



# TRIBUNE-COURIER



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

news@tribune-courier.com 1.07.21



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**THE VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON** chose one winner for the Light Up Lexington home decoration contest. This year's winner was the residence of Brinton Brafford at 530 Cedarwood Dr..

## Kingwood hosting Storybook Trail

The Storybook Trail at Kingwood Center Gardens is featuring a new book for the winter season. *Winter Sleep: A Hibernation Story* is by authors Sean Taylor and Alex Morss and illustrated by Cinyee Chiu.

This award-winning story follows a child and his grandma through a winter landscape exploring how the Earth goes to sleep for winter. There are sleeping animals as the tale unfolds, and readers learn about their hibernation habits.

The Storybook Trail began Jan. 4 and is open during Kingwood's winter hours, 10 am to 5 pm, and is located along the Nature Trail that begins at the Peacock Playhouse.

A new scavenger hunt for the kids also debuted on Jan. 4.

*Winter Sleep* will be on sale in the Kingwood Garden & Gift Shop inside the new Garden Gateway visitor center which opens daily 10 am to 4:30 pm.

The Storybook Trail is a partnership with the Mansfield Richland County Public Library and funded by the Keyser Library

Fund and the George and Barbara Keyser Donor Advised Fund of Richland County Foundation.

Kingwood Center Gardens is a garden estate on 47 acres in Mansfield that once was the home of the innovative industrialist, Charles Kelley King.

Kingwood is renowned for its distinctive floral displays, unique plant specimens, woodland trails, historic mansion and gardens, display greenhouse, duck pond, and peacocks.

In mid-October 2020, Kingwood celebrated the opening of the Garden Gateway, a new visitor center with a café, garden and gift shop, ballroom, exhibit gallery, and guest amenities. The project also includes the Grand Perennial Garden with Perennial Pavilion, the new Draffan Fountain Terrace and a Nature Pond.

General admission is \$5 for 13 years and up and Children 12 years and under and Kingwood members are free. Admission is free for everyone on the first Monday of every month.

## Romanchuk takes oath as state senator

The Honorable Mary Katherine Huffman of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas administered the oath of office to State Senator Mark Romanchuk (R-Ontario) marking the beginning of his first four-year term in the Ohio Senate. Today's opening ceremonies also served as the official start of the 134th Ohio General Assembly.

Romanchuk serves as State Senator for the 22nd Senate District, which includes Ashland, Medina and Richland counties and a portion of Holmes county.

"I am looking forward to serving the people of the 22nd Senate District and working with my colleagues to craft policies that will strengthen our economy,

and make Ohio the best place to live" Romanchuk said.

Prior to being elected to the Senate, Romanchuk served four terms in the Ohio House of Representatives. He also has over 35 years of experience in small business, systems engineering and management, and community development. Romanchuk is the owner and CEO of PR Machine Works, Inc., a contract manufacturer providing precision machining, fabrication, and assembly services in Ontario.

Senator Romanchuk resides in Ontario with his wife, Zoi. Read more about Senator Romanchuk here. The wearing-in ceremony can be watched on OhioChannel.org. See photo page 7.

## Red Cross, NFL teaming up for National Blood Donor Month

The American Red Cross and the National Football League are teaming up this month, during National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals — especially those who have recovered from COVID-19 — to give blood and to help tackle the national convalescent plasma shortage. Right now, more donors are needed to help hospital patients.

Those who come to donate blood or platelets this January will be automatically entered to win two tickets to next year's Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles. In addition, those who come to give Jan. 1-20, will also be automatically entered to win the Big Game at Home package for an awesome viewing experience safely at home, with a 65-inch television and a \$500 gift card to put toward food and fun.

Individuals can schedule an appointment to give blood today with the American Red Cross by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or activating the Blood Scheduling Skill for Amazon Alexa.

"Blood and plasma donors who have recovered from COVID-19 may have the power to help critically ill patients currently battling the virus," said Dr. Erin Goodhue, Red Cross medical director of clinical services. "With hospital distributions for convalescent plasma increasing about 250% since October, these generous donations are vital in helping to save lives throughout the winter — a time that is often challenging to collect enough blood products for those in need."

As COVID-19 cases have risen across the U.S., so has the need for convalescent plasma — leading to a shortage of this potentially lifesaving blood product. Like "special teams" units on the field, COVID-19 survivors have a unique ability to make a game-changing difference in the lives of COVID-19 patients.

Individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 may have antibodies in their plasma that could provide a patient's immune system the boost it needs to beat the virus.

There are two ways COVID-19 survivors can help — through a convalescent plasma

donation or by simply giving whole blood. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients. Health emergencies don't pause for holidays, game days or a pandemic — blood is needed every two seconds in the U.S. to help patients battling injury and illness.

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows high standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions — including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff — have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Richland County Bloodmobiles and scheduled for:

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1-7 pm, Richland Mall RSMO, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 1-7 pm, Richland Mall RSMO, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Thursday, Jan. 14, 2-7 pm, Holiday Inn, 116 Park Avenue West, Mansfield

Sunday, Jan. 17, 11 am to 5 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 1-6 pm Crossroads Church, 1188 Park Ave West, Mansfield; and 1:30-6:30 pm, Berean Baptist, 2145 Middle Bellville Rd., Mansfield

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1-7 pm, Richland Mall RSMO, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Thursday, Jan. 21, noon to 6 pm, Mosaic at Park Avenue Baptist Church, 296 Park Ave West, Mansfield

Monday, Jan. 25, 2-7 pm, Lexington High School, 159 Frederick St., Lexington

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 9 am to 3 pm Mechanics Bank - Downtown, 2 South Main St., Mansfield

Friday, Jan. 29, 3-9 pm, Community Building, 21555 Pealer Mill Rd., Butler

## Library begins winter program

The Mansfield Richland County Public Library's Winter Reading Program 2021 began Monday, Jan. 4.

The program is for all ages and offers readers the chance to win gift cards. There are three ways to enter a name in the drawings. Complete an online ticket for each book read at mrcpl.org/wrp21. Engage with the Winter Reading Program posts on social media and pick up holds via curbside

service — every pick-up is an entry.

There are three categories for entry: children, teen and adults. A drawing for each category will be held each week in January with a final drawing on Feb. 1.

Temporary curbside hours for all branches are Monday-Thursday 10 am to 6 pm, Friday 10 am to 5 pm and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm.

See the ad on page 6.







Disney and Pixar's *Soul* is a terrific film that is now available to watch on Disney+ and is another Pixar film that deals with deep themes but should entertain adults and children.

Joe Gardner (voiced by Jamie Foxx) is a high school music teacher who gets an opportunity from a former student to play with a famous jazz singer as her piano player. After a sudden accident, Joe is transported to a world between worlds and with the help of another soul called 22 (Tina Fey) he may be able to return to Earth and be given another chance.



What Disney and Pixar do so well is take very serious, philosophical topics and make them so relevant to a mainstream crowd. There is no preaching about life after death or pushing a certain belief. They provide some truly laugh out loud moments with some deep thoughts and a fun storyline. One storyline involving Joe and a cat seems a little absurd at first but works out well in the end.

Graham Norton, Daveed Diggs and Angela Bassett also provide fine voice work for this movie. The movie this film most reminds me of is *Inside Out*, another great Disney Pixar movie that deals with emotions. *Soul* really becomes its own experience by the end and Foxx does great work as Gardner, who throughout everything in his life just wants one more chance to show what he can really do.

*Soul* is such an enjoyable movie even dealing with darker themes. Its great Disney has branched out into making movies that may be even more for adults than for children. *Soul* will keep you laughing, in deep thought and maybe in curiosity as this studio gives us another well done, must see film.

Look for The Entertainment Examiner's video posts on YouTube.



## Agency announces new board members

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. announced the appointment of two new members, Cody Albert and Dr. Rebecca Strickland, to its board of trustees. Mr. Albert will be an At-Large Representative from Richland County and will fill the seat left vacant by Sherry Hill of Richland County. Dr. Becky Strickland will serve as an At-Large Representative from Crawford County.

Albert is the marketing manager for OhioHealth Mansfield and Shelby Hospitals where he manages OhioHealth's local marketing, community relations strategy and connections with non-profit organizations within the area. He is also a member of the Area Agency on Aging Foundation Board where he has served as the secretary. Albert currently serves on the boards of The Shelby Foundation Board, Community Improvement Corporation of Shelby and Renaissance Theatre.

Dr. Strickland is a geriatrician with ad-

ditional certification in Hospice and Palliative medicine at Avita Health System. She has been the medical director of Altercare of Bucyrus for the past 15 years. She has previously served on both the Corporate and Foundation Board of the Area Agency on Aging.

Corporate Board of Trustees Officers for 2021 include: president: Kellie Hartsel, immediate past president: Jeff Polzin, vice president: Jana Mulherin, vice president: Nate Roshon, treasurer: Beth Myers, co-treasurer: Jason Painley and secretary: Catherine Browne.

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., located at Hawkins Corner in Ontario, serves the North Central Ohio area including Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties, providing assistance to aging individuals and disabled individuals. Contact the Area Agency on Aging at 419-524-4144 or 800-860-5799.



**THE 1850** Lexington school building had an ornate bell tower. When it was removed after the Columbian Grange bought the building, many signatures of students were found on the inside timbers.



**THE 1850 SCHOOL BUILDING** was filled to overflowing in this late 1880s school photo.

## Another new school for Lexington?

By Bob Carter

Lexington Local Schools is building another new school. The school buildings in the village have a long history.

The first school was built of logs and stood in the northeast corner of the town square. It was often referred to as "Ark" and was torn down in June of 1884 after 60 years of being the "town square embarrassment."

A news reporter described the event as follows. "That quaint old landmark 'the Ark' which has buffed the last 60 winters, in which G.M. Sowers acquired the rudiments of his education, no more mars the beauty of our classic village, having been demolished by Fred Beverstock, who recently bought it."

Its replacement was an octagon-shaped brick building of which was said a grown man could not stand up in because of the low roof.

Poor construction caused it to be aban-

doned in the 1840s and Thomas Cook, business owner, one-time mayor and township clerk (he could write well) and possibly the best educated man in town, taught the school in his own two-story home that stood at the curve of W. Main St.

In 1849, the village — somewhat embarrassed — woke up, no doubt from Cook's prodding and finally built a new school which is now the Richland County Museum building on Church St.

The four-room structure was complete with an ornate bell tower and heated by two wood stoves, one on each end. This satisfied the tax payers until the growing village overstuffed the building and the pressure to include high school classes prompted the building of a new, much larger two-story brick building with six classrooms in 1894. The building cost a whopping \$7,800. It is still in use as part of the junior high school.

Watch for part two next week.

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 Richland County's Only Locally-Owned Weekly Newspaper • Established 1961

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
 Dec. 29 — Bob Carter, Lexington (85th)  
 Jan. 11 — Chuck Friend, Madison area





## Roasted Root Vegetables over Cauliflower Puree

### Ingredients

2 heads cauliflower	1 turnip
1 1/2 cups white wine	1 parsnip
8 Tbsp. butter	1 leek
Salt & pepper	2 shallots
1 tsp. tarragon	1 head red cabbage
Olive oil	1 scallion (green onion)
3 golden beets	5 Tbsp. rice vinegar



### Instructions

Cut cauliflower and steam in a pan with a few inches of water. When soft, transfer to a food processor and puree. Return to pan with white wine and butter, salt & pepper and tarragon. Stir and cook until butter has melted and wine has cooked in. This should take 10 minutes or so. Be careful to keep stirring so that it does not stick or burn. Set aside until vegetables are finished cooking.

Wash, peel and cut beets, turnip and parsnip. (I cut in quarters and cubes. Remember beets will take longer, so cut them smaller than other vegetables).

Quarter the shallots and add them to vegetables. On a baking sheet covered with olive oil, add vegetables and shallots. Drizzle with salt & pepper and more olive oil and roast 350 for 25-30 minutes. Add leeks in and roast another 10-15 minutes until vegetables begin to brown and are soft. (I always use my convection roast so this tends to cook things quicker. If you don't have convection, bump the temperature up to 375 and you may need a bit more time).

In a bowl, shred the cabbage and add chopped scallion. Add rice vinegar and a little salt & pepper. You may need more vinegar depending on size of your cabbage (we had about 5 cups). Set this aside and stir occasionally. Chill.

In a serving bowl add cauliflower puree. Top with roasted vegetables and then some of the marinated cabbage. This is nice to do individually, it looks nice and then everyone gets the benefit of all the wonderful combinations of flavors and textures.

LIKE Kimmy's Cucina on Facebook & Instagram

## Lasagna dishes available for pre-order

Kimmy's Cucina will offer homemade dishes available for pre-order/pre-pay at [www.kimmyscucina.com](http://www.kimmyscucina.com) (Choose SHOP from the menu).

Items will be ready for pick-up or delivery on Feb. 10. Items are pre-order/pre-pay only. Local pick-up will be in Lexington. Local delivery is available for Mansfield and Lexington for an additional \$6 (add delivery to cart).

Items available are traditional lasagna made with fresh homemade pasta with homemade tomato sauce, ricotta, mozzarella and parmesan. Prices are \$13.99 for a 8x5 pan (serves 2-4); \$24.99 for a 9x13 pan (serves 9-12). Orders with a ceramic lasagna pan will be available soon.

The sweet basil lasagna is made with fresh homemade pasta, Italian sausage and spinach layers with alfredo sauce, parmesan and mozzarella. Prices are \$18.99 for an 8x5 pan (serves 2-4) and \$34.99 for a 9x13 Pan (serves 9-12).

Traditional meatballs (1.5 ounce) with no sauce are \$5.99 per half dozen and \$9.99 per dozen.

Meatballs with sauce are \$6.99 per half dozen and \$10.99 per dozen.

Alfredo and marinara sauces will be coming soon.

For information visit Facebook/Instagram @kimmyscucina, send an email to [kimmyscucina@gmail.com](mailto:kimmyscucina@gmail.com) or call or text 419-565-0267. See the ad on page 5.

## News Briefs

The Ontario 4th of July Festival is scheduled for Saturday, July 3. The Miss Ontario Pageant will be held June 26.

★  
Rumpke Waste & Recycling Services will partner with Richland County Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (RCRSWMA) in its roadside cleanup effort. This year marks the twelfth consecutive year for the partnership.

To aid in RCRSWMA 2021 cleanup efforts, Rumpke will contribute \$15,000 of free disposal to the Solid Waste Authority at the RUMPKE Richland County Recycling & Transfer Facility.

★  
The City of Ontario will enforce a parking ban on city streets this winter when snowfalls reach 2 inches in depth. Please move all motor vehicles off of city streets so that street crews can do their jobs safely and efficiently.

★  
Those who need help with winter heating bills can apply for HEAP. Applications are available by calling the Area Agency at 419-524-4144 or 800-860-5799 Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Anyone age 18 and older may apply for this assistance. Those 60 and over can get assistance with filling out the application. All heating types are eligible for energy assistance programs – electric, wood, coal, natural gas, propane and kerosene.

★  
Ridgeway Church of God, 1380 Park Avenue East, Madison Township, will host a drive-thru ham dinner on Friday, Jan. 8, from 4:30-6 pm.

The menu will include ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans and bread. Those wanting a dinner can pull up and place your order and it will be brought to the car. Cost is a freewill donation. All proceeds will benefit the church. For information call the church at 419-589-5385.

★  
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2010 Park Avenue West, Ontario, has changed the time of its drive-thru breakfast. It will happen on the second Saturday of the month from 9-10:30 am.

★  
The Pioneer Career and Technology Center Board of Education will hold its January organizational and regular meetings on Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 7 pm remotely. In order to enable the board to continue with district operations during

the public health emergency and in accordance with the provisions of HB 197, the board may meet telephonically or through other electronic means, including conference calls or other meeting technology to conduct the public business of the public body while emergency orders of the federal and/or state government are in effect limiting public gatherings.

Access will be made available to the extent reasonably possibly and feasible. The means of technology and information on how to access the meeting will be made available via the district's website. The board intends to fully honor its obligations under the Open Meetings Act.

★  
A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Jan. 23 and 24.

Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

★  
The Mansfield Richland County Public Library is hosting an Arctic Animals Program in a Bag. Children can pick up a bag at any library to learn about animals such as polar bears and penguins. The kit includes a craft and activities. Call a local branch for more information.

★  
To submit a news brief item, email information to [news@tribune-courier.com](mailto:news@tribune-courier.com). Deadlines are noon Mondays.

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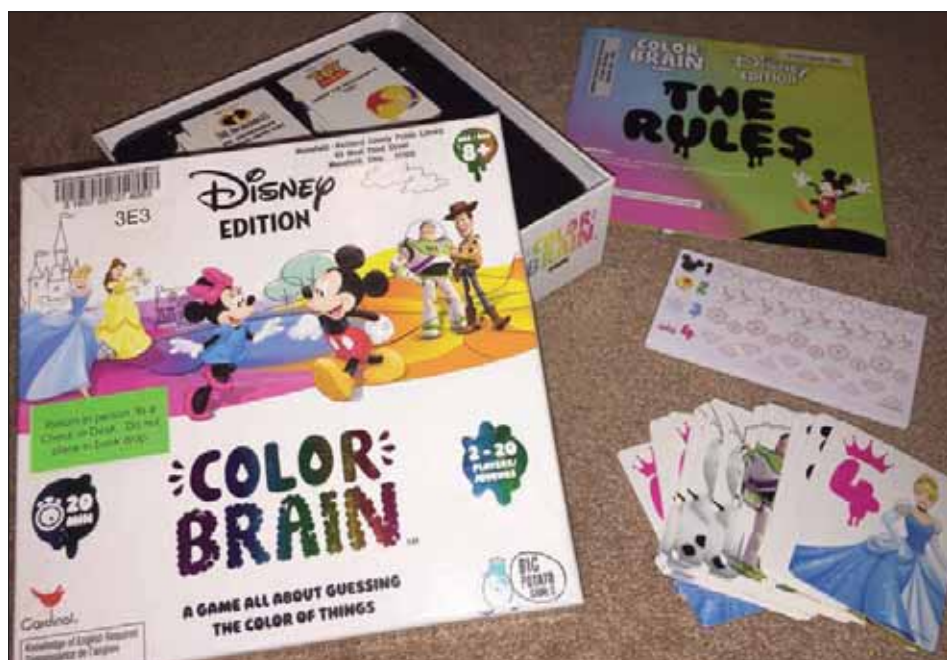
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250 Delaware St., Lexington  
Call or visit 419-884-2000

If 2020 was an account,  
we'd close it. **Hello 2021!**

**Mechanics**  
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Here's to a fresh start and a new year that's (fingers crossed) filled with better things.  
And we'll be here to help—in person or online. | [MyMechanics.com](http://MyMechanics.com)





**THE MANSFIELD/RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY** now offers board games to library patrons. These materials can be borrowed free of charge. One of the new games available is Color Brain. To reserve games, visit [www.mrcpl.org](http://www.mrcpl.org) or call a local library branch. Branches are currently pick-up only. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 6 pm, Friday 10 am to 5 pm and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm. Other games available include Clue, Clue Junior, Forbidden Island, Guess Who, Ticket to Ride, Jumanji, Yeti in My Spaghetti, Life, Bananagrams, Monopoly, Monopoly Junior, Scrabbles, Scattogories, Trouble, Apples to Apples, Cranium, Jenga, Sorry, Eye Found It, Candyland and more.

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## Alzheimer's virtual community forum set for Richland County

As the American population ages and becomes increasingly more diverse, the Alzheimer's Association is committed to identifying and addressing barriers that may prohibit members of these diverse communities, particularly Black/African Americans, from receiving important Alzheimer's education and resources.

The first Mansfield/Richland County virtual Alzheimer's Community Forum will be held Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 10-11:30 am. This town hall style meeting will ask participants questions and gain answers about Alzheimer's, discuss their experiences, learn about local resources, and more.

"We know that that Black/African Americans are about twice as likely as white Americans to have Alzheimer's or another dementia" says, Pam Myers, program director. "We also know that while Black/African Americans are more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease they are less likely to have a diagnosis. A delay in diagnosis could mean that they may miss the opportunity to make important legal, financial and care plans while they are still capable and make their preferences known to their families."

Community forums are hosted by the

association in communities across the country. Goals include listening to the experiences of the community related to Alzheimer's and other dementias; identifying needs, gaps in resources and opportunities; and elevating awareness of the programs and services of the association.

"We have held four successful Alzheimer's Community Forums in the past five months in different parts of our service area" said Myers. "While all the forums had different feedback based on their unique community, we heard overarching community needs like more education and awareness about the disease. We really want to hear what our local Black/African American community thinks about diagnosis, education, and resources."

Feedback is needed from the Black/African American community in Richland County that has an interest in or experience with Alzheimer's or other dementias. Business and community leaders, affected individuals, family members and caregivers, faith leaders, education leaders, hospitals, volunteer organizations, among many others, are invited to attend.

The event is free. Register at 800-272-3900. Once registered, an email with log in information for the event will be sent.

## Clear Fork FFA holds annual fruit sale

By Colton Boyer

The Clear Fork FFA Chapter is one of several thousand chapters across the U.S. They have continually strived to succeed and overcome any obstacles that may lie in front of them.

This year the Clear Fork FFA conducted the annual fruit and nut sale which allows members of the community to support FFA members through the purchasing of fresh fruits and nuts.

The fruits and nuts available consisted of oranges, grapefruits and a variety of apples, along with peanuts, cashews and

mixtures of nuts available for purchase. These items are from out of state farms that continue to support not only the Clear Fork FFA chapter but also several chapters locally and nationwide.

The FFA members were able to safely conduct this sale by having a no contact ordering system.

Delivery of fruit was conducted in two ways, the first being a no contact drive through and the second being delivery by the members themselves.

The fruit sale was successful given the circumstances and unique obstacles.

## Church Directory

### Bunkerhill Baptist Church

3340 St. Rt. 97, Butler • 567-430-9002  
Pastor Thomas Crank  
11 am Sunday Worship  
10 am Sunday School  
Bible Study 7 pm Wednesdays

### Hillside First Church of God

2369 Bowman Rd., Mansfield • Pastor Glenn M. Phillips  
Sunday Worship 10 am • Wednesdays 6 pm  
[hillsidefcg@hotmail.com](mailto:hillsidefcg@hotmail.com)

### St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church

1630 Ashland Rd., Mansfield • 419-589-2114  
Father Matthew Frisbee  
Saturday Worship, 4 pm and Sunday Worship 11 am  
Tuesday Worship 5:30 pm and Friday Worship 9 am  
Faith Instruction & Bible Study on Sunday Mornings  
[www.mansfieldstmarys.org](http://www.mansfieldstmarys.org)

### Mayflower Congregational Church

548 North McElroy Rd. • 419-589-6612  
Pastor Rev. Dr. Rich Rader  
9:15 am Sunday School • 10:30 am Sunday Worship  
Wednesday Bible Study 11 am  
[www.mansfieldmayflower.com](http://www.mansfieldmayflower.com)

### Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 West Church St., Lexington • 419-884-1330  
Reverend James Randas  
10:30 am Sunday Worship

### Risen Savior Lutheran Church

1685 Lexington Ave., Mansfield • 419-775-1175  
Pastor Brad Wright • [risensaviormansfield.com](http://risensaviormansfield.com)  
9 am Sunday Family Bible Time • 10 am Sunday Worship

### Sponsor Contributors:

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**G & M Body & Paint Shop**  
1689 West Fourth St., Ontario  
419-529-2747

**Snyder Funeral Home**  
Lexington • Bellville • Mansfield  
419-884-1711

### Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West, Ontario • 419-529-4345  
Rev. Christine Bell  
Sunday Worship 10:15 am  
Bible Study: Please check the website for current schedule  
[ontarioumc.com](http://ontarioumc.com)

### St. Paul Mansfield Lutheran - ELCA

ALL are welcome • "Living and Loving like Jesus"  
2010 Park Avenue West • 419-529-4351  
Pastor Jonathan Stufft  
Sunday Worship 9:30 am  
Free breakfast 2nd Saturday each month, 9-10:30 am  
[www.stpaulmansfield.org](http://www.stpaulmansfield.org)

### All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

25 Church St., Bellville  
Pastor William Humphrey  
Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m.



## Governor signs Senate Bill investing \$2.1 billion in Ohio's communities

Senate president Larry Obhof (R-Medina) announced Governor DeWine signed the state's capital budget into law, a \$2.1 billion investment in Ohio's schools, infrastructure, public services and local community projects.

The legislature generally approves a capital budget every two years, and the bill funds needed improvements to public services and facilities across the state, including schools, roads and bridges and mental health and addiction facilities.

The budget was included in Senate Bill 310 which passed the Senate unanimously. It also includes an emergency clause, allowing the bill to take effect immediately upon being signed into law.

"The state capital budget plays a major role in making needed improvements to our hometowns while at the same time creating jobs and growing our economy," said Obhof, who co-sponsored the bill. "Although we have faced serious challenges this year, sound fiscal management of the state's finances have put us in a position to provide this stimulus into our local economies."

Over \$171 million will be used for economic development and cultural projects of local and regional importance to boost growth and increase opportunities throughout the state.

In Richland County \$1M will be given for the Imagination District's expansion, a collaboration between the Little Buckeye Children's Museum and Renaissance Theater to allow for additional local arts and education programming.

\$600,000 will be designated for a new Richland First Responders Safety and Training Center, a partnership between local law enforcement, the State Highway Patrol and North Central State College

\$450,000 will be provided for the Ohio State Reformatory to add ADA and pedestrian accessibility improvements, allowing more Ohioans to visit and experience the historic site

Statewide \$305 million will be invested in local school construction, including repairs, renovations and maintenance for primary and secondary facilities. This is in addition to the \$300 million already approved this year by the General Assembly in Senate Bill 4. \$452 million will be invested in projects supporting Ohio's 37 public colleges and universities.

A substantial portion of capital spending goes to local roads, bridges, water-supply systems, storm sewers and wastewater systems, and \$280 million will be directed to local infrastructure projects through the Public Works Commission.

This is in addition to the \$255 million for the Public Works Commission already approved by the General Assembly in Senate Bill 4.

\$253 million is designated for the maintenance and preservation of Ohio's dams, parks, trails, waterways and wildlife.

\$62.5 million will go to support the Clean Ohio program which funds preservation of green space, farmland, open spaces and expanded recreational opportunities

\$18 million will go to improve the security and efficiency of public agency websites and the MARCS first responder communications system.

In addition to the local community projects, \$95.6 million will be invested in critical health and human services funding for mental health and addiction treatment facilities in communities across the state.

\$280.7 million will go for renovations of state and local prisons.

The underlying legislation in Senate Bill 310 authorized the distribution of \$350 million of federal CARES Act funding to local communities across Ohio for COVID-19 pandemic-related expenses.

For more information on the Capital Budget bill process, visit [obm.ohio.gov](http://obm.ohio.gov).



The Hire Community Bereavement Center in Rocky River, OH

## Hospice of North Central Ohio receives naming gift for center

The board of directors at The Hire Family Foundation, Rocky River, OH, has approved a grant to name the community bereavement center at Hospice of North Central Ohio in memory of Jack and Phyllis Hire.

The grant in the amount of \$40,000 will help expand and enhance HNCO bereavement services and programs in Ashland and Richland counties while honoring the memory of Jack and Phyllis Hire. A portion of the grant is designated for the creation of a new endowment fund to support the center. This restricted endowment fund will be managed by The Ashland County Community Foundation.

Rebecca Pfister, HNCO Bereavement Coordinator stated: "The mission of The Hire Community Bereavement Center is to assist the bereaved as they move through their grief process by providing a multitude of special support groups, education, lectures and training, children's bereavement camp and individual grief support to anyone in our area who has experienced a loss due to death."

The Jack and Phyllis Hire Community Bereavement Center and its staff will also deliver grief and bereavement services throughout the community in schools, churches, workplace and community facilities as needed.

The center will be located in a special wing of HNCO's corporate headquarter facility in Ashland and will include an extensive bereavement resource library, children's play area and space for private

group and individual counseling. The center is one of only a handful of such facilities in north central Ohio.

Ralph Tomassi, HNCO Chief Development Officer and Senior Administrator added: "A graduate of Ashland High School and an accomplished entrepreneur, John 'Jack' Hire is still a well-known and highly respected name in this area some 17 years after his passing in 2004.

HNCO is honored to perpetuate the Hire name on this center. HNCO has provided bereavement support for many years, this facility will allow us to serve even a greater number of families and organizations".

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, plans for a public dedication of The Jack & Phyllis Hire Community Bereavement Center will be announced at a later date.

Founded in 1988 in Ashland, HNCO has offices in Mount Vernon and Mansfield, Ohio. As the area's oldest and largest non-profit hospice organization, HNCO proudly serves more than 200 patients daily in Ashland, Richland, Knox, Crawford, Huron and Morrow counties with hospice and Palliative care services.

Additionally, free continuous bereavement services and programs are provided for the benefit of hundreds of families of hospice patients and to anyone in the community experiencing grief.

Call 800-952-2207 for more information. HNCO is a proud partner agency of United Way of Ashland and Knox counties.

## Ontario provides Christmas tree pick-up

The City of Ontario will provide Christmas tree pick up service to residents of Ontario beginning Monday, Jan. 4 and continue through Friday, Jan. 15.

Please remove all ornaments and tinsel from trees and place them by the curb. Call Jeff Wilson at 419-529-2495 for more information.

*Happy New Year!*  
From Everyone At  
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**Kimmy's Cucina**  
will offer homemade dishes available for pre-order/pre-pay at [www.kimmyscucina.com](http://www.kimmyscucina.com) (Choose SHOP from the menu).  
Items will be ready for pick-up/delivery on Feb. 10

**TRADITIONAL LASAGNA:** Fresh homemade pasta with our own tomato sauce, ricotta, mozzarella & parmesan  
8x5 Pan (Serves 2-4) \$13.99  
9x13 Pan (Serves 9-12) \$24.99  
With Ceramic Lasagna Pan: Coming Soon

**SWEET BASIL LASAGNA:** Fresh homemade pasta, Italian sausage and spinach layers with alfredo sauce, parmesan and mozzarella  
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**TRADITIONAL MEATBALLS:**  
Meatballs No Sauce (1.5 ounce) \$5.99 half dozen • \$9.99 dozen  
Meatballs With Sauce (1.5 ounce) \$6.99 half dozen • \$10.99 dozen

Pre-Order/Pre-Pay only. Local Pick-up Lexington.  
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# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



Photo by Jeff Hoffer

**THE CLEAR FORK** cheerleaders energize the team at the Marion Pleasant game.



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN'S** Aubrynn Maiyer (3) drives to the basket during the Wayne Roller Holiday Classic held at Mansfield Christian on Dec. 28 and 29. Defending for Galion was Lexi Ruch (4). The Flames fell to the Tigers 33-48. Lexi and Abyrynn each had 11 points. Maiyer was the only Flame to hit a three pointer.



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S** Colin Comstock (33) makes a shot as Ethan Clark (52) defends for Crestline.



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**LADY LEXINGTON** found a way to put away the Lucas Cubs during the Wayne Roller Holiday Classic held in the Furnace at Mansfield Christian School. Looking for someone to pass to is Lex sophomore Madi Basilone (11). She is being guarded by Lucas sophomore Shelby Grover (3).



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**ONTARIO SENIOR JAHLAYA RIMBLERT (25)** puts up a long shot during the Ontario vs. Evergreen game during the Wayne Roller Holiday Classic held at the Furnace of Mansfield Christian. Defending for Evergreen is junior Syney Woodring (12). The Lady Warriors won the contest 50-44.



**Winter Reading Program 2021**

Celebrate the New Year ALL Month!  
Read and Win!

Jan. 4-30  
All ages/all locations

Our Winter Reading Program will give you many chances to win gift cards to popular places all while reading your favorite authors!

**This year there are 3 ways to enter:**

- \* Complete an online ticket for each book read at [mrcpl.org/wrp21](http://mrcpl.org/wrp21)
- \* Engage with our posts on social media
- \* Pick up your holds via Curbside Service- every pick-up is an entry!





Photo by Damon Callis

**A VISIT TO MOHICAN STATE PARK** can be a winter wonderland for hikers. Among the sights are Big Lyons Falls, Little Lyons Falls and the famous covered bridge.

## Marilyn John sworn-in as state representative

State Rep. Marilyn John (R-Richland County) was officially sworn-in for her first term of office as the state representative for the 2nd Ohio House District. The district includes all of Richland County.

"It's a privilege to be inducted into the 134th General Assembly," said John. "I'm looking forward to working with all my colleagues at the Statehouse in order to address the critical issues Ohioans face after this very difficult past year."

Prior to being elected to the House, John has held roles as a dedicated public official for 11 years; she previously served as the Mayor of Shelby, Ohio and then held the position as Richland County Commissioner for the last six years.

Outside of her public official roles, John worked as a Commercial Lines Underwriter at the Shelby Insurance Company. She later went on to become the Executive Director of the Shelby Senior Center.

After graduating from Plymouth High School, she attended North Central State College earning an Associate Degree in Business Management. She then earned a bachelor's degree in business management and marketing and a Master of Business Administration from Ashland University.

John made note of several of her priorities for the upcoming year that includes focusing on education, economic and financial stability, workforce development and fixing Ohio's regulatory system.

John encourages constituents to reach out to her office with any questions, concerns, or ideas at Rep02@ohio-house.gov.

## DeWine makes changes to school quarantine guidance, extends curfew

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine provided updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governor DeWine announced that Ohio is changing its guidance regarding quarantines following an in-classroom exposure in K-12 schools. Moving forward, students and teachers exposed to a COVID-positive person in school are no longer required to quarantine as long as the exposure occurred in a classroom setting and all students/teachers were wearing masks and following other appropriate protocols.

The change follows an evaluation of virus spread in Ohio schools conducted by researchers with the Ohio Schools COVID-19 Evaluation Team. Preliminary results of the evaluation found no discernable difference in the risk of contracting the coronavirus between those in close contact with a COVID-positive person in the classroom and those who were farther away.

"This evaluation confirms for us that Ohio's classrooms are a safe place for our students and that the commitment our schools have made to keeping kids safe in the classroom is working," said Governor DeWine.

Schools should continue to require quarantines for exposed students in situations where masking and distancing protocols were not followed. The updated quarantine guidance does not apply to after-school activities, including sports.

Governor DeWine announced that the Ohio Department of Health will extend Ohio's 10 pm to 5 am curfew until Jan. 23, 2021. The extension is necessary until Ohio can determine if it will see a post-holiday case surge that impacts hospitals.

The curfew does not apply to those going to and from work, those who have an emergency, or those who need medical care. The curfew is not intended to stop anyone from getting groceries or going to the pharmacy. Picking up carry-out or a drive-thru meal and ordering for delivery is permitted, but serving food and drink within an establishment must cease at 10 pm.

More than 5,100 eligible on-premises liquor permit holders have not yet applied for state assistance through Ohio's Bar & Restaurant Grant Program. Of the \$38.7 million allotted to support liquor permit holders, more than \$12 million remains unclaimed.

Each active on-premises liquor permit (as of 10-23-20) is eligible for \$2,500 per location. The funding is not competitive, and the money does not have to be repaid.

More than just bars and restaurants have eligible liquor permits. Movie theaters, bowling alleys, sports and concert venues, and even some hair salons are eligible for this funding. Permit holders who have not yet claimed their funds should visit [businesshelp.ohio.gov](http://businesshelp.ohio.gov) to apply.

## Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter to hold virtual educational program January 19-29

The Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter will be presenting a variety of virtual educational programs to help the community and families impacted by the disease.

These presentations cover a variety of topics and occur at different times during the day and evening via videoconferencing to allow individuals to participate in the convenience of their homes. They will discuss topics such as what is Alzheimer's disease, warning signs to look for, how to manage behaviors, and to strategize about how to have difficult conversations. We will even help you have a healthy brain! The programs are helpful for anyone experiencing signs of memory loss, their family members who may be concerned, and the community member looking for more education.

All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is required. To register for the program, call 800.272.3900.

Jan. 19, Dementia Conversations, 3 pm

Jan. 19, Effective Communication Strategies, 4:30 pm

Jan. 19, 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's, 6 pm

Jan. 20, Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia, 11 am

Jan. 21, Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior, 11:30 am

Jan. 21, Living with Alzheimer's for Caregivers Early Stage - Part 3, 3:30 pm

Jan. 22, Effective Communication Strategies, 1 pm

Jan. 25, Dementia Conversations, 11 am

Jan. 25, 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's, 3 pm

Jan. 26, Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia, 1:30 pm

Jan. 27, Healthy Living for Brain and Body, 11 am

Jan. 28, Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior, 2:30 pm

Jan. 28, Effective Communication Strategies, 6:30 pm

Jan. 29, Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia, 1 pm

Visit [alz.org](http://alz.org) or call 800-272-3900 for more information.



**MARK ROMANCHUK** took the oath of office as a state senator during an opening ceremony for the 134th General Assembly. He was accompanied by his wife Zoi. See article on front page.

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## DeWine signs 'No Duty to Retreat' law

The National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA) thanked Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine for signing Senate Bill 175, important self-defense legislation that protects Ohioans should they ever be forced to defend themselves or their families while outside of their home.

"This bill ensures that victims are protected should they ever need to defend themselves or others," said John Weber, Ohio state director for NRA-ILA. "The NRA also thanks the sponsor of SB 175, Sen. Tim Schaffer and the state legislature for ensuring this fundamental protection is codified by law."

Previously, when victims faced a criminal element, the law required them to first try and run away or face penalties.

With DeWine's signature, law-abiding Ohioans will no longer face prosecution if they immediately defend themselves or others.

"Crimes can happen quickly and without warning. Most victims have a split second to react with the best course of action for their survival. By signing SB 175, Gov. DeWine ensures the law favors victims and not criminals," said Weber.

"We look forward to working with the governor in the future to advance the interests of law-abiding Ohioans."

The NRA also thanks Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, Speaker Robert Cupp, Senate President Larry Obhof, Rep. Kyle Koehler and Sen. Terry Johnson for their efforts toward passage of SB 175.

## Volunteers needed for Ombudsman Program

Those who have a heart for older adults in the community can volunteer for with Ohio's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

Volunteers commit to four hours a month, on their own schedule.

Volunteers are critical to the success of the Ombudsman Program. They are often the first contact most older adults and families will have with the program. Regular visits (currently phone calls) help residents in long-term care facilities.

Volunteers will receive 14 hours of training from the regional program and

are certified to perform certain duties, including:

- Providing residents with information about the Ombudsman Program and resident rights

- Assisting with handling uncomplicated complaints

- Being a voice for those who are unable to make their voice heard

- Enhancing the quality of life of nursing and assisted living home residents

For more information and an application contact Melissa Wilson, Ombudsman Volunteer Coordinator, at 1-800-860-5799, ext. 1107.

## Area Agency on Aging announces scholarships for those pursuing higher education

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. has announced the availability of three scholarships for individuals pursuing higher education or classes benefiting the field of aging. These scholarships are made possible through the generous contributions by our sponsors at the Annual Meeting of the Area Agency on Aging each year.

Scholarship award amount as determined by the Board of Trustees for the Academic Year of 2021-'22:

One \$2,000 for a student attending a 4-

year university;

One \$1,000 for a student attending a 2-year college or technical school;

One \$1,000 for a student attending any type of higher institute of learning.

For eligibility criteria guidelines and application form, visit [www.aaa5ohio.org](http://www.aaa5ohio.org). Deadline for all applications is Feb. 1, 2021. Questions may be directed to Susie Danuloff at 567-247-7105.

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is located at 2131 Park Avenue West in Ontario.

**Welcome 2021**  
Wishing you excellent health  
and good fortune the whole year.

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## Prepare for unexpected power outages with a Generac standby generator

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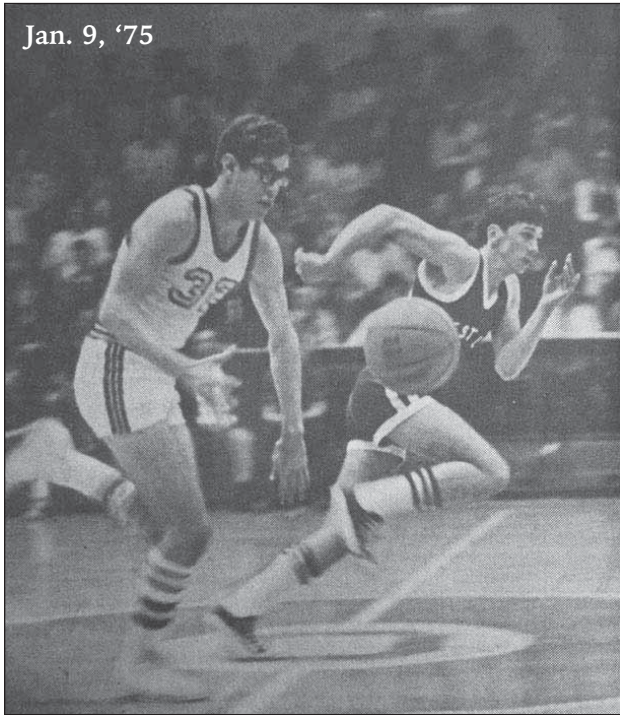
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# LOOKING BACK: This Week in Tribune-Courier History



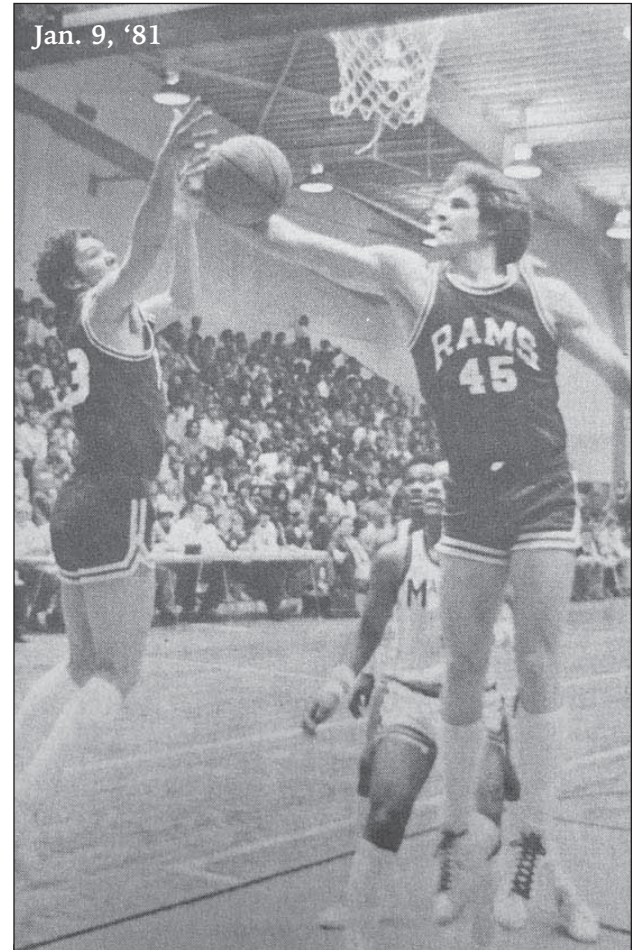
Jan. 9, '75

IT'S A FOOTRACE to the opposite end of the court as Ontario's Craig Hunt is out on a fast break with a Crestline player in second quarter action of Friday night's Ontario-Crestline cage match-up. The Warriors proved much the better team, winning handily, 70-39. Hunt contributed eight points to the Warrior offensive show. Photo by Paul Benich



Jan. 7, '99

MEGAN PEASE (52) and Kim Sanderson (32) jostle for rebound position in the OHC girls' basketball game at Madison on Wednesday, Dec. 30, won by the Rams, 40-37. Pease scored eight points for the winners and Sanderson led all scorers with her 11 points. George Billman



Jan. 9, '81

Photo by Ken Hubert  
BRIAN JOHNSON (45) and TOMMIE CARTER (23) scrapped for this rebound in the game against Malabar's Falcons played Saturday night, Jan. 3, at Malabar. Carter had six points and Johnson had 20 to go along with John Bryant's 19, but the Rams still absorbed a 65-54 Cardinal Conference loss to the Falcons of Coach Ken Fairchild.

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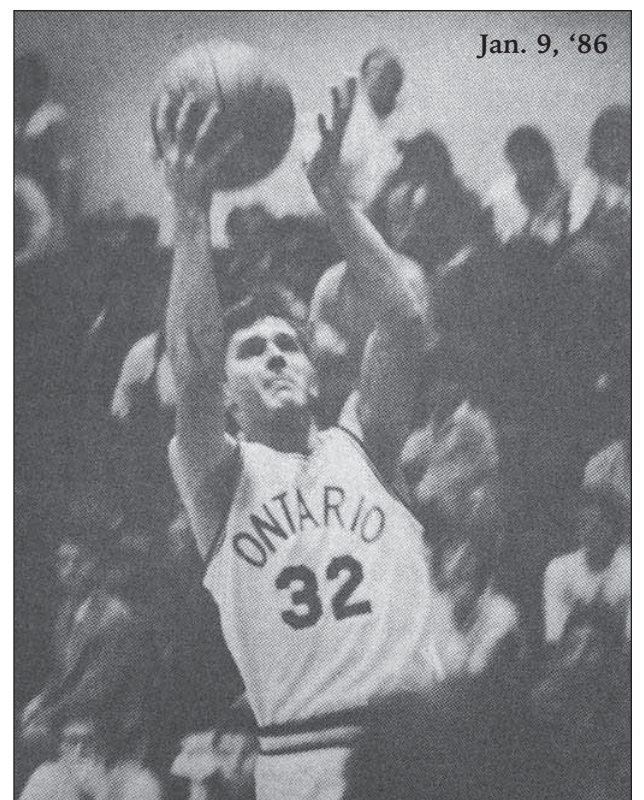
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Jan. 2, '86

George Billman  
JULIE WOMELDORF, a 5'10" sophomore at Lexington, casts a shot toward the hoop in Saturday's consolation game of the Lexington Girls Holiday Basketball Classic. Julie scored six points in the fracas and she and her Lexington teammates defeated the Madison Ram girls 48-38. Mansfield Senior and Malabar met in the championship game with the Lady Tygers prevailing 49-47 in a very close contest.



Jan. 9, '86

Jim Myers  
EYES FIRMLY ON HIS TARGET, Donny Beer of Ontario goes strong to the hoop for a layup in Saturday's game with Fredericktown. Donny had seven points and a quartet of Ontario players were in double figures in the 66-58 Ontario victory.



# Classifieds

## COUNCIL MEMBER WANTED

### Lexington Council Seat Open

The Village Council of Lexington, Ohio is looking to fill the rest of Councilwoman Underwood's term which ends December 31, 2023. Persons seeking this appointment must be at least 18 years of age and reside in the Village for at least 18 months. All resumes/applications must be turned in to Brenda Wilson: Clerk of Council at 44 W Main St. in Lexington, OH before 1/20/21.

Brenda Wilson  
Clerk of Council  
Lexington, Ohio  
1-7 '21 (18L)

## HELP WANTED

### Part-Time Advertising Representative

The Tribune-Courier is looking for a motivated person to contact local businesses by phone/email/in-person visit to acquire advertising. Hours are very flexible, work from home. Pay is by commission on ads sold. Email [tribune@tribune-courier.com](mailto:tribune@tribune-courier.com) for more information or to schedule an interview.

## OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

1,000 sq. ft. office space located in the front portion of 347 Allen Dr., Ontario. Rental will have own private restroom, front and

side entrance. Room is a large open area. Email [tribune@tribune-courier.com](mailto:tribune@tribune-courier.com) to schedule a viewing or phone call.

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

### LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their special meeting held on December 22, 2020.

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. 20-39 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 20-08 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2020 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND.

ORDINANCE NO. 20 - 40 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CITY OF ONTARIO CARES ACTS FUNDS FOR CITY EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker  
Clerk of Council  
City of Ontario, Ohio  
1-7, 14 '21 (34L)

## Party sets special meeting

The Richland County Republican Central Committee will host a special meeting to appoint a county commissioner at 6 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 6 at DLX/Dan Lew Exchange, 28 N. Main St., Mansfield.

The Richland County Republican Executive Committee Special Meeting to appoint a republican member to the Richland County Board of Elections will begin immediately following the Central Committee Meeting.

For those unable to attend in person, there will be a Zoom option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88503750021?pwd=b3RsQ2FrckExNHRhS1NtUU5nejJZz09>. The meeting ID is 885 0375 0021 and the passcode is 819284.

The dial-in number to join by phone is +1 646-876-9923 with same meeting ID and passcode.

## Conservation Reserve Program general signup underway

Agricultural producers and private landowners interested in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) can sign up for the popular program now through Feb. 12, 2021. The competitive program, administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for land devoted to conservation purposes.

"This signup for the Conservation Reserve Program gives producers and landowners an opportunity to enroll for the first time or continue their participation for another term," FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce said. "This program encourages conservation on sensitive lands or low-yielding acres, which provides tremendous benefits for stewardship of our natural resources and wildlife."

Through CRP, farmers and ranchers establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Farmers and ranchers who participate in CRP help provide numerous benefits to their local region and the nation's environment and economy. CRP general signup is held annually and is competitive; general signup includes increased opportunities for wildlife habitat enrollment through the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

New cropland offered in the program must have been planted for four out of six crop years from 2012 to 2017. Additionally, producers with land already enrolled but expiring on Sept. 30, 2021, can re-enroll this year. The acreage offered by producers and landowners is evaluated competitively; accepted offers will begin Oct. 1, 2021.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest pri-

vate-lands conservation programs in the United States. The program marked its 35-year anniversary in December 2020. Program successes include:

- Preventing more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, which is enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks.
- Reducing nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95% and 85%, respectively.
- Sequestering an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road.
- Creating more than 3 million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 175,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, which is enough to go around the world seven times.

Benefiting bees and other pollinators and increasing populations of ducks, pheasants, turkey, bobwhite quail, prairie chickens, grasshopper sparrows, and many other birds.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will continue to work with our producers by phone, email, and using online tools. More information can be found at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](http://farmers.gov/coronavirus).



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

**THE MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN LADY FLAMES** had little problems putting away the Plymouth Big Red 52-33 in a contest played in the Furnace. The Lady Flames were led by senior Elle Schmitz (20) who led all scorers with 22 points and Alexis Ripple (22) with 10 points. Other Flames scoring were Aubrynn Maiyer with 3 points (the only MCS player to hit a 3 pointer); Anna Sparks with 6; Abby Little, 2; Lillie Berryman, 3; and Kyleah Jones, 6. (Left photo) guarding Elle Schmitz was Halli Hall (13) and (right photo) guarding Alexis was Erin Stevens (23).

# Tribune-Courier Business Directory

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