



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

01.16.25



THE THIRD ANNUAL VALENTINE'S CARD DRIVE is being held by Richland County Children Services (RCCS), the Mansfield United Lions Club and the City Of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department. Cards will be collected for local youth in foster care through Feb. 7.

3rd Annual Valentine's Card Drive underway for kids in foster care

Richland County Children Services (RCCS), the Mansfield United Lions Club and the City of Mansfield Parks & Recreation Department are making Valentine's Day special for youths in foster care with Valentine's Day cards.

The Mansfield United Lions Club, RCCS and the City of Mansfield Parks & Recreation Department will be collecting Valentine's cards for children in foster care ages 0-6, 7-12 and 13-18.

Cards can be handmade, or store brought, no sealed valentines and cards may be signed. Cards will be accepted through Feb. 7.

The community is invited to drop off or mail the unsealed Valentine's Day cards to Richland County Children Services, 731 Scholl Rd., Mansfield, OH, 44906 or the Mansfield Parks & Recreation Department, 100 Brinkerhoff Ave., Mansfield, OH, 44906, C/O Valentine's Day Cards.

"Last year we collected more than 9,000 items, including Valentine's Day Cards, books, candy, dolls, and gift bags. People from all over Richland County, and out of state donated cards including families, schools, churches, businesses, public officials, colleges, correctional institutions and more helping to make the community project a success. This year we want to collect more for youths in Richland County and throughout the state of Ohio," said Brigitte Coles, Richland County Children Services, Community Engagement Specialist.

In Ohio there are more than 16,000 youths in foster care and unfortunately many of them do not have the chance to be part of Valentine exchanges. The Valentine's Day Card Project gives the community an opportunity to show children in foster care that they are loved, appreciated and not alone.

"The Mansfield Parks Department loves being involved with this effort every year," said Angel Singleton, Recreation Coordinator. "A card is a simple and kind gesture that shows you care. The small effort really goes a long way."

"The Mansfield United Lions have prioritized supporting the foster

(Continued on Page 24)

Doug Mosier named president of Madison School Board

Madison Local Board of Education held an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at Madison Middle School.

Doug Mosier was voted as board president for 2025. Amy Walker was voted board vice president. Meetings will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6 pm in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

The board authorized the superintendent to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or non-teaching positions on behalf of the board and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of the board, provided, that upon ratification, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee's acceptance of the superintendent's offer.

The board authorized the superintendent to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when the board is not in session, subject to ratification by the board; provided however, that upon ratification by the board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the superintendent's acceptance.

The superintendent has been authorized to employ substitute and temporary (certified & non-certified) personnel (including Home Tutors) as needed for emergency situations. Such employment will be presented for approval by the board at its next meeting.

A Board Service Fund was established at \$20,000 and the board authorized the superintendent to apply for special grants and titles and to act as the purchasing agent for the district. The administration has been given permission to apply for, receive funds for and participate in all Federal and State Programs as deemed necessary.

Continued participation in the Federal Lunch and Breakfast Programs for the calendar year 2025 was approved.

The superintendent will attend all meetings necessary to the operations of the school district, with expenses to be reimbursed.

The treasurer will attend all meetings necessary to the operations of the school district, expenses to be reimbursed. The treasurer was also authorized to pay all bills as presented provided there are sufficient funds and purchase orders have been properly issued. A monthly report shall be presented to the board.

The board authorized the treasurer to request advance tax money from the county auditor as funds are available and payable to the school district and to invest inactive funds and pro-rate interest to those accounts as deemed necessary by the treasurer.

The board president, treasurer, and superintendent can be named as the district's record commission and this commission will meet prior to the September regular monthly meeting.

The board voted to authorize the superintendent to approve professional meeting attendance and expenses as deemed appropriate during 2025 in accordance with the negotiated agreements.

The firms of Renwick, Welsh & Burton; Pepple & Waggoner; Bricker & Eckler; and Tarkowsky & Piper Co., LPA were approved for legal services on as needed basis for calendar year 2025.

The treasurer and executive secretary will attend public records training in place of newly elected board members.

The superintendent and his designee were named as the Title IX Coordinators. The Student Services Director was appointed as the "504 Coordinator" for 2025. Meeting compensation will be continued at \$125, as previously approved.



Doug Mosier,
Madison Local
Board of Education
President

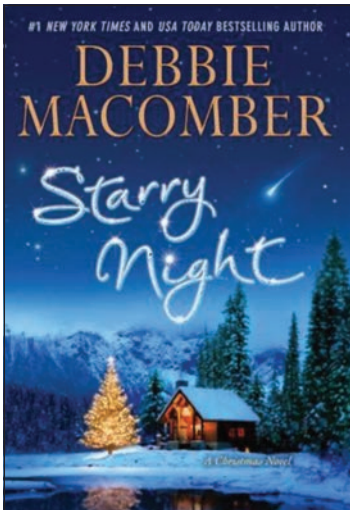


Amy Walker,
Madison Local
Board of Education
Vice President

LOST IN A BOOK



A Book Review
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



Starry Night was my first book by Debbie Macomber, and I'm glad to add her to the list of feel good authors who know how to deliver an easy, feel good book.

In this story, a reporter is off on a mission to find an elusive survivalist author hiding out in Alaska. What awaits is a surprising romance and a new discovery of the magic the Alaskan wilderness has to offer.

My rating: ★★★★★
Follow my blog at GreenGurneys.com

Agency launches Mobility Steps walking program

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. has announced the 2025 launch of the Mobility Steps series at The Ontario Center (formerly Richland Mall).

Starting Jan. 15, participants can join the Richland County Mobility Management Team in "Kicking off the New Year" with a gentle, self-paced walking program that is suitable for all fitness levels. It is more than just walking- it's about creating an opportunity for people to socialize, connect, and learn more about Richland County Mobility Management and other Agency programs and services.

Mobility Steps is an initiative designed to promote mobility, wellness and social connectedness for everyone. The series will take place on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 9-11 am. Participation is free, and no registration is required. Check-in is located at the Center Mall. For more information email Randy Hutchinson at mobilitymanagement@aaa5ohio.org or visit www.aaa5ohio.org.

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 agency at 419-524-4144 or 800-560-5799 or visit on Facebook.

THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER
— By Ian Stumbo —

I will start this review out by admitting that, upon hearing last year that there was a Bob Dylan biopic in the works, I was not very interested.

Of course, I am familiar with Dylan and his status as a legendary musical figure though I would not consider myself a fan.

That changed upon seeing *A Complete Unknown*, James Mangold's newest film telling of the rise and success of Dylan between 1961 and 1965.

Timothee Chalamet stars and absolutely nails his performance as the enigmatic musician who started out as a folk singer and seemed to betray his following by getting a band later on and changing his approach to music. Chalamet captures Dylan's look, voice and singing voice even learning guitar to portray the musician.

Mangold fills the movie with Dylan's music as there are several engaging performance scenes especially when Dylan meets and gets involved with Joan Baez (Monica Barbaro) much to the chagrin of his girlfriend Sylvie (Elle Fanning). A standout performance is that of Edward Norton as Pete Seeger, Norton creates a kind, caring man who is staunchly in the field of keep-

ing folk music pure as much of the movie takes place at a folk music festival where Dylan challenges the audience to hear his new, more rocking sound.

This movie has gotten a ton of awards nominations and they are much deserved.

Mangold takes the audience right into Dylan's life and stories behind the songs. Chalamet was praised by Dylan himself for his performance and Chalamet makes Dylan's music come alive on the screen.

Mangold is also a personal favorite and such a diverse director making movies like *Girl, Interrupted*, *Ford v. Ferrari*, *Walk the Line*, *Logan* and *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*.

This movie is obviously made for fans of Bob Dylan, though coming into it only knowing a few songs this movie was really effective in showcasing a great life story, the history of the time and how Dylan's music was so representative of that history. Timothee Chalamet, Edward Norton, Monica Barbaro and the rest of the cast really bring their all in this terrific biopic.



Subscribe for FREE and receive the weekly issue delivered to your email. Send us an email with your name to - news@tribune-courier.com

Vol. 64 No. 14 **Tribune-Courier**
Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in Madison, Mifflin, Springfield, Troy, Washington and Jefferson Townships
PO Box 127, Ontario, OH 44862 • 419-529-2847
news@tribune-courier.com • www.tribune-courier.com
© All Rights Reserved
The Tribune-Courier is published by Stumbo Publishing Co., Inc. Advertisers should check their ad immediately. The Tribune-Courier is not liable for failure to publish an ad or for a typographical error or errors in publication, except that adjustment for Tribune-Courier errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. Marc A. Stumbo, publisher; Frank A. Stumbo, president/CEO (1961-2018); Betty E. Stumbo, co-publisher (1961-2017); Jenna M. Wolford, managing editor, general manager and feature/travel writer; Teresa Vore, office manager; Traci Little, photojournalist/advertising representative; Kris Leiter, sports writer; John J. Kirschenheiter, editor (1961-2008); Linda Fulmer, columnist (2005-2014). By-lined stories are opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the position of this newspaper.



MM Ranch • Photo By Mark Shutt

News Briefs

LifeWise Madison is partnering with Links Country Meat Market in Crestline for a \$200 Meat Bundle Fundraiser Raffle. \$10 tickets can be purchased for a chance to win a \$200 beef, pork, and chicken meat bundle.

The bundle includes 5 lb ground beef, 2 chuck roasts 2-3 lb each, 4 cube steaks, 2 sirloin steaks, 2 porterhouse steaks, 3 1b salt/pepper sausage rolls 1 lb, 1 pk link's bratwurst, 8 pork chops, 1 boneless shoulder roast 2-2 1/4 lb, 1 pk salt/pepper sausage patties, 1 pk salt/pepper breakfast links, 5 lb link's dry cured bacon, 1 pk chicken leg quarters, 2 pk boneless skinless thighs, 2 pk boneless breast tenders and 2 pk boneless skinless breast.

Tickets will be on sale until Jan. 31, at 4:30 pm. The drawing will be held at 5 pm. Contact a LifeWise Madison team member or Pam Adkins at 567-274-8532 or pamelaadkins@lifewise.org for tickets.



The Pioneer Career and Technology Center Board of Education will hold the January Organizational and regular board of education meeting at 6 pm, Wednesday, Jan. 22, in the Pioneer Board of Education Conference Room.



A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Jan. 25 and 26. 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.



CACY's Store it Safe Richland Program offers lock boxes for firearms, sharp objects and medications to protect and reduce risk of injury and save lives. Contact the CACY office at 419-774-5683 or andersont@cacyohio.com for details. If someone is thinking of harming themselves, call the local crisis helpline at 419-522-HELP (4357).



The Lexington Area Senior Citizens will have no January meeting.



Richland Public Health will host a Winter Hike for Health on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 am to noon. The free event will be held at Malabar Farm State Park, 4050 Bromfield Rd., Lucas. Hikers will meet at the visitor center. Pets are welcome but should be on a 6 foot leash. For more information call 419-774-4761.



First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West will be offering senior boxes of non perishable food provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm or until supplies

run out. This comes with a 15 lb. box of fresh produce and a two lb. box of cheese. These items are free to those who qualify by age (60+) and low income guidelines. Recipients must have at least one person age 60 or older in the household.

These items are available on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year round. The distribution is held in the South Mulberry Street parking lot. The next distribution is Tuesday, Jan. 28.



Madison Local Schools will host a 100 year staff reunion on Feb. 22, at the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center. Doors open at 5 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm. There will be a cash bar.

Staff members, past and present, can register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScO6JgYI5npg-8vRhTl8GiOYXWf-BiUYnmYR0QGMyspBn4kQ/viewform>

Cost of the reception is \$27.50 per person. Payment and registration can also be made at the Madison Board Of Education Office, 1379 Grace St., Mansfield.

Deadline for payment and registration is Feb. 1.



All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Josh Ghiloni to present "Letters From a Flying Machine" on Sunday, Jan. 19, at 10:30 am.

For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.



To submit a news brief item send an email with information to news@tribune-courier.com. To advertise in the T-C, email Traci at tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com.



MECHANICS BANK distributed free foam fingers at the Shelby and Ontario basketball game recently.

We love sharing our expertise (& a zip code) with you.

As your local, independent bank, we're uniquely equipped to make choices that benefit this community and all the wonderful people in it. Because we're not just your financial experts—we're your neighbors, too. (Speaking of, can we borrow a cup of sugar?)

mymechanics.com

Sincerely yours,



New license plate will support suicide prevention efforts

Governor Mike DeWine signed into law Senate Bill 163, which includes an amendment establishing a specialized license plate to spread awareness about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in Ohio and support suicide prevention efforts.

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF) championed the specialized plate after being approached by Chip and Debbie McClintock, who had lost two loved ones to suicide.

"I'm beyond grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make this suicide prevention license plate a reality," said Debbie McClintock. "This is a small but powerful way to show that help is real, and you are never alone. I hope it reminds others that asking for help is always OK. If it helps just one person, it means the world."

OSPF will receive \$10 from each sale.

"The proceeds will go directly back into Ohio communities to provide training and resources to prevent suicide," said OSPF Executive Director Tony Coder. "We appreciate the passionate support of the McClintock family, our suicide prevention partners, Gov. DeWine, and the original bill sponsors: Rep. Steve Demetriou and Sen. Susan Manchester. With this new license plate, we will continue to spread hope and healing across the state."

OSPF is creating the artwork to have the license plate available as soon as possible.

OSPF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing suicide, one of the most preventable causes of death.

Through advocacy, awareness, and evidence-based prevention strategies, OSPF works to reduce stigma, promote mental health support, and address the link between suicide and mental illness or substance use disorders.

Those experiencing a mental health crisis, and their loved ones, can reach out to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline through call or text to 988 or chat online at 988Lifeline.org. This easy-to-remember three-digit number ensures confidential, cost-free, 24/7 support for Ohioans experiencing mental health crises.

988 establishes a direct link to empathetic, easily accessible care and support for individuals facing emotional distress, such as thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or concern for a friend or family member.

Ohio's 988 plan is an integral component of the state's broader commitment to delivering high-quality, person-centered crisis aid in communities statewide.

Church Directory

Clay Memorial Lutheran Church

1601 Amoy East Rd., Mansfield
419-747-6882

Pastor Carol Kilgore
Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Clear Fork Alliance Church

1008 State Route 97, Bellville
419-886-4333 • www.clearforkalliance.org
Rev. Matt Merendino

Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Sunday Evening 6 pm Home Groups
Monday Men's Group 7:30 pm
Wednesday evenings: 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting
6:30-8 pm TeamKID and Youth Group

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield
419-524-4813 • mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com
Rev. David Zerby

Office Hours: Tu., W., Th. 9 am to 1 pm
10:30 am Sunday Worship
Christian Builders, Sunday, 9:30 am
www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com
FB: FirstChristianChurch,Mansfield,Ohio

First Congregational Church

640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield
419-756-3046 • www.mansfieldfcc.com

Pastor Brad Bunn
8:30 am Chapel
10:30 am Sanctuary
10:30 am Sunday School (3 years-high school)
10:30 am Monday Morning Bible Study
7:30 am Wednesday Men's Breakfast

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
419-522-0662 • www.felc-mansfield.org
Pastor Jay Jackson

9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Call about Prayer Groups, Small Groups, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, Pub Theology, Community Meals, Free Produce distribution and Senior Boxes.

Lexington Church of Christ

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

Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 Church St. West, Lexington
419-884-1330
Pastor Denny Nezrick
10:30 am Sunday Worship
<https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Presbyterian-Church-117768414915815>

Mansfield 1st EPC

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

Mansfield Baptist Temple

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

Oakland Lutheran Church

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

Ontario United Methodist Church

3540 Park Avenue West., Ontario
419-529-4345 • ontarioumc.com
Pastor George Lee
10:15 am Sunday Worship
10:15 am Kingdom Kids

St. John's United Church of Christ

68 Park Avenue East, Mansfield
419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org
Pastor Faith Proietti
10 am Sunday Worship
Office hours: Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm
AA Meetings M & F 10 am & noon;
Wed. noon Brown Bag and Sat. 6 pm
Clothing Ministry by appt: 419-512-9817

Southside Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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

Trinity Grace Fellowship

1592 Grace St., Mansfield
419-589-5890 • trinitygracefellowship.org
Pastor Larry Carnes
9:30 am Sunday Worship
11 am Sunday School
Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

G & M Body & Paint Shop

1689 West Fourth St., Ontario
419-529-2747

Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland
419-522-5211

Donors can win Super Bowl LIX trip during National Blood Donor Month

The American Red Cross urges donors to make an appointment to give lifesaving blood or platelets in the new year to help keep the blood supply strong this winter. Type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets are especially urged to give now to keep critical blood products on the shelves for patients in need.

The start of the new year is one of the most challenging times to collect blood products as the threat of severe winter weather builds and can often lead to widespread blood drive cancellations.

Additionally, an active cold and flu season may prevent people from keeping donation appointments as they rest and recover from illness.

During National Blood Donor Month, the Red Cross celebrates those who generously roll up a sleeve to help save lives and urges those who are feeling well to make and keep donation appointments to help the blood supply stay on track throughout the winter.

To book a time to give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

For the sixth year, the Red Cross and the National Football League (NFL) are partnering in January for National Blood Donor Month to invite football fans and blood donors to join the lifesaving team and score big for patients in need.

As a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood during the critical post-holiday time, those who come to give Jan. 1–26, will be automatically entered for a chance to win a Super Bowl LIX giveaway. The trip includes access to day-of in-stadium pre-game activities, tickets to the official Super Bowl Experience, round-trip airfare, three-night hotel accommodations (Feb. 7–10, 2025), plus a \$1,000 gift card for expenses. For details visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Thursday, Jan. 16, noon to 6 pm, Heartland Church, 2505 Lexington Springmill Rd S., Lexington

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

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1–6 pm, Crossroads Church, 1188 Park Ave West, Mansfield

Wednesday, Jan. 22, from noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario

Thursday, Jan. 23, 1–7 pm, Community Building, 21555 Pealer Mill Rd., Butler

Friday, Jan. 24, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario



MADISON TOWNSHIP received a new ambulance which is a re-mount. That means that the ambulance box was taken off of the old chassis and mounted onto a new chassis. Doing this saved a large amount of money. To purchase a new ambulance would have cost \$300,000–\$325,000. The cost to remount this ambulance box onto the new chassis was \$104,258. That included the cost of the chassis, paint, lighting, metal fabrication, replacement parts and the labor to perform the work. After being stocked and equipped it will be sent to Station 2 on Belmont Avenue.

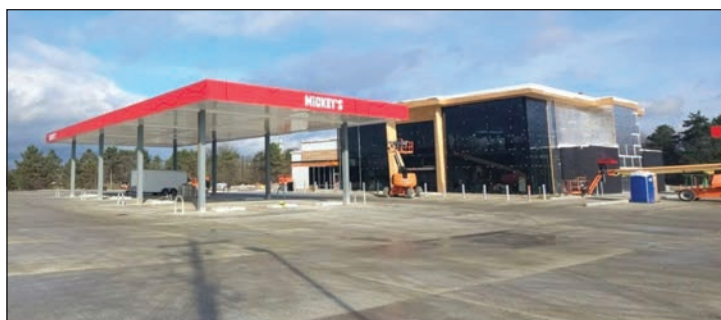


Photo By Dyanna Lynn White

A NEW MICKEY MART location will be opening soon in Shelby at the former Skarl Motors Inc. property, 191 Mansfield Ave., in Shelby. The new construction will include a Dunkin' Donuts inside.

**Join the FREE Tribune-Courier Email List
and Receive the Weekly Issue
Fill Out the Form at <http://eepurl.com/hnS9N9>**

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

- Sandra “Sandy” Lee Burdine, January 3
- Esther “Essie” LaVelle Penhorwood, January 7
- Hilda Jean Beecham, January 8
- Gary Robert Vanderbilt, January 9
- Raymond Eugene Cooper, January 10

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

**Our Family Serving Your Family for
Five Generations Since 1872**



WAPPNER
Funeral Directors & Crematory

Three Locations to Serve You

- Mansfield • 98 South Diamond St. • 419-522-5211
- Ontario • 100 S. Lexington-Springmill Rd. • 419-529-2323
- Ashland • 308 Claremont Avenue • 419-289-1552

www.wappner.com

Collaboration provides braille panels for Mansfield's StoryWalk®

The StoryWalk® in downtown Mansfield is now more inclusive and accessible. Thanks to the addition of Braille overlays, this beloved activity is now available to those with low vision.

The clear adhesive Braille panels, which represent the story text, can be found in the lower left corner of the twenty StoryWalk® panels.

Allison Howell, Media Services and Special Collections Coordinator at the Mansfield-Richland County Public Library (MRCPL), is a certified Literary Braille Transcriber and will transcribe the story into uncontracted (grade one) braille.

This StoryWalk® is available to the community via the collaboration of MRCPL, Altrusa International of Mansfield, and Buckeye Imagination Museum and can be found beginning at the Museum located at 175 W. Third St., Mansfield.

The addition of braille supports a key part of the library's mission to provide engaging experiences for people of all ages and abilities — helping foster a vibrant quality of life for everyone in the community.

Winter reading program returns

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) invites the community to participate in the annual Winter Reading Program now through Feb. 1.

The program is available for all ages and encourages reading by offering prizes for children, teens and adults. Read a book, complete and submit a ticket in person or online, and be entered into one of many weekly prize drawings. Tickets are available at all nine MRCPL library locations and at any bookmobile stop, in addition to an online submission option through the library's website. Follow MRCPL on Facebook for additional chances to win.

This winter, MRCPL continues to offer curbside service for picking up library materials that have been put on hold. For information regarding the program and branch hours visit mrcpl.org.

Preschool and kindergarten enrollment will begin at Ontario

Ontario Preschool will be accepting applications of interest for the 2025-'26 school year beginning Monday, Feb. 3 for Ontario residents.

Those interested should fill out final forms completely (all forms should turn green) and the school will contact with a screening appointment. (Those enrolled for preschool last year, but withdrew, should send an email to Mrs. Crawford to reactivate the final form account). (Select the 25-'26 school year).

Open enrollment applications can be filled out and turned into the board office beginning March 1. Open enrollment gets the last priority for placement, but will be considered if there is program availability. All potential students will be scheduled for a developmental screening in March or April and acceptance into the program will be mailed by the end of May.

Classes are filled by what is available, teacher requests are not accepted. AM or PM preference can be requested, but they can not be guaranteed. Visit <http://www.ontarioschools.org/PreSchool.aspx> for more information on enrollment and the program or email the director at crawford.stacy@olsohio.org.

Ontario kindergarten enrollment begins Monday, Feb. 3, 2025. Students must be five on or before Aug. 1, 2025 to enroll for kindergarten. Enrollment begins by filling out final forms completely on the Ontario School District website (choose the 25-'26 school year).

Once final forms are completed (all forms are green) applicants can come into the Stingel Elementary office and complete the application process beginning Feb. 3 anytime between 8-3. At this appointment bring birth certificate, immunization record, proof of Ontario residency (utility bill, lease/mortgage agreement) and custody papers (if applicable).

Two night office hours are open from 4:30-7:30 pm on Feb. 6 and 13 for those working during the day. A kindergarten screening will be scheduled in August to turn in all of these documents.

Open enrollment begins March 1. All applications need to be turned into the board office, once accepted, by June 12, 2025.

The Domestic Violence Shelter urgently accepting donations

The Domestic Violence Shelter is faced with an urgent challenge. The shelter's van, which serves as a lifeline for transporting survivors to safety, counseling, medical care and essential services, requires immediate repairs. Without it, those in crisis will face barriers to accessing the help they desperately need. This van is their pathway to hope.

As the shelter continues to provide care, it is also in need of items that bring comfort and dignity. These essentials help ensure that every individual who walks through the doors has access to what they need to feel safe and cared for.

Along with supporting the van repairs, the shelter is seeking donations for the following items to replenish supplies and meet the needs of clients: comforters, hats, mittens, sweat pants, t-shirts, sweatshirts, plus sized bras and underwear, electric blankets, weighted blankets, toilet paper, paper towels, liquid shower soap, hair conditioner, lotion, bath towels and wash cloths and slippers.

Visit <https://thedvshelter.app.neoncrm.com/forms/drive-change?campaignId=7> to donate or reach out directly to coordinate item donations.

To arrange item donations, contact Kate at khenderson@thedvshelter.com or call 419-774-5843 ext. 100.

Every item shared, every dollar donated is applied toward a grant required grant match.

Join the FREE
Tribune-Courier Email List
and Receive the Weekly Issue

Fill Out the Form at <http://eepurl.com/hnS9N9>

The good neighbor for small business

Call or stop in today



Michelle Gates
Michelle Gates, Agent

2021 Park Avenue West, Suite 100
Ontario, OH 44906

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



State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL
State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

Ashland's The Parsley Pot bids farewell after 50 years

Photos and Article By Traci Little

For 50 years, The Parsley Pot has been a cherished landmark in Ashland, offering seasonal decorations, herbs, and a welcoming sense of community. Owned and operated by Sally and Don Dilgard, the restored 1800s Bank Barn has been more than just a shop — it has become a symbol of tradition and friendship. From the gorgeous wooden beam floors to the rafters, visitors were always greeted with spectacular creations and warm smiles.

In December, Sally and Don announced their retirement, marking the end of an era. The decision to close The Parsley Pot was made with great thought and gratitude for their loyal customers, dedicated employees, and the community that supported them.

Sally and Don both grew up in Loudonville, Ohio, where they were high school sweethearts. "We were in the band together," Sally recalls. "I played the flute, and Don played the saxophone, so he sat behind me." The couple's strong bond has stood the test of time—this March, they will celebrate 65 years of marriage.

When asked about the unique dynamic of running a business together, Sally laughed, "Well, we're still married 64 years later, so I'd say it worked! People say to tell the wife she's always right, but I just always told Don he was always right."

Their journey began in the mid-1970s, when Sally, passionate about flowers and herbs, was working at the Ashland Florist, and Don was teaching horticulture at Ashland High School. Their shared love of nature inspired the idea for The Parsley Pot. When a barn across from their home became available, the couple saw an opportunity to turn their dream into reality and opened the store in September 1975. The barn was transformed into a charming store filled with herbs, seasonal decorations, and handcrafted goods.

"I remember looking at Sally and saying, 'There's a real market for this!'" Don recalls. With the Dilgards' expertise, the business has grown and grown and truly flourished over the years! "You can't buy word of mouth advertising," Don stated.

Starting with a modest inventory on one floor, The Parsley Pot grew over the years, adding lofts, a furnace, and a devoted customer base. Don balanced his teaching career and real estate auctioneering with the shop's demands, while Sally's floral expertise shaped the store's unique offerings. Sally's expertise in floral design has been a hallmark of The Parsley Pot. Guests would bring in wreaths or containers for custom arrangements, and her work brightened countless homes, parties, and weddings.

The Parsley Pot became a gathering place for locals and visitors alike. Customers were welcomed with friendly smiles and personal connections that turned casual shoppers into lifelong friends. As one online review perfectly captures: "Such a beautifully stocked barn and gift shop. The greatest treasure was our conversation with Don and Sally, who shared their memories with us."

From children enjoying old-fashioned stick candy to families shopping for seasonal treasures, the store created multi-generational memories. Sally and Don, now 84 and 86, decided it was time to retire and close the store rather than sell it, ensuring The Parsley Pot would remain a memory as they envisioned it. "We didn't want someone else running a business across the street from us that we poured 50 years into," Sally explained.

The couple plans to sell their inventory over the coming months, with some items being donated to the local historical society. Once the inventory is gone, they will sell the fixtures, including old mercantile counters and glass cases.

Looking ahead, Sally and Don are excited for retirement. They plan to sleep in, relax, and enjoy their love for antiques and home decorating. Reflecting on their journey, they have no regrets. "Our customers are almost like family and we've shared a lot of tears since announcing our retirement," Sally shares. "It's always been fun, and we've never regretted doing it."

The Parsley Pot leaves a legacy as a place where community and tradition thrived. Sally and Don's story is a testament to passion, perseverance, and genuine connection. As one customer put it, "God bless you on your retirement."

The Dilgards thank the community for 50 years of memories.



News Briefs in Education

Ohio Wesleyan University has announced its dean's list for fall semester 2024. To qualify for OWU Dean's List recognition, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all applicable classes.

Local residents on the list are Cooper Christie of Mansfield, Olivia Humphries of Mansfield, Callie Kampe of Mansfield, Will Kepple of Mansfield, Arianna Morris of Mansfield and Ava Swanson of Mansfield.



Miami University students who are ranked in the top twenty percent of undergraduate students within each division for the fall semester 2024 have been named to the dean's list recognizing academic excellence.

Local students on the list are Morgan Dininger of Lexington, Tucker Schurig of Mansfield, Will Bennett of Mansfield, Jenah Calderhead of Mansfield, Elizabeth Hamler of Mansfield, Isaac Swogger of Ontario, Shelby Zimmerman of Ontario, Emma Shaffer of Ontario, Ava Dean of Mansfield, Nathaniel Ivy of Mansfield and Jake Kmetz.



Students at Cedarville University have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. This recognition requires the student to obtain a 3.50 GPA or higher for the semester and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Local students on the list are Ian Barnes of Ontario, Brycen Klotzbach of Mansfield, Sophia Tridico of Mansfield and Garet Weaver of Lexington.

Cedarville University is located in southwest Ohio.



Miami University students ranked in the top three percent of undergraduate students within each division for the fall 2024 semester have been named to the president's list recognizing academic excellence. On the list are local students Ben Pryor of Mansfield, Nico Lasser of Mansfield and Allie Parker of Lexington.



Students at Cedarville University have been named to the dean's honor list for the fall 2024 semester. This recognition requires the student to obtain a 3.75 GPA or higher for the semester and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours. Local students on the list are Ethan Hunter of Lexington, Claire Robinson of Mansfield and Ariella Waters of Mansfield.



Ronald Conn of Mansfield was recently elected to membership into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Youngstown State University.

Conn is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."



Capital has announced that Alyssa Horner of Mansfield has been named to the provost's list for the fall 2024 semester. To be named to the list, full-time, degree-seeking students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.70 to 3.849.

Capital University also announced that Abby Bechstein of Mansfield has been named to the president's list for the fall 2024 semester. To be named to the president's list, students must have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.85.



LYNDA DITTY'S class at Ontario enjoyed a lunch in the classroom celebrating Friday night's Ohio State game against the Texas Longhorns. The class watched the best band in the land perform during some half time shows and enjoyed some great food provided by parents. They had pizza, chips, popcorn, veggies, desserts and mini corn dogs.

Great Lakes Science Center offers free admission for MLK Jr. Day

In honor of the Martin Luther King Jr Day holiday, Great Lakes Science Center will offer free general admission to all guests from 10 am to 5 pm on Monday, Jan. 20.

The Science Center will have special programming throughout the day, including live science shows such as Bubblemania and Seeing Sound, and NASA Glenn's African Heritage Advisory Group will be present to discuss career and internship opportunities within the agency. Guests can also participate in hands-on activities while learning about NASA's contributions to aeronautics and space exploration. Additional science cart activities will allow guests to learn about dog vision, string resonance, and more.

General admission at the Science Center includes the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, the Polymer Funhouse (for those 7 and younger), the Dogs! A Science Tail exhibition and hundreds of hands-on, interactive science exhibits.

Movies in the Cleveland Clinic DOME Theater will be discounted for the event. Adult and youth tickets will be \$5.

Parking is available for a reduced rate of \$9 per vehicle in the Science Center's attached garage.

Due to the potential for large crowds, the Science Center's front drive parking spaces will all be converted to spaces for vehicles with handicap placards or license plates. Additional parking beyond the Science Center's garage is available in the surface lot north of FirstEnergy Stadium.

Great Lakes Science Center is located at 601 Erieside Ave., Cleveland. Visit GreatScience.com for more information.

Mike Clapper comes full circle as local sports announcer

By Kris Leiter
(Part 2 of 2)

In last week's *Tribune* we spoke to sports announcer Mike Clapper about his time with the Cavs, Washington Mystics and Washington Wizards. This week we pick-up with his duties with the WNBA.

Clapper discussed his pre-game duties with the Wizards. "We run through the entire show. This would include all the dancers and entertainment, just like The Tonight Show," he said. "For a seven o'clock tip, we rehearse the entire thing at five o'clock.

It takes about 45 minutes. Then we go have dinner and I'm back in my seat before six for my first read, 'Good evening everybody. Welcome to the Capital One Arena.'"

"There's something for me to do from the opening to the very ending of 'Thank you for coming tonight. Travel home safely, have a good evening, everybody.'"

As the interview continued, we spoke about the comparison between local radio and the professional ranks. I asked him about music playlists and if he was among the decision makers for what is played.

"At the big games, they have all the music. We have a DJ, so I don't do anything except my announcing. I call the basketball game and read the script that has 70-90 scripted events. That's my job."

"As for high school, I do all my own stuff, I don't mind. I get to play the stuff I want to listen to."

With an important job like this, what happens when the weather is uncooperative or a sickness happens?

"The NBA was a little more challenging as the men's season is six months long, and winter weather can always be unpredictable. They would always fly me in, and there were some close calls at times, depending on weather. I never missed a game in 12 years. I would always try to fly in the day before just to make sure I was there."

"They would put me up in a Marriott hotel by the arena. The airport to the Marriott is a 12-minute train ride."



"We just loved it. We stayed 20 miles from the city. In the summertime, we had a lot of friends visit us. That's handy. There's a lot of history and neat stuff in DC. We stayed out in Fairfax, which is 20 miles west of the city."

I asked Mike about life in the bigger city versus growing up in the small town of Bellville.

"I would never stay downtown Washington. It's dangerous. There are too many people to have a hair-raising experience."

In 2019, the WNBA Washington Mystics won the WNBA Championship. They gave rings to all the staff.

"I was taking the train into the game one time and I made the mistake of wearing my championship ring. It's worth a substantial amount of money. When I walked into the arena, my coworkers asked, 'Did you just ride the train in here with the ring on your finger? Oh man, do not do that.'"

"I just don't think that way, you know. It's just the difference between living in Bellville and the big city. I didn't think about getting rolled for my ring. 'It's such a different vibe.'"

His career in public announcing kept him busy all year.

"I did basketball year-round for 12 years. The women play (WNBA) from May until October and men's basketball (NBA) goes from September until June. It was a great gig but the travel just wore me down."

So what happened when the pandemic hit and everything closed? "I was announcing to nobody but players. They piped in fake crowd noise into the arena. It was really bizarre."

"There were cardboard cutouts of people in the stands to make the players feel like there was a crowd and they did the camera shots really close. You could only see the floor and hear me."

With such an exciting job, would any of his kids be following in the "family business?"

"Our daughter Elizabeth was a Broadway show performer and now she's a school teacher in Northern Virginia. She loves it. The weather is pretty decent down there. I mean it gets cold and it snows, but it's just so hot over there in the summer."

After 12 years of an awesome career, in 2023 Clapper was ready to put the retirement shoes on and come back to his roots here in Richland County.

"So, we are now back in Richland County. I have 40 acres of ranch in Bellville and I just love it."

As for his passion and being back in his hometown, Clapper still gets to continue announcing for the Clear Fork Colts and is in his 27th year announcing for the Lexington Minutemen.

Speaking of his career he said, "It's a neat job. You get to know the players, coaches and fans."

So how does he suggest someone go about following their dream of announcing for a professional team?

"Just get started doing high school stuff I suppose. It's such a small window of odds. There's only 30 of these jobs in the world for the NBA and only 12 announcers for the WNBA."

So, if you're attending a Bellville or Lexington game, that announcer you are hearing just might be the voice of Mike Clapper.



**Recycling Today
to Improve Tomorrow**

Formerly Milliron Recycling

BUYERS OF:
aluminum . stainless steel . brass . all scrap iron
commercial & industrial pick -up

2384 St. Rt. 39 | Monday - Friday 8 - 5 | Sat. 8 - 12

419 - 747 - 6522 | 800 - 921 - 0054

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**CLEAR FORK VS RIVER VALLEY BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL · JAN. 8
RIVER VALLEY WINS 80-37 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS RIVER VALLEY BOYS JUNIOR VARIETY BASKETBALL · JAN. 8
RIVER VALLEY WINS 59-42 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS RIVER VALLEY BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL · JAN. 8
CLEAR FORK WINS 33-24 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO WRESTLING AT JC GORMAN INVITATIONAL · JAN. 3 & 4



Final Results from the 62nd JC Gorman Tournament:
Aiden Ohl: Champion
Mason Turnbaugh: Champion
Tyler Turnbaugh: 5th
Warriors finish 11th out of 36 teams



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS ASHLAND BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL · JAN. 7
ARROWS WIN 72-51 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS ASHLAND BOYS JUNIOR VARIETY BASKETBALL · JAN. 7
ARROWS WIN 58-40 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS ASHLAND BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL · JAN. 7
RAMS WIN 37-28 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS WOOSTER BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL · JAN. 9
GENERALS WIN 59-47 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS WOOSTER BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · JAN. 9
RAMS WIN 53-47 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS WOOSTER BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL · JAN. 9
GENERALS WIN 47-36 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**ONTARIO VS CLEAR FORK GIRLS VARIETY BASKETBALL · JAN. 11
COLTS WIN 58-31 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**ONTARIO VS CLEAR FORK GIRLS JUNIOR VARIETY BASKETBALL · JAN. 11
WARRIORS WIN 24-17 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



Sports Highlights



LUCAS MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING results from the South Central Middle School Invitational on Jan. 9 included Christian Carroll, first place; Zell Finley, second place; and Bentley Rannigan, third place. They are pictured with coach Ed Finley.

Lucas Middle School wrestlers capture medals at invitational

By Kris Leiter

Big things are happening in the small quaint village of Lucas. Lucas Middle School may have to expand their trophy case shortly.

This past weekend, the Lucas Middle School wrestlers captured the Trifecta of medals at the South Central Invitational.

Placing first was Champion Christian Carroll at 122 pounds. In second place, Zelle Finley at 160 pounds. Ringing in a third-place spotlight was Bentley Rannigan at 116-pounds.

In recent weeks, the Cubs have been moving full steam ahead.

Coach Ed Finley couldn't be prouder of his mighty Cubs.

"I expect these guys to be on the podium every week, and now they will accept nothing less," said Finley.

He knew there was something special about these young men last year. He told them a year ago at Norwayne, "You guys are going to make the podium next year here."

Call it premonition if you will. You can only imagine what happened from his speech last year.

Finley's words of wisdom rang true two weeks ago at Norwayne on Jan. 2, as they placed in the medals.

He says, "Wrestling is an art and if you stick with this sport throughout high school, you can paint a masterpiece."

If anyone would know, it would be Finley.

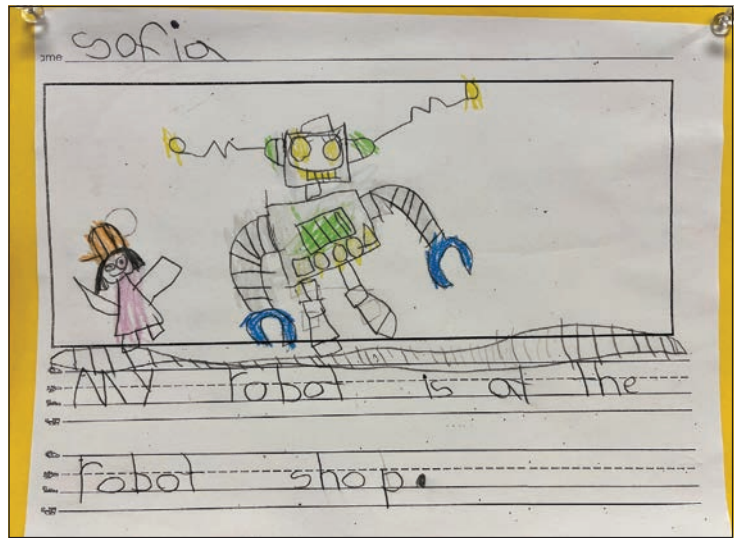
I have known Ed and Denise Finley for several years, as I have taken the wrestling team on bus trips many times. They are just good people. They are both huge supporters of watching their kids participating in sports. Denise can be found taking pictures at the events and also visible working the concession stand.

Just a few short years ago, Ed also coached their older son Zane, a Lucas alumuni. Zane is now wrestling on the MMA circuit in Las Vegas and is doing well.

Keep an out for the Cubs as they continue to fire on all cylinders!

Board will host monthly meeting on Jan. 21

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Richland County will hold its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 5:30 pm at Catalyst Life Services — The Rehab Center, 270 Sterkel Blvd., Mansfield. For additional information call 419-774-5811.



A NEW ROBOT has taken over kindergarten at Western Elementary in Lexington. Students coded the robot, wrote about its adventures and designed their very own robots.

Richland County's Only Locally-Owned Newspaper

Tribune-Courier

Subscribe for **FREE** and receive the weekly issue delivered to your email. Send us an email with your name to -

news@tribune-courier.com

DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship accepting applications

Undergraduate and graduate students studying music can apply for the DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship through Jan. 31, 2025. Sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the scholarship provides a one-time \$5,000 award to one student annually who is pursuing undergraduate or graduate study in music.

Marian Anderson (1897–1993) was a groundbreaking African American contralto and an inspiration for civil rights. “This scholarship pays tribute to Marian Anderson’s life, and the Daughters of the American Revolution seeks to honor her legacy through today’s aspiring musicians. Her legacy lives on in others who aim for excellence in musical studies, are committed to their communities, and willing to stand up for what is right,” said Pamela Wright, DAR President General.

Applicants should be accepted or currently enrolled in an accredited university or college in the United States and have a concentration in music in their course of study. Music performance, composition, theory, or education are all areas that students may be specialized in to qualify for the scholarship. They should have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or the equivalent GPA on the scale used by the institution.

Applications require references sent through the application system, so students need to request their references ahead of the Jan. 31 application deadline.

In honor of Ms. Anderson’s commitment to the community throughout her life and her willingness to share her incredible talent

with the world, applicants are asked to write a personal statement describing their humanitarian or volunteer contributions on behalf of their community and/or country.

To recognize the city Marian Anderson called home, preference will be given to students from the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania metropolitan area, even if they are not pursuing music studies in the Philadelphia area.

This scholarship is not automatically renewed. However, recipients may reapply for consideration each year for up to four consecutive years.

The scholarship is supported by the Daughters of the American Revolution’s Marian Anderson Legacy Fund. Learn more about the relationship between Marian Anderson and the DAR, and the organization’s on-going efforts to honor her memory at www.dar.org/MarianAnderson

One of the largest patriotic women’s service organizations in the world, DAR has 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more. For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission visit www.dar.org.

FEMA seeks leaders for Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA is now accepting applications for the Youth Preparedness Council (YPC) until March 3. YPC is a program that brings teens together from across the nation who are interested and engaged in community preparedness.

Council members are selected based on their dedication to public service, their efforts in making a difference in their communities and their potential to expand their impact as national leaders for emergency preparedness. Students in grades eight through 11 are eligible to apply.

During their one-year term, council members collaborate virtually with each other to develop projects that promote preparedness on a local and national scale. Members also engage with leaders within FEMA, the federal government, and national non-profit organizations.

Julia Surzykiewicz, 2023-2024 YPC member from Illinois, appreciates the impact of her time on the YPC:

“Serving on FEMA’s National Youth Preparedness Council has been an extraordinary and deeply rewarding experience. Through this role, I have grown as a leader, developed my leadership and gained a deeper understanding of what it means to contribute meaningfully to my community. I have been able to meet with other teens, with similar passions, and collaborate in order to create a project that I am extremely proud of. I am so grateful for the opportunity to be part of this Council, I have truly grown so much, and I know that the Council has grown both my professionalism and my confidence, allowing me to create both lasting professional and personal relationships.”

Students from Region 5 — Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin — who apply for the National YPC will also be considered for a place on the Region 5 Youth Preparedness Council (Region 5 YPC). The Region 5 YPC is an additional service and leadership opportunity for high school students living in these states.

Youth interested in applying must submit a completed application form and provide two letters of recommendation. All applications and supporting materials must be submitted no later than March 3, 2025. New council members will be announced by June 2025.

To access the application materials, read about the current council members, and for more information about the Youth Preparedness Council visit the Youth Preparedness Council page on FEMA.gov.

State Representative McClain sworn in as Majority Whip

State Representative Riordan McClain (R-Nevada) this week, was unanimously elected by his colleagues to serve in a leadership capacity as Majority Whip of the Ohio House of Representatives.


As Majority Whip, Representative McClain will play a pivotal role in monitoring legislation and working with colleagues to advance key measures on the House floor.

“I’m honored by the support of my colleagues to be entrusted with this responsibility to join the leadership team in the Ohio House,” McClain said. “I’m eager to collaborate with my colleagues to deliver meaningful results for the people we serve.”

State Representative Riordan McClain is currently serving his fourth full term in the Ohio House of Representatives, having been appointed in January 2018 during the 132nd General Assembly. He represents the 87th House District, which includes all of Crawford, Morrow and Wyandot Counties and a portion of Marion County.

NEVER WORRY ABOUT POWER OUTAGES AGAIN.





When choosing a standby generator, check the specifications closely. Only Briggs & Stratton PowerProtect™ generators feature NGMax™ technology, delivering up to 12% more power on natural gas than the competition. For homes with natural gas, Briggs & Stratton is the ideal choice.

Standard
Warranty of
7 YEARS
\$849 Value

Gain peace-of-mind with the most powerful line of home standby generators.



Briggs & Stratton
ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Call 1-866-749-3645

*Engineered and assembled in the USA of domestic and foreign components.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

Springfield Township meetings will be held every other Monday beginning Jan. 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm with the following exceptions: Jan. 20, Feb. 17, May 26, Sept. 1 and Oct. 13. Meetings will be held the following Tuesday at 6:00 pm due to those Mondays being holidays. The final meeting of the year will be Dec. 22. The organizational meeting for 2025 will be held on Dec. 31 at 9:30 am with the Fire Dependent's Board preceding said meeting at 9:00 am. The Records Retention Meeting will be held April 28, 2025, at 5:45 pm. All meetings will be held in the Township Hall, 3700 Park Avenue West, Ontario, Ohio.

Amanda Hike
Springfield Twp. Fiscal Officer
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 16 '25) (21L)

CITY OF ONTARIO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION PATROL OFFICER EXAM

The City of Ontario will conduct a Civil Service examination for the position of entry level police officer on Sunday, February 16, 2025, at the Ontario Municipal Building Community Room, 555 North Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio 44906. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. and the exam will begin at 9:00 a.m. No admittance after 9:00 a.m.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens and present a valid driver's license at the time of the examination. Must be at least 21 years of age (unless the candidate qualifies for the OPOTA exception) but not more than 34 years of age and must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalence. Passing Candidates who qualify in the top ten will be required to complete a physical strength and agility test. Candidates that are selected will be subject to psychological, polygraph, drug and alcohol screening along with a comprehensive background check.

NOTICE: Applicants must have their Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) Certification to apply. Applicants currently enrolled in an Ohio Basic Peace Officer Training Academy are allowed to test but Certification must be complete by time of appointment.

The City of Ontario is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on any basis prohibited by law including military status. However, if you are applying for a civil service examination and elect to claim military service credit either as an honorably discharged veteran or as a member of the National Guard or a Reserve component as provided in R.C. 124.23, then please attach a copy of your honorable discharge from active duty, DD 214 or other proof of eligibility for this credit. Applications are available at the Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, Police Department window or online at www.ontpd.com. Applications will be accepted until Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Police Department window in the Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road. Those with questions may call the Division of Police at 419-529-2115 and ask to speak with a recruiter.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 1-26, 23 '25) (62L)

CITY OF ONTARIO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION GENERAL LABORER EXAM

The City of Ontario is accepting applications for the full time position of "Maintenance and Cemetery Superintendent." This test will also be used to consider employment for future openings in the following departments: Streets, Water, Sewer, and Parks. Starting wage is \$21.48 per hour, with consideration given for qualifications and experience. Standard work week is 40 hours. We offer a comprehensive

benefits package, including health, eye, & dental coverage.

Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to: General cleaning; floor care; cleaning & care of equipment; restroom cleaning & maintenance; removal of trash; office cleaning; minor equipment repairs; basic plumbing & electrical work; climbing ladders to clean & change lighting; yard & grounds maintenance; seasonal outside maintenance; maintain cemetery grounds, driveways, cemetery burial plot records and handle inquiries for sale of lots; use a computer for email, time card and ordering supplies.

Candidate must understand that duties, location of work, and shift pattern are subject to change as determined by administration to meet the needs of the City.

REQUIREMENTS:

High School diploma or general education degree (GED) Ability to lift and/or move up to 100 pounds Able to work well with minimal supervision

Applications may be picked up at the Ontario Municipal Building at 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm beginning Monday, Jan 13, 2025, or downloaded from <https://ontarioohio.org/>. Deadline to submit your application is 3:00 pm on Feb 11, 2025 in a sealed enveloped marked Civil Service Commission – General Laborer Position, or email to CivilService@OntarioOhio.org. The test will be given at 9 am at the Ontario Municipal Building on Feb 16, 2025.

The City of Ontario is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on any basis prohibited by law including military status. However, if you are applying for a civil service examination and elect to claim military service credit either as an honorably discharged veteran or as a member of the National Guard or a Reserve component as provided in R.C. 124.23, then please attach a copy of your honorable discharge from active duty, DD 214 or other proof of eligibility for this credit.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 1-26, 23 '25) (71L)

•Card drive underway

(Continued from Front Page)

children of Richland County for four years. We have pride that the valentine card project has significant outreach with joy as the outcome," said Dr. Debra Weaver, co-President of the Mansfield United Lions.

"Lions meet the needs of local communities and the world. There are 1.4 million members of the volunteer organization in over 200 countries. The Mansfield United Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the upper building at Burton Park off of Sunset Blvd. Find us on Facebook, or email mansfieldlionsunited@gmail.com for more information on becoming a member or opportunities to partner on future projects." said Weaver.

Richland County Children Services (RCCS) mission is to lead our community in assuring the safety, well-being, and permanency of children at risk of abuse and neglect.

RCCS encourages all individuals to invest in the lives of children and to provide them with unconditional love, support, guidance, and every available resource to ensure their health and well-being.

Those interested in becoming a foster parent can contact Richland County Children Services at 419-774-4100 or go to richland-countychildrenservices.org.

For more information about the Valentine cards project contact Brigitte Coles at 419-774-4168 or brigitte.coles@jfs.ohio.gov.

Area Agency on Aging scholarship applications now being accepted

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

The Foundation Board will award three scholarships to individuals who demonstrate a commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of older adults and those with disabilities through their educational pursuits.

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

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**1728 W. Fourth Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
Phone: 419-529-4687
Fax: 419-529-4154
landerson@firstfederalbankofohio.bank**

Lisa Anderson
NMLS 618735
Branch Manager - Loan Officer