



**RICHLAND NEWHOPE INDUSTRIES, INC.** (RNI) was presented with a donation from the FirstEnergy Foundation. RNI was chosen to receive a special award in honor of the FirstEnergy Foundation's "12 Gifts of the Season" program. This award highlights RNI for their dedication and commitment to improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities within the community. Established in 1963, the non-profit Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. provides services and supports for community employment, industrial services at five production sites, personal and social services, recreational services and options for seniors. Attending the check presentation were Chelsie Thompson, vice president of RNI, Inc. board; John Evans, RNI, Inc. board member; Nadia Oehler, RNI, Inc. board member; Ed Shuttleworth, president Ohio Edison; Joe Jakubick, First Energy External Affairs; Joanne Mudra, president of RNI, Inc. board; Amanda South, RNI, Inc. executive director; Merris Welge, secretary/treasurer of RNI, Inc. board; Sade Smith; Dan DeVille, First Energy Manager External Affairs; and Jack Stewart, RNI, Inc. board member.

# Lexington selects firm for construction

The Lexington Board of Education held its regular meeting Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Ben Hoffman, student representative to the board, presented his report.

The board accepted the donation of instructional supplies and equipment from School Specialty for Eastern, Western and Central Elementary. A donation of \$105,000 was received from the trust of Janet R. Kilgore for the Lexington Minuteman Academic Scholarship fund.



Carlos Villa was employed as a longterm sub for high school Spanish, effective approximately Jan. 21, \$110 per day. Kim Garver was employed as a long-term sub at Eastern, effective approximately Jan. 6 through May 28, \$110 per day.

The following coaches were approved for the 2019–'20 school year Christen Mattia, JV softball; Dan Wittmer, assistant high school track; Mark Hunter, assistant high school track; Ally Hostetler, assistant high school track; Ally Hostetler, assistant high school track; Buck Morton, junior high track; Jay Schmidt, junior high track, Jeff Meyer, junior high track; Heidi Roush, junior high track; Lisa Ferguson, volunteer gymnastics; and Keirsten Proulx, volunteer gymnastics.

A revised Lexington substitute list was accepted as presented by MOESC. (Continued on Page 2)

# **Senator Brown encourages Ohioans to apply for 2020 Census jobs**

Senator Sherrod Brown is encouraging Ohioans to apply for open positions with the 2020 Census, that are available in their local communities. The Census Bureau is offering flexible hours and competitive wages, for Ohioans across the state to help with the 2020 Census count. Ohioans interested in applying for a position with the Census Bureau, can apply at 2020census.gov/jobs.

The 2020 Census is a constitutionally mandated undertaking and the data collected is used to properly allocate seats for the U.S. House of Representatives and state legislatures. It also directs more than \$800 billion annually in federal funding to state and local communities.

"As we enter the next decade, it is critical that all Ohioans are accounted for

in the 2020 Census," said Brown. "Our government relies on the census to evaluate needs and allocate resources. I encourage Ohioans to apply for this unique opportunity to ensure their communities are accounted for and receive the assistance they need."

Brown joined his colleagues in introducing a bipartisan resolution highlighting the importance of the census. The resolution encourages individuals, families, and households across the United States to take part in the Census so that all communities can be counted. The resolution also recognizes the importance and significance of the 2020 Census and encourages all people to participate. It concludes that it is the civic duty of every person to ensure that the 2020 Census is as accurate as possible. The resolution passed the Senate on Dec. 18.

# New employees hired at Madison

Madison Local School Board of Education met at the middle school on Wednesday, Dec. 18. The board accepted a donation of \$500 from an anonymous donor for student lunch charges at Madison South.

Laurie Dean, SkillsUSA Advisor, gave her resignation and, pending proper certification and background check, Joshua Boliantz was hired as the Construction Technology teacher at the high school, effective this past October. Chris Thompson and Zachary Sandelbach were approved as assistant varsity wrestling coaches.

Pending background checks, also employed were Frances Au, medical and legal office management; Brian Forbes, basic blueprint reading; Charles Keesee II, Industrial Electrical Maintenance; Ron Seifert, Intro to Digital Photography; Mark Spurlock, Industrial Electrical Maintenance; Jeremy Wachtel, Industrial Electrical Maintenance; Darla Pickering, bus driver; Sandra Mergel, custodian; and Lois Brammer, bus aide AM/PM & PS.

Audra Fellure was award the full-time general cook position at the high school, replacing Brenda Hurrell, who took another position. Bonny Sechler was awarded the full-time special education aide position at Madison South.

Employed as substitutes were Martha Urig, cafeteria; Carol Brown, bus driver; Hollie Brenner, bus aide; Brittany Richards, secretary; Shirley Fanello, bus aide; and Lois Brammer, bus aide.

The board approved the annual membership with the Ohio School Boards Association for January–December 2020.

Board President Jeff Meyers and vice president John Luedy were both honored for their service. Meyers has been a board member for 24 years and served 14 as president; and Luedy has served 12 years *(See photo on back page)* 

### City of Ontario provides Christmas tree removal

The City of Ontario will provide Christmas tree pick up service to residents of Ontario beginning Thursday, Jan. 2 and continuing through Friday, Jan. 17. Residents should remove all ornaments and tinsel from trees and place them by the curb. Call Jeff Wilson at 419-529-2495 for information.



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ncstatecollege.edu

### **Tribune-Courier**



### By Ian Stumbo

*Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* is the final film in the Skywalker saga and ends the recent trilogy helmed by J.J. Abrams with *The Force Awakens*. This movie brings together just about everyone who has been in a recent film as they work to bring down a thought dead Emperor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid) who recruits Kylo Ren (Adam Driver) to destroy the young Jedi Rey (Daisy Ridley) who was being instructed by Luke (Mark Hamill) in the last film.

This newest trilogy of films has been a bit uneven but overall enjoyable. This last film in particular, again directed by Abrams, has a very rushed beginning as characters are welcomed back (such as Billy Dee Williams Lando Calrissian) but also seem wedged in at the same time. Through unused footage from *The Force Awakens* is the last performance by the late great Carrie Fisher as General Leia who is guiding Rey through her training.

Mansfield's boil advisory has no impact on City of Ontario water.

Those who live inside the Ontario City limits and receive a water bill from Ontario are not effcted by Mansfield boil advisories.

> Thank you, Randy E. Hutchinson Mayor of Ontario

## •Firm selected

(Continued from Front Page)

The board voted to join OSBA for calendar year 2020 and accept the architect/engineer agreement with ThenDesign Architecture, Inc. for architecture and engineering services for the District's 7–12 construction project.

A resolution was approved selecting Shook Construction as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) firm as best qualified for the 7–12 new facility project.

It's great the filmmakers went this route to give Fisher a part in the film instead of going into CGI territory.

The action scenes are fun involving one with flying stormtroopers and the end battle scene is as epic as expected. The entire cast really does a great job including Oscar Isaac as Poe and John Boyega as Finn rounding out the main cast of new characters. This movie really belongs to the battle between Kylo Ren and Rey as they use different aspects of the Force to communicate and battle it out.

Overall, *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* is an enjoyable last entry in the series even though it does suffer from a throwing in everything including the kitchen sink aspect which makes the movie bogged down and pretty uneven at times. It's nice to see all these familiar faces back and casual fans should enjoy this one. 2.5 stars/4 stars.

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

## Tools available for library checkout

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library has a small selection of cordless power tools that customers can checkout. These tools add to the expanding "Library of Things" available to customers giving them more opportunities.

- The tools available for checkout include: •Dewalt Brushless Cordless Drill/Driver
- •Dewalt Cordless Impact Wrench
- •Dewalt LED work light
- •Dewalt Cordless Reciprocating Saw •2 Kobalt 42in Foldable Sawhorses

Through a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, tools will also be available at the ReStore in downtown Mansfield. At this time, tools at the ReStore will only be loaned to families in the Habitat for Humanity Program, with the plan to expand the program at a later date. For information about the tools at the ReStore call 419-524-8361.

For more information about checking out power tools at the library visit www.mrcpl.org/find/library-of-things or call circulation at 419-521-3140.



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**SANTA CLAUS** visited and passed out candy during the halftime of the varsity basketball game against Sylvania Southview on Dec. 21 at Madison Middle School. Ram cheerleaders Macy Mobley, Maria Hunt, Naomi Lloyd, Hayley Blust, Lauren Mellott, Brooklyn Blust and Lexi Papst met with Santa (Tom Deels) and Santa's helper (Justin Hunt).



**DONATION** — Richland County Health Commissioner Martin Tremmel donated \$250 to the Richland County Domestic Violence Shelter so that women and their families might enjoy a little brighter Christmas this year. In December, the shelter made an appeal to members of the community for donations for women in crisis this holiday season. Tremmel donated on behalf of the staff and board of health members at Richland Public Health to recognize their thoughtful efforts to serve the public. Tremmel presents a \$250 donation to Jerica Wheeler, Donations and Volunteer Coordinator with the Domestic Violence Shelter. Donations can be sent year-'round to www.thedvshelter.com/donate.



**ADOPT A CHILD** — For the past 15 years, Crossroads Church in Mansfield and Richland County Children's Auxiliary has partnered and formed "Adopt A Child for Christmas" to serve children in need. Families and businesses in Richland County sponsor the children and buy needs such as bedding, boots and coats, in addition to toys and learning activities. This year, 1,075 children were served. Volunteers from Ontario High School's Key Club spent the day helping to distribute the gifts. Helping were Corinne Fanello, Jenin Abdelaziz, Caitlin Fanello, Meiyan Timberlake, Irene Zhang, Andrew Xiao and Brayden Shaver.

## **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Funcenter Chordsmen 522-5050 for more infor- on Facebook. meets every Monday night at 7 pm at the First Congregational Church. 640 Marion Ave. Men of all ages who like to sing are invited.

Madison Township Lions Club meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm and the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm at the Sons of Herman, Orange St. New members are welcome. A dinner is held on the third Thursday.

TOPS #425 meets every Wednesday at 9:15 am at Ontario Senior Center, 3777 Park Avenue West, Ontario.

Alzheimer's support group for caregivers meets the second Thursday of every month at 1 pm at Hawkins Corner, 2131 Park Avenue West in Ontario. Call 419mation.

Bellville Lions Club meets the third Thursday at 6:30 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 45 Church St., Bellville. For information call 419-571-4630.

Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc. meets the third Wednesday of each month (except Decem-ber) at 11:30 at Der Dutchman Restaurant, Rt. 97.

Richland County Tornado sirens are tested countywide on the last Wednesday of each month at 4 pm.

The Bellville-Jefferson Township Historical Society is open Wednesdays from 1–5 pm at 167 Main St., Bellville. Call 419-886-2882 or visit

Lexington Kiwanis Club meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6 pm at Paul Revere Restaurant, SR 97.

The Ontario Lions Club meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Ontario Senior Citizen Center. Only one meeting is scheduled for Jan. 2. Beginning in February, meetings will return to the regular schedule.

### VFW Auxiliary of Post #9943 meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at 806 Grace St.

TOPS #1535 meets every Thursday with weigh-in at 9 am, meeting at 9:30 am at Open Bible Church, Rayfield 1150 Dr., Madison area.



T-C Staff/Bud Motter

THE MADISON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES met in special session Dec. 23, to go over the township's insurance. John Hower of Rinehart, Walters, Danner & Associates goes over the current insurance policy with Dan Fletcher and Tom Craft.

# **News Briefs**

The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give the gift of life to help ensure patients don't have to worry about the availability of blood this winter.

Bloodmobiles will be held:

Thursday, Jan. 2, 12-6 pm, Shelby High School, 1 Whippet Way, Shelby

Wednesday, Jan. 8, 10 am to 4 pm, American Legion Hall, 89 E. Main St., Shelby; and 1–7 pm, Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Saturday, Jan. 11, 10 am to 4 pm, Storyside Church, 541 Rt. 97 W., Bellville. Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1-7 pm, Richland

Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario To schedule an appointment to donate,

download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Ridgeway Church of God, 1380 Park Avenue East, Madison Township, will host a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Jan. 10, from 4:30–6 pm in the fellowship hall. The menu will include spaghetti, bread, salad, dessert and beverage. Cost is a freewill donation. All proceeds will benefit the church. For information call 419-589-5385.

Richland County Republicans will host a first Monday luncheon on Jan. 6, from 11:45 am to 1 pm, at DLX Catering and Events, The Kobacher Room, 28 N. Main St., Mansfield.

Guest speakers will be Senator Larry Obhof, President of the Ohio Senate and Ohio Senate District 22; and Representative Mark Romanchuk, Ohio House District 2.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Jeanne Blackstone, Sunday, Jan. 5, at 10:30 am. She will speak on "We Are All Connected!" She will empasize that all our actions affect others. We have an opportunity to make a positive change every day.

For more information visit www.allsoulsuuohio.org.

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

To aid in RCRSWMA 2020 cleanup efforts, Rumpke will contribute \$15,000 of free disposal to the Solid Waste Authority at the RUMPKE Richland County Recycling & Transfer Facility.

Glennon Sweeney will be the speaker for the upcoming African American Leadership Initiative (AALI) Speaks event on Monday, Jan. 13, from 12–1:30 pm.

Glennon will outline the historic and contemporary policies that have created the segregated opportunity landscape. This lecture serves to highlight untold American history and dispel the culture of poverty notion that is so prevalent in the U.S.

The event will be at NECIC, 134 N Main St, Mansfield 44902.

Tickets are required and can be purchased for \$10 at https://conta.cc/2EWzrqw however, the event is free for AALI members. Seats are limited.

Ontario Recreation Department Open Swim will be held from 6:30–8 pm at the Ontario Middle School pool on Jan. 9 and 23; Feb. 13 and 27; and March 12 and 26.

Open Swim is free to all families attending Ontario schools and any Ontario residents. Parents must accompany children under the age of 12.

As of Jan. 1, all registrations to reserve City of Ontario park facilities (pavilions) and the community room at the Hellinger Municipal Building will be executed online. There will be a link to the registration forthcoming on the city's website. Reservations will no longer be accepted at the city municipal building or by phone.

The Ontario Senior Center's weekly schedule is:

Mondays, 1 pm euchre, all welcome, \$1 Tuesdays, 11 am computer class, call Ralph Wells at 937-269-5978; 7 pm Lions Club

Wednesdays, Richland Camera Club, 7 pm, third Wednesdays

Thursdays, 1-3 pm, country, first and third Thursdays, all welcome, donations accepted

Fridays, 1 to 3 pm, penny bingo, 15 games at a penny per card, last game five cents per card, all welcome

The center is located at 3777 Park Avenue West, Ontario and is closed for all federal and state holidays and whenever Ontario Schools are closed due to bad weather. Call 419-529-2954 for more information.



### **Tribune-Courier**



THE RICHLAND COUNTY CHAPTER of Ohio Music Teachers Association (OhioMTA) had a Christmas/Holiday Piano Recital on Friday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 pm at First Congregational Church in Mansfield. Sixteen students participating were front, Leo Mancha, Ariel Liu and Lucy Enyeart; row two, Ella Keever and AEnon Keever; row three, Kendall Logan, Lindsey Clingan and Naomi Ziadeh; row four, Scarlett Ziadeh, Meiyan Timberlake and Aubrey Hendrickson; and back row, Jeremiah Rivers, Wyatt Rivers, Thomas Secrist and Eli Keever. Not pictured is Darin Avery. Participating teachers were Michael Benson, Carol Bernhardt, Lynn Mitchell and Kathy McMillen.



TYING FOR SECOND PLACE in the annual Light Up Lexington contest were the Kunkle residence, 57 Devon, (top photo) and the Franzen residence, 49 Holiday Hill (bottom photo). Chosen as first place winner was the Tomlinson residence, which was not lit when photos were taken. Third place went to the Hathaway family, 103 Woodside.

## Lexignton Area Senior Citizens meet for Christmas luncheon

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens met at the Ontario Event Center on Dec. 18, for the annual Christmas luncheon with 92 in attendance.

The Ontario Show Choir provided entertainment. Rae Reeder of Ontario, immediate past president, installed new officers for 2020: president Darlene Lee of Bellville; vice president Darlyene Hatfield of Mifflin; secretary Barb Diedrich of Shelby; treasurer Doug Rigel; of Ontario; and trustees Larry Swackhammer of Johnsville and LaVerne and Keith Bunker of Mansfield.

Honored with a framed certificate were Margaret Hammett, for serving 20 years as secretary and Iris Wertz for serving 14 years as treasurer.

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens is open to anyone 55 and over. For more information see the community calendar on page 3.

### **Risen Savior Lutheran Chruch**

1685 Lexington Ave., Mansfield • 419-775-1175 Pastor Brad Wright • risensaviormansfield.com 9 am Sunday Family Bible Time • 10 am Sunday Worship

### Southside Christian Church

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

### Lexington Presbyterian Church

35 West Church St., Lexington • 419-884-1330 Reverend James Randas 10:30 am Sunday Worship Bibe Study 2 pm Wednesdays

### **Ontario United Methodist Church**

3540 Park Avenue West, Ontario • 419-529-4345 Rev. Chris Bell Grace & Eggs (breakfast) every Sunday 8:30–9:30 am Kingdom Kids (Sunday School) 10:15 am Adult Sunday School 9:15 am Sunday Worship 10:15 am Bible Study Tuesdays 6 pm (A study for all: families, singles, seniors)

### Hillside First Church of God

2369 Bowman Rd., Mansfield • Pastor Glenn M. Phillips Sunday Worship 10 am • Wednesdays 6 pm hillsidefcg@hotmail.com



# Church Directory

**Ridgeway Church of God** 1380 Park Avenue East, Mansfield 419-589-5385 • RidgewayCOG@aol.com Pastor John Dodds • Associate Pastor Billy Saunders 9:30 am Sunday School • 10:40 am Sunday Worship 6 pm Sunday Family Events 2 pm Wed. Joyful Journey Bible Study • 6:30 pm Wed. Night Kids

### **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

### **Cornerstone Grace Brethren Church**

1905 N. Lexington-Springmill Rd., Mansfield Les Vnasdale, Philip Moeller • 419-747-5012 Sunday School 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Tuesday Young Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer 6:30 pm Wednesday Word of Life (children 4 years through 6th grade) 6:30 pm

### St. Peter's Catholic Church

60 S. Mulberry St., Mansfield Very Rev. Gregory R. Hite, V.F. • 419-524-2572 Saturday Worship 5 pm Sunday Worship 7:30 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am mansfieldstpeters.org

### **Sponsor Contributors:**

**Wappner Funeral Home** Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland 419-522-5211

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

### **Promise Land Fellowship**

506 Park Avenue East Pastor Rick and Shirley Wiseman • 419-512-2435 Sunday 9:30 am School of the Bible Sunday 10:45 am Sunday 4:30 pm End Time Studies Bible Study Tues. 6 pm Advanced Bible Study Sat. 10 am

### **Crossroads Church**

1188 Park Avenue W., Mansfield Pastor Dave Vance • 419-529-0750 Saturday Worship 7 pm Sunday Worship 9 am and 11 am All Three Services Identical Student Ministry High School Sundays 7 pm www.crossroadswired.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

### St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church

1630 Ashland Rd., Mansfield • 419-589-2114 Father Matthew Frisbee Saturday Worship, 4 pm and Sunday 11 am Faith Instruction & Bible Study on Sunday Mornings www.mansfieldstmarys.org

### **Snyder Funeral Home**

Lexington • Bellville • Mansfield 419-884-1711



**ONTARIO MIDDLE SCHOOL** students chosen as November's Warrior Way honorees were front, sixth grade students Aalyiah Gonzalez and Grady Muncy; and back seventh grade students Jack Zahn and Emma Mies and eighth grade students Carter Weaver and Maggie Love. Teachers nominated the students and then selected one boy and one girl from each grade who displayed characteristics of respect, responsibility, integrity, self-discipline and compassion.

# Ohio's minimum wage increases

Ohio employers are reminded that Ohio's minimum wage increased on Jan. 1, 2020, to \$8.70 per hour for non-tipped employees and \$4.35 per hour for tipped employees. The minimum wage will apply to employees of businesses with annual gross receipts of more than \$319,000 per year.

The current 2019 Ohio minimum wage is \$8.55 per hour for non-tipped employees and \$4.30 for tipped employees. The 2019

## **Cleveland welcomes Disney on Ice**

Disney On Ice will present Road Trip Adventures Jan. 10–19, at the Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse in Cleveland.

Featuring new and classic tales, this multi-generational experience includes exciting twists and turns as Mickey, Minnie, Goofy embark on an interactive adventure to iconic Disney destinations. See the world from the rooftops of London with Mary Poppins and Jack and his band of dancing lamplighters. Travel to the sunsoaked Motunui and help Moana restore the heart of Te Fiti. Set off on a safari and snap unforgettable photos of wild cheetahs and monkeys when guests traverse through the Pride Lands with Simba, Timon and Pumbaa. Discover a whole new world and be swept up in Aladdin's princely parade filled with spectacular stunts, magical moments with Genie, and a brand-new song from Jasmine.

A larger-than-life carnival will showcase Woody and Bo Peep as they search for their new friend Forky. Mickey and pals will host a Disney edition of Road Trip Karaoke as they introduce Rapunzel, Belle, Ariel, Mulan and Tiana. Tickets are on sale now at www.rocketmortgagefieldhouse.com. Ohio minimum wage applies to employees of businesses with annual gross receipts of more than \$314,000 per year.

The Constitutional Amendment (II-34a) passed by Ohio voters in November 2006 states Ohio's minimum wage shall increase on Jan. 1 of each year by the rate of inflation. The state minimum wage is tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) for urban wage earners and clerical workers for the 12-month period prior to September. This CPI-W index increased by 1.5 percent over the 12-month period from Sept. 1, 2018, to Aug. 31, 2019. The Constitutional Amendment is available online.

For employees at smaller companies with annual gross receipts of \$319,000 or less per year after Jan. 1, 2020, and for 14 and 15 year olds, the state minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour. For these employees, the state wage is tied to the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, which requires an act of Congress and the president's signature to change.

# Game raises money for non-profit

Christopher, 12, of Loudonville is helping to raise money for a non-profit with a game app he created.

The non-profit organization is working to open a coffeehouse community center called MUGS.

In 2014, the MUGS team was given a historic storefront, but have learned in the ensuing years exactly how expensive historic renovation can be. Christopher knew of their financial frustrations, and their many fundraising efforts, and he wondered if a phone game might be the answer they were looking for.

With the help of a game tech designer from Berlin, Germany, that idea has come to life.

"The app, 'DRIPS'," Christopher says,

"is a coffee-based phone game that requires the player to fill drink orders to advance levels. The way they do that is by moving a mug on a tray back and forth to catch drips falling from the top of the screen. It works with the phone's gyroscope, so players tilt the phone to move the mug. We are constantly working to add more levels and features to keep players interested and having fun."

As of Oct. 12, MUGS' phone game, "DRIPS" is available as a free download on Apple's App Store as well as Android's Google Play.

For more information visit w w w . M U G S C o m m u n i t y . c o m , www.Facebook.com/MUGSCommunity or www.Facebook.com/DRIPS4MUGS.

## Leonard Bradford named recipient of Employee Award of Excellence

Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. recognized Leonard (Lenny) Bradford as the recipient of the 2019 Employee Award of Excellence. Bradford was honored at the agency's quarterly staff meeting.

Bradford, a resident of Lucas, has been employed at the Area Agency on Aging for nearly three years. He serves as an Ohio Benefits Navigator. He was honored for his work ethic, diligence, and unending support to seniors navigating the path to needed services.

Bradford has utilized his position and passion to engage seniors who would have

been apprehensive of using services, he showed them services that could assist them and setting them on the path of reaching those much-needed services to better their situation and help them age in place, (at home).

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



**THE ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL** Academic Challenge team concluded its season at the NCOESC (North Central Ohio Educational Service Center) where they finished 6 of 16 for the season. At the tournament, the Warriors beat Calvert and Saint Joe's and lost to Columbian and Put in Bay. The team made it to round seven in the tournament. Competing were Colton Geer, Jason Lin, Randy Rickell and Isabel Baker.



# Lady Lex offensive rebounds quash Arrows

**By Jim Warne** 

LEXINGTON — The Lexington girls used a giant advantage on the boards to topple visiting Ashland 52-41. Lady Lex garnered 26 offensive rebounds in the victory and 50 caroms total. Avery Coleman vanked down 16 of them, about evenly split on each end of the floor, and parlayed that into a double double with 18 points to lead all scorers.

Gabby Stover came close as well, snagging eight rebounds and tossing in 12 counters. Lexi Blasberg pulled in seven caroms while both Lizzie Hamler and Josie Dahlinghaus corralled five.

Most of Hamler's eight markers were compliments of her work on the offensive glass.

Lexington launched the contest with a 15-2 explosion and the Arrows never caught up. Neither side accomplished much in the second quarter and the greatest lead came roughly three minutes into the third at 28–14.

Ashland enjoyed an 8-0 romp of its own soon afterward but could never cut it to one possession. Both squads profited well off each others turnovers, Lex winning narrowly 19-18 that way.

Coleman stuffed the Arrows thrice and drew seven fouls from them. Stover handed out five assists and pilfered the guests six times. Dahlinghaus authored four steals and Blasberg picked their pockets on three occasions as LHS rolled up 20 thefts in the fray.

Eight Lex gals got in on that stat. Madi Basilone provided seven points off the bench to spark a 12–3 Lady Lex edge on scoring by non starters. Ashland won a thriller in the JV preliminary 30–28.

# Warriors beat Orrville at Steve Smith Classic

### **By Jim Warne**

WOOSTER — Long time Orrville boys basketball coach Steve Smith has a holiday hoops classic held in his honor at the College of Wooster each year on the Saturday prior to Christmas. He was an assistant coach at the college in his sunset years. Ontario has played in the classic once previously, taking down Dalton 64-55 four years ago. This season OHS returned to vie with the late Coach's old high school charges. The only time they have met before was in the state semifinals in 1995 when Smith's Red Riders nipped the Warriors in overtime 68–65.

This time Ontario came out on top 52–46 despite having its top scorer Griffin Shaver out with the flu. Several Warriors got a lot of extra playing time as a result, especially Jayden Price who ended up banking home the clinching basket on a fastbreak layup after OHS broke the Riders' full court press. Orrville had just cut it to a one possession game.

The locals were on fire to start the tiff. Both Amil Upchurch and Kolten Kurtz blasted a pair of treys each as Ontario stormed out to a 13-3 lead. The Red Riders went on a 10–0 run to tie it up at the quarter break. Kurtz flipped in seven

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points in less than a two minute span as OHS rebuilt a 24–17 margin in the middle of the second stanza. A pair of Shaquan Coburn long shot successes kept the Warriors in control the rest of the half, then he opened the third quarter with a trey and a traditional three point play and OHS led 35–26. Orrville clawed within two points before the locals tallied again.

Ty Namenyi came up big as the third period ended and the fourth began. His last shot from beyond the arc connected to launch an 8-1 assault that once again pushed the lead out to nine at 49-40. Orrville forced four OHS miscues and pared the spread down to 49-46 before Price nabbed two late defensive boards and scored the final three Warrior points.

Price earned coach Joe Balogh's defensive player award while Namenyi took off the bench honors. Upchurch raked the glass for 12 rebounds and made it a double double notching 10 points. Coburn paced the victors in scoring with 15 and doled out eight assists. He was the player of the game pick by radio station WQKT which helps sponsor the Steve Smith Classic. Kurtz cashed 5 of his 7 field goal attempts obtaining his 13 counters. Jon Nagel swatted a couple Rider shots into oblivion. Marquael Parks tossed in over half of Orrville's points, nailing nine shots including four threes.

# Ontario Boys Basketball December 21 at Wooster

Scoring By Quarters: Ontario 13 16 12 11-52 Orrville 13 10 13 10-46

Ontario - Shaquan Coburn 5-2-15, Kolten Kurtz 5-0-13, Amil Upchurch 3-2-10, Ty Namenyi 2-1-6, Jon Nagel 1-3-5, Jayden Price 1-

1-3. Orrville - Marquael Parks 9-2-24, Elijah Hall 4-2-11, Chris Smith 1-2-4, Cooper Haley 1-1-3, Ty Dean 1-0-2, Jake Phillips 0-2-2

Field Goals - Ontario 17 of 41 (41%), Orrville 16 of 57 (28%). Free Throws - Ontario 9 of 18 (50%), Orrville

9 of 13 (69%).

Three Point Goals - Ontario 9 of 21 (43%), Orrville 5 of 30 (17%). Rebounds - Ontario 27, Orrville 41. Turnovers - Ontario 13, Orrville 10.

Lexington Girls Basketball December 19 at Lexington

Scoring By Quarters: Ashland 10 2 14 15-41 Lexington 19 3 15 15-52

Lexington - Avery Coleman 6-6-18, Gabby Stover 5-0-12, Lizzie Hamler 3-2-8, Madi Basilone 2-2-7, Emma Sturts 2-0-4, Lexi Blasberg

1-0-2, Kaleigh Leadbetter 0-1-1. Ashland - Breena Plank 5-3-15, Klaira Paramore 4-1-10, Alicia Van Horn 2-1-6, Emmi Ryan 1-2-4, Kaylee Friesen 1-1-3, Audra McBride

1-0-3. Field Goals - Lexington 19 of 63 (30%), Ashland 14 of 44 (32%).

Free Throws - Lexington 11 of 18 (61%), Ashland 8 of 16 (50%).

Three Point Goals - Lexington 3 of 10 (30%), Ashland 5 of 14 (36%). Rebounds - Lexington 50, Ashland 32.

Turnovers - Lexington 18, Ashland 27.



### **By Kenn Spencer**

Please take some time and register your athlete for the 2020 season. Let's make 2020 our best year ever!

OYS registration is open now. Register by Feb. 1, from spring soccer, middle school baseball and middle school softball. Register by March 1 for baseball and softball.

When registering, do not create a new account unless you have not registered in the past - please use your password and login from previous seasons.

•When registering, do not create a new account unless you have not registered in the past - please use your password and login from previous seasons.

•Follow us on Facebook. Sign-ups are posted regularly.

•Sign up on WMFD OYS text to your cell where we text sign up information on a regular basis.

•Create account an on www.oysports.com. Once you are registered, log-in 24/7 and see what sports are available for your athlete.

•Call the sports director at 419-566-8072.



volunteered throughout the month to support the United Way by providing free gift wrapping at the mall. Faith Voelp wraps presents at the Richland Mall in Ontario.

Lex Lanes Buckeye Jeep, Dodge, Ram Fiat **Thursday Mixed League Results** 

### Week # 16

High Men: Wash Haney Sr. 224-234-300 = 758, Dennis Christopherson 749, Tay Jefferson 726, Travis Groscost 723, Jason Bigelow 701, Sonny Haney 676, Arron DeWitt 673, Timothy Williams 669, Jim Mahek 668, Cody Swartz 667, Terry Miller 667, Adam George 667, John Stevens 664, Kacy Miller 658, L.J. Parker 656, Howard Thomas 653, Don Utt 651, Rich Manley 647, Randy Hanlon 644, Mike Goad 638, Tim Koehler 634, Randy Bristow 630, Jeff Elder Jr. 628, Al Garvin 626, Mike Lloyd 626, Reggie Shaw 625, Larry Kunz 622, Bob Casey 621, Darin Lewis 621, Ryan Mahek 615, Shawn Scott 612, Tim Harless 611, Gino Mollica 608, Aaron Cates 604, Steve Yeley 603, Doug Beard 601.

High Women: Susie Shaw 172-259-187 = 618, Vicky Varvel 598, Stephaine Moore 574, Lynn Chatman 566, Dottie Pugh 554, Sandy Eulett 508, Jessica Maddy 505, Mariann Craig 488.

High Team: Countryside Pizza & Drive Thru, 911–896–883 = 2690.

Team Leaders: Al's Retro Alley 17-3, Rail Crew 16–4, Countryside Pizza & Drive Thru, 15–5.

### Week # 17

High Men: Wash Haney Sr. 253-253-235 = 741, Jason Bigelow 725, Ryan Mahek 720, Darin DeWitt 707, Travis Groscost 694, Marc Campbell 694, Paul Smith Jr. 693, Arron DeWitt 663, Scott Davis 662, Littleton Lloyd 650, Scott Canankamp 649, Larry Kunz 648, Dennis Christopherson 645, Terry Miller 641, Bob Casey 641, Jim Mahek 638, Justin Mathews 637, Tay Jefferson 634, Sonny Haney 631, Tim Harless 630, Brad Barker 625, Steve Easterling 623, Darin Lewis 620, Ron Wolfgang 620, Gino Mollica 615, Mike Goad 610, Bobby Elder 610, Khayyam Johnson 609, Reggie Shaw 606.

High Women: Vicky Varvel 224–226– 174 = 624, Susie Shaw 611, Jessica Maddy 577, Lynn Chatman 561, Sandy Eulett 552, Anita Cruse 549, Mariann Craig 537, Dottie Pugh 514, Stephanie Moore 507, Beth Lindsay 475, Vanessa Chatman 461, Dee Callen 461.

High Team: Al's Retro Alley, 844-922-824 = 2590.

Team Leaders: Al's Retro Alley 20-4, Rail Crew 19–5, Countryside Pizza & Drive Thru 18-6.

For updated team standings and league information visit www.thursdaybowling.net.

### Meals are planned

The Silver Meals at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, are held the first Wednesday of each month at noon. There is a \$5 donation requested. These meals are for anyone retired in the community. The meal includes dessert and coffee.

Meals will be held Jan. 8, soup and sandwiches; Feb. 5, creamed chicken and biscuits, veggie; March 4, beef stew, salad; April 1, ham loaves, cheesy potatoes, salad; and May 6, taco bar.

# Classifieds

### **NOW HIRING**

Business Office position in Healthcare Community. General computer knowledge experience preferred. Full-time with benefits. Apply in person to: Brenda Wachtel, LNHA at Brenda at Winchester Terrace Skilled Nursing Center, 70 Winchester Rd., in Mansfield. 12-19 '19, 1-2 '20

### LEGAL ADVERTISING LATERAL ENTRY **CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

The City of Ontario will conduct a Civil Service examination for the position of entry level police officer via Lateral Entry. officer via Lateral Entry. Candidates must be U.S. citizens and present a valid driver's license at the time of ex-amination. Candidates will be subject to physical, psychological. polygraph, drug and alcohol screening along with a com-prehensive background check. Must be at least 21 years of age, and must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalence. A minimum qualification to apply, candidates must be a commissioned Ohio Peace Officer with one year full-time experience as a Law Enforcement Officer. Candidates must also have at least 12 years of active service left before becoming eligible to retire though an Ohio Retirement system.

## The eligibility list testing will be compiled from three criteria:

1. Years of service/experience (each full year of law enforcement experience is = 1 point) 2. Education (each year of com-pleted education including high school and college = 1 point) 3. Oral board interview (each candidate can receive up to five points from each board mem-

Those applying will be contact-ed to present any documents related to criteria #1 & #2 prior to the oral board. The scoring is submitted to the Civil Service Commission for a review and making of an eligibility list.

The City of Ontario is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on any basis

prohibited by law including mili-tary 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

Starting pay is set by CBA Contract for lateral entry.

Applications will be available at the Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, beginning December 16, 2019, at the Police Department window or online at www.ontpd.com. Deadline to accept applications is Friday, January 3, 2020, at the Police Department window in the Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, at 3:00 p.m. 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, Ohio 12-19 '19, 1-2 '20 (84 L)

NOTICE OF

### PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held be-fore Council of the City of Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2020, at the Ontario Municipal Building, 555 North Stumbo Road, upon a proposal to amend Section 1145.11 Fences and Walls All persons interested in these

issues are invited to attend and express their views.

Cathy VanAuker Clerk of Council City of Ontario, Ohio 1-2 '20 (19 L)

### LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct sum-mary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their regular meeting held on December 18, 2019.

The complete text of this Ordinance may be viewed and copies obtained at the Office of

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**PO Box 127** Renewal **Ontario, Ohio 44862** 

the Clerk of Council, Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio, during regular business hours.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-33 (THIRD READING) AN ORDI-NANCE AWARDING A CON-TRACT TO SOUTHEASTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF 2019 KOBELCO SK-ONE 55SRX-6E MINI EXCAVATOR FOR THE CITY SERVICE DE-PARTMENT FOR THE TOTAL SUM OF \$66,886.85.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-34 – (THIRD READING) AN ORDI-NANCE AMENDING CHAP-TER 1141 SCHEDULE OF STANDARD DISTRICT REGU-LATIONS, SECTION 1141.01 SCHEDULE LIMITING LOT AREA, DENSITY, HEIGHT AREA, DENSILY, DEIGHT AND AREA BY ZONING DIS-TRICT, CHAPTER 1145 GEN-ERAL PROVISIONS, AND SECTION 1145.20 OFF-STREET LOADING AND UN-LOADING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-35 (THIRD READING) AN ORDI-NANCE AMENDING CHAP-TER 1146 SIGNS, SECTION 1146.02 DEFINITIONS, AND SECTION 1146.03(c) SIGNS BY NUMBERS, SIZE, AND LO-CATION.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-41 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT CITY EMPLOYEES, RE-PEALING ORDINANCE 19-20 AND DECLARING AN EMER-GENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-42 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WAGES AND SALARIES FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAIN-ING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THIS CITY, REPEALING OR-DINANCE NO. 19-16, AND DE-CLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-43 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING

THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE SALES AGREEMENT FOR APPROXI-MATELY 5 ACRES BETWEEN GERALD ERWIN AND MARY LOU ERWIN AND THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLAR-ING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-13 – A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIA-TION TO LARRY ARNOLD FOR HIS SERVICE OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS TO THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO.

> Cathy VanAuker Clerk of Council City of Ontario, Ohio 1-2, 9 '20 (83 L)

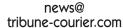
PROBATE COURT OF RICH-LAND COUNTY, OHIO IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF Jerri Jeanette Blevins to Jerri Jeanette Thornton CASE NO. 20199115.

### NOTICE OF HEARING ON CHANGE OF NAME

Applicant hereby gives notice to all interested persons that the applicant has filed an Application For Change of Name in the Probate Court of Richland County, Ohio, requesting the change of name of Jerri Jeanette Blevins to Jerri Jeanette Thornton.

The hearing on the application will be held on the 7th day of February, 2020, at 10 o'clock am in the Probate Court of Richland County, located at 50 Park Avenue East, Second Floor, Mansfield, Ohio.





# **Ashland/Mansfield Foot** AND ANKLE SPECIALISTS

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Brian J. Zimmerman, DPM • Jeremiah Dillon DPM Rebecca Inwood, DPM • Dina Keeler, DPM "We Care for People... Not Just Feet."



T-C Staff/Bud Motte

7

LEXINGTON SOPHOMORE Lexi Blasberg (1) begins to lose control of the basketball as she receives pressure from Clyde junior Brooke Newsom (34). The varisty Lady Lex team played the Clyde Lady Fliers at Lexington on Dec. 21. Clyde won 46-44.

# LBCM opens exhibit

Little Buckeye Children's Museum held a grandopening of its new St. Peter's Parish Schoolhouse Exhibit last month.

This exhibit opened on the second floor of the Little Buckeye Children's Museum, W. 4th St.

The St. Peter's Schoolhouse Exhibit includes everything a child needs to play teacher including new chalkboards, work spaces, books and hands-on learning activities. Thanks to St. Peter's, the schoolhouse received a fresh coat of paint, a new rug, and all new furniture custom built at the perfect height for a child and completely ADA accessible.

LBCM has over 30 interactive exhibits.





# VanCura recognized for 20 years on Ontario BOE

The Ontario Local School Board of Education met Dec. 10 for its regular meeting.

During the meeeting, board member Sam VanCura was honored and presented a plaque for his 20 years of service to Ontario Schools. He will step down as Amy Hiner takes his seat in the new year.

Employment was approved for Wendi Deel, girls junior varsity basketball coach, \$3,502; Amy Nagel, volunteer girls middle school basketball assistant, \$0; Rob Roth, high school diving coach, \$1,864; Lisa Ferguson, volunteer gymnastic coach, \$0; and Monty Ohl, volunteer wrestling coach, \$0.

Employed as substitute staff are Shawn Coleman, cook, playground aide, secretary and secretary aide; Felicia Kinniard, cook; and Johnna Rigney, cook, playground aide, secretary and secretary aide.

Revised board policies were approved including employment of the treasurer, Interscholastic Athletics, School Choice options, attendance, student mental health and suicide prevention, graduation requirements, school resource officer, food services and use of tobacco by staff.

A FirstEnergy STEM Classroom Grant for \$717 was ac-



**THE ONTARIO BOARD OF EDUCATION** honored Sam VanCura for his 20 years of service as a member of the board. Friends and family attended to honor and celebrate VanCura's work for Ontario Schools. The December meeting concluded his tenure, and his seat will be filled by new member, Amy Hiner. Sam and wife, Janet, display a plaque presented for Sam's 20 years of service.



cepted for a Maslow CNC Jumpstart Bundle, router and wood supplies for Jim Buker's classroom.

A donation was also accepted from Julie White in the amount of \$500, in memory of John White for the weight room and facility requests were granted.

After attending a School Finance Workshop in Columbus, superintendent Lisa Carmichael and Randy Harvey updated the board on the Fair School Funding Plan.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 7 pm.

# AU graduates announced

The following students graduated from Ashland University during commencement on Dec. 14.

Matthew Baloy, Mansfield, Master of Business Administration, Executive Management; Adam Friedermann, Mansfield, Master of Business Administration, Executive Management; Quinn Sexton, Mansfield, Master of Business Administration, Executive Management; Kylie Brown, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and History, 2016 graduate of Lexington High School; Misty Prosser, Mansfield, Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration and Communication Studies, 2001 graduate of Madison Comprehensive High School, graduating with Magna Cum Laude honors; Annelese Damoff, Ontario, Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, 2016 graduate of Ontario High School;

Michael Wuicik, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice; Paul Dies, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Business Management and Entrepreneurship, graduating with Magna Cum Laude honors; Tianna Banfro, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Olivia Blakley, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2009 graduate of Clear Fork High School; Allison Chelski, Ontario, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2014 graduate of Ontario High School, graduating with Cum Laude honors; Andrew Evans, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Lisa Green, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Chanara Greene, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Charleen Harper, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Savannah Hoover, Ontario, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2015 graduate of Ontario, High School; Tess Hopper, Mansfield, graduating with Summa Cum Laude honors; Yusupha Jallow, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating with Summa Cum Laude honors; Theresa-Ann Jedra, Lexington, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating with Cum Laude honors; Jean Jordan, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2005 graduate of Lexington High School; Kirandeep Kaur, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating with Magna Cum Laude honors.; William Kipp, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Janelle McClelland, Ontario, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating with Summa Cum Laude honors; Alissa Munro, Mansfield, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and Cassandra Amick, Mansfield, Associate of Arts, general studies, 2013 graduate of Madison Comprehensive High School.



**MADISON LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD** President Jeff Meyers and vice president John Luedy were honored for their service to the Madison community during the Dec. 18 board meeting. Meyers has been a board member for 24 years — 14 serving as president; and Luedy has served 12 years. Neither of the two sought re-election.



**THE MADISON RAMS** boys basketball team posted a 58–51 victory over Clear Fork in the Madison middle school gym. Driving to the basket for the Rams is sophomore 6'1" Isaac Brooks (3) while senior 6'2" Ethan Delaney (34) defends for the Colts.

# **RPH awarded Personal Responsibility Education Program Grant**

Richland Public Health received grant funding of \$300,000 per year for the next three years from The Ohio Department of Youth Services Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP).

PREP is funded by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services for the purposes of providing an evidence-based adult preparation curriculum to youth between the ages of 14–21 who are in foster care, group homes, independent living, juvenile justice, or alternative schools. With this segment of the youth population being more likely to engage in risky behaviors, they are more likely to contract a sexually transmitted infection (STI), become teen parents, and/or have a higher level of difficulty transitioning into adulthood.

Richland Public Health's grant funding is to train foster care, group home, independent living, juvenile justice, alternative school, and/or social service agency staff across a 20-county area of Northwest Ohio (Allen, Ashland, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood, and Wyandot counties) to implement the PREP curriculum with the youth they serve.

"Preparing and supporting our youth to grow-up to be responsible, healthy, and successful adults is crucial to the advancement of our community" said Dr. Julie Chaya, Director of Community Health & Prevention Sciences at Richland Public Health. "This investment in our area's youth provides them the opportunity to critically think about how the personal decisions and life choices they make now affect how they experience adulthood. This is a chance for them to make health behavior and lifestyle changes for the better. When our youth succeed, so does our economy, our overall health and well-being, and our community's quality of life."