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06.04.26



Senior Spring Extravaganza brings Mardi Gras flair to celebration of healthy aging

Photos and Article By Traci Little

MANSFIELD — Mardi Gras colors, lively music and plenty of laughter filled the Mid-Ohio Conference Center on May 29 as older adults from across North Central Ohio gathered for the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging's annual Senior Spring Extravaganza.

The free event celebrated Older Americans Month and embraced this year's theme, "Champion Your Health," through a day focused on wellness, community connections and active living.

Guests stepped into a festive atmosphere adorned with masks, beads and vibrant shades of purple, green and gold. Throughout the day, attendees visited vendor booths, connected with local organizations and explored resources designed to support healthy aging and independent living.

Laughter echoed through the venue during rounds of BINGO while door prizes added to the excitement. Live music by Randy Velez kept the energy high as guests sang along, danced and enjoyed the celebration.

Outside, polished classic cars lined the grounds, drawing admirers throughout the afternoon. Visitors paused to inspect the vintage vehicles, swap stories and reminisce about days gone by.

A complimentary lunch brought friends together around tables for conversation and fellowship. Community vendors and service providers also shared information about programs and services available to older adults, individuals with disabilities and family caregivers.

The annual event highlighted the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging's mission to promote choice, independence and dignity while encouraging older adults to remain active, engaged and connected to their communities.

Serving North Central Ohio, the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging provides leadership, coordination and support services for older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers and the resource networks that help them thrive.

More Photos on Page 6



Glass exhibits take flight at Kingwood Center Gardens

Photos and Article By Traci Little

MANSFIELD — Giant butterflies shimmer in the sunlight. Dragonflies glow among the flowers. Brilliant colors dance across the landscape as glass and nature come together in a breathtaking display at Kingwood Center Gardens.

The new Glass in Flight 2 exhibit has transformed the gardens into an outdoor gallery featuring more than 40 larger-than-life glass sculptures created by nationally acclaimed artist Alex Heveri. The exhibit opened May 23 and will remain on display through Sept. 7.

One of the largest outdoor art installations ever hosted at Kingwood Gardens, the exhibit invites visitors to explore a collection inspired by pollinators and the natural world. Butterflies, bees, dragonflies, bats and other winged creatures appear throughout the gardens, creating surprises around nearly every corner.

Each sculpture is handcrafted using a technique known as dalle de verre, a thick, faceted glass that captures and refracts sunlight. The result is a constantly changing display of color and light. Depending on the time of day, cloud cover and surrounding blooms, the sculptures take on a different appearance with every visit.



Several pieces on display made their first-ever appearance at Kingwood Center Gardens.

The centerpiece of the exhibit is the striking Monarch Archway, a 15-foot-tall installation featuring six giant monarch butterflies perched atop steel-crafted milkweed branches. Towering above visitors, the sculpture is expected to become one of the most photographed attractions of the summer season.

For Heveri, the exhibit represents more than three decades of artistic craftsmanship. The renowned glass and steel artist personally designs, cuts, assembles and welds each piece she creates. Her work has appeared at botanical gardens, zoos and public attractions across the country, including the Tucson Botanical Gardens, Houston Botanic Garden, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Reiman Gardens and the San Antonio Zoo.

Unlike a traditional museum exhibit, Glass in Flight 2 is designed to interact with its surroundings. Morning sunlight illuminates the glass in one way. Golden-hour light creates an entirely different effect. Flowers bloom and fade. Shadows shift. Every walk through

(Continued on Page 7)

Light Up the Valley 5K planned for Saturday, June 27 in Bellville

A Light Up the Valley 5K and one mile fun run will be held Saturday, June 27 in Bellville. The family friendly 5K will begin at 8:30 am. To register visit www.tinyurl.com/LUTV5K

The 5K is sponsored by Sunshine Girls Running Club. The club is a Christ-centered running program that encourages girls to grow strong physically, confident mentally and rooted spiritually.

Through running, faith-based lessons and positive relationships, the goal is to help girls build confidence and resilience, develop Christ-centered character, enjoy movement and teamwork, understand their identity in Christ and experience a safe, encouraging community.

The program, designed for third through sixth grade, runs twice each year in the spring and fall and includes running practices that build endurance and strength and faith and character curriculum each week that focuses on one Christ-centered character trait that God gives us.

Lessons are age-appropriate and rooted in scripture. Visit sunshinegirlsrunningclub.org or email info@sunshinegirlsrunningclub.org for more information.

Lions car show to be held at high school

The Madison Township Lions Club will host a car show and swap meet on Sunday, June 28, from 10 am to 6 pm, at Madison Comprehensive High School, 600 Esley Ln., Mansfield.

There is a \$25 entry for the car show and swap meet vendor spots are \$25 for a 10'x10' space.

Categories will include cars, trucks, race cars, motorcycles and RVs. RC car categories will be cars, trucks planes and boats.

Proceeds benefit pediatric cancer families, Madison Rams Boosters and local community projects.

To register call Steve at 419-632-0111. No alcohol is allowed on the premises.



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No. 34

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THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

Recently released on DVD and Blu-ray is another Jason Statham action movie called *Shelter*.

While a great deal of these Statham vehicles can roll from one into the other, this release is definitely worth a watch and is one of his better movies.

Statham stars as Michael Mason, a former government assassin who has been living in secrecy for over 10 years in a lighthouse.

One night during a large storm, Mason rescues a young girl named Jessie (Bodhi Rae Breathnach). As Mason helps her heal from her wounds, Mason's past comes back to haunt him and he protects Jessie from the men wanting him dead.

Shelter showcases a better than average performance from Statham and he has terrific

chemistry with young Breathnach who really holds her own.

There is a terrific car chase and of course gun fights and hand to hand combat. This movie is not breaking any new ground though its one of the more watchable Statham films in recent memory. Bill Nighy is also good in a supporting role as a man pulling the strings of the operation to capture Mason.

I was not expecting much from this early year Statham release and was surprisingly pleased by the chemistry between Statham and Breathnach and the action scenes are really a stand out. Rent this one at home, it is worth a watch.




THE OHIO STATE REFORMATORY

2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6/6 - 6/7	PARTY AT THE PEN
7/17 - 7/19	INKCARCERATION
8/15	SHAWSHANK HUSTLE
9/19	HIGH WALL CRUISE-IN
9/25 - 11/1	BLOOD PRISON

News Briefs

St. Mary Church, 1630 Ashland Rd., Mansfield, (Madison area) will host a rummage sale Thursday and Friday, June 4 and 5, from 9 am to 4 pm and Saturday, June 6, from 9 am to noon. The sale is held in the basement.

★

Church of the Cross UMC, 236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington, will hold a rummage sale Friday, June 19, from 8 am to 3 pm. Cost is a free will donation which support local missions.

The church will also host a Wonderful Wednesdays Program for Families and Children June 10, 17 and 24 and July 1, at Lexington Community Park's Pavillion/Community Building on Plymouth St.

The events will run from 11:30 am to 1 pm and free lunch will be provided. There will be music, crafts and activities. Register at churchofthecrosslex.com.

★

Community Bible Church's youth group will host a rummage sale Thursday, June 18 and Friday, June 19, from 9 am to 3 pm. The church is located at 1043 Springmill St., Mansfield.

★

The Madison Ram Marching Band Alumni Football Game will be held Friday, Aug. 28, at the Madison Comprehensive High School and Stadium, 600 Esley Ln., Mansfield.

Practices are held Monday, Aug. 24, from 2:30-4:30 pm and Thursday, Aug. 27, from 6-8 pm, in the high school band room.

Musicians should report to the band room at 5 pm on the night of the event. The game begins at 7 pm.

To sign-up visit <https://forms.gle/Ez93fK7YLoXQvVsk6>. Sign ups close on Friday, July 24.

For information email kfanning@mlsd.net or Imann@mlsd.net for the band and mpoland@mlsd.net for Ramettes.

★

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

★

The 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. 97, Bellville. Cost is \$17 for the meal, with an additional \$2 for pie.

The next meal will be June 24, with a speaker from the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging.

For information visit the Facebook page at Lexington Area Senior Citizens (LASC). Dues are \$10 per year.

★

The City of Ontario's 2026 Concerts in the Park will be held at the band shell in Marshall Park at 6 pm.

Concerts are scheduled for June 9, Canyon Echoes; June 26, I Told You; July 7, Conne; July 21, Oolong Gurus; Aug. 11, Soul Town; and Aug. 25, Red Ball Jets.

This is event is free to attend. Lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Anthony Brown on Sunday, June 7, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Listening Beneath the Moment: The Heart, the Self, and Deeper Awareness." For information visit www.allsoul-suuhio.org.

★

A special meeting of the Ontario Board of Education will be held in the Ontario High School Library, 467 Shelby-Ontario Rd., Ontario on Wednesday, June 17, at 6 pm. This will held to discuss the development of tax policy with Rockmill Financial.

★

The Franklin Township Fire Department Ice Cream Social will be held Saturday, June 13, at Crestview Elementary School, 1575 St. Rt. 96, Ashland, from 4-7 pm.

The event will feature homemade ice cream, food, bounce house inflatables, Touch-A-Truck with multiple agencies, kids' activities and more.

★

The City of Ontario meeting schedule for June has been released. Meetings are held at 55 Stumbo Rd., Ontario.

The schedule includes June 10, 1 pm, civil service commission and 4 pm, planning commission; and June 17, 5 pm, economic development committee of the whole, meeting at the new construction on Clare Road; 6:15 pm caucus; and 7 pm, council.

★

Mansfield Christian School, 500 Logan Rd., Mansfield, will hold a rummage sale Wednesday-Friday, June 3-5, from 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday, June 6, from 9 am to noon. All proceeds from the sale go directly to the MCS Dominican Missions Team. The sale will be in the elementary gym, door 12.

★

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RSWCD will host free Windy Wonders workshop on Tuesday, July 14

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (RSWCD) is hosting a free "Windy Wonders" workshop to create wind spinners as part of the Conservation Creation Arts and Crafts Workshop series on Tuesday, July 14.

The workshop takes place at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave., in Mansfield, from 6-7:30 pm.

The workshop and craft supplies are provided free of charge thanks to the generosity of donations raised through Richland Gives

sponsored by the Richland County Foundation.

Register for this workshop at <https://richlandswcd.net/event/conservation-creation-arts-crafts-workshop-3/>. The workshop is limited to 25 people and photos will be taken. All who register will automatically receive the RSWCD free quarterly e-newsletter.

For more information on the Windy Wonders workshop and future events visit <https://richlandswcd.net/events/>.

Church Directory

All Souls Unitarian Universalist

25 Church St., Bellville
419-886-3497 • www.allsoulsuuohio.org
10:30 am Service and Sunday School
Adult RE Book Club (quarterly)

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 am Monday Morning Bible Study

Lexington Church of the Cross

236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington
419-884-2150 • Churchofthecrosslex.com
Pastor-Rev. Dr. Edna Stahl
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Junior Church for 10 and under • Wesley Class 10:45
5th Sunday of the month-Do Something Sunday AA, Girl Scouts,
Yoga, Knotty Ladies and Bible Study.

Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West., Ontario
419-529-4345 • ontarioumc.com
Rev. J.P. Snyder
9:30 am Grace & Eggs
11 am Sunday Worship and Kingdom Kids

St. John's United Church of Christ

2010 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
(At Hope Lutheran Next to Drug Mart)
419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org
contact@stjohnmansfield.org
Pastor Faith Proietti • 11 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

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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Ontario Liberty Festival celebrates 250th with weekend full of activities

The Ontario Liberty Fest (formerly the Ontario 4th of July Festival) returns Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27, at Marshall Park in Ontario. This special edition of the festival celebrates America's 250th birthday with two days packed full of fun, community and patriotic celebration.

Friday night will kick-off the weekend with food trucks, a classic car show, live music and entertainment and family fun.

On Saturday, the day will begin with the Liberty 5K Run. The day will continue with kids games and activities, The Ontario Lions Club Frog Jumping Contest, festival games and competitions, live concerts and entertainment throughout the day, a parade, a VIP Area for adults and families, food vendors and a beer garden.

The weekend concludes with a laser show and the region's largest fireworks display, synchronized to music on WVNO Mix 106.1.

Bring your family, bring your friends, and join the community as we celebrate freedom, tradition, and America's 250th anniversary at Ontario Liberty Fest 2026.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Le'Ondra Mae Messner, May 20
Dennis Webster Boyd, May 21
Denney Ray Sutherland, May 23
Kathy Lynn Darson, May 24
James P. Cook, May 25
Martha Lee Adkins-Lemon, May 26
Joylene Kirsh, May 27
Danny Blaine Miller, May 28
Gary "Butch" Allen Smith, May 30

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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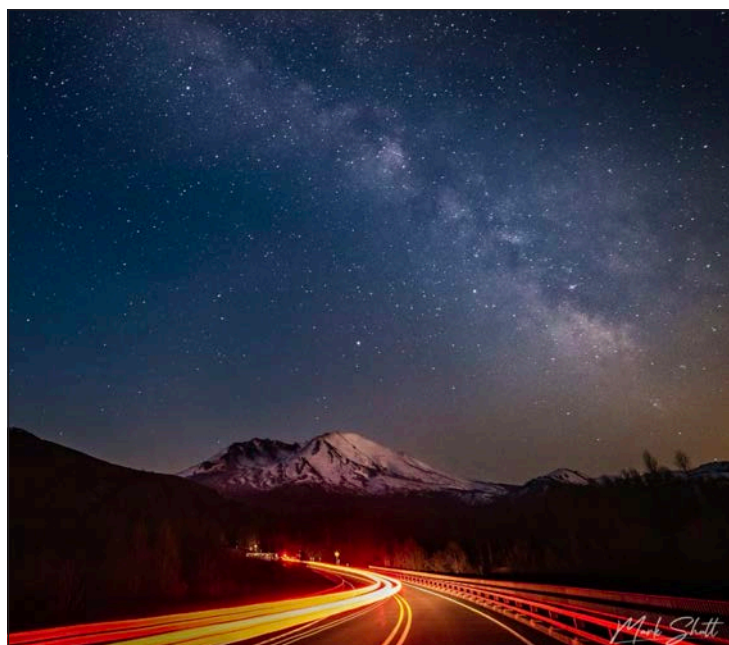


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Milky Way • Photo By Mark Shutt

Mansfield's Juneteenth celebration expands with parade and festival

The annual Juneteenth parade and festival returns on Saturday, June 13, now hosted at Mansfield Senior High School, 124 N. Linden Rd. This free, all day community celebration will begin with the parade at 11 am featuring marching bands from Mansfield Senior, Columbus Linden McKinley and Columbus South Canton En-Rich-Ment Drumline, dance teams from across Ohio, local churches, businesses, community groups and political candidates.

The Grand Marshal is Brigitte Coles, We ACT Co-Founder, Richland County Children Services Community Engagement Supervisor, author and former television broadcaster.

The parade starts at Arlin Field, proceeds down West 4th Street, and ends at Mansfield Senior High School. Attendees may line the entire route.

Parking is available, only during parade time, at Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center, 890 W. 4th St., Mansfield. Free shuttles will run one hour before the parade begins and one hour after it ends, transporting attendees between the parking area and Mansfield Senior High School. Festival-goers should plan to park at Mansfield Senior High School.

Once the parade arrives at the new festival grounds, the celebration expands into a full-scale community experience at noon with live music and entertainment, a vendor marketplace, food trucks, book signings with eight local authors, line dancing, community choirs, a health fair and family-friendly activities for all ages.

This year's entertainment lineup includes CONNE, Just Us and Chasing Dreams.

This year's event highlights health equity, voter education and engagement, economic empowerment and educational advancement.

For more information contact Enisia Lee at 419-612-4763 or princessendowment@yahoo.com.

State Route 13 ramps will close

State Route 13 northbound and southbound, from Hanley Road to Chilton Ave, will continue to have closures for a resurfacing project. Traffic will be maintained in a 12-ft lane using barrels with estimated completion as May 2027.

The Cook Road entrance ramp to SR 13 south will close Monday, June 8 for seven days for pavement repairs. The detour route will be Cook Road to Main Street south to Hanley Road east to SR 13 south. Estimated ramp reopening is Monday, June 15.

The South Main Street entrance ramp to SR 13 north will close Monday, June 8 for 14 days for pavement repairs. The detour route will be South Main Street to Cook Road west to U.S. 42 (Lexington Avenue) north to SR 13 north. Estimated ramp reopening: Monday, June 22, 2026.

The SR 13 south exit ramp to South Main Street will close Monday, June 8 for seven days for pavement repairs. The detour route will be to continue on SR 13 south to Hanley Road west to South Main Street north. Estimated ramp reopening is Monday, June 15, 2026.



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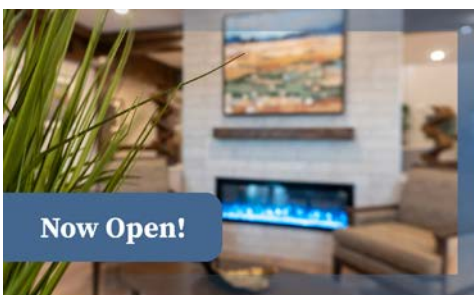
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Senior Spring Extravaganza



Photos By Traci Little



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•Glass exhibits take flight at Kingwood Center Gardens

(Continued from Front Page)

the gardens offers a new perspective.

The exhibit also highlights the important role pollinators play in nature. By blending art, horticulture and education, Glass in Flight 2 encourages visitors to appreciate both the beauty and significance of the creatures that help sustain ecosystems.

For photographers, the exhibit provides endless opportunities to capture vivid colors and unique compositions. For gardeners and nature lovers, it offers a fresh way to experience the landscape. For families, it creates an immersive outdoor adventure.

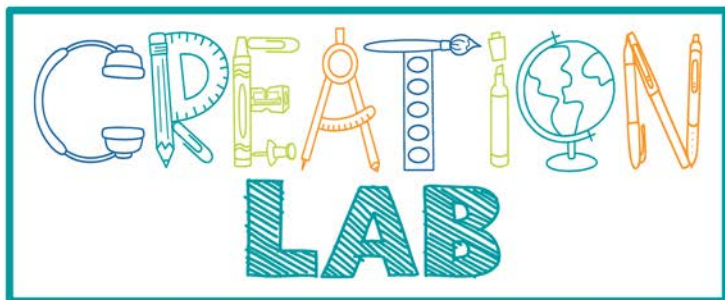
Glass in Flight 2 is on display daily from 10 am to 7 pm through Sept. 7 at Kingwood Center Gardens. Admission is included with regular garden admission. Adult tickets are \$10, youth ages 7-18 are

\$5, children ages six and younger are admitted free, and Kingwood members receive free admission.

As summer unfolds, the glass sculptures will continue to catch the light, reflect the seasons and bring a touch of wonder to one of North Central Ohio's most cherished destinations.



Photos By Traci Little



The new Creation Lab is a free, do-it-yourself creative center offering innovative tools and technology for customer use. Machines available for use include:

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- Laminator
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Seven KCCC students earn Building Trades Elite status

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

"Building Trades Elite" (BT Elite) is a program that began in 2019-2020. The program's criteria center around attendance, discipline, industry credentialing, and extracurricular activities. The "BT Elite" program is completely company-sponsored.

Students (pictured L to R) who earned "BT Elite" status were: Mackenlee Fairall, Ethan Hull, Walter Greene, Johnny Bender, Gage

Selby, Jason Butler, and Truman Chester. Seventy-seven students from the Building Trades program have now earned "BT Elite" status since its inception.

"We appreciate the companies that have partnered with us on the BT Elite program. The BT Elite program gives students something to strive for each day. Our industry partners will continue to benefit from hiring a well-rounded and industry-prepared student," said Joe Stallard, KCCC's Building Trades instructor.

KCCC & the Building Trades program would like to thank the companies that sponsor BT Elite: J & B Acoustical, Meade Roofing, Carpenters Local 735, Laborers Local 1216, Habitat for Humanity, Kokosing Construction and ACP.

News Briefs in Education

Heidelberg University has announced the names of 374 students who have earned academic recognition on the Spring Semester dean's list. Included on the list is Haley Damron, a junior from Mansfield.

According to Provost Dr. Courtney DeMayo Pugno, students must be enrolled full time and meet academic criteria set forth by the university to be named to the dean's list.

★
Belmont University released the Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester, with approximately 49% of the University's 6,724 undergraduate students earning the academic recognition. Presley Davis of Mansfield is among the Dean's List students.

Dean's list eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

★
Hannah Smith, of Lexington was named to PennWest University's spring 2026 Dean's List.

Smith, a PennWest Clarion student who is studying Communication Sciences and Disorders, was among more than 2,800 outstanding PennWest students recognized for superior academic performance during the spring semester. To be eligible for the list, degree-seeking undergraduate students must earn a minimum semester GPA of 3.4 while taking at least 12 graded credits.

★
Eshita Afroz of Ontario completed requirements for a degree from Trine University at the end of the Spring 2026 semester. Afroz earned a degree in Master of Science in Business Analytics at Trine.

★
Ohio Wesleyan University has announced local residents have earned dean's list recognition for their academic success during spring semester 2026.

On the list are Cooper Christie, Olivia Humphries, Callie Kampe, Will Kepple, Arianna Morris, Jameson Myers and Ava Swanson, all of Mansfield.

To qualify for OWU Dean's List recognition, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all applicable classes.

★
Capital University has announced its president's list honorees for the spring 2026 semester. Local students on the list are Abby Bechstein, Jayden Dechert, Pay Hall, Rowan McManes, Liam Paxton and Thomas Secrist.



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S Trenton Maglott signed with Heidelberg University in Tiffin, OH, to play football.

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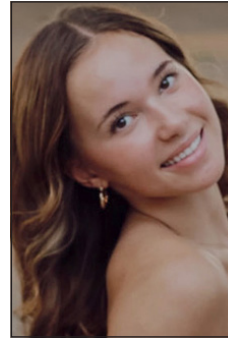
**Brooklynn
Black**



**Clarence
Blevins**



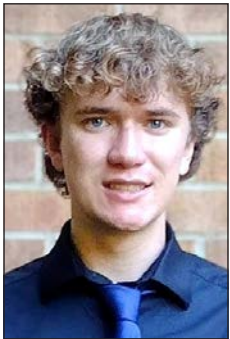
**Colton
Blevins**



**Suzanna
Bolen**



**Jaigen
Brandon**



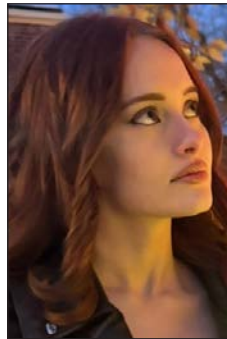
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**Serenity
Cole**



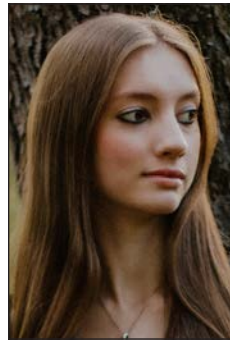
**Jack
Cotter**



**Tessa
Crum**



**Haedayn
Currier**



**Tessa
Curtis**



**Brooklyn
Cushing**



**Blake
DeWees**



**Ryder
Doehla**



**Mitchell
Dotson**



**Ashton
Drozda**



**Jake
DuChene**



**Mason
Egner**



**Sophia
Ellis**



**Emma
Fagan**

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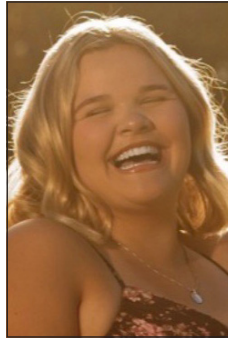
Ontario High School Graduates



**Jonah
Fenner**



**Kate
Fletcher**



**Alaina
Friend**



**Drake
Gerber**



**Miles
Ginn**



**Deanna
Givens**



**Aaliyah
Gonzalez**



**Mackenzie
Goodlin**



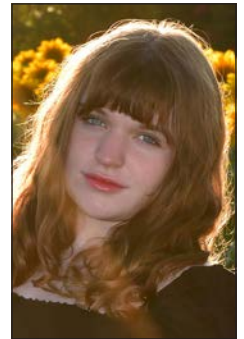
**Maximilian
Grillo**



**Kailey
Hale**



**Dalton
Haywood**



**Emma
Henderson**



**Nevaeh
Horne**



**Malayna
Horton**



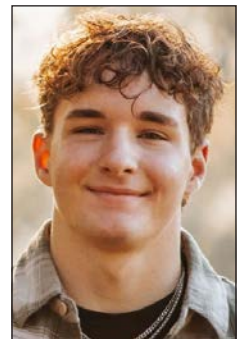
**Arianna
Howard-Schumacher**



**Allie
Hubbard**



**Jacob
Hughes**

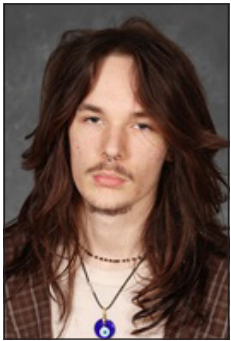


**Nicholas
Huml**

CONGRATULATIONS
— CLASS OF 2026 —



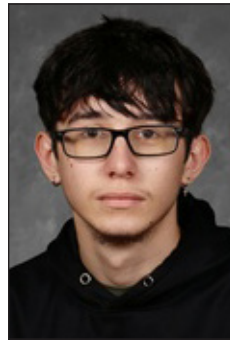
Ontario High School Graduates



**Jayce
Jeffery**



**Xander
Jellison**



**Aidan
Johnson**



**Michaela
Jones**



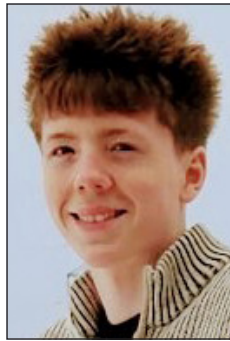
**Tyler
Kanouse**



**Emma
Kaple**



**Kiarrah
Kearney**



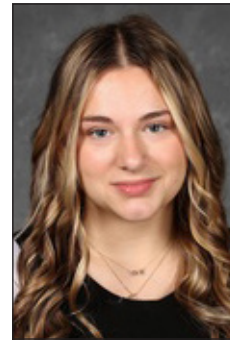
**Mason
Keener**



**Nadia
Keith**



**Saif
Khalaf**



**Kayla
Kirkpatrick**



**Jayden
Kiser**



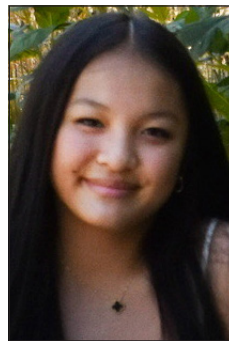
**Jazmin
Kiser**



**Brinlee
Kreger**



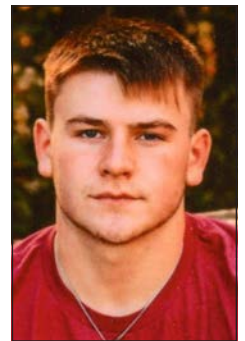
**Daisy
Loper**



**Joelle
Ly**



**Kaylee
Lynch**



**Trenton
Maglott**

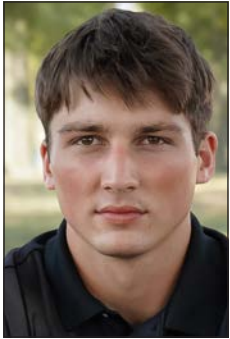


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**Jonathan
Mahon**



**Julian
McGinty**



**Lilliana
McLaren**



**Alexander
McWhorter**



**Gracy
Miller**



**Ricki
Mills**



**Kaydence
Mitchell**



**Ava
Moots**



**Delaney
Moritz**



**Dale
Morris**



**Madeline
Mullins**



**Gradyn
Muncy**



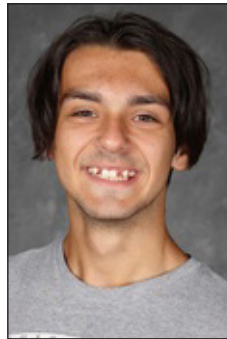
**Alexis
Ogle**



**Aiden
Ohl**



**Elaina
Owens**



**Jacob
Palmer**



**Gwyndolynn
Payne**



**Morgan
Pearson**

CONGRATULATIONS
**Ontario
Graduates!**



Ontario High School Graduates



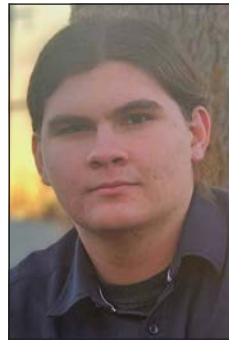
**Bryleigh
Pelfrey**



**Addisyn
Pittman**



**Phoebe
Platner**



**Miles
Porter**



**Jenaya
Powell**



**Emma
Randler**



**Alex
Renchen**



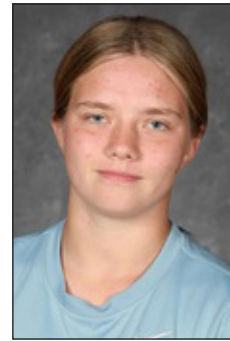
**Raiden
Rhinehart**



**Eva
Rietschlin**



**Ezekiel
Ritenour**



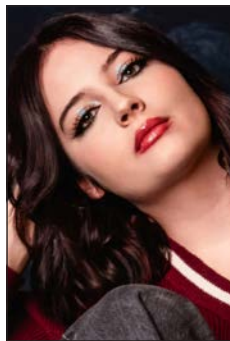
**Journey
Ross**



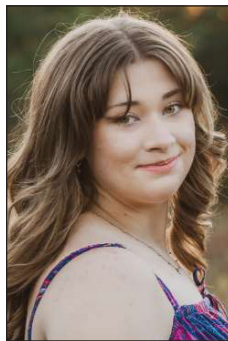
**Braden
Rowe**



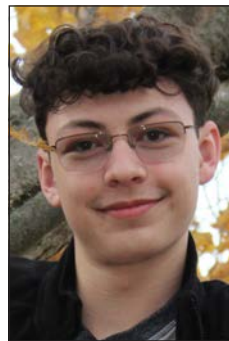
**Hannah
Rox**



**Madeline
Saltzgiver**



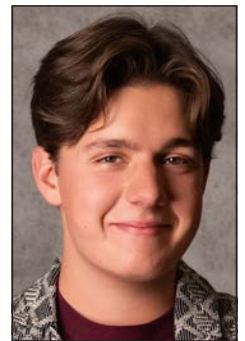
**Breanna
Salyers**



**Griffin
Samuels**



**Remington
Schroeder**



**Payne
Schwartz**



Congratulations!
**Ontario High School
Class of 2026**



From The Ontario Local Schools Board of Education, Administration, Faculty & Staff



Ontario High School Graduates



**Lily
Secrist**



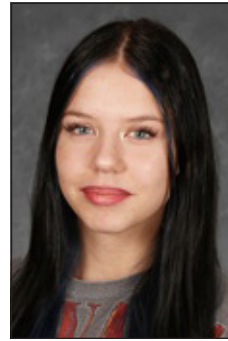
**Alexia
Sesco**



**Hayden
Sexton**



**Jacob
Seymour**



**Madilynn
Sherman**



**Joie
Simmering**



**Hayden
Skropits**



**Clark
Spearman**



**Coty
Spillman**



**Caleb
Steensland**



**Cameron
Steensland**



**Bradley
Swain**



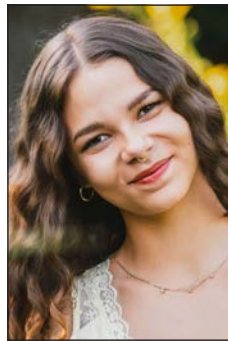
**Alexis
Swank**



**Justin
Switaj**



**Sachie
Tatum**



**Layla
Taylor**



**Kaleb
Thomas**



**Addison
Thurber**

Congratulations

Ontario Class of 2026

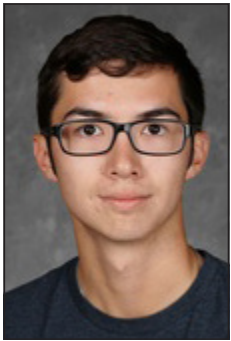
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Ontario High School Graduates



**Jaxson
Tinkham**



**Guy
Trader**



**Xavier
Trent**



**Grantham
Trumpower**



**James
Unger IV**



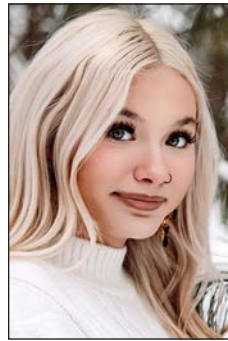
**DiAja
Walker**



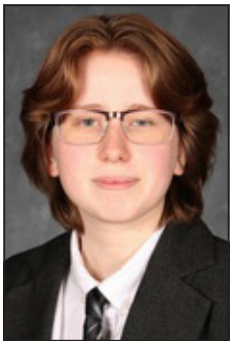
**Michael
Ward**



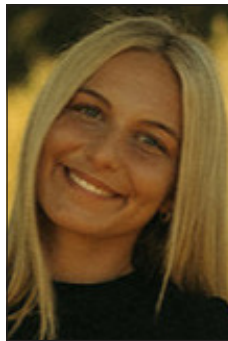
**Anna
Weaver**



**Brailynn
Webb**



**Jillian
Westrum**



**Sara
Wharton**



**Cohen
Williams**



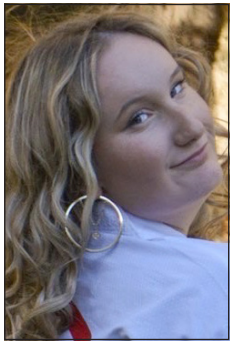
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Ontario High School Graduates



**Anna
Wilson**



**Anson
Yan**



**Cameron
Yoder**

Not Pictured:
Marcus Crabtree
Shaun Gould
Keegan Keller
Garrett Ladner
Cheyenne Mounts



**Aileena
Young**



**Jace
Young**



**Blakleigh
Yoxtheimer-
Michalovich**



**Hattie
Yugovich**



**Blakleigh
Yoxtheimer**

**Payne
Schwartz**

**Eva
Rietschlin**

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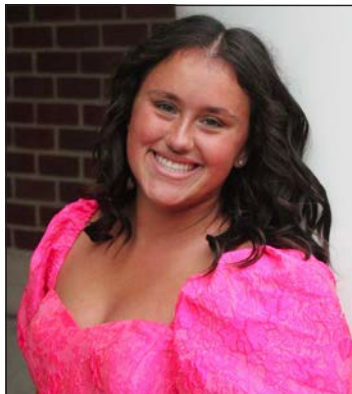


CLASS OF 2026
Congratulations!

WITH BEST WISHES
FROM STATE SENATOR
MARK ROMANCHUK



Ontario High School Graduates



Darbie Broom

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Darbie Broom

Darbie Broom is the daughter of Darcie Broom and Brent Broom.

She is a marching band majorette and a Kiwanis International member and officer and a member of National Honor Society. She is an OMS Buddy Mentor, Stingel Elementary School Buddy Mentor and Drug-Free Seniors.

She was recognized on the Ashland University Dean's List for the fall of 2024 through the spring of 2026 and was an OHS Highest Honors recipient from the fall of 2022 through the spring of 2026. She is a Scholar Athlete for the fall of 2022-2024 and is a girls soccer varsity letterman, Ohio Governor's Merit Scholarship recipient, Scholastic Award winner of the Mansfield Rotary Club, 2025-'26 Mansfield Noon Optimist Essay Contest Winner and Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award nominee.

She is a baton twirler in Darcie's Marchers, attending classes and student teaching. She is a Teen Advisory Board Member for the Richland County Public Libraries. She also handmakes blankets for the Giving Tree, assists in canned food drives, distributes food and helps set-up purse bingo and the cabaret. She works at the New Store and helps at Crossroads Church's Christmas Gift Drive.

She plans to complete her Bachelor's degree in the Honors Program in Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management at Baldwin Wallace University. She is also committed to twirling with the Marching Yellow Jackets and playing the NCAA sport of STUNT.

Blake DeWees

Blake DeWees is the son of Jennifer DeWees and Brett DeWees.

He ran cross country for four years and track for two years and is a member of National Honor Society and the College NOW Engineering Program.

He has a summer engineering internship at Forrest Machine Products and plans to attend The Ohio State University in Columbus to study mechanical engineering.

Mason Egner

Mason Egner is the son of Carmen Egner and Braden Egner.

He is a member of Theater, Academic Challenge, Track and Field, Cross Country, Drug Free Seniors, Key Club, Engineering Club, Outreach Club, Leadership Club, National Honor Society and Boy Scouts. He earned an Eagle Scout Award, SACA Basic Operations Certification, Scholar Athlete Award, Academic Award and Engineering Foundations Design Showcase Award.

He helps with the Ontario Lions Club Park lawncare, Kiwanis Flag Memorial setup, Leadership Club stadium cleanup, homecoming and prom dance cleanup and is a math tutor and haunted trails volunteer.

He plans to attend The Ohio State University for the mechanical engineering program to pursue a career in prosthetics design.

Kate Fletcher

Kate Fletcher is the daughter of Sheila Fletcher and Brad Fletcher.

She is a member of the track team, Warrior Leadership and

Drug-Free Seniors.

She is a volunteer at Morton schoolhouse and Shelby helpline and plans to attend Miami University for business.

Alaina Friend

Alaina Friend is the daughter of Renee Yeager and Todd Friend.

She is a member of the tennis team, Golden Girls, National Honor Society, Warrior Leadership and Drug-Free Seniors.

She plans to attend Bowling Green State University to major in sports management.



Blake DeWees



Mason Egner



Kate Fletcher



Alaina Friend

ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL | CLASS OF 2026

Congratulations

ONTARIO WARRIORS
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Ontario High School Graduates



Drake Gerber

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Drake Gerber

Drake Gerber is the son of Stephanie Lawrence and Trent Gerber.

He is a membership of Leadership Council and was involved in many extracurriculars before attending Ontario.

He works at Salon Vivace in downtown Mansfield and was an intern there during his cosmetology course at Pioneer.

He plans to build clientele and run for Congress some day.

Hale. She is a member of the soccer team, track & field team, Key Club, National Honor Society and Drug-Free Seniors.

She is a Scholar Athlete and was named to the All A's Honor Roll, Dean's List and earned Soccer District Honorable Mention.

She plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University to major in psychology and pre-occupational therapy and play soccer.



Emma Henderson

Emma Henderson

Emma Henderson is the daughter of Jennifer Henderson and Gregory Henderson.

She is a member of the Show Choir, Color Guard, Symphonic Band, Theater, National Honor Society, Science Club, Warrior Leadership, Buddy Mentoring and Drug-Free Seniors.

She earned the Honors Scholar Awards, the Director's Award for Band and the Spirit Stick.

She is an Ohio Bird Sanctuary Junior Naturalist and plans to attend the College of Wooster to major in biochemistry and molecular biology and minor in theater and dance.



Jonathan Mahon

Jonathan Mahon

Jonathan Mahon is the son of Amanda and Wesley Mahon.

He plays football, basketball and baseball and is a member of Drug Free Seniors.

He works at Raising Canes and plans to attend Bowling Green State University to study pre-pt exercise science.



Mackenzie Goodlin

Mackenzie Goodlin

Mackenzie Goodlin is the daughter of Amy Goodlin and Dan Goodlin.

She ran cross country and was a member of the basketball team, Key Club, Warrior Leadership Council, Drug-Free Seniors and the yearbook staff. She was an Academic All-Ohioan, 4-time Highest Honors, National Honor Society Vice President, Girls 2024 Track & Field Most Improved, 3-time Cross Country and Track & Field Captain, Track All-MOAC, 3-time Track 2nd-Team MOAC, 2-time Track MOAC Honorable Mention and 3-time Cross Country MOAC-Honorable Mention.

She plans to attend The Ohio State University to major in human ecology with a minor in financial planning.

Kailey Hale

Kailey Hale is the daughter of Heather Hale and Christopher



Kailey Hale

—class of—
2026



Congratulations!
ONTARIO/CLASS OF 2026

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Ontario High School Graduates



Delaney Moritz

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Delaney Moritz

Delaney Moritz is the daughter of Carrie Moritz and Jason Moritz.

She is a member of the yearbook staff, Leadership Council, National Honor Society and Drug-Free Seniors. She is a 4-time Scholar Athlete and 4-time Honor Roll recipient. She received the Outstanding Student Award and is a 4-year letter winner for golf and 1st Team All-Conference for golf.

She helps with church bake sales and plans to attend Saint Mary's College to major in accounting.

Madeline Mullins

Madeline Mullins is the daughter of Lisa and Michael.

She is a member of the soccer, softball and track & field teams, the yearbook staff, Buddy Mentoring, Key Club, Warrior Leadership and National Honor Society.

She earned All Ohio Academic, 4-time Highest Honors, and is a Scholar Athlete.

She works at Buffalo Wild Wings and hopes to have a successful career and build a happy family.



Madeline Mullins



Jacob Palmer

Jacob Palmer

Jacob Palmer is the son of Teresa Palmer.

He is a member of the track & field and cross country teams, Academic Challenge, National Honor Society and the musical (senior year). He earned the Academic Awards Banquet (4 years) and was named a Scholar Athlete (4 years).

He worked a summer job at School Specialty and plans to attend OSU for a Bachelor Degree in animal biosciences.

Raiden Rhinehart

Raiden Rhinehart is the son of Kylie Kososky and Jeff Rhinehart.

He is a member of the baseball, golf and wrestling teams. He earned the Governor Merit Scholarship and Access Scholarship. He worked at FedEx and currently works at Forrest Machine Products. He plans to grow his skills and career in engineering.



Raiden Rhinehart

Eva Rietschlin

Eva Rietschlin is the daughter of RiKi Rietschlin and Ben Rietschlin.

She is a Golden Girl, National Honor Society President, Warrior Leadership Executive, class president and member of Drug-Free Seniors.

She earned an Associates degree in business and was a four-year Academic Awards recipient.

The dances at Richland Academy of the Arts, worked at Rietschlin Construction and assisted in teaching a church class.

She plans to attend Miami University for a degree in business analytics while minoring in dance.



Eva Rietschlin



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Ontario High School Graduates



Madeline Saltzgiver

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Madeline Saltzgiver

Madeline Saltzgiver is the daughter of Elizabeth Saltzgiver and James Saltzgiver.

She is a member of National Honor Society, Academic Challenge, Key Club, Student Leadership Council, the cross country team, symphonic band, jazz band, show choir and is principal flute in the pit for all three musicals.

She earned the Patrick Gilmore Band Award and two Superior ratings on class A flute solos at solo and ensemble.

She is the principal flutist of the Mansfield Symphony and volunteers at Otterbein University for the theater and dance department often serving as an usher for the shows. She has been a member of the MRCPLibrary's Teen Advisory board for five years, where she choose and went through with service projects to better the community. For work, she played flute for several holiday services at St. Peter's Church.

She plans to attend Depaul University and double major in music performance and psychology.

Remington Schroeder

Remington Schroeder is the son of Jennifer Schroeder and Ryan Schroeder.

He is a member of Key Club, National Honor Society and the cross country, basketball and track & field teams. He earned an Associates Degree, graduated college and high school with honors and earned team rewards for sports. He worked at a golf course all four years of high school.

Remington plans to attend The Ohio State University to major in biology.

Payne Schwartz

Payne Schwartz is the son of Julie Schwartz and Brad Schwartz.

He is a member of the marching band (section leader), symphonic band (first chair/principal clarinet), Rhapsody in Blue Show Choir (co-president and choreographer), Ontario Theater program, National Honor Society, Drug-Free Seniors, Recycling Initiative and does peer tutoring.

He earned the New First-Year Social Work Student Scholarship Award from The Ohio State Uni-

versity. He does dog walking/pet-sitting, performs with The Renaissance Theater, is a tap-dance instructor and choreographer at The Ashland Kroc Center, and is a dance student at Richland Academy of the Arts.

He plans to attend The Ohio State University in the fall majoring in Social Work.

Alexia Sesco

Alexia Sesco is the daughter of Michelle Sesco and Lee Sesco.

She is a member of the golf, swim and track & field teams. She is also a member of Drug-Free Seniors, Warrior Leadership Council and National Honor Society.

She earned academic scholarships, the governor's scholarship, NCSC Dean's List, honor roll, scholar athlete, Academic All Ohio and is second in her class rank.

She works at Target and as a lifeguard at Heise pool in Galion. She is now manager for the upcoming summer and volunteered at various charities throughout high school.

She plans to attend the University of Findlay to earn a doctor of Pharmacy and MBA.



Remington Schroeder



Payne Schwartz



Cum Laude Graduates



Alexia Sesco



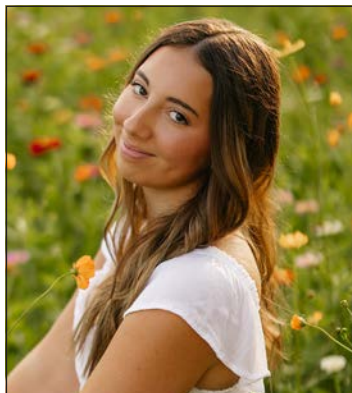
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Ontario High School Graduates



Hayden Sexton

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Hayden Sexton

Hayden Sexton is the daughter of Crystal Weiss and Quinn Sexton.

She is a member of National Honor Society, Warrior Leadership, Drug Free Seniors, Key Club, Art Independent Study and the girls basketball team.

She earned 4-Year Highest Honors and Academic Athlete. She earned a three-year varsity letter.

She is a community volunteer through National Honor Society, and is a member of Key Club, Drug-Free Seniors, Warrior Leadership and OYS basketball. She works at The Blueberry Patch/1285 Winery.

She plans to attend the University of Cincinnati to major in Marketing and pursue a career in creative brand marketing.

Jake Seymour

Jake Seymour is the son of Beth Seymour.

He is a member of the cross country and track & field teams, National Honor Society, Key Club, Leadership Council and Drug-Free Seniors.

He earned a varsity letter for cross country three times and twice for track & field. He is a 4-year Scholar Athlete.

He tutors and helps with track meets.

Jake plans to attend the University of Mount Union for biomedical engineering.

Joie Simmering

Joie Simmering is the daughter of Molly Simmering and Zack Simmering.

She is a member of the swim

team, National Honor Society, Warrior Leadership and Drug-Free Seniors.

She earned an Associates of Arts degree in Business Administration, Highest Honors every quarter at Ontario High School, was named to the North Central State College Dean's List for four semesters, and earned the Governor's Merit Scholarship and Scholar Athlete every semester. She is ranked third in her graduating class.

Joie is a 3-time state qualifier (swim), 5-time All-Ohio Honors (swim), 4-time district qualifier (swim), 4-time district champion (swim), 4-time 1st Team MOAC conference (swim) and 2-time ASAC summer league girls 15-18 MVP.

She is a baker at Crumbl Cookies and plans to attend Ashland University before pursuing a career in real estate.

Alexis "Cloud" Swank

Alexis "Cloud" Swank is the daughter of Alma Swank and Jeremy Swank.

She plays the clarinet in jazz band, marching band and symphonic band and she is a member of Academic Challenge and the pit orchestra for school musicals.

She is a Drug Free Senior and a member of National Honor Society and Key Club.

She earned the John Philip Sousa Award.

She works at Sterkel Baseball Field's concession stand every summer.

She plans to attend the University of Akron to double major in Graphic Design and Music.

Justin Switaj

Justin Switaj is the son of Amy Brunell and Justin Switaj.

Justin is a member of the tennis team, marching and symphonic bands, Academic Challenge, National Honor Society, Drug-Free Seniors and Key Club.

He earned the Tennis spirit award and a superior rating at state for symphonic band.

He works at Sol Froyo.

Justin plans to become a pharmaceutical scientist.



Jake Seymour



Joie Simmering



Alexis "Cloud" Swank



Justin Switaj



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Ontario High School Graduates



Addison Thurber

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Addison Thurber

Addison Thurber is the daughter of Amanda Thurber and Steve Thurber.

She played softball and is a member of Warrior Leadership Council and National Honor Society. She earned 4-Year Academic/Highest Honors.

She is employed by Dick's Sporting Goods and performs volunteer work within her church, mainly helping in the kids classes and watching the babies in the nursery.

She also helps with concession work and bingo with her aunt.

She also does shoveling for neighbors and helps with seasonal decorating at her church. She helps at her grandparents' retirement village with landscaping.

She plans to attend The Ohio State University to major in Radiologic Sciences to become an ultrasound tech.

Jaxson Tinkham

Jaxson Tinkham is the son of Liz Tinkham and Troy Tinkham.

He is a member of National Honor Society and the golf team.

He earned an Associate's Degree and graduated college with honors.

He has been working construc-

tion for four years and plans to attend The Ohio State University to become a structural engineer.

Grantham Trumpower

Grantham Trumpower is the son of Brooke and Jeffery Trumpower.

He is a member of the swim team, National Honor Society, Key Club, Buddy Mentoring and Drug-Free Seniors.

He is a 4-time Scholar Athlete, Swimming State Champion and record holder for the 200 free relay. He is a 2-time MOAC Swimmer of the Year, iHeart Radio Athlete Of The Week, *Mansfield News Journal* Swimmer of the Year, 14-time swimming All-Ohio, 11-time state medalist and 3-time state runner-up.

He is a swim lesson instructor and plans to swim at Indiana University Indianapolis while majoring in Mass Communication and earning a Bachelor's degree.

James Unger

James Unger is the son of Nichole Unger and Jim Unger.

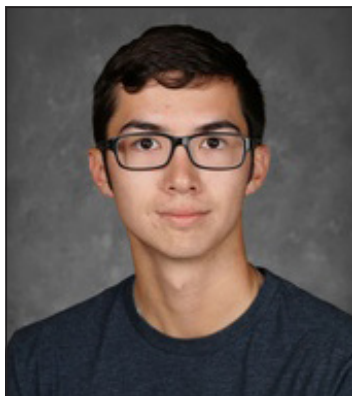
He is a member of the football, wrestling and track & field teams and National Honor Society, Drug-Free Seniors, Key Club

and Warrior Leadership Council.

He earned the OHS Academic Award four times, Scholar Athlete Award eight times and earned ten varsity letters across football (2), wrestling (4) and track & field (4).

He has volunteered through NHS including through Operation Christmas Child. He helped run school cabarets and other fundraising events, worked on a board to distribute \$10,000 in grant money to local programs and assisted in coaching youth football and wrestling.

He will take a pre-med track with a major in biology, with the intention to go to med school for cardiology after earning his Bachelor's degree.



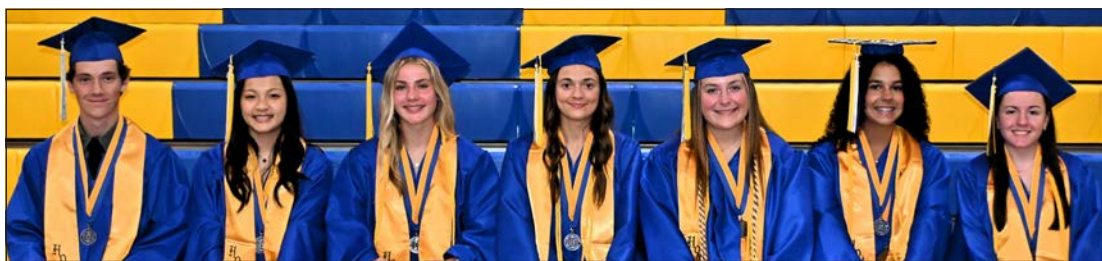
Jaxson Tinkham



: Grantham Trumpower



James Unger



Magna Cum Laude

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Ontario High School Graduates



Michael Ward



Jace Young

Summa Cum Laude Graduates

Michael Ward

Michael Ward is the son of Jennifer King and Edward Ward.

He is a member of the soccer, Cross country and track & field teams, National Honor Society, Drug-Free Senior and Buddy Mentoring.

He earned the Scholar Athlete all four years of high school.

He was employed his junior and senior years.

Michael plans to major in English and education at Baldwin Wallace while his furthering athletic career for cross country and track & field.

Jace Young

Jace Young is the son of Andrea and Josh Young.

He is a member of National Honor Society and the soccer and track & field teams.

He graduated from high school with an Associate's degree in Engineering Technology from North Central State College.

He graduated from both high school and NC State with honors.

He was named to the dean's list for NC State two times.

He is ranked seventh at Ontario and earned Academic All-Ohioan two times.

He is a four-year varsity starter for soccer and was captain his sophomore through senior years. He is 2-time Team MVP, 2-time District First-Team and 3-time MOAC First-Team.

He is a four-year varsity letter winner for track and is a 6-time school record holder in (400, 800, 4x400, 4x800, 4x1600, DMR).

He placed seventh and third individually at state, along with fifth, fifth and second in relays across his sophomore and junior years. He is a 5-time All-Ohioan.

Jace volunteered with National Honor Society and worked for Tim's Mid Ohio seasonally. He is a member of Ashland Baptist Church.

He plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in Aviation to eventually become an airline or commercial pilot.



Congrats 2026 Graduates!

BP

ELECTRIC

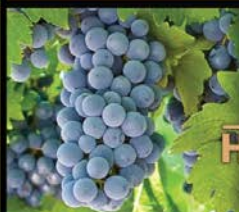
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Ontario High School Graduates

Ontario High School Senior Honors Night • May 20

Senior Class Officers: Eva Rietschlin, president; Kaylee Lynch, vice president; and Anna Weaver, secretary

Department Awards

English Award: Payne Schwartz
 Social Studies: Daisy Loper
 Visual Arts: Journey Ross
 Instrumental Music: Jake DuChene
 Vocal: Emma Henderson
 Theatre: Payne Schwartz
 Foreign Language: Daisy Loper
 Science: Emma Henderson
 Mathematics: Jace Young

Vocational Awards

Family and Consumer Science: Bradley Swain
 Industrial Tech: Julian McGinty
 STEM: Brady Baumgard

Warrior Leadership Cords: Brady Baumgard, Brinlee Kreger, Morgan Pearson, Lily Secrist, Anna Weaver, Anson Yan and Hattie Yugovich

Key Club Honor To Educator Awards

Darbie Broom, Doug Basham
 Hayden Sexton, Julie Buker
 Justin Switaj, Allison Haver
 Maddie Mullins, Rachel Miller
 Delaney Moritz, Jodi Wentz

Pioneer CTC Awards

Quality Performance Awards: Emily Christopherson, Jack Cotter and Cheyenne Mounts

Presidential Awards: Brooklynn Black, Suzanna Bolen, Darbie Broom, Sasha Bulakovski, Serena Caudill, Emily Christopherson, Serenity Cole, Jack Cotter, Marcus Crabtree, Tessa Crum, Blake DeWees, Jake DuChene, Mason Egner, Sophia Ellis, Kate Fletcher, Alaina Friend, Drake Gerber, Aaliyah Gonzalez, Mackenzie Goodlin, Maximilian Grillo, Kailey Hale, Emma Henderson, Nicholas Huml, Brinlee Kreger, Joelle Ly, Kaylee Lynch, Trenton Maglott, Jonathan Mahon, Gracy Miller, Delaney Moritz, Madeline Mullins, Elaina Owens, Jacob Palmer, Morgan Pearson, Phoebe Platner, Raiden Rhinehart, Eva Rietschlin, Ezekiel Ritenour, Madeline Saltzgiver, Remington Schroeder, Payne Schwartz, Lily Secrist, Alexia SESCO, Hayden Sexton, Jacob Seymour, Joie Simmering, Alexis Swank, Justin Switaj, Addison Thurber, Jaxson Tinkham, Grantham Trumpower, James Unger, Michael Ward, Sara Wharton, Anson Yan, Jace Young and Hattie Yugovich

Governor's Merit Scholarship: Darbie Broom, Kailey Hale, Raiden Rhinehart, Eva Rietschlin, Madeline Saltzgiver, Alexia SESCO, Joie Simmering and Jace Young

Student Aides: Gracy Miller, Delaney Moritz, Morgan Pearson and Addisyn Pittman

Scholar Athlete Awards – Second Semester: Sasha Bulakovski, Jack Cotter, Tessa Crum, Mason Egner, Emma Fagan, Deanna Givens, Mackenzie Goodlin, Kailey Hale, Emma Kaple, Brinlee Kreger, Kaylee Lynch, Trenton Maglott, Jonathan Mahon, Julian McGinty, Alexander McWhorter, Madeline Mullins, Grady Muncy, Aiden Ohl, Elaina Owens, Jacob Palmer, Morgan Pearson, Raiden Rhinehart, Ezekiel Ritenour, Brady Rowe, Hannah Rox, Remington Schroeder, Alexia SESCO, Hayden Sexton, Jacob Seymour, Joie Simmering, Justin Switaj, Grantham Trumpower, James Unger, Michael Ward, Anson Yan, Jace Young and Hattie Yugovich

Scholar Athlete: Alexia SESCO (senior athlete in good standing with the highest GPA and who earned at least four varsity letters)

Archie Griffin: Sasha Bulakovski and Jace Young

Courageous Student: Emma Fagan

NFHS: Ashton Drozda and Kailey Hale

Grit Street Award: Aiden Ohl and Morgan Pearson

Ontario High School Senior Athlete Awards (lettered in three sports during senior year or same two sports as junior and senior): Rylan Baker, Clarence Blevins, Sasha Bulakovski, Xander Chitwood, Tessa Crum, Ashton Drozda, Emma Fagan, Mackenzie Goodlin, Kailey Hale, Allie Hubbard, Brinlee Kreger, Trenton Maglott, Jonathan Mahon, Alex McWhorter, Grady Muncy, Morgan Pearson, Journey Ross, Hannah Rox, Brady Rowe, Remington Schroeder, Alexia SESCO, Xavier Trent, Jimmy Unger, Michael Ward and Jace Young



Congratulations Graduates!



Ontario High School Graduates



Ontario High School Senior Honors Night • May 20

Outstanding Male and Female Athlete-Of-The-Year(selected by a vote of the head coaches): Sasha Bulakovski and Jace Young

OHSAA State Award: Jonny King

Military Cords: Mason Augustine, Ricki Mills, Hayden Skropits, Caleb Steensland and Bradley Swain

Eagle Scouts Award: Mason Egner

SACA Certification Presentation: Brady Baumgard, Mason Egner, Xander Jellison, Miles Porter and Jake Seymour

Future Nurses Of America: Emma Fagan

Jersey Mike's Community Impact Award: Gracy Miller

Richland County Foundation Scholarships: Darbie Broom, Sasha Bulakovski, Mitchell Dotson, Sophia Ellis, Deanna Givens, Daisy Loper, Trenton Maglott, Morgan Pearson, Eva Rietschlin, Ezekiel Ritenour, Alexis Swank and Grantham Trumpower

The Ohio State University, Alumni Club: Mackenzie Goodlin

Marcia Baer Scholarship: Tessa Crum

Betty Devore Scholarship: Bradley Swain

Linda Fulmer Kindness Initiative Award: Brady Baumgard

Eric J. Grove Scholarship: Kailey Hale

Franklin B. Walter All Scholastic Award: Darbie Broom

Academic Boosters Scholarship: Darbie Broom, Kailey Hale, Remington Schroeder, Grantham Trumpower and Jace Young

Global Biliiteracy Seal Awards: Addisyn Pittman and Sachie Tatum

OFT Scholarship: Nicholas Huml, Brinlee Kreger and Lily Secrist

Mansfield Noon Optimist Essay Winner: Darbie Broom

Mansfield Noon Optimist Quality Students: Brady Baumgard and Delaney Moritz

Sutton Bank Scholarship: Tessa Crum

Rumpke Scholarship: Hayden Sexton

Medical Mutual Scholarship: Jacob Palmer

Mrs. Rebecca Arnold Scholarship: Darbie Broom, Emma Henderson, Eva Rietschlin, Madeline Saltzgiver and Payne Schwartz

David Leyerle Scholarship: Jake DuChene

McGowan Courage Award: Jenaya Powell

Strive Award Deanna Givens and Ezekial Ritenour

Rotary Club Scholarship: Ava Calise

The Robin B. Milner Life Scholarship: Sara Wharton

National Honor Society Tassels: Darbie Broom, Sasha Bulakovski, Serena Caudill, Blake DeWees, Mason Egner, Alaina Friend, Mackenzie Goodlin, Kailey Hale, Emma Henderson, Brinlee Kreger, Joelle Ly, Kaylee Lynch, Gracy Miller, Delaney Moritz, Madeline Mullins, Elaina Owens, Jacob Palmer, Eva Rietschlin, Madeline Saltzgiver, Remington Schroeder, Payne Schwartz, Lily Secrist, Alexia SESCO, Hayden Sexton, Jacob Seymour, Joie Simmering, Alexis Swank, Justin Switaj, Addison Thurber, Jaxson Tinkham, Grantham Trumpower, James Unger, Michael Ward, Jace Young and Hattie Yugovich

Honors Diploma: Brady Baumgard, Darbie Broom, Sasha Bu-

lakovski, Ava Calise, Serena Caudill, Emily Christopherson, Blake DeWees, Jake DuChene, Mason Egner, Sophia Ellis, Alaina Friend, Drake Gerber, Aaliyah Gonzalez, Mackenzie Goodlin, Maximilian Grillo, Kailey Hale, Emma Henderson, Nadia Keith, Keegan Keller, Brinlee Kreger, Joelle Ly, Kaylee Lynch, Gracy Miller, Delaney Moritz, Madeline Mullins, Elaina Owens, Jacob Palmer, Morgan Pearson, Raiden Rhinehart, Eva Rietschlin, Ezekiel Ritenour, Madeline Saltzgiver, Remington Schroeder, Payne Schwartz, Lily Secrist, Alexia SESCO, Hayden Sexton, Jacob Seymour, Joie Simmering, Alexis Swank, Justin Switaj, Addison Thurber, Jaxson Tinkham, Grantham Trumpower, James Unger, Michael Ward, Sara Wharton, Jace Young and Hattie Yugovich

Cum Laude: Brooklyn Black, Ava Calise, Serenity Cole, Marcus Crabtree, Tessa Crum, Jake DuChene, Sophia Ellis, Aaliyah Gonzalez, Maximilian Grillo, Elaina Owens, Lily Secrist, Anna Weaver, Sara Wharton and Hattie Yugovich

Magna Cum Laude: Sasha Bulakovski, Serena Caudill, Brinlee Kreger, Joelle Ly, Kaylee Lynch, Gracy Miller and Ezekiel Ritenour

Summa Cum Laude: Darbie Broom, Blake DeWees, Mason Egner, Kate Fletcher, Alaina Friend, Drake Gerber, Mackenzie Goodlin, Kailey Hale, Emma Henderson, Jonathan Mahon, Delaney Moritz, Madeline Mullins, Jacob Palmer, Raiden Rhinehart, Eva Rietschlin, Madeline Saltzgiver, Remington Schroeder, Payne Schwartz, Alexia SESCO, Hayden Sexton, Jacob Seymour, Joie Simmering, Alexis Swank, Justin Switaj, Addison Thurber, Jaxson Tinkham, Grantham Trumpower, James Unger, Michael Ward and Jace Young



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Ontario High School Graduates



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National Honor Society



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Lady Rams Softball advances to state-semis over Uniontown Lake

By Kris Leiter

In Tom Hanks epic scene in the 1992 movie *A League of their Own*, he addressed his women's baseball team with "Theres' no crying in baseball!"

This came to mind as I watched the Madison Lady Rams softball team beam with tears of joy as they received hugs from parents, coaches and fans last Friday night at Ashland University's beautiful Deb Archer Field.

The Lady Rams defeated Uniontown Lake 3-1 in an on-the-edge-of-your-seat nail biter of a game, advancing them to a well-deserved trip to Akron's Firestone Stadium on Friday, June 5 at 10 am against Louisville in the Division III semi-final game.

I was welling up with emotion, even with no horse in the race. The emotional side of sports can certainly be addictive.

I witnessed something special Friday afternoon. While chatting with fans and coaches after the game, I was touched. I wasn't a star athlete by any means, but can definitely relate to the emotions felt that day.

I was just there covering an "ordinary" Madison softball game, or was it? A team wins and moves on, nothing out of the norm. But this year was anything but ordinary for the Lady Rams season, it was not your normal season — not even close! The team held a 15-13 record and had a hurt pitcher.

Caliyah Clapper is only a sophomore but is pitching 60-70 mph curves and screwballs.

"She only pitched four fastballs against Ontario and the rest were curveballs and screwballs," said coach Tim Niswander.

The Warriors did not exactly waive the white flag, as their pitching was spot-on for the first three innings on Wednesday, two days previous to the Lake showcase showdown on Friday.

Clapper may not be the only under classmen doing this, but it's not the norm.

I would bet dollars to donuts, that any Madison fan and coach is proud to have her on their roster.

I was amazed watching her, a gem with high hopes of wielding the ball from the hill for the next couple of years.

Years ago, in ABC's opening of *The Wide World of Sports*, they would always mention, "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat" — Niswander has experienced both over the past few years.

Fourteen-year veteran head coach Tim Niswander has manned the ship for the Lady Rams and has been touted as Madison's most-winningest softball coach in school history. His accolades include 208 wins in his tenure.

I have had conversations with many people in years gone by and all have said his preparation is next-to-none, and this has been a trait

noticed by sports fans, players, coaches and umpires that even expands outside of the Mansfield area.

The equation for success is prep plus opportunity equals success — and in this case, winning. One thing I do know is that I have watched Madison sports for years and their athletes are resilient, passionate and play hard, even down in youth sports.

The Lady Rams have been to the regional finals before, but this year was not a typical textbook path to the state semi-finals. The Lady Rams' season had some challenges along the way. I love an underdog scenario!

But that's why we play the games, because sports can be unpredictable. The tables can turn at the least opportune moment. In a split second, you can be riding on a cloud all the way to the edge of the finish line, and in a split second the opponent can edge your team and be crowned the victor.

Friday afternoon, Niswander's staff, team and fans chartered into new territory for the first time under his leadership.

Last week, after beating the Warriors in fine fashion, coach Niswander had commented, "I don't get nervous," as beating Ontario was territory he was familiar with. But after the defeat of Lake, he admitted, this time he had some butterflies.

Madison and Lake pitching were spot-on. In the first three innings both teams were relentless and only one run was scored, coming from the Rams in the first.

Caliyah Clapper held the Lady Blue Streaks scoreless, as she would be in fine-form notching two of her 9 strikeouts on the day, sending the first two batters back to the dugout with the letter "K" in the scorebook, while only needing the first four batters of Lake's line-up to retire the first inning.

Lake's pitcher, Gianna Greathouse would return the favor and recorded her first two strikeouts in the second inning. She would merit a total of 11 strikeouts on the day.

Both team's pitching and defense dug-in with neither team allowing another run. The chess match between pitchers and both defenses were holding their own, at least for a bit, when in the fifth Madison would make their second run into home plate with Rams center-fielder Avery O'Brien.

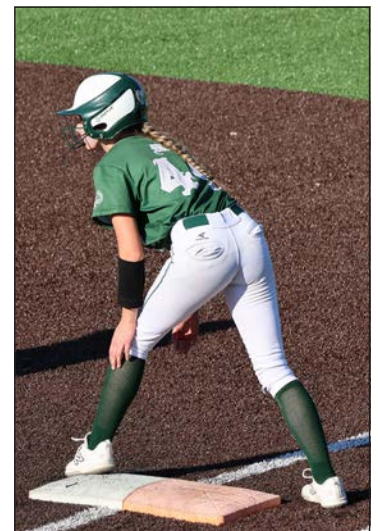
O'Brien was dealt a strike by Greathouse but she waited patiently for the next four pitches. These would be balls, sending O'Brien to first base on a walk.

Ram Lexi Lewis laid down a sacrifice bunt, moving O'Brien to second. Pitcher Caliyah Clapper came to the bat and would work the next five pitches. The sixth pitch was the key to success as she would connect the lumber with a single bringing O'Brien home.

(Continued on Page 38)



Photos By Gino Mollica



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

•Lady Rams Softball advances to state-semis over Uniontown Lake

(Continued from Page 37)

At the top of the sixth, Madison would be held scoreless but Lake would finally have their moment with a run in the bottom of the sixth, making it 2-1 in favor of the Rams.

As the seventh and final inning began, O'Brien would leave with a strikeout. Clapper soon followed with a double into right-field and Wamsley would score her second run of the day.

As Clapper was facing the 7, 8 and 9 hitters in Lake's lineup in the bottom of the seventh, Niswander had a chat with his pitcher.

"I told Caliyah, just get this kid out," Niswander later chuckled.

The 7-batter would ground out and number 8 would foul off a total of seven of Clapper's pitches.

Tension was mounting on every pitch!

Out of her nine pitches, seven of those pitches were foul balls. On her ninth pitch, she would ground out to the first baseman with a sigh of relief from everyone in green.

The final batter, Lake's Greathouse would connect and sent the hit to Madison's right-fielder Cadence Gushard.

Madison sealed the deal with a 3-1 score and secured their name in the state semifinals!

This was the first time in his 14-year career at Madison that Niswander has crossed over the threshold into the OHSAA State Final-four.

Madison, sporting a record of 16-14, will now prepare for the state semi-final showdown against the Louisville Lady Leopards, with an almost identical record of 17-13.

Niswander's staff will undoubtedly be well-prepared. Great coaches have great assistants, and I asked some of the coaching staff their thoughts.

Assistant coach Jakie Flinders told me how meticulous Niswander is about his strategy. Flinders is in her first year with the team, but is a long-time acquaintance of "Nise" and is very knowledgeable of his preparation.

"This man probably won't sleep. He will watch so much film up until Friday morning. He does his research."

Tim Carper, with 17 years with the Rams and 14 years under Niswander, said "We've been together a long time. He deserves it,

he's a good coach."

Assistant Coach of five years, Mico Castelvetro, mimicked Flinder's comment, "He's the best. He puts in lot of time. I'll probably stick around until he retires."



Photos By Gino Mollica

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the Council of the Village of Lexington, Ohio at the Lexington Municipal Building, 44 W. Main St. Lexington at 7:30 p.m. on Monday July 6, 2026 regarding the tax budget for the fiscal year 2027, prepared by the Mayor, Administrative Director, and Finance Director. All citizens are invited to attend and express their views on this subject.

Brenda Barton,
Clerk of Council
Village of Lexington, Ohio
(T-C 6-4, '26) 15L

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed bids for the 2026 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation in the City of Ontario, Ohio will be received by Michael Morton, Service-Safety Director, at 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio 44906 until 10:00 AM, local time Thursday June 25th, 2026, and then, at said office, publicly opened and read aloud.

The Instructions to Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and other contract documents may be examined at KE McCartney & Associates, 52 North Diamond Street, Mansfield, Ohio 44902 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

In order to be a plan holder of record and eligible to submit a bid, bidders 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/>. All documents become the property of the prospective bidder, with no portion of the payment being refunded.

The project includes the installation of approximately 2,666 LF of 8-inch cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liner for sanitary sewer mains along with the CIPP lining and reinstatement of 22 sanitary sewer service laterals up to the right-of-way. The sanitary sewer service laterals consist of approximately 694 LF of 6-inch pipe. The estimated cost of construction is \$280,125.00.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularity which does not affect the competitive nature of the bidding process or to reject any or all bids. Contract will be awarded based on the lowest and best bid. The City of Ontario may reject any or all bids on any basis and without disclosure of reason. The failure to make such disclosure shall not result in accrual of any right, claim or cause of action by any unsuccessful bidder against the City of Ontario.

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

Each bid must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. All contractors and subcontractors involved with the project will, to the extent practicable use Ohio Products, materials, services, and labor in the implementation of their project. Additionally, contractor compliance with the equal employment opportunity requirements of the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123, the Governor's Executive Order of 1972, and the Governor's Executive Order 84-9 shall be required.

The Owner intends and requires that this project be completed by Friday December 18th, 2026.

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

First Bid Advertisement: Monday, June 4th, 2026

Second Bid Advertisement: Monday, June 11th, 2026

Bid Opening: Thursday, June 25th, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Cathy VanAuker, MMC
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 6-4, 11, '26) 95L

LEGAL NOTICE

The Springfield Township, Richland County, Ohio invites asphalt contractors to bid Township Road work for 2026. Sealed bids will be accepted until 6:00 p.m. on June 22, 2026 at the Trustee's Office, 3700 Park Avenue West Ontario, Ohio 44903 at which time they will be publicly opened and read by the Fiscal Officer. Improvements with "Chip & Seal" will be according to specifications available at the Trustees' Office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning June 6, 2026.

The Road Foreman will be available to answer questions at (419) 529-2565.

All bids must be accompanied by a personal tax statement in accordance with state law and Ohio Workers Compensation and prevailing wage rate. Each bid will include a 10% bid bond as required by R.C. 153.54. Bids shall be clearly marked "2026 Road Improvement".

The Springfield Township Trustees reserve the right to reject any and all bids. All materials and equipment must meet state standards. The Trustees reserve the right to add or delete roads to stay within budget.

The completion date is October 31, 2026.

Amanda Hike
Fiscal Officer
Springfield Township
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 6-4, 11, '26) 37L

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Photos By Jeff Hoffer



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