healing Hearts Foundation of Ohio to celebrate May as Mental Health month, and bring a sense of connectedness within the community, by having the 4th annual "Party in the Park." By hosting "Party in the Park" Healing Hearts hopes to bring connectedness and unity throughout our community through dance, song, and games. They will be providing food, games, kids activities, and just a day filled with fun! The event is being held at South Park, 100 Brinkerhoff Ave., Mansfield.

May 28, 1-4:30 pm, Catalyst Life Services is offering Free hearing Screenings at 270 Sterkel Blvd., Mansfield.

June 3 and 4, The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities Foundation, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, and the Ohio Department of Health, will host Ohio's 2024 Mental Health and Addiction Conference: Building the Systems of Care on June 3-4, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus.

For information on services that are available in Richland County you can visit www.richlandmentalhealth.com or call the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board at 419-774-5811.



MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL held its junior/senior prom at Kingwood Center on Saturday, April 20. Talia Byrom and Davis Wushinske were crowned prom queen and king respectively.



ONTARIO WARRIOR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL members, in cooperation with the City of Ontario, did spring cleaning along Lexington-Springmill Road.

Writers of all ages encouraged to enter mural stories contest

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library and Mankind Murals, Inc. will present a Mural Stories Writing Contest.

Richland County has a rich tapestry of vibrant murals adorning its streets, each telling a unique story of our community's history, culture, and aspirations. We invite you to become a part of this living narrative by putting your creative writing skills to the test.

This community-based project will connect creative writers to murals across Mansfield, and create a collection of writings with a self-published book at the library as well as linking the mural stories online.

Participants of all ages are encouraged to submit an original creative writing piece based on one of the many murals in and around Mansfield. Contest entries will be judged in three age groups: youth, teens and adults. The categories of writing submissions accepted include: fiction, poetry, memoir or autobiographical, monologue or short play, nonfiction or essay. Submissions for this contest are open from May 1 through June 15. A panel of judges will choose one winner in each category to receive a \$25 Barnes & Noble gift card.

This pilot program includes 35 mural sites,

featuring the work of over 50 artists. The portal to access these mural sites is available online, alongside an informative map that details the Artists, Year and Mural Sponsors, as well as photos of the public artworks.

Word limit recommendation for the contest is 1,000 words or less, or 2 pages single spaced. Poetry word limit recommended 200 words or less. Creative Writing will be screened for appropriateness before being considered for publishing online or being made public. Minor editing of submitted content may be necessary for readability.

An interactive follow-up event, Mural Stories, is planned for Saturday, July 13, at 10:30 am in the MRCPL main library parking lot at the corner of Mulberry and W. Third St., in Downtown Mansfield. This program will feature highlights from the contest, interactive storytelling, a scavenger hunt, and more.

For more information on how to participate and to virtually visit mural locations and artwork, visit mankindmurals.org/mural-stories or mrcpl.org/mural-stories. Public Art Portal: <https://rebrand.ly/MansfieldPublicArtPortal> Public Art Map: <https://rebrand.ly/MidOhioMuralMap>





Photos By Traci Little

THE TEMPLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Junior/Senior Prom 2024 was held April 26 and 27. Classmates stopped in Downtown Mansfield to take a few photos before departing for Columbus where they visited Texas de Brazil, Scene 75 and Graeter's Ice Cream. On Saturday, they made stops at Bottoms Up Coffee, Goodwill, Otherworld and Field of Corn in Dublin.



Free vessel safety inspection checks available for boaters

Each spring, recreational boaters debate getting a free, no-penalty vessel safety check (VSC). Some may also wonder if that VSC decal on their boat will save them from a random summertime boarding by law enforcement.

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water, the boating safety arm of the nation's largest membership-based boating group and Vessel Safety Check program sponsor says there is no data that supports having a current-year VSC decal lessens the chance for a random boating safety check.

The U.S. Coast Guard flatly states the decal does not exempt boaters from law enforcement boarding.

So why get a vessel safety check?

"It's a question some boaters don't feel comfortable asking out loud," says BoatUS Foundation boating safety director Ted Sensenbrenner, "Many boaters think that having a current VSC decal is some type of 'get out of jail free' card. It's not."

However, completing a free VSC offers a much more important benefit. "The real value to passing a VSC means you and your boat are ready for potential safety challenges or emergencies that may come up over the boating season," says Sensenbrenner.

"You won't be caught scrambling or without an important safety device when you most need it. This is far more important than simply indicating to a potential boarding officer that a boat has been found to be in compliance with safety equipment regulations."

Scheduled VSC inspections are often offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club, at launch ramps, marinas and boat clubs, or appointments can be made for a vessel examiner to come to your boat.

Visit cgaux.org/vsc to learn more and request an exam. Exams typically take less than 60 minutes.

Failing a VSC from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club, does not penalize a boater. The owner is given a road map on what items or issues to focus on so they can pass the next exam.

In contrast, if a boat is boarded by the Coast Guard and deficiencies are found, you could receive a citation or fine.

Boat clubs, marinas, boat yards and municipalities with launch ramps may also reach out to their local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club, to schedule a VSC inspection day at their property.

OHS Rhapsody in Blue & Jazz Band Cabaret • April 20





THE ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL PROM was held Saturday, April 27 at the high school. Chosen as 2024 Prom Queen was Sarah Strickler (top right photo) and 2024 Prom King was Canaan Wentz (bottom center photo),

Stellar Robotics to host Shawshank Showdown Saturday, June 8

In celebration of 10 seasons of Team 5413 Stellar Robotics providing STEAM learning opportunities to students K-12 in Richland and surrounding counties, Stellar Robotics is excited to announce an exciting new event in Mansfield: Shawshank Showdown.

This free event will take place at Mansfield Senior High School, 124 N. Linden Rd., on Saturday, June 8, from 8 am to 5 pm.

Robots will square off to play "CRESCENDO," the 2024 FIRST Robotics Competition game challenge. Those attending will see robots shooting game pieces, climbing a chain, working together and defending their goal. To see the game in action visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9keeDyFzY4>.

The event is currently looking for volunteers to take up various roles, such as field setup and teardown, handing out safety glasses, managing registration tables, queuing teams, resetting the field after matches and more.

To register as a volunteer visit <https://tinyurl.com/shawshankvolunteerregister>

Education Row will be available to attendees to discover local opportunities through

businesses, local schools, colleges, organizations and other FIRST teams. There will be a Food Truck Alley available to attendees as well.

The Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development is sponsoring this event through its Microsoft TechSpark grant funds. Additional donors and sponsors are welcome to support this new event. Stellar Robotics is bringing to Mansfield. Donate at <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2175136>.

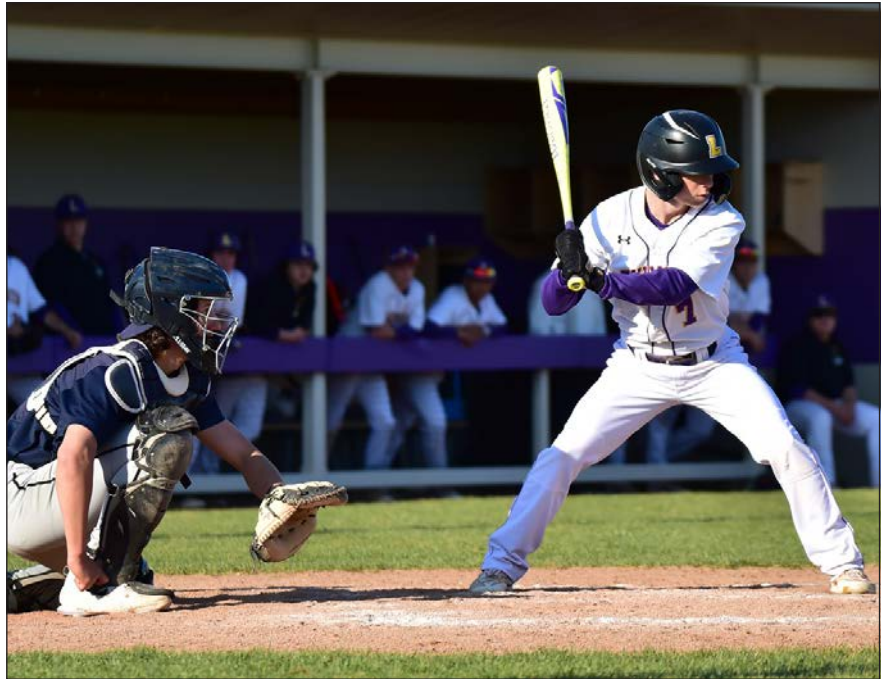
The worldwide mission of FIRST is to provide life-changing robotics programs that give young people the skills, confidence, and resilience to build a better world. Stellar Robotics assists in this mission as a community-based, non-profit educational organization which promotes and teaches Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) skills through competitive and non-competitive robotics programs open to any students K-12 in Richland County, and the surrounding areas.

Those interested in supporting, joining or volunteering for Stellar Robotics' programs, visit www.firstroboticsmansfield.com, email stellarrobotics@gmail.com or call 567-275-1207.



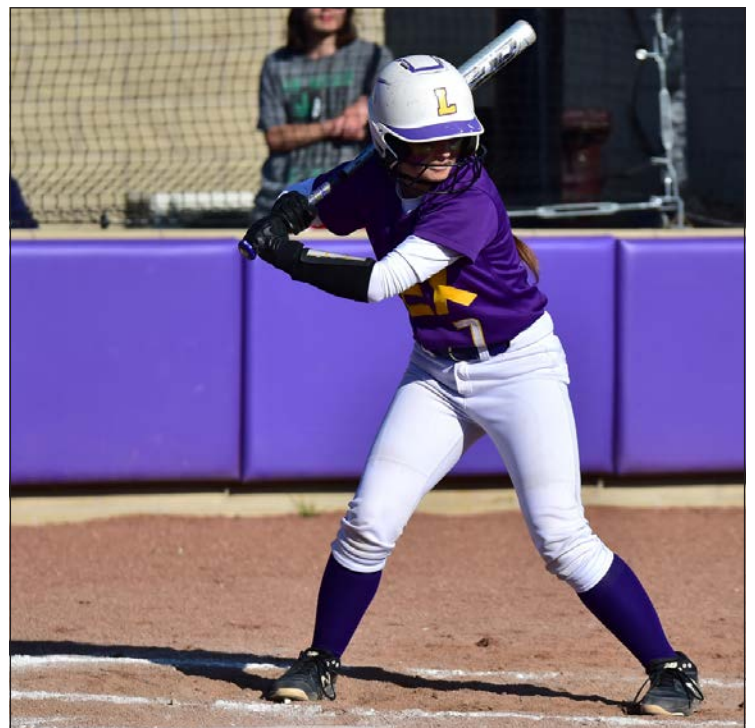
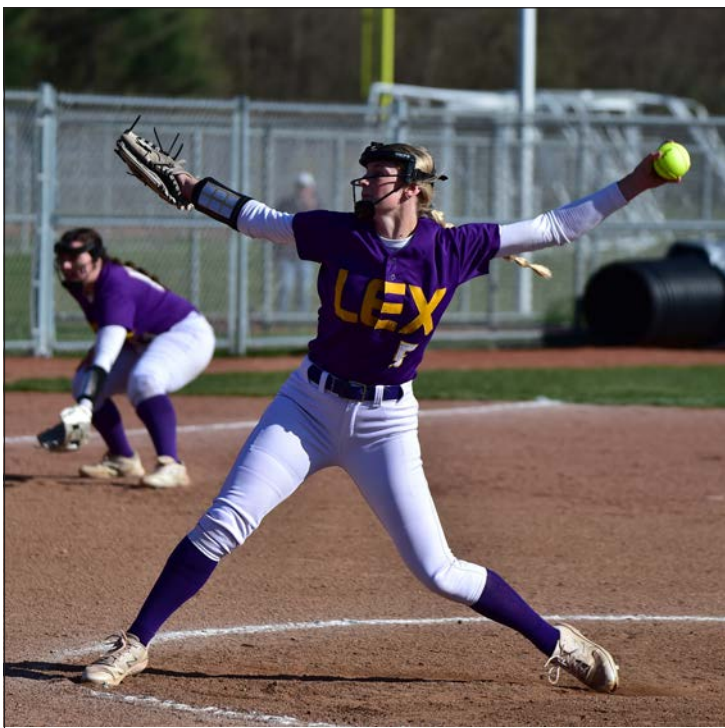
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS NORWALK BASEBALL · APRIL 25 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



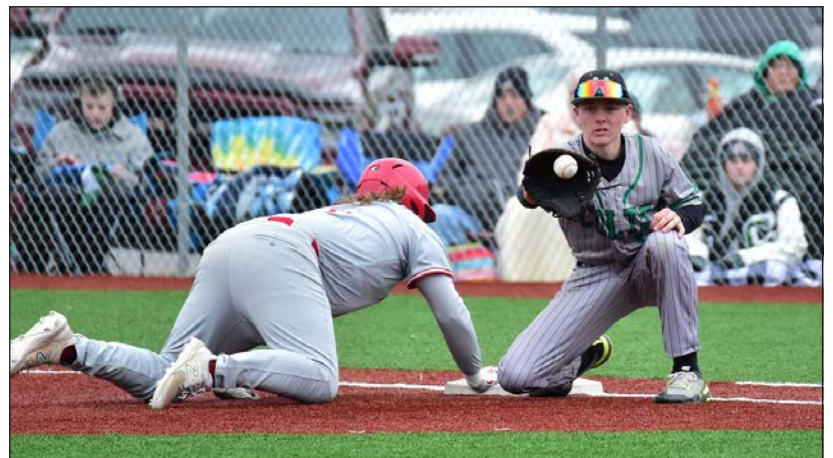
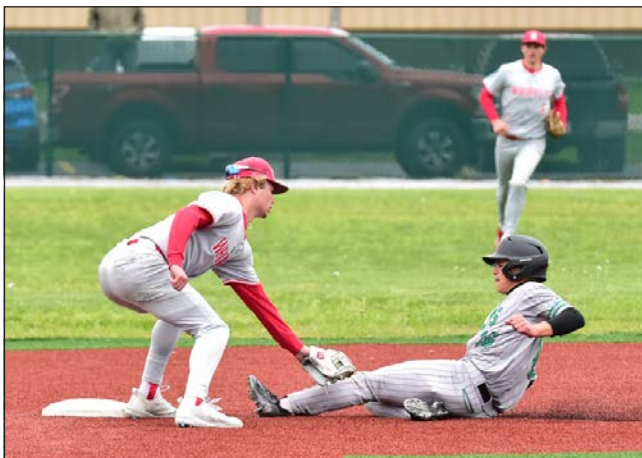
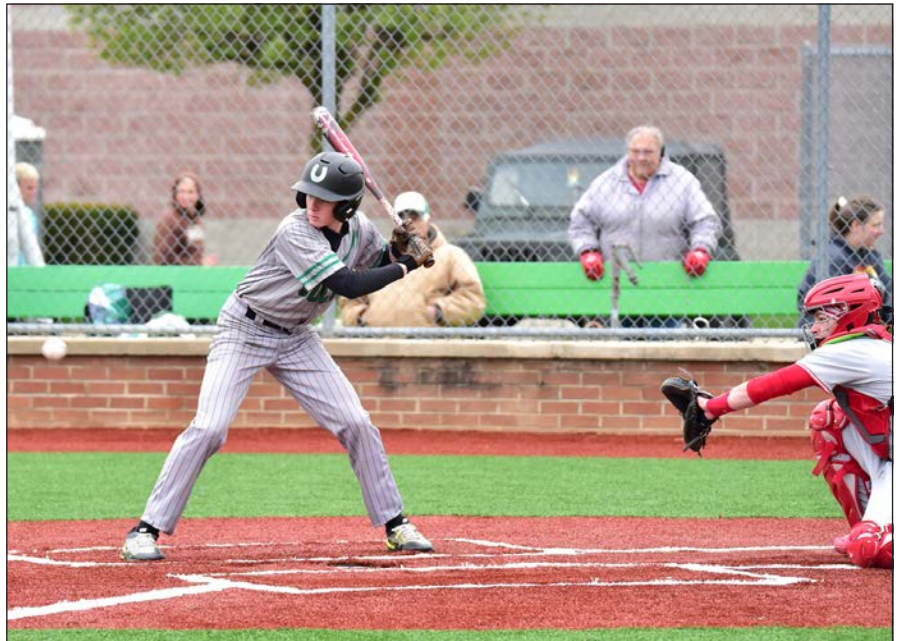
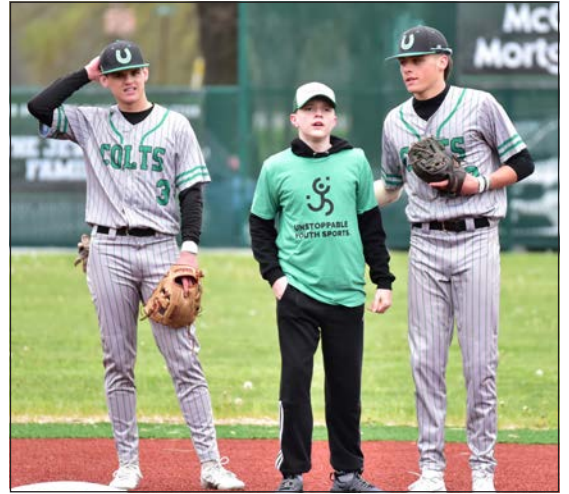
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS NORWALK SOFTBALL · APRIL 25 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



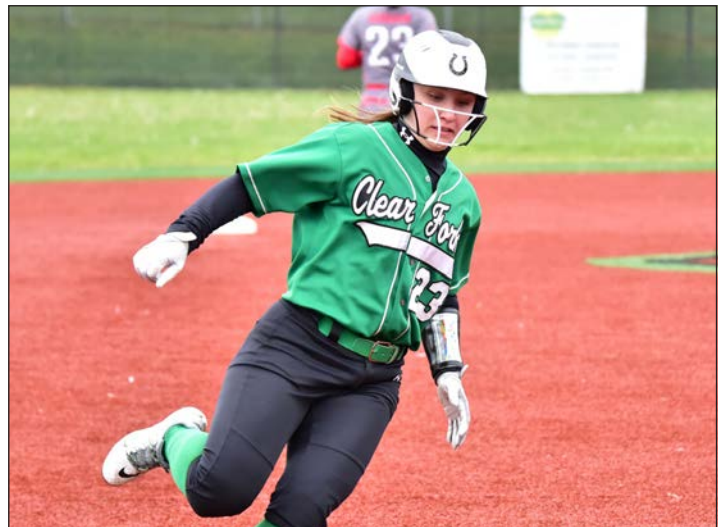
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS SHELBY BASEBALL WITH SPECIAL GUEST THE UNSTOPPABLES APRIL 24 • PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS SHELBY SOFTBALL · APRIL 24 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER
LADY COLTS WIN 9-3



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN VS LUCAS SOFTBALL · APRIL 23 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Mid-Season Baseball & Softball Results

By Kris Leiter

Part 3

Continuing from last week's capsule, here are the remaining schools in our coverage area.

The Ontario Warriors (4-3, 3-1 Mid-Ohio Athletic Conference) are currently in second place in the MOAC, just behind the Highland Scots, who are touting a phenomenal 15-2 overall record, 7-2 in the MOAC.

The Warriors have been winning when it counts, notching wins the last three of four games since early April. They have victories against Galion 4-3 on April 9, also defeating Marion Pleasant 4-2 on April 16, and shaving a narrow win over Big Lex 3-2 on April 22.

The Lady Warriors Softball team (4-3, 3-1 Mid-Ohio Athletic Conference) is manned by head coach Jamee Burke, assistant Scott Kreger and jotting the stats is Sam Weller.

Swinging the sticks at the plate is senior Trista Jewell with a respectable .429 batting average, 73 plate appearances, 19 RBIs and two home runs.

Senior Olivia Kreger is just behind Jewell with a .426 batting average, 54 trips to the plate and 12 RBIs.

Toeing the rubber in the pitching circle is senior Autumn Taylor who is touting a 4.43 ERA with an incredible 61 strikeouts, facing 302 batters.

Helping with the pitching duties has been junior Eden Howard with a 4.67 ERA and 60 strikeouts, while facing 199 batters.

◆
Plymouth Big Red (6-9, 4-5 Firelands Conference) from northern Richland County is coached by head coach Jarrod Furr, assisted by Doug Hamman, Gregory Silcox and John Gillum.

They are currently in fifth place in the Firelands Conference.

The Big Red routed Buckeye Central 18-10 on April 26.

They dominated the scoreboard in the run category, scoring one run in the first inning, four runs in the third and fourth innings and a whopping seven runs in the sixth inning and sealed the deal in the seventh inning with two runs.

There were no batting or pitching statistics available at the time of this printing.

The Lady Big Red team (2-13, 1-10 Firelands Conference) is coached by Junior Irvin and are currently eighth in the conference standings.

They defeated Norwalk St. Paul 12-10 on April 25. There were no batting or pitching statistics available at the time of this printing.

◆
The Shelby Whippets (8-3, 4-2 Mid-Ohio Athletic Conference) are maintaining fourth place in the conference.

They were victorious recently in four out of the past five games. They narrowly defeated Lexington 7-6 on April 15.

On April 17, they shut out River Valley 5-0. The very next day, April 18, they handed River Valley a defeat of 10-6 and April 19, they defeated Marion Harding 6-4. There were no batting or pitching statistics available at the time of this printing.

The Lady Whippets (14-5, 9-1 Mid-Ohio Athletic Conference) are coached by Samantha Martin. They are currently standing in first place in the MOAC. They only have one loss in the conference to Clear Fork, 9-3 on April 24.

They have been redemptive in the last three outings, notching a win over Clear Fork narrowly 3-2 on April 25. They also handed powerhouse Danville a loss of 3-2 on April 26 and recently Upper Sandusky, 9-6 on April 29.

Carrying a mighty stick at the plate is senior Mallary Gundrum with a .565 batting average, 69 plate appearances and 31 RBIs. She also touts six home runs, three triples and 7 doubles.

Joining the batting accolades, and a big shout out for freshman Karlie Walp with a .411 batting average, 60 plate appearances and 10 RBIs.

Senior Alyssa Booker has been wielding a mighty arm from the pitching circle. She has tallied 47 strikeouts, facing an incredible 359 batters with a 2.10 ERA.



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL tennis celebrated senior night on April 24. Senior members were introduced and walked with their parents.

Free native plant workshop scheduled for Wednesday, May 8

As gardening season arrives, the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) is hosting a free workshop on native plants Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 pm at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave., Mansfield.

Guy Denny, retired Ohio Department of Natural Resources Chief of Natural Prairies and Preserves Division, will provide a brief introduction on native plants and then open the floor up for a question-and-answer session.

This workshop is suitable for those considering using native plants and for those who are already using native plants in their landscaping.

Options to consider before purchasing plants are planting in the right location, blooming times, and if there is a desire to attract butterflies, bees and other pollinators.

The Native Plant Sale will take place after the workshop.

Richland SWCD encourages landowners to choose native plants when planning their garden or landscape. Native plants are more suited to our climate and soil and typically do better in our gardens than non-native species.

Native plants also provide excellent habitats and food for insects, pollinators, and wildlife.

Native plants have a strong root system, more soil is held in place which slows stormwater runoff and filters pollutants before they enter rivers, lakes, and streams.

To register for the workshop or for more information about the workshop and sale, visit, <https://richlandswcd.net/event/native-plant-workshop-and-sale-2/>, call 419-747-8688 or e-mail Contact@Richlandswcd.net.

Month of May recognized as National Foster Care Month

May is National Foster Care Month and this year's theme is "Engaging Youth. Building Supports. Strengthening Opportunities." The month raises awareness about authentic youth engagement, the importance of life-long connections, how to best support youth as they transition out of foster care and the growing need for foster families.

The transition to adulthood is a time of great potential for all young people, but youth who exit foster care without permanence face increased barriers to a successful transition. There are over 391,000 children and youth in foster care. Approximately 20,000 youth age out of the foster care system each year without a permanent family. Once in foster care, older youth spend more time in care than their peers who enter care before age 14.

In 2021, an estimated 77 percent of eligible youth in foster care, ages 14–21 years old, left care without receiving the federally funded services necessary to prepare them for adulthood and independent living.

Data shows that extended foster care is associated with improved access to services and positive outcomes for older youth ages 18 to 21. Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of youth in extended foster care, through their 19th birthday, received more services, than older youth not in extended foster care.

In 2021, 58 percent of Black youth and 57 percent of Hispanic and Latino youth in foster care aged 16 years or older exited care without permanence. Foster youth who transition out of care without strong connections are more likely to become homeless, be diagnosed with mental health disorders, suffer from substance abuse, and become involved in the juvenile justice system.

Richland County Children Services (RCCS) believes that every child deserves a loving home! RCCS has on average between 130 to 140 children in custody. Families are needed for all age children, but especially for older youth. Foster care involves the temporary care of children ages newborn to age 18, all races, sibling groups, various religions, and children with special needs.

RCCS encourages all individuals to invest in the lives of children and to provide them with unconditional love, support, guidance, and every available resource to ensure their health and well-being.

Become a foster parent by contacting Richland County Children Services at 419-774-4100 or visit <https://www.richlandcountychildrensenservices.org/foster-adoption/foster-adoption-inquiry-and-resources>.

Foster parents must be at least 18 years of age or older, be a resident of Richland County or surrounding counties and consent to a criminal background check. Foster parents can be married, single or divorced, have other children and can own or rent a home or apartment.

Evergreen Bookshop sale is this week

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) Evergreen Bookshop will be open for the monthly Friends' Used Book Sale on Friday, May 3 (noon to 5 pm) and Saturday, May 4 (10 am to 3 pm).

A preview sale will be held for Friends of the Library members only on Thursday, May 3 (noon to 5 pm). Memberships may be purchased at Thursday's Preview Sale (\$3 per year for individuals).

This sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. Materials (adult, teen and juvenile items) are library discards and public donations offered for sale at extremely low prices. The bookshop is stocked with "new to the store" items each month. Proceeds from the monthly sales sponsor enrichment activities provided by the Main Library and its 8 branches in Richland County throughout the year.

Evergreen Bookshop is located in downtown Mansfield at 37 N. Walnut St. (near the corner of West Third St. and North Walnut St., next to the main library).

For more information call 419-526-4652.

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of the Tribune-Courier
at www.tribune-courier.com**

Senior Spring Extravaganza to be held in May for Older Americans Month

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. will hold a Senior Spring Extravaganza on May 16 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Richland County Fairgrounds in Mansfield.

This free event, hosted by the Area Agency on Aging, is held in recognition of Older Americans Month, and offers guests entertainment, refreshments, resources, information regarding aging issues, and the opportunity to connect with others within the community.

This year holds special significance as it not only marks the celebration of Older Americans Month, but also commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on aging. Because of this, the event theme this year is the 1970s.

The Older Americans Month 2024 theme named by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) is Powered by Connection! This year, we are celebrating older adults and the Agency's 50th anniversary with an on-site classic car show, entertainment by Fusion Marketing Group, brunch, resource fair, BINGO, and much more.

To participate in the car show call 567-247-6487 to register.

Registration is not required to attend. No early birds, please. Doors open at 9 am. Follow our Facebook page to keep up to date on upcoming events at www.facebook.com/aaa5ohio.

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

Free leadership series offered

North Central State College's Office of Workforce Development has announced its next Leadership Series 1 is being offered free to all participants and will be held at the Kehoe Center in Shelby, on Wednesday, May 22 and Thursday, May 23 from 8 am to noon, each day.

Participants will spend eight hours learning about topics focused on Leadership & Supervision, Effective Communication, Conflict Management & Styles and Teamwork. This training will include lecture, group discussions, and multiple group activities to allow participants to learn from their peers.

Spots are limited to 25 and two participants from each company. For more information contact Randy Blankenship at rblankenship@ncstatecollege.edu or 419-755-4767.

Class of 1964 to celebrate 60th

The Lexington High School Class on 1964 will host a 60th reunion on Friday, June 7, at Deer Ridge Golf Course, 900 Comfort Plaza Dr., Bellville.

The social gathering will begin at 6 pm with a meal and refreshments at 6:30 pm. Depending upon attendance, the group will either order off the menu for meals and drinks, or if enough register, a buffet-style meal will be offered.

The Lexington All School Celebration is on Saturday, June 8.

Respond by May 21 for meal planning. For information call Nelda Dent Spore at 419-884-8797 or nspace@yahoo.com or Rex Skelton at 419-512-1670 or rex@skeltonsinc.com.

This is a Mid-Ohio race weekend so those needing hotel reservations should reserve early.

Open enrollment now underway

Madison Local Schools will be accepting open enrollment applications from May 1 through May 31, for the 2024-'25 school year.

If a student is considering open enrolling to Madison Local Schools for the 2024-'25 school year, applications must be turned in by May 31 to be considered for approval for the upcoming school year.

For more information visit www.mlsl.net/OpenEnrollment.aspx or contact the Madison Board of Education Office between 8 am and 4 pm, Monday–Friday, 1379 Grace St., Mansfield, 419-589-2600 ext. 65005.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their regular meeting held on April 17, 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 24 - 03 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ONTARIO AND VASU COMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO LEASE SPACE FOR COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES ON THE CITY WATER TOWER LOCATED ON PARK AVENUE WEST.

Cathy VanAuer
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 4-25, 5-2 '24) 23L

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed bids for the 2024 Resurfacing Program, City of Ontario, Ohio will be received by Kris Knapp, Service-Safety Director, at 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio 44906 until 10:30am, local time Monday May 20, 2024, and then, at said office, publicly opened and read aloud.

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

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities. Contract will be awarded based on the lowest and best bid. The City of Ontario may reject

any or all bids on any basis and without disclosure of reason. The failure to make such disclosure shall not result in accrual of any right, claim or cause of action by any unsuccessful bidder against the City of Ontario.

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

Each bid must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. The Owner intends and requires that this project be completed by August 31, 2024.

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

Cathy VanAuer
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 5-2, 9 '24) 64L

ATTORNEY REESE F. MILLS IS RETIRING FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW EFFECTIVE JUNE 28, 2024

Original Wills and other files of clients can be picked up from Mabey & Mills, 24 W. Third St., Suite 300, Mansfield, Monday to Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 12 Noon. Please call ahead at (419) 524-1403 so your document(s) can be readily available to you when you arrive.

All Wills and other files remaining at Mabey & Mills after June 28, 2024 will be transferred to the custody of the law firm of Renwick, Welsh and Burton, 58 W. Third St., Suite B, Mansfield, Ohio. Telephone: (419) 522-2889.

Reese F. Mills
Mabey & Mills, LLC
24 W. Third St., Suite 300
Mansfield, Ohio 44902
Tel: (419) 524-1403
Fax: (419) 522-4315
rmills@mabeemills.com
(T-C 5-2, 9, 16 '24) 24L

Red Cross, Sports Clips join together to offer incentive for donations

The American Red Cross reminds eligible donors to keep the blood supply stable by giving blood or platelets. Book a time to give life-saving blood or platelets now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Thanks to Sport Clips Haircuts, all who come to donate through May 31 will get a coupon for a free haircut by email. Plus, those who come to give through May 19 will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two and VIP racing experience to the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series and Xfinity Races at Darlington Raceway Labor Day weekend, including entry to the Sport Clips racetrack hospitality tent and a \$1,000 gift card.

Additionally, those who come to give April 29-May 19 will also get a bonus \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice.

Bloodmobiles are scheduled for:

Thursday, May 2, 7 am to 7 pm, Clear Fork High School, 987 State Route 97 E., Bellville

Wednesday, May 8, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario; and 8 am to 1 pm, Shelby YMCA, 111 Smiley Rd., Shelby

Friday, May 10, 11 am to 5 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario; and 8 am to 1 pm, Shelby High School, 1 Whippet Way, Shelby

Wednesday, May 15, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario

Friday, May 17, 9 am to 3 pm, Area Agency on Aging, 2131 Park Avenue W., Ontario; and 11 am to 5 pm, First Wesleyan Church, 1908 Park Avenue West, Ontario

Saturday, May 18, 9 am to 2 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario

Community Dumpster Day returns

NECIC and the Richland County Land Bank have announced the return of Community Dumpster Day, scheduled for Saturday, May 11, from 9 am to 1 pm at the NECIC Community Outreach Center, 486 Springmill St, Mansfield.

Community Dumpster Day provides an opportunity for residents to dispose of unwanted junk and debris, contributing to a cleaner and greener community. The event aims to promote responsible waste disposal and community engagement. NECIC encourages everyone to join in throwing garbage in its place.

Volunteers are also welcome to participate in this event. For those interested in volunteering, contact special projects officer Suzy Beeson at 419-522-1611.

Please note that there are some prohibited items, including metal, liquid wastes, tires, batteries, harmful chemicals, explosive materials and large appliances (such as fridges, stoves and freezers).

The event is free, and there is no charge to dispose of waste. However, monetary donations will be accepted to support NECIC's Community Impact Center.

For more information call NECIC at 419-522-1611.

Recycling trailer available May 25, 26

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, May 25 and 26. 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.

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First Federal Bank of Ohio

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Lisa Anderson
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Branch Manager - Loan Officer