

TRIBUNE-COURIER

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



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Bottom Photo By Traci Little

THE 22ND ANNUAL LEXINGTON BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL was celebrated in Lexington Aug. 14-18. Events included Miss Blueberry pageants, rides, food, parades, a car and bike show and entertainment. Winning titles at the Miss Blueberry Pageant were Baby Miss Blueberry 2024 Jayda Owens, Wee Miss Blueberry 2024 Madilynn Christman, Little Miss Blueberry 2024 Juliet Robles, Jr. Miss Blueberry 2024 Sadie Gunter, Miss Blueberry 2024 Sophia Fisher and Miss Teen Blueberry 2024 Addison Schroeder. The pageant was sponsored by the Lexington Kiwanis and held at Heartland Church on Aug. 10. (Bottom photo) Jevan Cole performs for a crowd on Friday, Aug. 16. (Special Section Begins on Page 8)

Ontario kicks-off new school year

08.22.24

Ontario Local Schools Board of Education met Aug. 13, the first meeting of the new school year. Students returned to the classroom later that week.

Katie Semo from AOS presented the Ohio Auditor of State Award for the fiscal year 2023 audit to the district.

The board approved the resignation of Jenna Kiser, Stingel 2 1/2 hour cook, effective July 29.

Employment for the 2024-'25 school year was approved for Leanna Amante, PM Latchkey Supervisor, \$17 per hour; Sue Wentz, newly added 1.75 hour preschool bus route combined with 4.5 hr. bus driver, \$32,912; Joilee Eutsay, 2 1/2 hour high school cook, \$8,321; Wanda Boyce, 2 1/2 hour high school cook, \$8,321; Kimberly Riggenbach, 2 1/2 hour Stingel cook, \$8,321; and Jennifer Brady, 2 1/2 hour Stingel cook, \$8,321.

The board approved the employment of certificated substitute teachers for the 2024-'25 school year including Tracy Byrd, middle school every day substitute; Lydia Giefer, high school every day substitute; and Arianne Featheringill, Stingel every day substitute.

The board approved employment of extracurricular/supplemental staff personnel for the 2024-'25 school year including Tonya Winningham, resident educator coordinator and facilitator, \$1,850; Molly Calhoun, mentor year 1, \$750 (Peyton Perini); Joni Stierhoff, mentor year 2, \$750 (Logan Leitzy); Mark Johnson, mentor year 2, \$750 (Holly Hale); Mindy Leach, mentor year 2, \$750 (Ashley Scott); Molly Calhoun, mentor year 2, \$750 (Carissa Whitmer); Ryan Oliver, varsity assistant football, \$5,370; Michael Thoma, OMS football, five sharing four stipends, \$2,974; Cory Cardwell, OMS Football, five sharing four stipends, \$2,642; Jared McPeek, freshman boys soccer, \$3,466; Jeremy Barrett, eighth grade volleyball head coach, \$2,486; Gianna Gallo, OMS cheerleading advisor, \$1,904; and Riley Them, volunteer OMS cheerleading assistant, \$0.

Ted Vail was approved as an every day substitute bus driver, for

The board approved overseeing school district concession operations during the 2024-25 school year.

A gift was accepted from the Athletic Boosters Club for new soccer field complex restrooms and concession kitchen totaling \$160,000.

The board approved the permanent appropriations for the 2024– 25 school year, July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

(Continued on Page 6)



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL students returned to the classroom last week for the 2024-'25 school year.



Photo By Mark Shutt

37th Annual T.S.I.A. Comedy Club a hit with audiences once again

By Ian Stumbo

The 37th Annual T.S.I.A. (Third Saturday in August) Comedy Club was held at the Renaissance Theater in Mansfield this past weekend and was a great night of comedy. The show started very promptly at 8 pm and looked like a near full house. The night always has three stand-up comedians who have appeared on various late night shows. The middle comedian, Joe Larson, appeared recently on *America's Got Talent*.

The opening comedian was Bobby Tessel and he seemed to have a rough start as his type of comedy was more based in one-liners and quick stories. His constant refrain of "Earlier today..." was pretty funny after a while as he covered many topics (too many to discuss here) though it seemed like one of those comics either you enjoy or you do not.

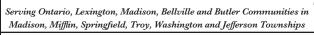
Joe Larson was great. He had a great energy to him and did a material on being 40, married for 12 years, his experiences in life and with his family. He did a great deal of back and forth with the audience by asking the audience questions though not too much where it got annoying or distracting. Larson is a fine comedian and really knows his material.

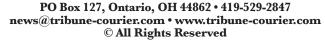
The headliner was John Morgan who absolutely brought the house down. What energy he had. He is from New Orleans and has a pretty thick accent. The way he tells his stories is he does not hold back in any detail he wants to tell and was all the funnier for it. His material really revolved around his family, adopted daughter, wife and kids though the way he sits on a stool and gets serious for a second then takes it right into another bit was great. He is also very physical which had the audience laughing. Morgan is a seasoned comedian and it shows.

This was a great T.S.I.A. and thanks as always to Sam VanCura for putting on a great show year after year.

Vol. 63 No. 45

Tribune-Courier





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Director Fede Alvarez does a terrific job helming *Alien: Romulus*, the newest film in the long running *Alien* franchise.

Cailee Spaeny stars as Rain, a young woman working as a miner for the Weyland-Yulani corporation. Upon understanding that her work leave is being extended, she boards a freighter with some friends to retrieve some cryostasis pods

from a dormant ship. Unfortunately, that ship has a history and something is waiting inside.

Alvarez has a great deal of love for the Alien franchise as evidenced by the references to the original movies and even some of the dialogue which is borrowed from different entries in the series. He creates a creepy, scary atmosphere reminiscent of the original film which is good since this movie is set between *Alien and Aliens*.

The cast does fine work in creating individual characters, especially the character Andy (David Jonsson) whose secret I will not reveal, but had a great deal to do in this movie and is a true standout. In terms of the plot, once the aliens come in, it is a really fun ride. The facehugger creatures get a great deal more attention and the action scenes

are fast and engaging.

The movie does take a pretty big swing with a reveal towards the end though it is more inter-

esting than jarring.
Original Alien director Ridley Scott is a producer on this film and it's so great he is still involved with this series. The franchise as a whole has two amazing entries in the first two films and every other sequel or prequel seems

to be very divisive among fans in terms of what they expect the movies to be. I would personally rank this third after the first two movies as it really delivers and takes the series back to basics which is very welcome after going in so many different directions.

Alien: Romulus is an engaging sci-fi movie with great direction by Fede Alvarez who really knows the horror genre and keeps the movie feeling spooky while delivering what fans will expect. The movie takes some interesting approaches to the story line though it works. The movie itself will get three stars though I will give it another half for delivering on many levels.



BrandRichland offering \$1,000 and tickets for design contest prize

BrandRichland has announced a design contest celebrating the county's tenacious identity.

Talented designers and creators are invited to showcase their passion for Richland County by creating designs that reflect the spirit of BrandRichland.

The objective is to create a unique, edgy design that embodies the BrandRichland identity, using the brand's colors and fonts.

The design should reflect the innovative spirit of Richland County and have a modern and captivating appeal that makes the public want to buy products, such as t-shirts, hoodies, and other merchandise. Eligibility is limited to participants who are 18 years or older. All entries must be submitted by Aug. 31.

To participate, contestants can submit entries by visiting https://brandrichland.com and following the instructions on the submission form.

Logos and brand guidelines are available on the BrandRichland Library page at https://brandrichland.com/brand-library/.

The winner, announced on Sept. 20, will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and tickets to local attractions.

News Briefs

Construction projects are anticipated to affect ODOT roadways in Richland County this week. SR 13, from Hanley Rd. to Chilton Ave., will have short term, single lane closures for resurfacing work. The contractor is completing the necessary preliminary project work. Traffic will be maintained with barrels and the lane closures will be removed on a daily basis. Estimated completion for the 2024 construction season is November 2024. The estimated completion for the entire project is May 2027.

I-71 northbound, just north of the SR 13 interchange, will have nightly lane closures for pavement repairs. Traffic will be maintained at all times. Estimated completion is August 2024.

SR 603, from Rome Greenwich Road to Ganges Five Points Road, will have daily lane closures for pavement repairs. One lane of traffic will be maintained by flaggers. Estimated completion is October 2024.

Each Sunday in August, Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield (Madison area), will hold a prayer meeting focused on the upcoming school year for all students and staff in the Madison School District. The meetings, beginning at 4:30 pm, also will lift up the expanding LifeWise Academy, a Christian-based program that will teach the students about the Word of God and Jesus Christ. The public is invited.

The Fun Center Chordsmen's 3rd Annual Summer Concert featuring the chordsmen & quartets will be held at the Marshall Park Bandshell, 3375 Milligan Rd., Ontario, on Monday, Aug. 26, at 6:30 pm. The group is directed by Trevor Garrabrant and the event is free and open to the public.

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 on Sept. 18, and will include broasted chicken with a visit from Richland County Commissioner Darrell Banks. There will be a collection for the Humane Society. Donations can include paper towels, cleaning sullies, newspaper, wipes, disposable gloves, canned food and Purina Cat and Purina Dog Chow.

The group will also meet Sept. 4, for lunch at the Black Dog at Deer Ridge Golf Course in Bellville at 11 am.

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

The City of Ontario is hosting 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 concludes Aug. 27 with Aftermath.

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave. West offers senior boxes of non-perishable 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.

Those receiving food must have at least one person age 60 or older in the household.

Boxes may be picked up between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday. Due to the volume of clients, distribution is moving in May to the Mulberry St. parking lot at the corner of Park Ave West. This is directly across the side street from the church. Those attending should pull in and follow the signs and directions.

The items are available on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year round. The next distribution is Aug. 27.

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Aug. 24 and 25. 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.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Jacqueline Moore to speak on "Sacred Stones Mystical Farm" at 10:30 am on Sunday, Aug. 25. This is the annual Pet blessing service. For information visit www.allsoulsuuohio.org.

Madison High School turns 100 this school year. Alumni can be a part of the celebration with events scheduled all year.

Events will be kicked-off at the first home football game, Aug. 30. There will be food trucks, alumni performances and alumni recognition.

Honored prior to kick-off will be the alumni band, cheerleaders, Ramettes, majorettes and football players and coaches (who will line the field to welcome the team). All Madison alumni attending the event will be honored throughout the evening, by decades.

To register or for an anniversary t-shirt (which includes admission) visit https://sites.google.com/view/madison-100/home.

Madison Class of 1975 members are encouraged to send their information to 1975Madisongrads@gmail.com. Requested information includes name as in yearbook and married name, physical address, email address and cell phone number. All information will be held in the strictest confidence. Invitations will be sent for the 50th class reunion.

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 Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12. For information visit www.awakeshelby.com or call 419-342-4636.

Mechanics Bank will host the Live@Lunch 2024 Summer Courtyard Series in the Mechanics Courtyard, 2 S. Main St., Mansfield. All performances will be held from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Performances are free with the opportunity to purchase food. The courtyard is open every Friday over lunch. The schedule includes Sept. 13, music by Sarah Goff and food by (Continued on Page 5)



Event Details: Check in 9:00 am | Ceremony / Walk at 10:00 am





A JESUS MARCH was held Saturday, Aug. 17. Those marching gathered on the Grand Boulevard off Wentz Ave., in Shelby and then joined together at the Blackfork Commons Amphitheater on Richland Ave., from 11 am to 4 pm for worship music, special speakers and Baptisms. Bishop Anthony Cooper and Evangelist John Laser were be among the speakers.

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
Pastor Jay Jackson
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 Stufft
9:30 am Sunday Worship
10 am Thursday Bible Study
Free Breakfast 2nd Saturdays 9 am
Free Dinner 4th Sundays 5 pm

Lexington Presbyterian Church 35 Church St. West, Lexington

419-884-1330
Pastor Denny Nezrick
10:30 am Sunday Worship
https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Presbyterian-Church-117768414915815



Mansfield 1st EPC

399 Trimble Rd., Mansfield
419-756-7066 • www.mansfield1st.com
Rev. Joseph Yerger
9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School
10 am Sunday Worship
ADA Accessible Nursery
and Children's Programming Available

Mansfield Baptist Temple

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

Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West., Ontario 419-529-4345 • ontarioumc.com Pastor George Lee 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

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LEXINGTON WESTERN ELEMENTARY teacher Cara Pelphrey received an education grant in 2023 for STEAMtastic Learning.

Richland County Foundation approves grants and scholarships

The Richland County Foundation Board of Trustees approved \$2,070,011 in grants during its August meeting. A large portion of the grants were for educational purposes.

The board approved \$789,086 in scholarships to Richland County students. Scholarships are awarded based on a student's financial need and grade point average. The average scholarship amount this year was \$3,000.

RCF also awards career technical education scholarships throughout the year. The board approved \$4,800 in CTE scholarships during this meeting and the year to date total is \$33,350.

The board approved education grants totaling close to \$66,000. Funding was provided from the unrestricted grant budget as well as field of interest funds. Education grants are selected by a committee made up of board members and people from the community for creative and innovative supplemental programs not covered by school funding. The grants are given to K-12 teachers in public or private Richland County schools to encourage them to develop new programs for their classrooms.

\$80,000 will provide grant prize incentives to nonprofit organizations during Richland Gives Nov. 18 through Dec. 3.

The Board of Trustees approved grants from donor-advised funds to meet emerging needs at the following organizations Achievement Centers for Children, Blue Rose Mission, Buckeye Council Boy Scouts of America, Catholic Charities, City of Mansfield, Discovery School, Domestic Violence Shelter, First United Methodist Church, Greater Cleveland Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity of Richland & Crawford Counties, Lucas Baseball Softball League, Lucas Local Schools, Make A Wish Foundation, Mansfield Art Čenter, Mansfield City Schools, Mid-Ohio Civic Opera, Mission 22, New Store, North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Ohio Bird Sanctuary, Ohio State University Foundation, Philanthropic Venture Foundation, Project One, Richland Academy of the Arts, Renaissance Performing Arts, Richland Community Development Group, Richland County Humane Society, Richland County Pregnancy Services, Richland County Veteran Mentoring Program, Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio, Shelby Foundation, Smile Train, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Taking Root Farms, Volunteers of America and Wayfinders Ohio.

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

The Foundation helps people in Richland County give back to their community by investing their gifts wisely so that grants can be made to improve the quality of life for all the county's citizens.

News Briefs

Truckin' Trav; and Sept, 20, music by Tom's Kitchen Table and food by Mr. Bill's Wood Fired Pizza.

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, will host a rummage sale in its undercroft on Friday, Aug. 23, from 3-6 pm and Saturday, Aug. 24, from 8 am to 1 pm.

Any donations received from this sale will go towards upgrading the church's antiphonal organ. The church will offer food concessions on Saturday from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. All food is by donation which will be used to support feeding over 900 orphans at the Malawi Orphan Care Project in Lilongwe, Malawi.

Trimble Road is closed between Marion Avenue and West Cook Road for 45 days. Drivers will still be able to access businesses and residences in this area during this time (medical offices, churches, houses). This is Phase 1 of the new B&O Connector Trail to create another connection point with the bike trail in Mansfield. Phase 2 will be coming in 2025.

The Richland County Democratic Party has announced a special pre-fall kick-off event in Richland County to highlight a special key note speaker, Chris Gibbs.

Gibbs, the Shelby County, Ohio Democratic chair, has been featured on CNN nationally, as well as in numerous media and news articles around the state and country.

The event will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 27, at the United Steelworker's Hall #169, 376 W. Longview Ave., in Mansfield from 6-8 pm. Dinner will be served. There is no cost to attend, but donations will be accepted to help defray the cost.

For information contact Larry Weirich at larry.weirich@aol.com, or to register contact Venita Shoulders at 419-564-0486 or venitashoulders@gmail.com.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Carolyn Marion Barger, August 10 Nancy D. Stamper, August 10 David L. Niss, August 12 Donna Jean Barke, August 13 George Eugene Van Horn, August 15

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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Ontario kicks-off year

(Continued from Front Page)

The board approved Pat Duffner to act as the superintendent's "designee" for the district transportation purposes as well as determining the location of school bus stops and relocating the bus stops during the 2024–'25 school year.

Donations were accepted from Charities Aid Foundation America through a recommendation by Brian Gates. The donations include \$750 for football, \$500 for the weight room, \$500 for the marching band, \$250 for the Substance Abuse Program and \$250 for girls softball, \$250 for baseball.

Donations were accepted from Charities Aid Foundation America through a recommendation by Greg Atkinson including \$350 for boys soccer; \$1,500 for Ontario Youth Sports (OYS) cross country, \$500 for OYS boys soccer, \$500 for OYS boys basketball and \$500 for OYS girls basketball.

The board approved a \$50 stipend to Carissa Whitmer, Kennedie Spencer, Theresa Dutch, Matt Keasal, Melinda Saltzgiver and Peyton Perini for attending the new teacher orientation on Monday, Aug. 12.

Teachers Ashley Cooke, Hallee Brown, Amanda vanHarlingen, Brittney Hart, Ashley Scott, Julie Shreffler and Lindsey Thompson will be paid two days at their current per diem rate for conducting kindergarten screenings and assessments prior to the start of the 2024–'25 school year:

Facility requests were approved including Tyler Sipes of Ohio Health for use of football field for spineboarding scenario practice; and Deb Henry for use of pool and classroom for lifeguard recertification.

Mrs. Hiner gave a Community and Family Engagement Committee Report.

The next board of education meeting will be Sept. 10.















Photo by Damon Callis

Day Trippin' With Damon — The Headlands Beach Sand Sculpting event was held last month at Headlands Beach State Park in Mentor. The trademark of Headlands Beach State Park is its massive 35-acre Lake Erie beach.

Veteran banners available in Shelby to honor service members

The Community Improvement Corporation of Shelby (CIC) has announced the availability of Veteran banners for purchase in Shelby. These banners offer a meaningful way for friends and family to honor a veteran who has served or is currently serving our country.

The double-sided banners will be prominently displayed throughout downtown Shelby during the entire month of November, coinciding with Veterans Day and serving as a visual tribute to the bravery and sacrifices of our service members.

The cost for a new banner is \$150. Additionally, those who wish to display a previously purchased banner can do so for \$75. Both options allow the community to show their support and respect for veterans in a public and lasting manner.

"We are honored to provide an opportunity for the community to recognize and celebrate the veterans who have made significant contributions to our nation," said Jake Penwell, President of Shelby CIC. "These banners not only honor the individual veterans but also serve as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by all who have served."

Banners are available for purchase online at ShelbyCIC.com. The deadline for orders is Sept. 1, ensuring that all banners will be ready and displayed for the month of November.

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news@tribune-courier.com

Madison approves contract and benefit ratifications

Madison Local School District held a special meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 14, to approve the ratification of the contract between the Ohio Association of Public School Employees, Local #292 and Madison Local Schools for Aug. 1, 2024–July 31, 2027, inclusive of all benefit changes and a two percent base salary increase for the 2024–'25, 2025–'26, and 2026–'27 school years for administrative, confidential classified and district-specific service agreement employees.

The board approved classified substitute pay rates to be \$12.50 (cooks), \$13.50 (secretaries/administrative assistants, aides/paraprofessionals, custodians, summer mowers/extra help) and \$18 (bus drivers).

The board approved the boiler replacement project at the Madison Early Childhood Learning Center in the amount of \$61,460 to be paid for out of Madison Early Childhood Learning Center Special Enterprise funds.

Two percent base salary increases were approved for the superintendent for the 2024–'25 and 2025–'26. A 2 percent salary increase was approved for the treasurer for the 2024–'25 school year.

The next regular board meeting will be Aug. 28, at 6 pm at the middle school.

Community Preparedness Fair is Sept. 14

A Community Preparedness Fair will be held at The Ontario Center (Richland Mall), 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 1–5 pm.

Those attending can learn about preparedness and meet with first responders, The Red Cross and emergency management and public health officials. An ODOT snow plow and Ohio EMA Tornado Safe Room will be available.





Michelle Gates
Michelle Gates, Agent

2021 Park Avenue West, Suite 100 Ontario, OH 44906

Bus: 419-756-5010 michelle@michellegates.com www.michellegates.com



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ANNUAL CELEBRATION

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Area Agency on Aging
2131 Park Avenue West, Ontario
\$20.00 per person

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Festival 2024 Lexington Bluebe











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Lexington Blueber







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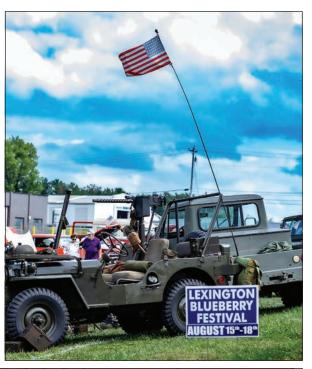


RichlandHealth.org

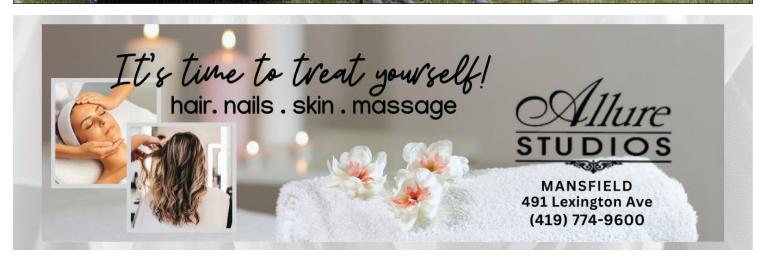
Festival 2024 Lexington Bluebe



PATRICK COOVERT stands with his 1952 Willy's Jeep at the Lexington Blueberry Festival Car Show. It was made and issued to the United States Marine Corps.







Lexington Bluebe













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Lexington Blu







Local girls crowned at Miss Blueberry Pageant

The Miss Blueberry Pageant was held Saturday, Aug. 10, at Heartland Church in Lexington.

Javda Owens, 2, was named Baby Miss Blueberry 2024. She is the daughter of Jacob Owens and Sarah Fogle of Lexington. First Runner up Baby Miss Blueberry was Drew Arnold, 2, daughter of Garrett and Brooke Arnold of Lexington.

Wee Miss Blueberry 2024 is Madilynn Christman, 4, daughter of Alex and Mikayla Christman of Lexington. First Runner up Wee Miss Blueberry is Carina Kirk, 3, daughter of Caleb and Alexis Kirk of Mansfield.

Little Miss Blueberry 2024 is Juliet Robles, 5, daughter of Shaun and Leslie Robles of Mansfield. First Runner Up Little Miss Blueberry is Rori Walker, 5, daughter of Russell and Emily Walker of Ashland.

Sadie Gunter, 9, was named Jr. Miss Blueberry 2024. She is the daughter of Gary and Leslie Gunter of Lexington. First Runner up Jr. Miss Blueberry is Presley Newman, 7, daughter of Andrew and Lara Newman of Bellville.

Sophia Fisher, 12, was named Miss Blueberry 2024 She is the daughter of Nathan and Codi Fisher of Lexington. First Runner up Miss Blueberry is Saige Painley, 10, daughter of Jason and Andrea Painley Lexington.

Miss Teen Blueberry 2024 is Addison Schroeder, 13, daughter of Erich Schroeder and Whitney Windsor of Lexington. First Runner up Miss Teen Blueberry is Ava Gavtan, 15, daughter of Lynelle Botjer of Mount Gilead.







A SPREAD THE LIGHT KICK-OFF was held Sunday, Aug. 18, at Graham Automall, 1515 W. 4th St., Mansfield, to honor local safety forces and promote peace in our community. The event featured music, speakers, refreshments and free blue light bulbs. The special guest speaker was Mansfield City Schools Superintendent Stan Jefferson. He brought student from the Mansfield City School District and spoke about "Peace On My Block," an effort that promotes peace all throughout the district by encouraging students to take a peace pledge and encouraging peaceful resolutions to conflicts. Spread the Light 2024 is a blue light week to promote pride in our local safety forces, partnership in all communities of Richland County and peace in our neighborhoods.

MGT 405 training coming to Mansfield on October 1

An MGT 405 training will be held at Crossroads Church, 1188 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, on Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 8 am to 5 pm. MGT 405 is an 8-hour, DHS/FEMA-certified, tuition-free, managementlevel course.

This course covers emergency planning and brings together emergency managers and first responders with Faith-Based Community Organization (FBCO) leaders in a shared learning environment. This course facilitates effective communication to develop comprehensive local emergency plans including:

•The roles FBCOs have played during and after major disasters

•Understanding the responsibilities and authority of each level of governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as the four phases of emergency management, and another significant emergencyrelated terminology

•The role leadership plays in FBCO preparedness, applying social networking techniques to prepare members for disaster, and completing an emergency plan checklist that can be utilized by FBCOs during the planning process.

•The process for developing a local emergency plan, list the elements of a comprehensive county emergency plan, and evaluate a plan for FBCO engagement.

This training is designed for all first responders, governmental administrative/elected officials, citizen/community volunteers, community emergency management personnel, community stakeholders and churches and faith based organizations.

Registration is required through the RDPC website. Register for this course by visiting https://ruraltraining.org/course/MGT-405/?scheduled = true&id = 11450. Registration deadline is Sept. 17, at 5 pm. A minimum of 20 registrations must be received by this date to ensure the class will be held.

FEMA 5.1.D. REQUIRED. Register a FEMA Student Identification Number by visiting https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid. For more information regarding this course call 419-774-5686.

Donors awarded \$20 Amazon card for giving

The American Red Cross is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces dangerous levels of heat and people head out for final summer travel plans.

Since July 1, the Red Cross national blood supply has fallen by more than 25 percent, and blood donors of all types, especially those with type O blood, are urged to give as soon as possible to help patients receive lifesaving medical care.

Blood products are being sent to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. Right now, type O inventory is so low, distributions of this vital blood type are reduced below what hospitals count on.

"It's critical hospitals have both type O positive and O negative blood ready to go for patients in the most life-threatening situations," said Dr. Eric Gehrie, executive physician director for the Red Cross.

"Type O is especially important for victims of accidents and other trauma who are receiving emergency treatment. Now is the time for donors of all blood types to give and ensure hospital shelves can be restocked before any impact to patient care."

The Red Cross is working with hospitals around-the-clock to meet the blood needs of patients – but can't do it alone.

To make an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a thank-you, those who come give blood, platelets or plasma Aug. 1–31, will get a \$20 Amazon.com gift card by email.

Bloodmiobiles are scheduled for:

Wednesday, Aug. 21, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario Friday, Aug. 23, 8 am to 1 pm, OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital, 335 Glessner Ave., Mansfield

Saturday, Aug. 24, 8 am to 2 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario Wednesday, Aug. 28, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario Thursday, Aug. 29, 10 am to 4 pm, OhioHealth, 199 W. Main St., Shelby

Ontario and Lexington come together for Friday night football

This Friday night will be the start of the 2024 high school football season, and making it a bit more special for Lexington and Ontario fans will be the joining of two of the biggest rivalries in Richland County.

The old cliché "you can throw the record books out" may be true, as during the 2023 campaign, both teams advanced to the post-sea-

To add to the excitement last fall on Aug. 18 at Lexington, with the score deadlocked 14-14,Ontario brought the field goal unit out and all eyes went to Warrior Trey Booker, who prepared to kick "THE" field goal for the Warriors.

As the ball was snapped and kicked, Booker sealed the deal 17–14 and took the victory for the Warriors. Booker had never kicked a game winning field...EVER!

As for this year, both teams should fare well. A new season will see the good ole' rivalry at Copeland Field, named after Roger Copeland, a monumental football coach in the 1960-'70 era for the Warriors, bringing the Single-T offense, which is one of the most unique offensive formations in football.

The Warriors are also coming into the 2024-'25 season with a phenomenal 10-2 record from last season. They advanced into the second round last year, falling in defeat to the Tiffin Columbian Tor-

The Warriors will be lead again at quarterback Boedpegn Miller, who was recently touted as a commit as wide receiver for The Ohio State Buckeyes, going into the 2025-'26 campaign. Miller will be

THE ONTARIO WARRIORS held a football scrimmage against Ashland on Aug. 15. The first official game of the season is this Friday against Lexington.

visible this season slotting in some time as wide receiver for Ontario as well. Hats off to Miller!

It you missed it, our staff member Traci Little had a chance to chat with Miller about his life in a great feature article in the July 11 issue of the Tribune-Courier.

The defense is also looking good for the Warrior as Rayvon Skelton will be nose tackle and Ryder Hensely takes the duties as defensive tackle and right guard.

Skelton and Ryder mentioned, "We feel good about this season with the good group of guys that we have.

"We have a good group of seniors coming back and they are hungry," said Ron Skelton, running back coach for the Warriors.

Available this week in honor of the first game will be Warrior Coach Skelton's jerk chicken. It is available at Nelly's Hideaway, right around the corner from the high school.

Good luck to both teams this Friday. Kick-off is at 7 pm at Copeland field in Ontario and I would get your seat early, as the local media has been touting this game all week!





LEXINGTON VS OLENTANGY ORANGE GIRLS VARISTY SOCCER · AUG. 17 PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER





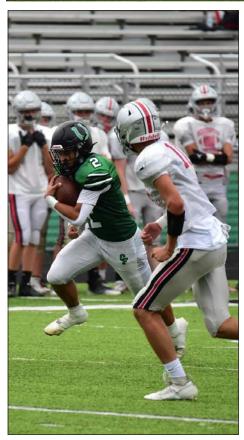




CLEAR FORK VS FREDERICKTOWN FOOTBALL SCRIMMAGE · AUG. 15 PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER











Crestview High School, Lexington Junior High dominate Madison meet

The Richland County Tyler Amos Dream Huge Realty Invite was held at Madison on Monday, Aug. 19. Both the girls and boys Crestview High School teams took home first place trophies, the boys with 46 points and girls with 24. Rounding out the top five for the boys teams were Shelby (48), Madison Comprehensive (72), Clear Fork (81) and Lexington (99). The girls teams leading the meet were Shelby (36), Madison Comprehensive (91) and Lexington (101).

High School boys top ten runners were senior Cooper Brockway of Crestview (17:43.40), senior Zane Robinson of Shelby (19:10.00), junior Amos Tobin of Clear Fork (19:37.80), sophomore Wyatt Love of Crestview (19:44.30), sophomore Evan Larsen of Madison Comprehensive (20:01.10), Isaac McFarland of Crestview (20:13.10), sophomore Freitag Peyton of Clear Fork (20:20.60), junior Keegan Sensmeier of Shelby (20:23.40), sophomore Gavin Camak of Mansfield Senior (20:25.30) and freshman Brant Leidigh of Crestview (20:40.40).

Top ten high school girls placers were sophomore Anna Will of Shelby (20:26.60), senior Leyna Gerich of Crestview (20:54.60), junior Audrey Wolford of Crestview (22:07.70), junior Alina Durbin of Crestview (22:12.90), senior Emma Montgomery of (22:21.20), sophomore Emma Mahek of Shelby (22:30.80), junior Tilia Ames of Mansfield Senior (22:36.00), senior Mia Humrichouser of Crestview (22:41.30), senior Georgia McFarland of Crestview (23:02.10) and freshman Laynie Kemp of Crestview (23:09.50).

Lexington took the trophy for the middle school boys race with 25 points. They were followed by Ontario (58), Shelby (59) and Crestview (96). Top ten middle school boys were Dane Painley of Lexington (12:18.70), Isaac Smith of Crestview (12:35.00), Jaybreese Mack of Lexington (12:50.10), Grayson Schroeder of Shelby (12:58.90), Mathias Bender of Lexington (13:03.80), Logan Sesco of Ontario (13:04.70), Carter Griffin of Lexington (13:06.60), Jake Frangella of Shelby (13:12.10), Dean Galbraith of Lexington (13:16.40) and Caden Henry of Lexington (13:23.10).

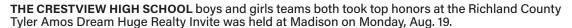
Middle school girls teams taking top three honors were Lexington with 25, followed by Shelby (45) and Ontario (63). Top ten middle school girls runners were Adayaleise Trumpower of Mansfield (12:24.00), Jordyn Thauvette of Shelby (13:58.70), Mia Twedt of Lexington (14:47.40), Gabriella Twedt of Lexington (14:48.50), Molly Sapp of Ontario (15:23.40), Raegan Sudol of Clear Fork (15:31.80), Payton McGuire of Lexington (15:38.30), Eliyah Molina of Clear Fork (15:42.00), Harper Mayer of Lexington (15:42.70) and Eliana Guertler of Shelby (15:56.30).



















COOPER BROCKWAY of Crestview and Anna Will of Shelby took first place in their high school races on Monday evening.





CLEAR FORK VS MADISON BOYS VARISTY SOCCER · AUG. 16 PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER











CLEAR FORK YOUTH SOCCER TEAMS INTRODUCTION · AUG. 16 PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER











CLEAR FORK VS GALION GIRLS TENNIS · AUG. 13 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER













CLASSIFIEDS

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS MORROW COUNTY, OHIO

Candlewood Lake Association, Inc., Case No. 2022 CV 00128

Plaintiff, Judge: Robert C. Hickson, Jr. vs. Parcel No. El3-009-J0-258-00 Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Legatees, Address: Administrators and Executors of 7326 State Route 19, Unit 9, Lot 258

Tracy A. Osborne, Deceased et. al. Candlewood Lake, Mount Gilead, OH 43338 Defendants.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

To the Defendants, The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Legatees, Administrators and Executors of Tracy A. Osborne, Deceased, and Lois Osborne, spouse of Tracy A. Osborne, whose last known address is 1341 Lohr Road, Galion, Ohio 44833, you are hereby notified that you have been named a Defendant in a legal action entitled Candlewood Lake Association, Inc. vs. The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Legatees, Administrators and Executors of Tracy A. Osborne, Deceased, et.al. This action has been assigned Case Number 2022 CV 00128 and is pending in the Court of Common Pleas of Morrow County, Mount Gilead, Ohio

The object of the complaint is to collect on an account for the unpaid assessments, fees, late charges and interest associated with the ownership of the property in the Candlewood Lake Subdivision in the amount of \$13,710.29 plus interest in the favor of the Plaintiff and against the Defendant on Plaintiffs lien for unpaid assessments and any amount expended by the Plaintiff herein, including but not limited to real estate taxes, insurance premiums, attorneys' fees and expenses and a foreclosure of the property.

You are required to answer the Complaint within twenty-eight (28) days after the last publication of this notice which will be published once each week for three successive weeks. The last publication will be made on Sep-

tember 5, 2024, and the twenty-eight (28) days will commence on that date. In case of your failure to answer or otherwise respond as required by the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Maria Mariano Guthrie (0068049) Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter 65 E State Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, OH 43215 PH: (614) 462-5400 Counsel for Plaintiff (T-C 8-22, 29, 9-5 '24) (64L)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed bids for the 200 W. Main St. Culvert Extension, Village of Lexington, Ohio will be received by the Village of Lexington, Ohio at the office of the Administrative Director at 44 West Main Street, Lexington, Ohio 44904 until 10:00am, local time Thursday September 12, 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 Web Site by visiting https://kemccartney.com/project-bids/. If you would prefer a hard copy be mailed, we will do so upon receipt of payment in the amount of \$50.00 per set, along with your UPS or FedEx account number so that shipping charges can be applied to your account. Checks shall be made payable to K.E. McCartney & Associates and all documents become the property of the prospective bidder, with no portion of the payment being refunded. Should you have any questions during the bidding process please contact jburgholder@kemccartney.com.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities. Contract will be awarded based on the lowest and best bid. The Village of Lexington 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 Village of Lexington.

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 November 22, 2024.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Richland County and Village of Lexington, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division, 614-644-239

Peter L. Them Administrative Director Village of Lexington, OH (T-C 8- 22, 29 '24) (66L)

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Matter of the Adoption of Mia Lynn Myers

Case Number: 20245042 Richland County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division

Katie Lou Matthews whose last known address is 9 Fish Ave., Shelby, OH 44875 is hereby notified that on the 16th, day of July, 2024, a petition was filed in the Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, Richland County, Ohio, 50 Park Ave. East, Mansfield, OH 44902, being Case No: 20245042, for the adoption of Mia Lynn Myers and alleging that your consent as parent of said child is not necessary because you have failed without justifiable cause to provide more than de minimis contact with minor or to provide for maintenance and support of said minor as required by law or judicial decree for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

A consent hearing will be held on the 2nd, day of October, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock A.M. and the best interest hearing will be had on the 23rd, day of October, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock A.M. before the Judge of said Court at 50 Park Avenue East, Mansfield, Ohio 44902.

Micki Myers 250 Home Rd S Mansfield, OH 44906 (T-C 8-15, 22, 29)

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VA awards over \$17 million in grants to help Ohio veterans

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced it will award \$17 million in grants to help homeless and at-risk Ohio Veterans — along with an additional \$3.6 million to benefit veterans from Ohio and surrounding states — through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families and Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem programs. A total of \$806.4 million will be awarded through the two programs nationally.

Through the SSVF program, VA is awarding 239 grants nationally totaling approximately \$797.5 million to community organizations that help rapidly rehouse Veterans and their families, prevent the imminent loss of Veterans' homes, or identify more suitable housing situations.

Through the GPD program, VA will award 14 grants nationally totaling approximately \$8.9 million to community organizations that provide Veterans with transitional housing and case management — including connecting eligible Veterans to VA benefits, community-based services, and permanent housing. These special need grants will fund approximately 105 transitional housing beds to support special populations of homeless Veterans including women, elderly, terminally ill, chronically mentally ill, or those who care for minor dependents.

The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness fell by 4.5% between 2020 to 2023 and has dropped 52% overall since 2010. These grants also build upon the significant progress to end Veteran homelessness, including progress towards VA's fiscal year 2024 goal to house 41,000 more homeless Veterans. In 2023, VA placed more than 46,500 homeless Veterans into permanent housing, exceeding the goal set for 2023 by nearly 23%.

These efforts are built upon the evidence-based "Housing First" approach, which prioritizes housing veterans, followed by providing them the wraparound support to stay housed, including health care, job training, legal and education assistance, and more.

For more information visit https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/index.html





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1728 W. Fourth Street Mansfield, Ohio 44906 Phone: 419-529-4687 Fax: 419-529-4154

landerson@firstfederalbankofohio.bank



Lisa Anderson NMLS 618735

Branch Manager - Loan Officer