



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

03.13.25



Photos By Jeff Hoffer

THE OHIO BIRD SANCTUARY, 3774 Orweiler Rd., Mansfield, held meet and greet days over the weekend to meet its newest educational ambassador, a baby barn owl named Willow. Those attending could take photos and hear more about her by giving a donation.

Voter registration deadline for primary election is April 7

The deadline to register to vote or change an address or name for the May 6, primary/special election is Monday, April 7. The Richland County Board of Elections office will be open that evening until 9 pm. This office is located at 1495 W. Longview Ave. Suite 101 in the Longview Center.

After 4 pm, those coming to vote must use the entrance at the lower-level back parking area at the southwest corner of the building.

Qualifications for registering to vote include:

- must be either a native U. S. citizen or a naturalized U.S citizen
- must be a resident of Richland County and Ohio 30 days before an election
- must be a minimum of 18 years of age on or before the date of the general election on Nov. 4, 2025.

Registered voters who have moved or changed their name must notify the board office in writing or in person. Voters currently registered in Ohio may change their address online at VoteOhio.gov but must do so by the April 7 deadline. Online registration is also now available at VoteOhio.gov.

In addition to the Richland County Board of Elections office, citizens may register or complete a change of address/name at the following locations in Richland County:

- Any library branch
- All city and village hall offices
- The Bureau of Motor Vehicles office
- The Department of Human Services
- The Richland County Courthouse (recorder or treasurer offices)
- All area high school offices

Registration forms may also be obtained from the Board of Elections website at vote.richlandcountyooh.gov or requested by mail.

To have a form sent by mail, contact the board office at 419-774-5530. Completed voter registration forms must be postmarked 30 days before election day.

Kingwood to host Free First Monday on April 7

Kingwood Center Gardens, 50 N Trimble Rd., Mansfield, will host a Free First Monday on April 7 where everyone enjoys free admission.

From 1-3 pm, there will be an educational drop-in program.

Those attending can take a garden stroll, explore Kingwood Hall and discover exotic plants in the display greenhouse.

The Gateway Café and Garden & Gift Shop will be open.

Kingwood will host the spring plant market May 2-4. Items include herbs and veggies including heirloom varieties, annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs.

Area Agency on Aging accepting senior, community award nominations

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging Inc. has announced that the Outstanding Senior Award and the Community Service Award nominations are now open and will close April 5, at 5 pm.

Each year the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and the Corporate Board selects older adults and one organization who have made a difference in their communities and present a positive image of aging.

There is one Outstanding Senior award recipient for each county in the Agency's service area (Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, and Wyandot) and one organization selected for Community Service award across all of the nine counties. Since 1976, 415 Outstanding Senior Citizen Awards and 45 Community Service Awards have been presented.

Awardees must first be nominated by an individual or organization who reside in one of the following counties (Ashland, Crawford, Hu-

ron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, and Wyandot) and are then selected by the Advisory Council and the Corporate Board based on the impact of their contributions and accomplishments within the community made after reaching age 60.

Applications can be found and submitted online at <https://www.aaa5ohio.org/events/awards/>

Awardees will be recognized at the annual Outstanding Senior and Community Service Award Ceremony in August.

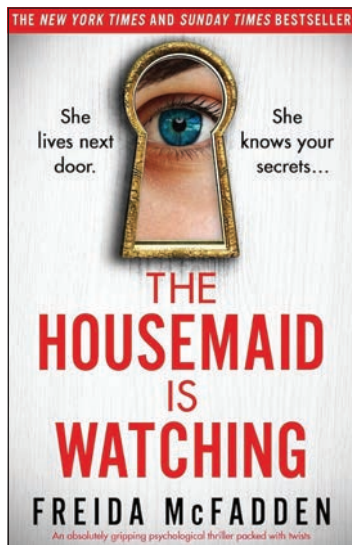
For additional information contact Sue Montgomery at smontgomery@aaa5ohio.org or 567-247-6458.

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., located at 2131 Park Avenue West in Ontario, provides leadership, collaboration, coordination and services to older adults, people with disabilities, their caregivers and resource networks that support individual choice, independence and dignity.

LOST IN A BOOK



A Book Review
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



Book three in *The Housemaid* series (*The Housemaid is Watching* by Freida McFadden) did not disappoint. Millie and Enzo are back years later and moving their family to the suburbs. But the neighbor across the street won't stop spying and the neighbor next door won't stop flirting.

Soon a crime is committed and the pair are caught in the crosshairs.

Often in a series I get to know the characters and it becomes easier for me to predict the endings, but true to form, Freida McFadden had some twists waiting for me.

My rating: ★★★★★

Follow my blog at [Green Gurneys](https://www.GreenGurneys.com) at [GreenGurneys.com](https://www.GreenGurneys.com)



MANDY BELCZAK GURNEY, *Tribune* book reviewer, often has special guests for her outdoor reading sessions.

Programs to present Sound of Music

The Ashland University Theatre Department and The Ashland Kroc Youth Theatre will be partnering in the first joint production of the timeless classic *The Sound of Music* March 21-23 at the Hugo Young Theatre, Ashland University Center for the Arts, 331 College Ave.

Cast members include Maria Rainer, Ellie Nickoli of Lexington; Captain Georg von Trapp, Keever Whitehead of Lewis Center; Mother Abbess, Emilee Fletcher of Centerburg; Liesl von Trapp, Callina Francis of Ashland; Rolf Gruber, Owen Radebaugh of Ashland; and Friedrich von Trapp (dual casted), Trevor Kellogg and Nolan Shambaugh, both of Ashland.

Show dates and times include Friday, March 21 at 7 pm; Saturday, March 22 at 2 and 7 pm; and Sunday, March 23 at 2 pm.

Tickets are available now for purchase at the AU Campus Store or by going online to www.ashland.edu/performing-arts-tickets. For more information call 419-281-8001.

THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

Director Bong Joon-Ho took his excellent movie *Parasite* all the way to the Oscars a couple years ago winning best director and best picture being the only foreign language film to ever do so. He is back with *Mickey-17*, a science-fiction film based on a 2022 novel.

Robert Pattinson gives a fun and driven performance as Mickey, a young man living on Earth. After he is accused of a crime, he decides to board a space freighter to a distant planet under the job of an expendable.

His job is essentially to be a guinea pig and is put in many dangerous situations, though, not to worry, every time Mickey dies, he is recreated.

When 17 Mickeys are created, he decides to go against the rulings of the ships leader Kenneth Marshall (Mark Ruffalo) and his wife (Toni Collette) while trying to communicate with a very odd-looking space creature.

Ho makes a solid sci-fi movie with a very engaging beginning and voice over from Pattinson who adopts an accent and creates a whole character.

The movie is interesting in that it shows Mickey as a guy

in way over his head though he does makes friends including a girlfriend named Nasha (Naomi Ackie).

Mickey-17 becomes less interesting at the mid-way mark when a bunch of scenes seem unnecessary and lackluster. There is a point where there are two Mickeys at the same time and while Pattinson does great in these two roles, the plot does not support anything interesting or exciting.

The ending is pretty over the top involving these space creatures that may have good or bad intentions. Also, Ruffalo as this crazy leader and Collette as his doting wife are way too over the top and it's hard to take them seriously.

Mickey-17 looks great and Pattinson does a fine job in the lead role, it's just too bad the movie is very up and down in terms of a meandering plot and lack of exciting moments. When the movie works it does work, though unfortunately when it doesn't it is pretty boring.



Donors could win \$5,000 gift card during month of March

Patients who need blood transfusions often describe the effects as immediate. Nonprofit blood services provider Vitalant urges all eligible blood donors to give blood in March and make a lifesaving difference.

Donors of all types are needed to help patients of all blood types. The need is greatest for type O, the most transfused and most compatible when a patient's type isn't immediately known.

Blood donations are needed not just for emergencies and acute illnesses, but for patients who have long-term health issues. The most common bleeding disorder, von Willebrand disease, affects the blood's ability to clot and can cause excessive bleeding and pain. Among other treatments, blood donations may help those whose blood does not clot properly on its own.

A Special Thanks to Donors

March 1-31, donors who give will be automatically entered into a giveaway to win one of two \$5,000 prepaid gift cards.

A blood drive is scheduled for Saturday, March 29 at Hale's Harley-Davidson, 1400 Harrington Memorial Rd., Mansfield, from 10 am to 4 pm. The Richland Mall in Ontario also has bloodmobiles each Wednesday from 1-7 pm. It is typically located across from the Ontario branch MRCPL temporary library location.

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Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in
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News Briefs

The Richland County Genealogical Society will meet on Saturday, March 15, at 2 pm at The Ohio Genealogical Society, 611 State Route 97 West, Bellville. The guest speaker will be Mike Hocker of Galion, who will talk about the Lincoln Highway. Guests are welcome.

Construction projects are anticipated to affect ODOT roadways in Richland County. All outlined work is weather permitting and is subject to change. I-71 northbound and southbound, between SR 39 and U.S. 30, will have single lane closures for a slope stabilization project. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained. Estimated completion is November 2025.

A special meeting for the Madison Board of Education has been scheduled for Thursday, March 13, at 4 pm at the Madison Board of Education office, 1379 Grace St., Mansfield.

There will be two sessions of the Senior Citizen Luncheon at Madison Comprehensive High School's Ramble Inn, 600 Esley Ln., on Thursday, March 20. The first session will be at 11 am, and the second will be at 12:30 pm. The cost is \$8 per lunch.

Reservations must be made by noon on Tuesday, March 18. Call the board office at 419-589-2600, ext. 65001, or email csmith@madisonrams.net to make a reservation.

The Franklin Township Fire Department, 505 Boyce Rd., Mansfield, will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 15, from 7 to 10 am. Proceeds benefit the volunteer fire department.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Brian Moore who will speak on "Living Beyond Form" on Sunday, March 16 at 10:30 am. For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

The Sixth Annual Step into Spring will be held Friday, March 19 at the Richland Mall. Walking will be anytime from 9 am to noon.

Richland Newhope, Area Agency in Aging and Richland County Mobility Management are sponsoring this free event to celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and promote community inclusion. In addition to the walk, several supportive community vendors will be in attendance.

CACY's Store it Safe Richland Program offers lock boxes for firearms, sharp objects and medications to protect and reduce risk of injury and save lives.

Contact the CACY office at 419-774-5683 or andersont@cacyohio.com for details. If someone is thinking of harming themselves, call the local crisis helpline at 419-522-HELP (4357).

The Ashland Cancer Crusaders Relay for Life Team will host a Relay for Life Craft Extravaganza on Saturday, April 5, from 9 am to 3 pm at Ashland County Fairground's Mozell Hall.

Along with vendors, there will be food and a 50/50 drawing. All money raised from the rental fees and the 50/50 will go to the American Cancer Society Relay For Life.

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, March 29 and 30. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am. February through May, the group will meet at New Life Church of Christ (NLC of C), 195 W. Durbin, Bellville. Cost is \$17 for the meal.

Meetings June through December will be held at Der Dutchman, Rt. 96, Bellville. Meals are \$16, with an additional \$2 for pie.

The next meal will be held on March 19 with roast beef and a performance by the Clearfork High School Artisans. Those attending are asked to wear green.

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

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

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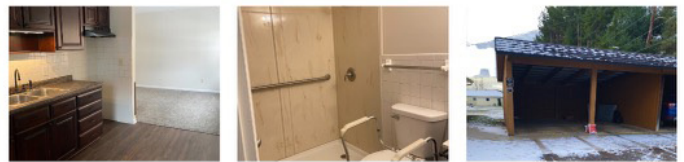
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*ADA accessible

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@ 419.884.2000
for an application



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Healthy living FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY

Discover how your lifestyle can boost both brain and body health! Join us to explore science-backed tips on diet, exercise, mental challenges, and social engagement for vibrant aging!

Wednesday, March 19 | 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Knox Community Hospital | Education Resource Center

1330 Coshocton Ave, Mt. Vernon, OH

March of Prayer continues at local churches

"A Year of Jubilee" is the theme of this year's March of Prayer in the Mansfield and surrounding area. It is 31 nights of prayer services from 6-8 pm, each in a different location.

"This is the seventh year we have held a March of Prayer, and Biblically, seven is the number of completion, called a Year of Jubilee in the Old Testament," said coordinator Paul Lintern.

"Although we had all 31 dates filled, others churches asked to be included, so we went another 19 days, until Easter that year," Lintern said. "The next year, Covid, stopped us 16 days in, but we continued another 45 days with nightly livestreams."

Each host is invited to create a service authentic to their way of worship and invite anyone to come and participate.

The remaining 2025 schedule includes March 13, Salvation Army, 47 S. Main St.; March 14, Paradise Church, 87 Illinois Ave N.; March 15, Kingdom Life, 7 Consolidated Rd., Shelby; March 16, Kingdom Grace Fellowship, 105 Reba Ave.; March 17, First English Lutheran, 53 Park Avenue West; March 18, Holy Trinity Lutheran, 525 W. Cook Rd.; March 19, Journey Life Center, 2578 Springmill Rd.; March 20, Recovery Road, 378 Park Ave. West (ARC Empowerment Center); March 21, Open Bible, 1150 Rayfield Dr., with a

performance by Glory Way; March 22, Sar Shalom (10:30 am), 2510 W. Fourth St., Ontario, guest speaker from Israel; March 23, Linden Road Presbyterian, 160 S. Linden Rd.; March 24, Mansfield Four-square Gospel, 393 Davidson. St.; March 25, Abundant Life, 1085 Bedford Blvd, Ontario; March 26, Avenue, Gathering, 1756 Park Ave. West; March 27, River Church, 152 Cline Ave.; March 28, Faith Global Methodist, Rte 96, across from Crestview High School; March 29, Fusion, Lexington, 2200 Industrial Parkway; March 30, Gracepoint Lexington, 1887 W. Cook Rd.; and March 31, Storyside, 541 St. Rt. 97, Bellville.



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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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield
419-524-4813 • mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com
Rev. David Zerby
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
10:30 am Sunday School (nursery-high school)
10:30 am Monday Morning Bible Study
7:30 am Wednesday Men's Breakfast

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.

Lexington Church of Christ

230 Delaware Ave., Lexington
419-884-1532 • www.lccoh.com
Lead Minister Brandon Bogue
9 am Sunday School
10 am Sunday Worship

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 Traditional 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

Oakland Lutheran Church

2045 Olivesburr Rd., Mansfield
419-571-9920
Pastor Paul Lintern
9 am Sunday Worship

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 9 am to 1 pm
AA Meetings M & F 10 am & noon;
Wed. noon Brown Bag and Sat. 6 pm
Clothing Ministry by appt: 419-512-9817

Southside Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2055 Middle-Bellville Rd., Mansfield
419-756-3436
Pastor Paul Lintern
10:45 am Sunday Worship

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

FinCEN not issuing fines or penalties in connection with BOI deadlines

FinCEN has announced that it will not issue any fines or penalties or take any other enforcement actions against any companies based on any failure to file or update beneficial ownership information (BOI) reports pursuant to the Corporate Transparency Act by the current deadlines.

No fines or penalties will be issued, and no enforcement actions will be taken, until a forthcoming interim final rule becomes effective and the new relevant due dates in the interim final rule have passed. This announcement continues the treasury's commitment to reducing regulatory burden on businesses, as well as prioritizing under the Corporate Transparency Act reporting of BOI for those entities that pose the most significant law enforcement and national security risks.

No later than March 21, 2025, FinCEN intends to issue an interim final rule that extends BOI reporting deadlines, recognizing the need to provide new guidance and clarity as quickly as possible, while ensuring that BOI that is highly useful to important national security, intelligence, and law enforcement activities is reported.

President Donald Trump praised the Treasury Department on Truth Social for announcing it was suspending enforcement of the BOI reporting requirement for U.S. citizens and domestic companies.

The Biden-era initiative required small businesses to report information on beneficial owners to the Department of the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), according to the IRS.

Trump called the requirement "outrageous and invasive."

FinCEN also intends to solicit public comment on potential revisions to existing BOI reporting requirements. FinCEN will consider those comments as part of a notice of proposed rulemaking anticipated to be issued later this year to minimize burden on small businesses.



Rome, Italy • Photo By Mark Shutt

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Tommy Allen, February 28
Dodi Lynn Barker, March 2
Larry Wayne Estep Sr., March 2
Katie Eulane (nee' P'Simer) Schaffer, March 4
Carol May Skeen, March 4
Mary Eileen Levison, March 5
Timothy Lee Lucas, March 5
John Paul Jones, March 7

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MARCH 20

10AM - 4PM

at the Richland County Fairgrounds

18th Annual Business Expo



PRESENTED BY:



- Public welcome
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- Bring your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers!



Bring an item for the Humane Society or Richland County Dog Shelter for a chance to win more prizes!

Questions? (419) 522-3211 www.RichlandAreaChamber.com

PRIZES 🐾 GIVEAWAYS 🐾 DON'T MISS IT!

2025 Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 16–22

The Richland County Emergency Management Agency monitors local weather in collaboration with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Cleveland. Spring Severe Weather Awareness week is March 16–22.

Common spring weather alerts issued are for the flood/flash flooding, high winds, tornadoes and severe thunderstorms.

A statewide tornado drill will occur at 9:50 am on Wednesday, March 19. Alerts are sent out by the NWS and also via Richland County RcAlerts notification system. Sign up for RcAlerts can be done via the Richland County website at <https://www.richlandcountyoh.gov/rcalerts>. Weather Forecasts for Richland County can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/cle/>.

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues severe weather watches, warnings and advisories to alert the public when dangerous weather conditions are expected.

Watch: A weather watch means there is the potential or conditions exist for a dangerous weather event.

Warning: A weather warning means that a dangerous weather event is imminent. Immediate action must be taken.

Advisory: A weather advisory means weather conditions that are less serious than a warning are imminent. These events may cause a significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, it could lead to a situation that may be threatening to life and property.

The most recent severe weather storm in Richland County was an EF-2 tornado March 14, 2024 in Plymouth. During this incident winds reached 120 miles per hour and left a path 10.34 miles long of damaged structures and debris.

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness encourages Ohioans to DUCK!

D: Go DOWN to the lowest level

U: Get UNDER something

C: COVER your head

K: KEEP in shelter until the storm has passed

As severe spring weather season approaches now is a good time to put together an emergency plan. Know what to do before, during and after an emergency. Make an emergency plan, practice the plan and build an emergency supply kit.

For information on kits visit <https://weathersafety.ohio.gov/HomePreparednessKit.aspx>.

The annual Skywarn Spotter training presented by the NWS in Cleveland will be virtual this year. Registration information for the training can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN> schedule. This training covers the basics of thunderstorm development, identifying potential severe weather, and basic severe weather safety.

Richland Academy of Arts to hold dance ensemble performance

Richland Academy of the Arts (RAA) has announced the upcoming Richland Academy Dance Ensemble (RADE) Spring Dance Concert, taking place on March 22 at 7 pm at the Robert H. Whitney Performing Arts Center at Lexington High School.

Tickets are now available for purchase at <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/99253447/2025-rade-show>. Tickets are priced at \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, seniors and veterans.

This show is a celebration of classical ballet, modern, jazz, tap and musical theatre. It features choreography by Sarah Horrigan-Ramos, Marden Ramos and Erin Wolford, and celebrates senior Lily Feasel.

"We're thrilled to celebrate the talent and hard work of our dancers in this diverse performance. It's a joy to share this special evening with the community" said Sarah Horrigan-Ramos, dance department chair. "RAA remains committed to providing high-quality arts education and creative programming for all ages."

To learn more about RAA or support the Empower the Arts Campaign — whether through donations or by spreading the word — visit richlandacademy.com. Every contribution makes a lasting impact, helping to empower the next generation of artists.

The Richland Academy of the Arts, founded in 1991, is located in the heart of Mansfield, on the corner of 4th Street and Walnut Street, beside the carousel. It is supported by the Ohio Arts Council and the Area Agency on Aging,

Finfgeld elected Richland County Board of Elections Board Director

The Richland County Board of Elections met to reorganize on Tuesday, March 4, as required by the Ohio Revised Code 3501.09.

Matt Finfgeld, a democrat, was unanimously appointed by the board members as director of the board.

Jane Zimmermann, a republican, was unanimously appointed by the board members as deputy director.

Full-time democratic staff members Amanda Hike and John Makley, as well as full-time republican staff members Carrie Hill and Daniel O'Brien, were reappointed to their positions for the next two years.

Permanent part-time employees Democrat, Sharon Schulz and Republican, Linda Westfield were also reappointed.

The board members unanimously chose republican Bill Freytag as the chair, which makes the fourth consecutive time. The chair must be from the opposite political party of the director.

Megan Whatman was chosen by the Richland County Republican Party to serve her second term on the board.

Venita Shoulders was recently chosen by the Richland County Democratic Party to serve her first full term on the board. Shoulders was appointed to fill an unexpired term in 2023.

The other two board members are Larry Weirich, who is currently serving his first term, and Freytag, who is in his second term.

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MALABAR FARM MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL



Photos By Traci Little



Cybersecurity presentation to appeal to small business owners

Small business owners and anyone with an interest in cybersecurity can improve their knowledge during the "Introduction to Cybersecurity for Small Businesses" breakfast, April 2 from 8-9:30 a.m. at The Ohio State University at Mansfield.

Olivia K. Hernandez, lead engineer in Industrial Cybersecurity at Ohio State's Center for Design and Manufacturing Excellence, will cover the basics for small businesses, sharing tips and best practices that can save the time, money and headaches of experiencing a cyberattack.

Hernandez will also share information about a free online training course called the "Ohio Cybersecurity for Small Businesses Pilot." This three-five hour course is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and explores topics such as internal auditing, vendor management and phishing.

The event is sponsored by Ohio State Mansfield, the Braintree Business Development Center, and Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development.

"Understanding the foundations of cybersecurity is crucial for small business leaders," said Angie Cirone, of the Mansfield-Richland Area Educational Foundation. "This event will help leaders assess their risk and avoid attacks. We also want to foster networking and idea sharing around cybersecurity topics."

Bob Cohen, CEO of Braintree, said the goal is to "build up a network of cybersecurity stakeholders and increase awareness of the resources available."

In addition to business owners, the event will appeal to school administrators, local government officials and employees, and anyone interested in protecting themselves against cyberattacks.

The free online course is an optional addition to Hernandez' presentation, and includes 10 educational modules designed to educate, train, mentor and improve efforts to mitigate cyber threats.

The speaker event will be held at 1760 University Drive, Mansfield, Conard Hall, Room 203. Register online at <https://portal.richlandareachamber.com/events/details/introduction-to-cybersecurity-for-small-businesses-6195>.



Ohio University releases dean's, president's and provost's lists

Following the completion of each semester, Ohio University recognizes the academic achievements of its students by publishing the president's, dean's and provost's lists.

The dean's list recognizes undergraduate students who complete a particular semester with a GPA between 3.5 and 3.999 with a minimum of 12 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA. On the list are Olivia Bise of Ontario, Jacob Denison of Mansfield, Daniel Elgin of Mansfield, Rachel Foss of Mansfield, Grace Knell of Ontario, Rachel Kocher of Lexington, Emma Odson of Lexington, Ava Perkins of Mansfield and James Williams of Mansfield.

The president's list distinction is presented to undergraduate students who exhibit an exceptional commitment to academic excellence each semester. Criteria for the list include a 4.0 GPA for the given semester with a minimum of 12 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA. On the list are Meredith Bise of Ontario, Haley Carpenter of Ontario, Elizabeth Nagel of Mansfield, Evan Porter of Mansfield and Sam Prinz of Mansfield.

The provost's list recognition is shared with high-achieving, part-time undergraduate students who exemplify academic success. Qualifying students must possess a 3.5 or greater GPA and between 6 and 11.99 credit hours attempted for letter grades that are used to calculate GPA. On the list are Ashley Chronister of Mansfield, Grace Miller of Lexington and Ally Spencer of Ontario.



SECOND GRADERS at Ontario Stingel performed a musical called, "It's a Jungle Out There!" under the direction of Mike Schwall on Wednesday, March 5. Schwall is retiring this spring after teaching for 33 years.



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL chemistry students investigated acids and bases via titration using pH meters.

DAV, RecruitMilitary host National Virtual Career Fair for Veterans

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and RecruitMilitary® will co-host the National Virtual Veterans Career Fair, March 18 from 11 am to 3 pm Central. The event is free to veterans, their spouses, active duty military personnel and members of the National Guard and Reserve.

More than 75 employers actively seeking the unique talents of America's veterans will be on-site representing a range of industries, from construction to medical to administrative and logistics, with career opportunities from entry level to senior management. In addition to employment assistance, the veterans expected to attend can utilize career counseling and resume assistance, network with fellow veterans and military personnel, and get support with their Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and claims assistance—all at no cost.

This year, DAV will sponsor more than 90 in-person and virtual job fairs. Since the inception of its employment initiative in 2014, there have been nearly 274,000 attendees and more than 167,000 job offers. Last year, to support employers, dispel myths and demonstrate the business case for employing America's nearly 4 million veterans with a service-connected disability, DAV developed The Veteran Advantage: DAV Guide to Hiring and Retaining Veterans with Disabilities. This guide offers best practices and helpful tools for employers and strives to inspire more organizations to consider the veteran talent pool.

DAV's National Employment Director Lamarr Couser, a service disabled veteran of the Navy, Army National Guard and Army, is available to discuss trends in veteran and military spouse hiring, valuable employment-related resources, and job opportunities nationwide. To arrange an interview, contact Lamarr Couser at 513-470-5260.

To register and access additional no-cost resources for veterans and their families visit jobs.dav.org.

DV Shelter seeks volunteers

The Domestic Violence Shelter is seeking compassionate and motivated community members to support its work through volunteer service. Volunteer positions include general volunteer, event volunteer, front desk advocate volunteer, hospital advocate volunteer, support group assistant volunteer and youth volunteer.

Prospective volunteers must be 18 years of age (those under 18 may serve in limited capacities and with appropriate supervision as outlined in the volunteer information packet). Due to the sensitive nature of the shelter's work, prospective volunteers must undergo an application, interview and screening process prior to engaging in service.

Volunteers must be committed to the shelter's mission and dedicated to ending domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking and supporting survivors of violence.

Volunteers must show respect for the people the shelter serves and be committed to upholding confidentiality laws. Compassion, empathy, and a non-judgmental attitude are essential qualities.

Last year alone, The Domestic Violence Shelter provided housing for 143 individuals, answered 847 crisis calls, offered advocacy during 180 SANE exams, and educated over 1,400 people in the local community. These vital services wouldn't be possible without the dedication of volunteers.

"From supporting clients directly to helping with essential tasks such as cleaning or administrative work, every role makes a lasting difference," said Volunteer Coordinator Katherine Henderson.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities and apply to serve by contacting Katherine Henderson at 419-774-5843 ext. 100, or by email at khenderson@thedvshelter.com.



CHRIS MAY, MRCP Library Director, addresses graduates at the 2022 COHS ceremony at the main library.

Library to honor adult learners

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) is hosting a graduation ceremony for the adult students earning their high school diploma from the Career Online High School (COHS) program. Over the past eighteen months, four adults have completed coursework and career certification classes as part of the free COHS program at MRCPL.

Chris May, Library Director, and Steve Russell, Workforce Development and COHS Program Coordinator invite the community to attend the ceremony on Wednesday, March 12, at 2 pm in the MRCPL Main Library Community Room. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the hard work and determination of the graduates, and the public is invited to join in the celebration of their achievements.

MRCPL offers free enrollment to a limited number of adult learners in the COHS program. Each student is paired with a coach who provides guidance, evaluates progress, and connects them to the resources they need to succeed. For more information about the COHS program, visit mrcl.org.



MACKENZIE REESE'S preschool class at Ontario had fun during their play centers recently.

The Renaissance Theatre to present 'Once' at Theatre 166

The Renaissance Theatre will bring the Tony Award-winning musical *Once* back to the stage in an intimate production at Theatre 166. This limited-engagement run will have performances on Friday, March 28 at 7:30 pm; Saturday, March 29 at 7:30 pm; Friday, April 4 at 7:30 pm; Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 pm; Friday, April 11 at 7:30 pm; and Saturday, April 12 at 7:30 PM.

Set on the lively streets of Dublin, *Once* tells the poignant story of an Irish musician and a Czech immigrant whose shared love for music sparks an unexpected friendship and a complicated romance over the course of a transformative week. Featuring the Academy Award-winning song *Falling Slowly*, this emotionally charged production is a testament to the power of music to inspire, connect, and heal.

The Renaissance production, directed by Michael Thomas, features an exceptionally talented cast who will not only bring this heartfelt story to life but also perform the music live onstage.

The cast includes Noah Sgambellone as Guy, Daniella Rukin as Girl, Clayton Matthews as Svec, Caroline Grace Williams as Reza, Jenna Krivosh as ex-girlfriend, Drew Traxler as Bank Manager, Bradwin Amos as Billy, Joshua Screen as Andrej, Stephanie Hayslip as Baruska, Michael Thomas as Da/Eamon, Allie Carter as Siobhan and Evelyn Extine as Ivanka.

"We grow attached to the productions we stage at the Ren, but none quite so much as *Once: The Musical*," said Michael Thomas, Renaissance Artistic Director Emeritus.

"There is something magical about this piece. Perhaps it's the beautifully simple story of a man and woman who meet, fall in love, and ultimately must part. Perhaps it's the Irish pub-like setting, with actors playing musical instruments."

"Perhaps it's the combination of Irish humor, joy, and bittersweet storytelling that makes it so unique. Whatever the reason, *Once* is an unforgettable theatre-going experience. If you missed it last time, this is your chance to see it. If you saw it last time, it's your chance to take the journey again."

Before each performance, audiences will have the opportunity to visit an onstage bar, purchase pre-show libations, and enjoy a special serenade from the cast featuring traditional Irish pub songs. Arrive early to be part of the fun!

Adding to the magic, the actors themselves will perform every song live onstage, playing their own instruments — a unique and challenging aspect of *Once* that elevates the production to a truly immersive musical experience.

This production will take place at Theatre 166, the Renaissance's Black Box Theatre, an intimate space with seating for just 120 guests per performance. General admission seating ensures every audience member is close to the action, making for a truly personal and unforgettable experience.

Tickets for *Once* start at \$32 and are available now at www.rentickets.org or by calling the Renaissance Theatre box office at 419-522-2726. The box office is located at 138 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio.

Audience members can enhance the experience with a Date Night Package — for just \$5 more per ticket, enjoy wine and sweet treats.

Scholarships available to local students

The Area Agency on Aging announced the start of its 2025 Scholarship Program, aimed at supporting individuals pursuing higher education or certification in the field of aging or disability services.

Scholarships awarded include \$2,000 for a student attending a 4-year university; \$1,000 for a student attending a 2-year college, technical school, center of education, or pursuing a certification; and \$1,000 for a student attending any type of higher institute of learning or certification and a retiree or staff member of the Area Agency on Aging or is a child (step) or grandchild (step) of an actively employed (full-time or part-time) Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. staff member.

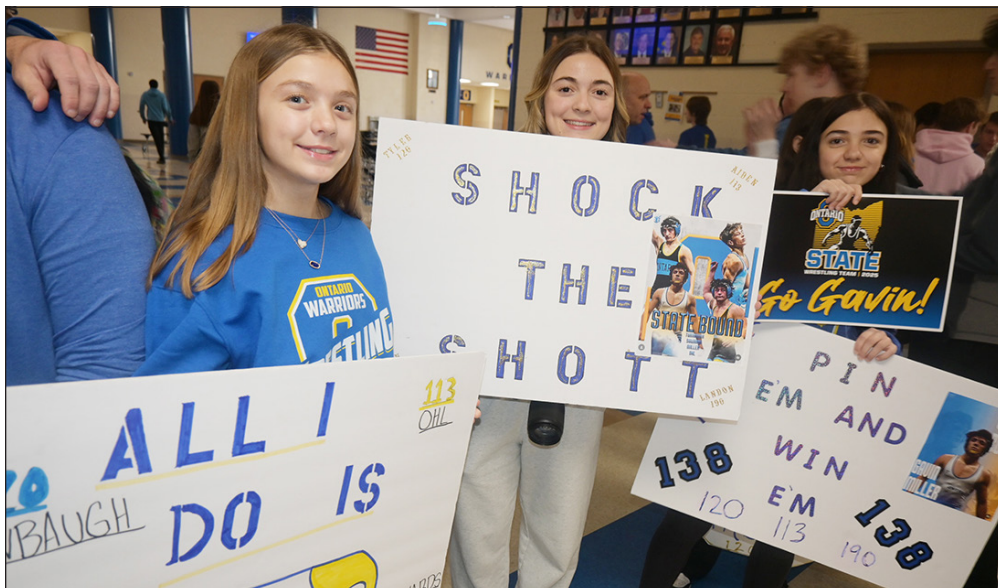
Applicants can visit aaa5ohio.org for detailed eligibility criteria and application instructions. The deadline is March 15, 2025.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING STATE SEND-OFF



ONTARIO state qualifiers junior Aiden Ohl, sophomore Gavin Miller, senior Landon Sowards and freshmen Tyler Turnbaugh.



Colonel Crawford continues to soar

By Kris Leiter

The Eagles seem to keep soaring as they are in the Final Four in Ohio high school basketball. It gives me goose bumps as I write this.

In Ohio, we now have seven divisions, up from four previously.

This gives more opportunities to teams who may have never seen the big show, the big stage, the spotlight.

The Colonel Crawford Eagles are just a stone-throw from Mansfield.

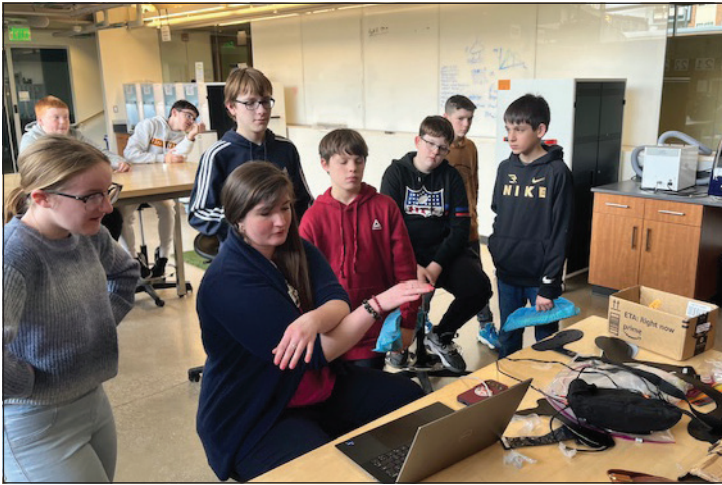
The Eagles have seen regional action in the past and it never gets old, but state would be new land for the mighty Eagles to embark.

Colonel Crawford will have a seat at the table this Friday in Dayton at 6 pm. So will Marion Local, located in Maria Stein, in the Western part of the state.

They are also no stranger to football and basketball state championships, qualifying multiple years in multiple sports.

Colonel Crawford has won 25 games straight, as well as capturing the Division VI, Regional Championship in Bowling Green's beautiful Stroh's Center.

Needless to say, this should be a good game. Maybe I'm biased, but the facts speak for themselves.



MR. SAGER'S PRE-ENGINEERING eighth grader students were invited and made a trip to Cleveland State University on Feb. 24. The students were tasked with a group STEM activity involving designing an insole that decreased the insole pressure on the foot walking over rough terrain. The students used several provided materials and executed their plan prior to collecting data through a software program that they were introduced to. If time permitted, they were tasked to modify and improve their design skills based on the data. The group was also given a tour of the various labs involving all kinds of engineering going on at Cleveland State. Lastly, the students enjoyed an all you can eat buffet at the Viking Marketplace. They were able to pack it all in during the Ontario school day.



THE LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL girls team dropped four seconds in the 4x400 to finish ninth in the state. Team members are Ali, Sylvia, Morgan and Emily.

Spring visitation opportunities available at Ohio State Mansfield

With spring nearly here, now is the perfect time for future students to visit The Ohio State University at Mansfield. Admissions staff are holding two action-packed Buckeye Preview Days, March 26 and April 21, from 10 am to 12:30 pm.

Both events are open to students of any age and are particularly helpful for high school juniors who will soon begin their college search process.

"Spring is an exciting time on our campus as some college students are wrapping up their required coursework before graduation, while many high school seniors are visiting to see if the campus will fit their future needs," said Diane Kanney, director for Regional Campus Recruitment Strategies and Initiatives.

"The day includes an opportunity to learn about the campus and the enrollment process during an admissions overview, hear firsthand from current students what they love most about campus and learn about the academic experience from faculty."

Students at Ohio State Mansfield can choose among 12 bachelor's degrees offered on campus or start any of Ohio State's 200-plus undergraduate degrees and finish in Columbus.

At the preview, students will learn more about scholarship and financial aid, campus housing, student clubs and organizations and much more. Faculty and current students will share their perspectives as well as their experiences on campus.

Each preview day will conclude with a campus tour and time for all guests to ask questions.

All events will begin in Riedl Hall and students can register online at go.osu.edu/visitmansfield

While registration is encouraged, walk-in participants are welcome. For more information, contact the office of enrollment services at mansfield-askabuckeye@osu.edu or call 419-755-4317.



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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 February 19, 2025.

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. 25-02 – (THIRD READING) A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE ONTARIO COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION AS THE OFFICIAL AGENCY AND INSTRUMENTALITY OF CITY OF ONTARIO FOR COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, AND AUTHORIZING THE CORPORATION TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-01 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNEE (CHIEF OF POLICE) TO DONATE THREE (3) UNNEEDED AND SLATED FOR AUCTION PATROL CARS TO NORTH CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE POLICE ACADEMY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 139.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THIS CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 3-6, 13 '25) 40 L

LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their regular meeting held on March 5, 2025.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 25-01 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 1143, CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USE STANDARDS 1143.03 DESIGN STANDARDS, SUBPARAGRAPH (G) MINI-WAREHOUSES, SUBPARAGRAPH (2), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 3-13, 20 '25) 22L

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PIONEER CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) inductees are front, Isabella Kimberlin, Taylor Carter, Chloe Clayborne, Kelley Kurtz, Elizabeth Roberts, Evelyn Cadle, and Kylie White; and back, Kylie Mosley, Audrey Shaffer, Josie Rank, Dixie Carroll, Kommer Summers, Carson Secriskey, Donovan Wintersteller and Tyce Lisle.

Pioneer students inducted into NTHS

Pioneer Career & Technology Center is excited to announce the induction of 20 exceptional students into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) at a ceremony held on Tuesday, March 4.

This year's inductees have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their career technical programs, academic excellence, and a strong commitment to the core values of NTHS.

The ceremony featured a candle-lighting tradition, with students symbolizing the seven key attributes of NTHS: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship, and Leadership. Each member received a certificate of membership, and seniors were presented with NTHS Honor Cords to celebrate their achievements.

A special highlight of the evening was the honorary membership awarded to advisor Vickie Hunt in recognition of her outstanding support and dedication to student success. Her commitment to guiding and inspiring students has made a lasting impact on the Pioneer community.

To be inducted into NTHS, students must demonstrate exemplary character, honesty, responsibility, and a personal commitment to excellence. They must also meet the NTHS Standards of Conduct, which include maintaining a high GPA, an excellent attendance record, and receiving recommendations from faculty and staff.

Pioneer NTHS advisors, Vickie Hunt and Emma Jenkins, have played an instrumental role in mentoring and supporting these students on their academic jour-

ney. Their dedication is truly commendable.

2 Year members are Taylor Carper (Willard), Chloe Clayborne (Lexington), Parker Harbolt (Northmor), Josie Rank (Plymouth), Elizabeth Roberts (Lexington), Konner Summers (Lexington), Nicole Watkins (Plymouth), Brianne York (Northmor).

2025 Inductees are Evelyn Ca-

dle (Crestview), Dixie Carroll (Bucyrus), Nevaeh Hall (Willard), Isabella Kimberlin (South Central), Kelley Kurtz (Lexington), Tyce Lisle (Colonel Crawford), Dayana Morales Monzon (Willard), Kylie Mosley (Willard), Carson Secriskey (Shelby), Audrey Shaffer (Buckeye Central), Kylie White (Lexington), and Donovan Wintersteller (Colonel Crawford).

Senior box distribution is March 25

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West will be offering senior boxes of non perishable food provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm or until supplies run out. This comes with a 15 lb. box of fresh produce and a two lb. box of cheese. These items are free to those who qualify by age (60+) and low income guidelines. Recipients must have at least one person age 60 or older in the household.

These items are available on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year round. The distribution is held in the South Mulberry Street parking lot. The next distribution is Tuesday, March 25.





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