



# TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

09.10.26



## Mansfield plants heritage tree as part of America 250

A ceremonial tree planting took root in Mansfield as part of the Heritage Trees: Planting History program under America 250-Ohio, the official state commission responsible for spearheading Ohio's celebrations and commemorations around America's semiquincentennial in 2026.

The Heritage Trees program officially kicked off in Lima, on Arbor Day 2025, April 25, and will ensure the planting of a commemorative tree in communities across the state.

Started in 2025 and continuing throughout 2026, Heritage Trees will be planted in all 88 of Ohio's counties.

In Mansfield, the tree was planted in Liberty Park, 493 Grace St., on Friday, Sept. 4. Liberty Park was chosen for the Heritage Tree planting because of its historical significance, central location, and role as a community gathering place, making it an ideal site to create a lasting living tribute as part of the America 250 celebration.

The Heritage Trees initiative draws inspiration from the historic Liberty Tree in Boston during the Revolutionary War period. The Heritage Trees program aims to commemorate America's 250th anniversary by planting native-to-Ohio white oak trees across the state. Throughout the celebration, America 250-Ohio will offer each Ohio county a white oak tree in honor of America's 250th birthday.

(Continued on Page 4)



**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S KEY CLUB**, with the support of the Kiwanis Club of Mansfield, raised 512 flags in front of the Area Agency on Aging in Ontario to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of 9/11. A ceremony will be held Sept. 11, at noon at the corner of Lexington-Springmill Rd. and Park Avenue West, Ontario.

## Bellville Fair activities set to begin

The 176th Bellville Street Fair will be held Sept. 16–19.

The tractor pull will be held Sunday, Sept. 13, at noon, at the fire station, 470 S. Main St., Bellville.

On Wednesday, rides and concessions open at 4 pm.

Animal showings include rabbits, sheep and cattle. The fair queen contest will be at 6 pm and the Clear Fork High School Marching Band will perform at 7 pm.

On Thursday, showings include poultry, goats and hogs. The Marching Princesses will perform at 6 pm on the main stage.

Tom's Kitchen Table will perform at 7:30 pm on the main stage on Friday.

On Saturday, the Junior Livestock Sale will be begin at 10 am. A pet show will be held at 11 am on the main stage, followed by a kiddie tractor pull at 1 pm.

Heart of Ohio Athletics will have a gymnastics exhibition at 3 pm on the main stage and the Clear Fork Band Boosters will host a cake auction at 4 pm at the bandstand.

Out of Eden will perform with special guest Just One Look at 6:30 pm on the main stage and square dancing will begin at 9:30 pm.

The fair will end with the horse show on Sunday at 1 pm at Timber Valley Ranch, 4848 St. Rt. 13.

For a full schedule visit [www.bellvillestreetfair.org](http://www.bellvillestreetfair.org)

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# Board celebrates National Recovery Month

Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board celebrates Recovery Month each September by partnering with local organizations to promote events that support recovery throughout Richland County.

By collaborating with community partners, the board continues to raise awareness, celebrate those in recovery and support individuals and families throughout their recovery journey. The board also supports the Richland Recovery Network, a free online resource that connects individuals and families with local mental health, addiction, recovery, housing, peer support, crisis and other community services.

Recovery Month participants are encouraged to explore the network to learn about available resources and connect with providers serving Richland County. That website can be found at [www.richlandrecoverynetwork.com](http://www.richlandrecoverynetwork.com).

The 2026 National Recovery Month theme, "Recovery Happens Together," recognizes the important role that connection, support, and community play in the recovery journey. Led by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the federal agency dedicated to advancing behavioral health nationwide, this year's campaign promotes the message that recovery is REAL, "Restoring Every Aspect of Life," and that recovery is achievable

when individuals have access to the treatment, support, and opportunities needed to thrive.

Remaining events for Recovery Month include:

Sept. 10, 3-4 pm, NAMI Richland County will host an in-person Connection Recovery Support Group for adults living with a mental health condition at 87 E. First St., Suite L, Mansfield.

Sept. 10, 3-6 pm, New Beginnings Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services, a Catalyst Company, will host its 5th Annual Celebrate Recovery Event, "From Surviving to Thriving," at 703 Scholl Rd., in Mansfield. The event will include food, music, games and fellowship, followed by an alumni-led meeting at 6:30 pm.

Sept. 11, 8 pm, NAMI Richland County and the Mansfield Playhouse will present Dear Evan Hansen in recognition of Suicide Prevention Month. Following the performance, a candlelight vigil and Mental Health Resource Fair will be held in remembrance of those lost to suicide.

Sept. 26, 9:30 am to 1 pm, Healing Hearts will host "Rocking Recovery" at 680 Park Avenue West, Mansfield. Participants can create personalized rocks for a Recovery Garden or to take home while connecting with others through art and music.

Sept. 26, 1-3 pm, Family Life Counseling will host its 3rd Annual Recovery Chili Cook-Off at 240 Marion Ave., Mansfield. The event will feature live music, food, children's activities, community connections and more.

Sept. 27, 6 pm, Project One ARC Empowerment Center will host a special service with expanded community outreach. Community Health Workers, local providers, and community members will be available with resource information and support.

Sept. 1-30, The Behavioral Health Urgent Care at Catalyst Life Services offers walk-in access to initial assessments and brief, solution-focused counseling for mental health and addiction-related concerns. The Urgent Care is located at 741 Scholl Rd., Mansfield, and is open Monday and Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and Tuesday through Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm.

Sept. 1-30, The Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board supports the Crisis Text Line, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Individuals seeking support may text "4hope" to 741741 at no cost.

Sept. 1-30, Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) provides free, community-based crisis intervention services for Richland County residents under age 21 experiencing a mental health or behavioral health crisis. Individuals can call 330-500-6777 or dial 988 and request MRSS.

Sept. 1-30, Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) will provide meaningful connection and conversation-starter tabletop displays for schools and workplaces throughout Richland County. CACY is also offering free Deterra medication disposal pouches for safe disposal of unused or unwanted medications.

For the latest Recovery Month event information and calendar updates, visit <https://richlandmentalhealth.com/events/>, follow us on social media, or call the Board's office at 419-774-5811.



**KIWANIS CLUB OF MANSFIELD** members assembled 400 American Flags in preparation of the Field of Honor to be displayed at The Agreea Agency on Aging at the corner of Park Avenue West and Lexington-Springmill Rd., Ontario. These 400 add to 100 flags already assembled. A ceremony will be held on Friday, Sept. 11, at noon. Food trucks begin serving at 11 am.

## Richland SWCD will honor Karger

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) will recognize its Volunteer of the Year and donate a native tree to be planted in the volunteer's honor.

This year's Volunteer of the Year Donald Karger chose Gorman Nature Center for the location of a serviceberry tree to be planted. The public is invited to attend this event on Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 9 am and also the Richland SWCD Annual Celebration Thursday, Oct. 1, where Karger's contributions to the district will continue to be recognized.

Karger has volunteered with Richland SWCD since 2016. He serves as a precipitation monitor and provides daily reports of seasonal rain and snow amounts on the Richland SWCD website.

He also volunteers at community events such as Pollinator Festival and the Richland County Fair. He said he volunteers with Richland SWCD because he has had a lifelong interest in precipitation and was inspired by a friend who also serves as a Richland SWCD precipitation monitor.

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# News Briefs

A town hall meeting regarding funding Ohio's public schools and how vouchers impact public school funding will be held Thursday, Sept. 17, at 6 pm at the Ontario library, 2221 Village Mall Dr., Ontario. The event is sponsored by Richland County Democratic Women's Caucus. For more information call or text 419-589-2947.

Mechanics Bank will host Live@Lunch performances in the downtown Mansfield courtyard, 2 S. Main St., all summer long, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Food trucks will also be available.

Upcoming performers and food trucks include Sept. 11, SHaK, The Back Porch Food Co.; and Sept. 18, Tom's Kitchen Table, Cub Country. The courtyard is open every Friday over lunch.

Free registration is open for Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Richland County Foundation (RCF), is open. Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits they care about through a single website.

Each organization will have an individualized webpage to promote their cause. The success of the event will depend on our collective enthusiasm and implementation.

Richland County-based nonprofits must register each year. Leading up to the event, an online toolkit, education, mass media and social media coverage are provided.

The Richland Gives donation period is from Monday, Nov. 16 at 7 am through Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 7 pm. For more details or to donate go to [richlandgives.org](http://richlandgives.org)

Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, will hold its annual rummage sale Sept. 30 through Oct. 3. The sale will be open 4-7 pm on Sept. 30, 9 am to 7 pm on Oct. 1, 9 am to 2 pm on Oct. 2 and 9 am to noon on Oct. 3. The kitchen will be open 4-7 pm on Sept. 30 and from 10 am to sale closing time the remaining days.

All prices are by donation and all proceeds are distributed throughout the community and to other local ministries.

The Richland County Board of Elections, 1495 W. Longview Ave., Suite 101, Mansfield, is in need of poll workers. Those 17 and older can call 419-774-5530 for more information. Pay includes training and a minimum of \$145 for working election day.

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Sept. 26 and 27. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Maddalena Maria on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Medicine of the Messiah."

For information visit [www.allsoulsuuohio.org](http://www.allsoulsuuohio.org).

Local author "Miss Nancy" Foss and her goose puppet, "Waddles" will be reading her recently published book *Toast and Jam at the Library* to the children and signing books at the Galion Public Library community room at 11 am on Saturday, Sept. 12.

This event is free and open to the public.

Miss Nancy has also written a second book, *Caution! Goose Inside!* These books are available for purchasing before this event online at [lulu.com/shop](http://lulu.com/shop) to bring in for signing. Refreshments will also be provided. Reservations are not necessary but seating is limited. Call the Galion library for more information at 419-468-3203.

Foss has been a children's librarian at Galion since 2015.

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library will host a "Word—Beyond the Basics" program on Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 9:30- 11 am in the Learning Lab Classroom at the main library branch.

Adults and teens attending will learn how to configure the Quick Access Toolbar and use proofing, autocorrect, the ruler, tabs and tables in the Word program.

City of Ontario meetings are held at the city building, 555 Stumbo Rd., Ontario. September meetings are scheduled for Sept. 16, 6:15 pm, caucus and 7 pm, council.

Families, couples and singles are invited to join the Johnny Appleseed Squares to experience two free square dance lessons at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 525 W. Cook Rd., Mansfield, from 7-9 pm on Sept. 24 and Oct. 1. Both events are open to the public. For information call Don Karger at 419-545-6564. Beverages and snacks are available at no charge, while they last.

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 Sept. 16. The Mansfield Dulcimer Players will perform and there will be a collection for the Richland County Humane Society. Those attending are asked to bring paper towels, cleaning supplies, newspapers, wipes, disposable gloves, canned food and Purina Cat/Dog Chow.

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

U.S. Route 42, between Cedarwood Drive and Gables Blvd., closed Wednesday, Sept. 9 for a culvert replacement.

The detour route will be U.S. 42 north to SR 314 north to SR 97 west back to U.S. 42 and reverse.

The estimated completion is Friday, Oct. 2.

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library will host a "Design a Football Jersey Contest" at all branches Sept. 17-26. Teens can drop-in at any time to design a jersey for the contest. One winner will be chosen at each library location.

To submit a news brief item send an email with information to [news@tribune-courier.com](mailto:news@tribune-courier.com).



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# •Mansfield plants heritage tree as part of America 250

(Continued from Front Page)

Sites selected in each county could be a city that acts as the county seat or participates in the Tree City USA program.

"Planting a heritage tree is an investment in the future of our community," said parks superintendent Mike Woogerd. "The trees we plant today will provide beauty, shade and environmental benefits for generations to come. We're proud to continue Richland County's commitment to preserving our natural heritage and enhancing

Liberty Park as a place for families, residents, and visitors to enjoy."

"White oak trees were chosen as Heritage Trees because they grow in many soil types, resist most tree diseases, and are native to Ohio. A specific white oak species will be chosen based on the county climate and purchased from a reputable Ohio tree nursery."

The program was created in partnership with Dawes Arboretum, Cox Arboretum MetroPark, Holden Forests & Gardens, Keep Ohio Beautiful, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Rowe Arboretum and Secrest Arboretum.

Mansfield is a Tree City USA recipient for 31 years.

## Church Directory

### All Souls Unitarian Universalist

25 Church St., Bellville  
419-886-3497 • [www.allsoulsuuohio.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.stjohnsmansfield.org)  
[contact@stjohnmansfield.org](mailto: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](http://trinitygracefellowship.org)  
Pastor Larry Carnes  
9:30 am Sunday Worship • 11 am Sunday School  
Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

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**THREE NEW FIREFIGHTERS** were sworn-in to begin their careers at the Mansfield Fire Department. Kaleb Armstrong, Owen Fike and Parker Herring joined the department.

## Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Roy Albert Leedy, August 28  
Jeffrey Alan Pfeiderer, August 28  
Zachary "Zach" Ryan Robinson, August 28  
Theodore "Ted" Daniel Lahm, August 30  
Carol D. Snyder, August 30  
Mariam Kay Dille, August 31  
Barbara "Barb" Lee Warns, August 31  
Gerald Eugene Heflen, September 2  
Lizzie O. Long, September 2

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## Area Agency on Aging honors 2026 Outstanding Senior Citizens

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. honored outstanding senior citizens from across its nine-county service area during the 2026 Outstanding Senior Citizen Awards, held Aug. 26, in Ontario. Approximately 100 guests attended the event to celebrate the accomplishments, contributions, and lasting impact of this year's honorees.

Since 1976, the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging has recognized outstanding senior citizens who make a difference in their communities and demonstrate a positive image of aging.

Duana Patton, CEO of the Area Agency on Aging welcomed guests to the ceremony, which was also led by Cody Albert, Corporate Board President of the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

The 2026 Outstanding Senior Citizen Award recipients are Ashland County, Charles and Melody Barnes; Crawford County, Mohsen "Mo" Ressallat; Huron County, Herschel and Ruth Honeycutt; Knox County, Margaret "Peggy" Dunn; Marion County, Barbara Mead; Morrow County, Chris and Hyla Skudder; Richland County, Sidney "Sid" Hall and Nancy Hall, posthumously; Seneca County, Michael Porter; and Wyandot County, Bonnie L. Conley.

Award recipients are nominated by individuals or organizations involved with seniors and are selected by the Area Agency on Aging based on the impact of their contributions and accomplishments within their communities.

"Each year, we are honored to recognize older adults who have generously shared their time, talents, and dedication to strengthen their communities," said Duana Patton, Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

"These honorees are inspiring examples of the many ways older adults continue to lead, serve, and positively impact the lives of those around them."

The event was also attended by family and friends as well as local and state elected officials representing communities throughout the nine-county service area. Proclamations recognizing the honorees were presented by elected officials, including a senator and representatives, mayors, and county commissioners.

## Library welcomes local author

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) will host Ohio-born author Mindy McGinnis at a free event.

McGinnis is the Edgar Award-winning author of multiple novels spanning historical fiction, fantasy, contemporary and gothic thrillers. Her work is widely known for delivering grit, truth and an unflinching look at humanity.

She will speak at the main library, 43 W. Third St., Mansfield on Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 6 pm.

During the library program, McGinnis will discuss her research for her novel *Under This Red Rock*. The murder mystery is set in Ohio's cavern systems and explores themes of mental illness, examining the often-misunderstood behavior patterns of those who struggle with their mental health.

A core focus of the program is erasing the stigma surrounding mental illness and highlighting the importance of speaking out. McGinnis will share her own personal battles with depression and anxiety, detailing how those lived experiences informed her creative process while writing the novel.

The event is free and open to the public. Customers may bring their personal copies of McGinnis' books to be signed but books will not be available for sale at these events.

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at [www.tribune-courier.com](http://www.tribune-courier.com)**

### Mansfield/Richland County Public Library



### UNDER THIS RED ROCK Book Discussion and Signing



**Wed. Sep. 16 @ 6 PM**

**@ Main Library**

**43 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Mansfield, OH**

The author will discuss her research for *Under This Red Rock*, a murder mystery set in Ohio's cavern systems that explores mental illness and examines the often misunderstood behavior patterns of those who struggle.

**Bring your copy of her book(s) for signing.  
Books will not be available for purchase at the event.**

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## Lifestyle Inspiration



### Healthy Eating on a Budget

By Kelley Kovacs, LMT  
Comfrey Corner

Many people believe healthy eating is expensive, but nutritious meals can be affordable with thoughtful planning.

Choosing simple proteins, seasonal produce and versatile ingredients can help families eat well without overspending.

Before shopping, check the refrigerator and cupboards, plan the week's meals, and list only the necessary ingredients.

This prevents impulse purchases and reduces food waste. Comparing prices and choosing supermarket brands can also lower the grocery bill.

Affordable proteins include eggs, dried beans, chickpeas, chicken thighs, lean beef, Greek yogurt and peanut butter.

Dried beans and chickpeas require soaking, but they are usually inexpensive. Eggs can be boiled for breakfast or combined with vegetables in an omelette. Chicken thighs and lean beef can also be cooked with vegetables. Choose peanut butter without added sugar or unnecessary ingredients.

Potatoes, carrots, cabbage, onions, spinach and broccoli provide important vitamins and minerals. Seasonal vegetables are often cheaper and fresher.

When local vegetables are out of season, frozen vegetables are a healthy and affordable alternative. They are usually frozen soon after harvesting, helping

preserve their nutrients. Frozen broccoli, spinach, peas, carrots and mixed vegetables last longer and can be used as needed.

Fresh fruits, including bananas, apples, oranges, pears and watermelon, make healthy snacks. Frozen strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and peaches are also nutritious and can be added to Greek yogurt or blended into smoothies.

Other snack ideas include apple slices with peanut butter, hard-boiled eggs, and carrots with homemade bean dip.

Preparing soup from scratch is an inexpensive way to make a healthy and satisfying meal. Combine potatoes, carrots, cabbage and onions with beans, chicken or lean beef.

Homemade soup can provide several portions. Leftovers can be refrigerated for the following day or frozen for future meals.

Healthy casseroles are another practical option. A chicken and broccoli casserole or a lean beef, potato and vegetable casserole can provide a healthy, filling meal for the entire family. Add simple herbs and seasonings for flavor. Leftover portions can be refrigerated or frozen.

Preparing casseroles at home also allows you to control the amount of salt, fat and added sugar.

With planning and sensible choices, households can enjoy balanced meals while controlling their spending.

**"OUR GREATEST  
GLORY IS NOT IN  
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BUT IN RISING  
EVERY TIME WE  
FALL." —  
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### Day Trippin' With Damon

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# Lincoln Highway sign designed to get motorists' attention

Just east of Galion at S.R. 309 near Nazor Road now stands a "BIG" Lincoln Highway logo sign that will let anyone driving by know that they are on America's first coast-to-coast road. The Lincoln Highway was designated on this path at the proclamation of the road in 1913, and was later moved north and parallel about two miles through Leesville and Crestline after 1920.

"Many people are confused about where the Lincoln ran," Mike Hocker of the Ohio Lincoln Highway remarked. "Even the sign installer mentioned his surprise and didn't know the Lincoln Highway ran through Galion. Many locals remember the later alignment but have forgotten the original one, even though it officially existed about the same number of years as the later alignment."

Thanks to a generous grant from the national Lincoln Highway Association, the Ohio Lincoln Highway Historic Byway and support from the homeowners and LHA members Tim and Amber Wertman, this project became the first in a pilot grant program to create more of these big signs across Ohio and possibly other states.

Hocker, project chair, went on to say, "This has been a long time coming," noting that the project began about ten years ago as a vision to create "giant" logo signs on barns and industrial buildings across Ohio. "The idea was well accepted; the money to do it did not seem to follow. So we scaled down the concept from 30-foot 'giant' signs to 10-foot 'big' signs — and we are happy that these will still do the job of letting people know about the importance of this hugely historic road."

Today, signage seems to be the most logical way to educate the masses that the road exists. Then we hope they take the next step and seek more information online.

The Lincoln was originally marked with painted telephone poles, hand-made signs,

and eventually in 1928, Boy Scouts of America planted concrete pillars across the span of the road, some 3,389 miles from New York City to San Francisco. Through the years Ohio seemed to specialize in brick pillars, usually embedded with enameled or ceramic Lincoln Highway logos. Bucyrus na-

tive and early consul to the LHA, John Hopley, influenced that movement.

For more information about the Lincoln Highway and an interactive map of its path across the U.S. visit: [www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org](http://www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org). For the local Facebook page: Ohio Lincoln Highway Chapters.



**THE 2025 COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD** was presented at the annual celebration. Pictured are Dr. Gabriel Karns, Dr. Cynthia Callahan and Jason Opal from The Ohio State University at Mansfield, Richland SWCD Director Matt Christian and Richland County Commissioner Darrell Banks.

## Richland SWCD will celebrate with award

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) will celebrate the past year and recognize the Cooperator of the Year and the Volunteer of the Year at the Annual Celebration Tuesday, Oct. 1.

The celebration will begin at 11:30 am at the Ohio Area Agency on Aging District 5, Hawkins Center, 2131 Park Avenue West, Ontario.

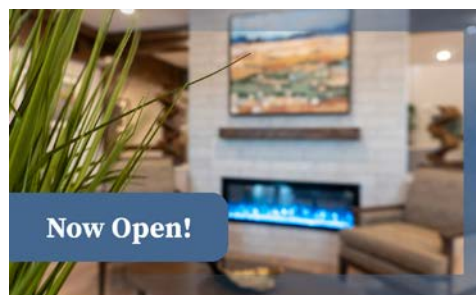
Eligible voters may cast their vote for two board supervisor positions from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. The candidates are Brian Alt and

Vincent (Skip) Malaska.

Absentee and in-person voting will be available from Sept. 2 at 8 am until Sept. 30 at 4 pm at the Richland SWCD office.

Election information is available at <https://richlandswcd.net/get-involved/board-supervisors>.

The Annual Celebration is open to the public and includes lunch and refreshments. The cost is \$25 per person. Reservations are requested by September 22 at <https://richlandswcd.net/event/annual-celebration-5/>



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## Women's Fund seeks nominations for the volunteerism award

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation is accepting nominations for the JoAnn Dutton Volunteer Community Service Award. The award celebrates and honors women leaders who devote a significant amount of time and energy in a meaningful way to local charitable organizations.

This award sponsored by the Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation was named in honor of JoAnn Dutton.

As Executive Director of the YWCA, JoAnn was known as a strong collaborator who initiated new programs and opportunities within the organizations she served. Her personal and leadership approach was always inclusive, and she sought to enable all members of our community to achieve their full potential. In addition to serving 10 years at the YWCA, she enjoyed a lifetime of volunteer community service.

The award honors JoAnn and all women in our community who demonstrate that individual volunteer service makes a community a better place to live.

A nomination form is available at <https://www.richlandcounty-foundation.org/community-impact/womens-fund>. The deadline is Oct. 5. The winner will be honored during the Women's Fund annual grant awards lunch Nov. 6 at Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center.

JoAnn Dutton Award recipients are 2025 Vivian Winters, 2024 Suzanne Allen, 2023 Christine Myers, 2022 Margaret Black, 2021 Linda Smith, 2020 Brigitte Coles, 2019 Pam Siegenthaler, 2018 Mary McDonald, 2017 Valerie Rust, 2016 Karen Bierly, 2015 Jeanne Meisse, 2014 Joanne Humphrey, 2013 Chris McQuillan, 2012 Nancie Cummins, 2011 Jo Black, 2010 D' Wisenbarger, 2009 Geneva Cummins, 2008 Suzanne Davis, 2007 Betty Finlayson, 2006 Reba Gribben, 2005 Lucy Amsbaugh, 2004 Suzanne Schamadan, 2003 Mary Riedl, 2002 Bets Risser and 2001 Pat Bell.

The Women's Fund was established in 1996 as permanent endowment to support programs that benefit women and girls in our community. The Richland County Foundation, a not-for-profit 501c3, was established in 1945 as a way for individuals to pool and invest their gifts for the long-term good of Richland County and its residents.



**WOMEN'S FUND CHAIR AMY HINER**, JoAnn Dutton Volunteer Community Service Award Winner Vivian Winters and Women's Fund Chair-Elect Amy Goyal during the 2025 Women's Fund Grant Awards Luncheon.



Angels Landing, Utah • Photo By Mark Shutt

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TO  
END  
ALZHEIMER'S**  
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

**SCAN  
ME!**



[alz.org/walk](https://alz.org/walk)

**2026 Walk To End Alzheimer's NCO/Mansfield**

SAVE THE DATE - NEW LOCATION at the Mansfield Speedway Saturday September 19



**Mansfield Speedway: 400 Crall Rd E, Mansfield**

Event Details : Check in 9:00 am | Ceremony 10 am / Walk at 10:20 am

## Three new promotions announced by Mechanics Bank

Mechanics Bank has announced the following promotions:

Emily M. Cline has been promoted to Vice President, Manager of Loan Administration.

Cline joined Mechanics in 2005 as a Customer Service Representative and has served in numerous roles, including Senior Loan Operations Manager.

She is a graduate of the Ohio



Emily Cline

Bankers League Bank Management School and Bank Leadership Institute and serves on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Richland County.

Conner J. Darsee has been promoted to Vice President, Trust Officer.

Darsee joined Mechanics in 2014 as a Customer Service Representative and later served as a Business Banker and Private Banking Specialist. Conner holds a bachelor's degree from Ashland University.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the YMCA of North Central Ohio and the Richland Carousel Park.

Nicole E. Neeley has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager.

She joined Mechanics in 2017 as a Customer Service Representative and has served numerous roles including Assistant Branch Manager.

Neely holds an associate's degree in Business Management from North Central State College.

Mechanics Bank is a full service, independent community bank.



Conner Darsee



Nicole E. Neeley



**STUDENTS IN MRS. RHODES'** child development class at Ontario High School practiced with newborn baby simulators in class. They had a hands-on experience trying to figure out what the baby needed as well as changing their clothes and practicing car seat safety.

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## Galion's log house tells 224 years of history at Ohio Open Doors event

Galion's Log House (cabin) was relocated and restored at Heise Park in 1985. A new bronze plaque explaining its unique history will be dedicated, followed by a glimpse into one of Galion's earliest domiciles on Sunday, Sept. 13 beginning at 1 pm. The event is free to all.

The edifice began its service as a fine log home in about 1822, just two years after the Hosford Mill nearby was opened and nine years before Galion's founding. It sported planed logs and milled mouldings, so it was more than just a temporary cabin in its time. It was erected where the front steps of the Galion Public Library are today.

By 1901 the Current News Club, women intent on creating a public library, bought the property and used this as their first reading room. In a letter to industrialist Andrew Carnegie, they asked him to help them build a new library building, which he agreed to with the conditions that they draw from public funds to sustain its use.

When the new library was built, the log house was moved to the back of the lot and served as a home for the library caretaker for years. In 1956, the newly formed Galion Historical Society took over the building as their museum and meeting room.

When a contractor was about to raze the building in 1984, John Dougherty, then city councilman and head of the Parks & Recreation Committee, halted its demise and quickly formed a committee to preserve, move and properly restore it in Heise Park as a cherished representation of Galion's history.

After this short dedication the event will offer a rare inspection of the inside of the home until 4 pm. This event coincides with the Ohio Open Doors happenings which include partner organizations America 250-Ohio, Heritage Ohio, Ohio Local History Alliance, Ohio Museums Association, Ohio Travel Association and TourismOhio.

## Falls Prevention Walk is Sept. 10

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is inviting the community to walk, connect and learn during a Falls Prevention Walk on Thursday, Sept. 10, hosted in partnership with Richland County Mobility Management.

Everyone is welcome! Stop by the Hawkins Corner Conference Center, 2131 Park Avenue West in Ontario, anytime between 9 and 11 am to take a walk with Area Agency on Aging staff, enjoy helpful fall-prevention resources, and learn simple ways to stay safe, active and independent.

And don't forget to stop by the free flavored water stand! Choose your favorite refreshing flavor, stay hydrated, and take home your reusable water bottle.

No registration is required — just drop in and take a few steps with us!

Falls are more common than many people realize. One in three Ohioans age 60 and older will experience a fall this year. A fall can lead to serious injury and may have a lasting impact on a person's independence and quality of life. But falls are not a normal part of aging, and many can be prevented. Regular physical activity, including something as simple as walking, is one-way older adults can help improve strength, balance, and overall health.

The event celebrates National Falls Prevention Awareness Month and is part of the statewide effort, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Aging, to take "10 Million Steps to Prevent Falls." Attendees can also get information and resources focused on balance, home and personal safety, mobility and practical fall-prevention strategies.

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Past Issues at  
[www.tribune-courier.com](http://www.tribune-courier.com)**



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S CLASS OF 2027 celebrated senior sunrise to help kick-off the new school year.



# Support Local Coffee Shops

Visit a featured location below, then email your order and visit date to [tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com](mailto:tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com) for a chance to win a \$20 coffee gift card!

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**4th Street  
Coffee House**  
1996 W 4th St, Ontario

**Pump and Grind**  
586 Park Avenue East,  
OH-430, Mansfield

**How Ya Brewin'?**  
Mobile Coffee Trailer  
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**Fresh Grounds  
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1621 W 4th St, Ontario

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**Bubble Bean  
And Sweets**  
44 East Main St., Shelby

**The Pickwick Place  
Cafe and Market**  
1875 North Sandusky  
Avenue, Bucyrus

**Revive Coffee Bar**  
1201 Mill Rd, Bellville  
[revivecoffeebar.com](http://revivecoffeebar.com)

**Marando's Cafe**  
[marandoscafe.com](http://marandoscafe.com)  
[@marandoscafe](mailto:@marandoscafe)  
330-347-7058

**The Cafe at  
Arbor Creek**  
Gardens and Floral  
3052 Mabee Rd, Ontario

**Honey B Express**  
Coffee Trailer  
567-303-5248

**Pronto Pizza  
and Coffee**  
914 Ashland Rd, Mansfield  
419-589-7777

**The Green Bean House**  
230 Main St, Bellville  
419-719-6026  
[@thegreenbeanhouse](mailto:@thegreenbeanhouse)



**MANSFIELD CHAMBER MUSIC PLAYERS** include musicians John McLaughlin Williams, Steve Domka, Carol Bernhardt, Dave Lenigan, Jane Price, Keely Krumweide, Pamela Ellis, Carol Oberholtzer, Mike Sieberg, Bob Rashid and Jim Froelich.

## 30th Annual Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Concert is Oct. 11

The Mansfield Chamber Music Players will present the Thirtieth Annual Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Concert on Sunday, Oct. 11 at 4 pm in Riedl Hall at The Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus. Music will be performed by a violin, oboe, piano trio, a string quintet, a woodwind sextet and a wind-string nonet.

These concerts were organized by Carol Bernhardt in memory of her late husband, Donald Bernhardt who was concertmaster of the Mansfield Symphony and the Ashland Orchestra, as well as an avid chamber music player. Since the first concert in 1997, the Mansfield Chamber Music Players have performed over 115 different pieces on

these concerts.

Performing this year will be: violin, John McLaughlin Williams, Michael Sieberg and Steve Domka; viola, Jim Froelich; cello, Robert Rashid; bass, David Lenigan; flute, Carol Oberholtzer; oboe, Carol Bernhardt; clarinet, Pamela Ellis; French horn, Keely Krumweide; bassoon, Jane Price; and piano, Susan Gregg.

The concert is free and open to the public.

The concert is provided by the Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Fund at Chase Bank in cooperation with The Ohio State University – Mansfield Campus.



**MADISON COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL'S 2026 HOMECOMING ROYALTY** members are front, Sophie Lowe, Emily Saunders, Koree Kershner and Kennedy Hofer; row two, Aubrey Ohl, Brianna Coulter, Taylor McKown, Lena Sasis, Zoie Ball and Kylie Carroll; row three, Aseem Mickouma, Knight Wolfe, Kaiden Koch and Quentin Fava; and back, Ashtyn Huffman, Hudson Stacy, Camden Moysi, Aiden Proctor and Julian Washington. Missing from the photo is Lincoln Shepherd. On Friday, Oct. 2, the homecoming king will be announced at an all-school pep assembly and the homecoming queen will be announced during the half-time show of the homecoming football game against New Philadelphia. The game begins at 7 pm on Ram Field. Homecoming festivities will end with a dance at the high school on Oct. 3.

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## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**CLEAR FORK VS MARION PLEASANT VOLLEYBALL · SEPT. 1**  
**PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS MADISON VOLLEYBALL · SEPT. 5 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**CLEAR FORK VS LEXINGTON FOOTBALL • SEPT. 4**  
**COLTS WIN 17-7 • PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS PERKINS BOYS VARSITY SOCCER · AUG. 31  
LEXINGTON WINS 2-1 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

### ONTARIO VS SHELBY GOLF · AUG. 31



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Crestline topples Mapleton 43-36

By Kris Leiter

Keep your eyes on the western sky in Richland County. Big things are happening for the Crestline Bulldogs as they are gaining momentum. Not just this year, but in the past two.

The Bulldogs have been making their presence known on the gridiron and made the playoffs in 2024 for the first time in 19 years, last making the cut in 2005.

It's good to see the small village school making a comeback.

Crestline is all smiles as head coach Hastings Robinette and the gang are currently ringing in with a respectful record of 2-1 overall. Looking at their last two games, they don't seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

In week two, the Bulldogs did something they haven't done in quite some time, they took a trip to Ashland County to take on the Crestview Cougars for the first time since 2003. The trip was well worth the price of admission as the Bulldogs took a bite out the Cougars offensive.

Crestline took the lead ear-

ly over the Cougars, and after merely a quarter and a half on the clock, the Bulldogs had notched a 28-0 lead and eventually won 28-16 on the road, which is not easy to do.

The Bulldogs would contribute a touchdown by Junior Ashton Hawk. Senior quarterback Kody Lawhorn notched a respectable 131 yards in the air, going 8-19.

Quentin Kapp, a senior All-Ohio running back, found paydirt with two touchdowns and finished with 15 totes and 154 yards on the ground for the Blue and White.

Moving into week three, the Mapleton Mounties had their eyes on the victory but the Bulldogs would be up for the battle.

Mapleton held a first quarter lead of 24-7.

The second quarter brought offense from both teams as the Bulldogs scored 15 points and Mapleton notched 12, to bring the score 36-22. The Mounties would still hold a hefty lead going into the lockerroom at half-

time.

As the third and fourth quarters would play out, so did the Bulldog defense as they would hold the Mounties without a single point, nay, nada, zero.

As for Crestline offense, could they recover from the 14-point deficit to at least tie the game?

The dogs had two quarters remaining. Could they do it? They would bring seven points in the third quarter to close the gap, 36-29, with one quarter left to play.

They would need seven points to tie, eight to win. They decided to go for bust and scored 14 points via a rushing touchdown, a passing trip to the end zone and two extra-points to bring home the bacon and the ride home as victors 43-36!

Next week, the Bulldogs will be home at Hudson Stadium to tangle with the St. John Heralds from Ashtabula, who are also 2-1. They are members of the Northeastern Conference. This should be a good game as both teams share the same record!



**LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL'S** Cross Country Runners of the Week for week one were Mia Currier and Caden Henry.



Photo By Jenna Wolford

**THE CRESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM** took first place at the Bob James Invitational Sept. 1, at Plymouth High School. Taking second place in the 2-mile race was junior Isaac McFarland, 10:52.8. He was followed by teammates freshman Easton Smith, 10th, 11:54.1; junior Logan Robinson, 11th, 11:56.5; sophomore Isaac Smith, 12th, 12:05.1; junior Brant Leidigh, 16th, 12:32.9; junior Jackson VanScyoc, 20th, 12:49.6; freshman Cody Wolford, 39th, 14:11.5; and junior Titus Kelley, 70th, 19:44.2. The girls team took fifth place and were led by junior Gracie Galloway placing fourth with 14:28.40. She was followed by teammates junior Laynie Kemp, 6th, 14:54.16; junior Alexandra Cutlip, 27th, 16:59.70; junior Emily Pond, 41st, 18:37.12; and freshman Elianna Kelley, 42nd, 19:41.79. On Saturday, Aug. 29, the boys team took third place at the Seneca East Tiger Classic.

## Pickleball returns to Stowell Park

Ontario Youth Sports and Ontario community Events hosted Pickleball games in August at Stowell Park. There were 22 competitors during the month with new champions crowned each week.

Pickleball games will return Sept. 10 at Stowell Park on Ferguson Rd. Games are played from 6-8 pm.

Community sponsors keeps this event 100% free for everyone. Watch <https://www.facebook.com/OntarioYouthSports-for details>.

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## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**CLEAR FORK VS PLEASANT VARSITY SOCCER · SEPT. 1**  
**COLTS WIN 6-0 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



# 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 September 2, 2026.

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. 26-23 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE (THE CHIEF OF POLICE), TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM THE GORMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION TO THE CITY OF ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 26-24 – AN ORDINANCE CORRECTING AN UNIDENTIFIED PAYROLL ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 26-25 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PROJECT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY PARKS COMMITTEE TO CREATE A VETERANS MEMORIAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Abbey Beaver  
Asst. Clerk of Council  
Ontario, Ohio  
(T-C 9-10, 17 '26) 35L

CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO  
REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS  
CITYWIDE SEALCOATING  
PROJECT  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

The City of Ontario, Ohio is requesting quotations from qualified contractors for sealcoating various areas throughout the City of Ontario.

The work will include sealcoating designated city streets, parking areas, and other applicable paved surfaces. The City is seeking a qualified contractor capable of providing quality workmanship, appropriate materials, equipment, and labor necessary to complete the project.

## BID PACKAGE/QUOTATION INFORMATION

Interested contractors may request the complete Bid Package and Request for Quotations documents, including project specifications, locations, scope of work, and submission requirements, by contacting:

**Michael Morton**  
Service/Safety Director  
City of Ontario, Ohio  
Email: [mmorton@ontarioohio.org](mailto:mmorton@ontarioohio.org)

All interested bidders are encouraged to obtain the complete bid package and review all specifications and requirements before submitting a quotation. All quotations must be received by September 16, 2026, to be considered.

The City of Ontario reserves the right to reject any or all quotations, to waive

informalities, and to accept the quotation deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Michael Morton  
Service/Safety Director  
City of Ontario, Ohio  
(T-C 9-10 '26) 44L

## PROBATE COURT OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

Estate of Gary Duane Noe, deceased  
CASE NO. 20251578

NOTICE AND CITATION OF HEARING ON APPOINTMENT OF FIDUCIARY [R.C. 2113.06 and 2113.07]

TO Ashley Noel, address unknown, has filed an application in this Court, asking to be appointed to administer decedent's estate.

The hearing on the application will be held October 2, 2026, at 1:00 o'clock PM in this court located at 50 Park Avenue East, 2nd Floor, Mansfield, Ohio 44902.

You are one of the persons entitled to administer decedent's estate. and if you wish to be considered for appointment to do so you must apply to this Court. If you do not apply, it will be considered that you renounce your right to administer the estate. The Court may appoint any suitable and competent person to administer the estate, giving due weight to relative priority of right to do so. Even if you decline appointment yourself, if you know of any reason why the above applicant is not suitable or should appear and inform the court.

Probate Judge/Deputy Clerk  
Richland County Ohio  
(T-C 8-27, 9-3, 10 '26) 33L



**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S** Criminology students went on a field trip to the Ohio State Reformatory. Students toured the building while learning about its journey from one of the most successful juvenile reform facilities in the country to a maximum security prison closed for human rights violations. OHS students learned about the famous Schofield architecture and the building's saving grace, the *Shawshank Redemption* film.

## MRCPL will host Ohio Goes to the Movies event Friday

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library has been selected to host an Ohio Goes to the Movies™ (OGT™) event. OGT™ is a statewide celebration of movies showcasing Ohio's contributions to America's film industry and movie-making.

The Main Library, 43 W. Third St., Mansfield, will screen *Air Force One* (Rated R) after hours on Friday, Sept. 11 at 6 pm. This is a free, adults-only event where viewers will have the opportunity to win one of two themed gift bundles valued at \$100 each. The doors will open at 5:30 pm and seating is limited to 100 guests. Refreshments will be provided.

Following the film, attendees can go behind the scenes with the Ohio State Reformatory's Tour Program Manager, Derek Wilson. The presentation will explore the movies, television shows and music videos filmed

within its historic walls, sharing exclusive behind-the-scenes stories. This will cover everything from *The Shawshank Redemption* to Lil Wayne's "Go DJ."

In coordination with the mov-

ie screening, the Library will also host a special, adults-only, movie-themed trivia night on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 6:30 pm at The Phoenix Brewing Company, 131 N. Diamond St.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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