



# TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

12.22.22



Photo By Traci Little

**CHRISTMAS AT KINGWOOD** remains open to visitors until Friday, Dec. 30. The halls of the King home have been decorated. The foyer includes the iconic 18-foot tree. Rooms and hallways have been decorated by volunteers and staff and music by local performers will provide the backdrop for the mansion tour. Christmas at Kingwood is a walking tour experience and has grown to include outdoor lighting displays that allow guests to stroll glowing pathways through the garden estate. Advanced ticket purchase is required with reservations needed for all guests. Tickets are \$8 for 13 years and older; free for Kingwood members and children 12 years and under. Kingwood is open daily Tuesday through Sunday, 4-9 pm, closed Christmas Eve and Christmas. For information visit [kingwoodcenter.org](http://kingwoodcenter.org) or call 419-522-0211.

## Ontario Board wraps up 2022 while preparing for new year

The Ontario Local Schools Board of Education met Dec. 13. Students in the Kindness Club at Stingel presented about the activities they have participated in this year.

The board accepted the resignation of Mitch Willeke as varsity girls basketball coach, effective Dec. 6. Anita Them's contract to perform consultation services, as needed, for EMIS reporting support, was extended.

Tracy Baxter's contract was adjusted from JV girls basketball coach to head varsity girls basketball coach, effective Dec. 7, and includes an additional \$2,256.75 coaching stipend.

An additional coaching stipend of \$2,256.75 was approved for Amy Nagel for additional coaching responsibilities.

Jodi Wellman was employed as the freshman girls basketball coach, \$2,290.50.

The board accepted the resignation of Brittany Sublett as a permanent substitute bus driver and approved the employment of long-term substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2022-'23 school year. These included Holly Hale, Stingel Elementary; and Malayna Wilson, high school.

Temporary substitute teachers employed for the 2022-'23 school year are Arianne Featheringill, Stingel Elementary; Joshua Hurrell, Stingel Elementary/middle school/high school; Brittany Ireland, Stingel Elementary; Haley Johnson, Stingel Elementary/middle school/high school; Ronald Seifert, middle school/high school; Mackenzie Weaver, Stingel Elementary; and Grayson Antreassian, Stingel Elementary/middle school/high school.

Kristina Weese was employed as PM Latchkey, effective Dec. 12, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour.

Alice Bond was employed as a substitute cook for the remainder of the current school year.

The board approved adjusting the employment hiring of Daniel Brammer as a permanent substitute bus driver to a substitute bus driver for the remainder of the 2022-'23 school year.

Approve employment of the following extracurricular/supplemental staff personnel for the

Stephen Armstrong was employed as boys soccer head coach for 2023-'24 for \$5,418.

Maternity leave was approved for Taylor Finn, effective April 10, 2023 through the end of the school year.

A Memorandum of Understanding was reached between the Ontario Local School District Board of Education and the Pioneer Joint Vocational School to implement a teaching profession pathway at OHS for students.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Ontario Local School District Board of Education and the OFT was approved for adding additional stipends for competitive and non-competitive clubs.

A contract was approved with Sarah Morris to provide transportation for her child.

A stipend was approved for Kari Tarvin as a piano accompanist for the current school year, \$800.

Mansfield Charity and Scholarship Group donated \$2,000 to the girls tennis program. Sertoma Club of Mansfield donated an FM System for preschoolers with hearing disabilities.

An anonymous donor gave \$100 for Christmas gifts for needy children and the City of Ontario donated \$450 from "Friday Jeans Fund" for Christmas gifts for needy children. The Avenue Church donated \$2,000 for Christmas gifts for needy children.

Facility requests were approved for OYS (Kenn Spencer), Lions Club (Randy Hanlon and Nick Toombs), NC Select Volleyball (Whitney Fanello), Breiteringer Soccer (Martin Breiteringer) and Girl Scout Troop #3591 (Erika Myers).

Heidi Zimmerman appointed herself as president pro-tem for the

*(Continued on Page 5)*





# THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

James Cameron returns with his much-anticipated sequel to the highest grossing movie of all time, *Avatar*.

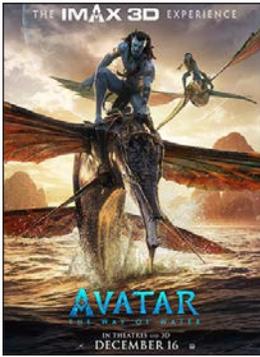
Cameron waited thirteen years for technology to advance enough to allow him to do what he needed for this now released *Avatar: The Way of Water*.

Sam Worthington returns to his role of Jake Sully, a human who has been assimilated with the Na'vi creatures on the planet of Pandora. He with his wife, again played by Zoe Saldana, now have a family.

As all seems to be going well, his arch nemesis from the original film Col.

Quaritch (Stephen Lang) returns with his team members as Avatars as they pursue Sully and aim to take him out, no matter who gets in their way. Cameron delivers another visually stunning looking film. This movie is absolutely beautiful. As Jake and his family become accustomed to another tribe of people who are known as the reef people, the movie gets interesting as it is all water based now. Cameron takes the audience on so many journeys and adventures and the look is one of the best I have personally seen in a long time.

The biggest argument would be with the movie's plot and how basic and simplistic it is.



It really is a rehash of the first one in terms of the basic storyline and some more creativity would be great to see as it is being reported Cameron is already working on a third *Avatar* film.

Even though the movie has a three-hour run time, it goes by at a pretty good speed. The last hour is really something to see as it is one long action sequence as Sully and his family must face off against the colonel and his men.

Also, the majority of the showtimes for this movie are in 3-D. I am personally not a fan of 3-D as I don't care for the glasses and it bothers my eyes; however, I will say that I have seen few 3-D films that feel as immersive as this one and it really did not bother me at all because it puts the audience right in Pandora which is such a terrific experience.

*Avatar: The Way of Water* is a slight improvement over the original. This one seemed more engaging and while the main plot is mediocre and not creative, the visual feast for the eyes, the action sequences and the look of the film are just stunning. Absolutely see this one on the big screen.



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## Remembering that our homes were not meant to be perfect

By Traci Little

I flip through magazine pages that come alive with vibrant colors and dreaminess. Everything is neat and in its place, dancing across my eye palate with warm coziness.

Then I look up and around my home. Broken chips cover my floor. Dishes are piled high. The bathtub is filled with rubber duckies caked with soapy film. Beds are unmade, and toys are strewn across the floor. Kids rub dirty hands onto furniture and dusty window panes. Stains mark walls, floors, and ceilings.

In one, sweeping moment, jealousy scoops up my heart and throws itself into a heaping pile of covetousness. I know that my home will never be perfect. It will never match up to those magazine covers and home and garden remodeling television shows.

But what will my children and husband remember most about our home in twenty years? I pray and hope that it will be these things:

- It wasn't perfect, but it was always cozy and inviting!
  - It was a safe place where love ruled and forgiveness flourished!
  - It was a place my children felt comfortable bringing their friends over to.
  - It was a place where gentle voices were spoken.
  - It was a place where our family ate at the table together.
  - It was a place where laughter echoed forth.
  - It was a place where hugs, kisses and "I Love You's" were given out freely.
  - It was a place where the Word of God was opened liberally!
  - It was a place where memories were made!
  - It was a place where contentment and thanksgiving abounded!
- For the richest person in the world is the one who realizes how much they can actually live without!

### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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# News Briefs

Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Ontario, will host a Christmas Eve service Dec. 24 at 7 pm. A Christmas Day family worship service will be held at 10:15 am. There will be no Grace and Eggs or Fellowship Table that morning.

The Bible Study will begin on Jan. 3, at 6 pm. The group will be studying the book of Jonah. Sign-up at the Welcome Table or call the church office at 419-529-4345 to participate.

All are welcome to all events.



First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West, at S. Mulberry St., will host a Christmas Eve worship on Saturday, Dec. 24. The night will begin with music for a Holy Night at 7 pm and worship and communion at 7:30 pm.



Trinity United Methodist Church, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield (Madison area), will hold a Christmas Eve service at 7 pm on Saturday, Dec. 24.



Community Bible Church, 1043 Springmill St., Mansfield, will host a Christmas Eve service on Saturday, Dec. 24, at 10:30 pm. There will be no service on Christmas morning.



The recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Dec. 24 and 25. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.



The Red Cross is encouraging donors to schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Those who come to give now through Jan. 2 will get a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last. Local bloodmobiles are:

Friday, Dec. 23, 10 am to 3 pm, YMCA, 750 Scholl Rd., Mansfield  
Saturday, Dec. 24, 8 am to 2 pm, 1 Richland Mall, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Tuesday, Dec. 27, 9 am to 1 pm, OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital, 335 Glessner Ave., Mansfield

Wednesday, Dec. 28, noon to 6 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario

Thursday, Dec. 29, 9 am to 3 pm, Mansfield Engineered Components, 1776 Harrington Memorial, Mansfield

Saturday, Dec. 31, 9 am to 2 pm, Richland Mall, Ontario



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



RANDY HANLON is retiring after 42 years of service to Ontario Local Schools. Randy is pictured with his wife, Brenda.

*Join us for Our  
Christmas Eve Service*

Saturday, Dec. 24 • 7 pm

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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**PIONEER PRESCHOOL** held a lunch with Santa recently. Students were treated to a meal and a visit from Old St. Nick.

*This Week's Pet Looking for A Forever Home*



*Flynn*

Flynn, also known as Gucci, arrived at the shelter on May 23. When Flynn first came in, many were a little hesitant around him. Now, everyone loves him. Flynn loves sprinting and playing. He can play roughly,

so a home with small children probably isn't the best for him. He is so excited to see his human friends. Flynn is potty trained and does his best to wait until someone takes him on a walk to go. Flynn is affectionate when he trusts people, but he always wants to go at his pace. He does need some work walking on a leash, because he can pull pretty hard. Flynn has a lot of love to give and would love a family before the new year.

Flynn is available at the Richland County Dog Shelter in Mansfield. Those interested in him or any other dog, can contact or visit the Richland County Dog Warden's Office & Shelter. Shelter hours are 11-4:15 Monday-Friday and 10-2 on Saturday.

Currently, adoptions are \$150, which includes spay/neuter, microchip, dog license and some vaccines.

Current needs are volunteers to walk and play with the dogs, bleach, laundry detergent and dog treats.

# Church Directory

**Clear Fork Alliance Church**

1008 State Route 97, Bellville  
419-886-4333 • [www.clearforkalliance.org](http://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  
Wednesday Ladies Bible Study 6:30-8 pm

**Community Bible Church**

1043 Springmill St., Mansfield  
567-560-8011  
[www.DiscoverCommunity.org](http://www.DiscoverCommunity.org)  
Pastor Sam Belsterling  
10:30 am Sunday Worship  
Live stream at <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityBibleChurchMansfield>

**First English Lutheran Church**

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield  
419-522-0662 • [www.felc-mansfield.org](http://www.felc-mansfield.org)  
Pastor Miguel Acosta  
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship  
Tuesday Bible Study 1 pm (East entrance)

**Lexington Presbyterian Church**

35 Church St. West, Lexington  
419-884-1330  
Rev. James Randas  
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](http://www.mansfield1st.com)  
Rev. Joseph Yerger  
9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School  
10 am Sunday Worship

**Oakland Lutheran Church**

2045 Olivesburg Rd.  
419-571-9920  
Pastor Paul Lintern  
9 am Sunday Worship

**Ontario Christian Church**

1029 Lewis Rd., Ontario  
419-529-5684 • [ontariochristian.org](http://ontariochristian.org)  
Minister Steve Broughton  
9 am Sunday School  
10 am Sunday Worship

**Ontario United Methodist Church**

3540 Park Avenue West., Ontario  
419-529-4345 • [ontarioumc.com](http://ontarioumc.com)  
Pastor Christine Bell  
10:15 am Sunday Worship  
10:15 am Kingdom Kids

**Southside Christian Church Disciples of Christ**

2055 Middle-Bellville, Mansfield  
Streamed on Paul Lintern Facebook Page  
Sunday 10:45 am  
"A Refuge for Hymn-singers!"

**St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church**

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

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

68 Park Avenue East, Mansfield  
419-522-2813 • [www.stjohnsmansfield.org](http://www.stjohnsmansfield.org)  
Pastor Faith Prioretti  
10 am Sunday Worship

To learn how to be added to this listing send an email to [advertising@tribune-courier.com](mailto:advertising@tribune-courier.com)

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**Obituary Listings for  
Wappner Funeral Directors**

- Elizabeth Gentry, Dec. 7
- John Martin Aungst, Dec. 8
- Michael J. Kovichick, Dec. 9
- Zeretha Deloris Ritchey, Dec. 9
- Margaret Louise Weikle, Dec. 9
- Josephine Doris Parsons, Dec. 10
- Edith Ann Huvler, Dec. 11
- Emma Zahn, Dec. 11
- Jerry Allen Mills, Dec. 12
- Rodney D. McNulty, Dec. 12
- James "JJ" Floyd Jackson, Dec. 13
- Lenora Virginia Gossett, Dec. 14
- Robert Lewis Dill, Dec. 15
- Crystal Mills, Dec. 17

View Full Obituaries at [www.dignitymemorial.com](http://www.dignitymemorial.com)

**Conservation Creation Arts and  
Crafts Workshops continue in 2023**

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) has announced that due to their overwhelming popularity, the Conservation Creation Arts and Crafts Workshop series will continue in 2023.

Richland SWCD will host the workshops at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary Education Center, 3774 Orweiler Rd., Mansfield, the second Tuesday in January, April, July and October from 6-8 pm. The series includes an art and/or craft project with a guest speaker related to the workshop's theme. The workshops provide an opportunity to enjoy a fun activity with friends and family in a nature setting.

The first workshop, "For the Birds!" is Jan. 10, 2023. Attendees will make a gourd birdhouse and create a nesting ball from a suet cage. Gail Laux, executive director at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary, will provide a program on birds and the sanctuary. Parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged.

Richland SWCD will provide the materials and tools needed to make the projects. Reservations are requested and the workshop costs \$12 per person.

Visit <https://richlandswcd.net/get-involved/calendar> or call 419-747-8685 for more information and to register for the workshops.

**•Ontario Board wraps up 2022**

*(Continued from Front Page)*

January Organizational Meeting. The organizational and the regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 7 pm in the Ontario High School Library. The meeting will include the reconfiguring of building entrances, a campus signage update, Ontario community holiday generosity and state mandated K-3 Dyslexia training for teachers.

**Bill protecting human trafficking  
victims approved by General Assembly**

State Rep. Marilyn John (R-Richland County) announces that House Bill 390 was approved by the General Assembly through the criminal justice reform package that passed this week.

The amendment of John's legislation to the criminal justice bill requires governmental evidence-retention entities to secure and test sexual assault examination kits in relation to an investigation or prosecution of trafficking in persons.

"Our goal is to stress to our law enforcement partners and our communities that Ohio is dedicated to fighting this crime," said John. "We want to ensure that human trafficking victims are able to receive the proper care, justice, and attention that they deserve and desperately need."

Currently, sexual assault examination kits (SAE kits) are not required to be tested when it comes to the investigation or evidence that human trafficking has occurred. Therefore, oftentimes the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) does not test the SAE kits within the realm of human trafficking.

However, SAE kits are required to be tested for the following crimes: murder, voluntary or involuntary manslaughter, rape (completed or attempted), vehicular homicide or manslaughter, sexual battery and gross sexual imposition.

The legislation it was added to, Senate Bill 288, now heads to the governor's desk for consideration.

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*Merry Christmas*

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## Warrior Leadership Council helps at Crossroads' Adopt A Child

Ontario sophomores and senior members of the Warrior Leadership Council spent the morning of Dec. 12 at Crossroads Community Church to help prepare gifts for nearly 1,000 youth in the community for the Adopt A Child outreach, which the church hosts every year.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

# BP ELECTRIC

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# Celebrating with True Holiday Spirit

By Bryan Golden

Among other things, the holidays are a time of giving and receiving gifts. The question most often asked of people is, "what did you get?" Much less frequently asked is, "what did you give?" Invariably, the inquiries concern material gifts. Purchasing a gift can certainly be thoughtful and a wonderful gesture, especially when it's backed up by your actions.

However, the most valuable presents are those that aren't sold in stores. When you give your love, your time, help someone in need, aid another in solving a problem or overcoming an obstacle, you give something priceless.

The true spirit of the holidays is giving. When you give, you receive. You can get anything in life you want by helping enough others get what they want. But only if you give without expecting anything in return. The impact of giving isn't limited to just the holiday season, it's something that has value all year.

The power of giving is often underestimated. When you give unconditionally, you don't just impact the recipient; you start a chain reaction. By brightening the life of one person you also affect all those who they then touch.

No gesture of giving or kindness is too small. Holding the door open at a store, helping someone carry groceries to their car, letting another car in front of you, saying please and thank you, and saying hello to a stranger you pass on the sidewalk, are some of the many things you can do daily.

For family and friends, your time is one of the most precious gifts you can offer. Are you there for others when they need you? Do you offer a hand without being asked? Do you help out when asked?

Too often, people get caught up in their own desires, thus losing sight of the needs of others. A person who tries to get through life by looking out for himself or herself first is invariably frustrated. Often this person views life as a competition to determine who can accumulate more.

On the other hand, those who are concerned for the wellbeing of others are happier, more content, and more satisfied. By giving without expecting, they in turn receive the things they need.

Giving is a simple concept that works every time it is applied. There will be people who don't appreciate what you do, but it doesn't matter. You are giving without anticipating anything in return. Besides, there will be many more who are thankful for your efforts.

If you don't treat others well, buying a gift won't compensate for your behavior. The recipient might like what you give them but it won't make up for your actions. You can't bribe someone to forgive the way you treat them with a present.

The best gift you can receive is the joy of making someone else happy. Being unselfish is a wonderful way to live. When you give with no ulterior motives, your actions are seen as genuine. Should you expect something in return, your behavior is always suspect. We all know people who do nice things only when they want something in return.

Make giving a daily routine. Don't start and end with the holiday season. Every day is a good day to do something nice. When people feel good due to your actions, you can't help but feel happy yourself. And that is priceless. The most significant action you can take is having a positive impact on the lives of others.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at [Bryan@columnist.com](mailto:Bryan@columnist.com) or visit [www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com](http://www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com). Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden.



Photo By Traci Little

**EVEN THE KITCHEN** is decorated for the holidays as Christmas at Kingwood continues. Guests can visit parts of the mansion that have never previously been open to the public..

*Wishing You  
A Merry Christmas  
as we reflect  
on the birth of the Savior*



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## Richland Academy registration opportunities available

Richland Academy of the Arts Spring Registration is open and ongoing for all group classes and private lessons. Year-round class offerings include new opportunities such as, line drawing with instructor Autumn Cadle, musical theatre with instructors Maria Beery and Erin Wolford, piano pals with Olivia Rayburn and improv olympics with Maria Beery.

There are returning class favorites including creative movement with instructors Sarah Horrigan-Ramos and Erin Wolford, kenpo-martial arts with instructor Jason Farnsworth, music together with instructor Megan Williams and adult ballet and salsa with instructor and artist in residence, Marden Ramos.

There are classes for all ages from birth to 60 + . Register online at [www.richlandacademy.com](http://www.richlandacademy.com) or call 419-523-8224. Richland Academy of The Arts offers a tuition assistance program and to be an approved Ohio Department of Education Service Provider with the Afterschool Child Enrichment (ACE) Program. To find out more about the qualifications and benefits of these programs visit [www.richlandacademy.com](http://www.richlandacademy.com).

Richland Academy is located at the corner of 4th and Walnut St. and was founded in 1991. It is supported by the Ohio Arts Council.



Photos By Mark Shutt

## Jesus is the Reason for the Season

**Thank you**  
for your continued support and referrals.  
Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.  
—Scott and Staff

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10 - 6 (Sunday)



MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL held its elementary Christmas concert at Storyside. The program has a longstanding tradition of having first graders recite Luke 2 from memory. This has been a tradition at MCS for over 60 years.

# Merry Christmas, neighbors.

We wish all our neighbors peace, joy and love this Christmas season and beyond. We are blessed to be part of such a wonderful community.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



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Bus: 419-755-5010  
michellegates.com

State Farm  
Bloomington, IL  
2006049





### Ontario students attend carousel party

Ontario Stingel Elementary had a special night at Richland Carousel Park in downtown Mansfield on Friday, Dec. 9.

All Stingel families were welcome to ride the carousel, make a craft and get a picture with Santa. There was also face painting, letter writing to Santa, and students enjoyed seeing their teachers and principals outside of school.



**Closed for Christmas**  
Friday, 12/23 – Monday, 12/26

**Closed for New Years**  
Friday, 12/30 – Monday, 1/2

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Photo by Damon Callis

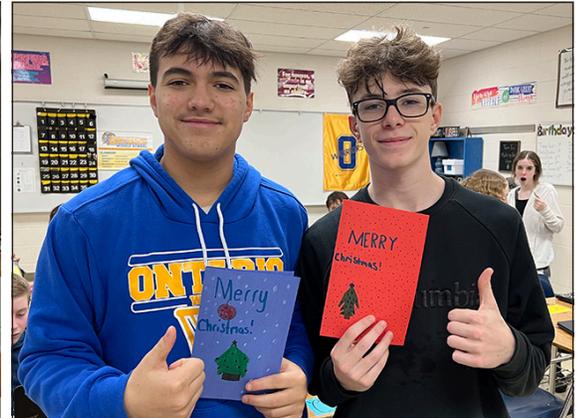
**Day Trippin' With Damon** – *A Christmas Story* fans can visit the home where the well-known Christmas movie was filmed in Cleveland. In the home are also movie artifacts. For information visit <https://www.achristmasstoryhouse.com>.



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ONTARIO MIDDLE SCHOOL students made Christmas cards during an activity day before school let out for Christmas break.

## Richland County Foundation opens scholarship application early

The Richland County Foundation opened its college scholarship application on Monday, Dec. 19, which is two weeks earlier than previous years.

“We hope students will take advantage of the earlier date to complete the application over the holiday break in December,” said Community Investment Officer Siera Marth-May.

New applicants including high school seniors must have at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA), and returning applicants must have at least a 2.0 GPA, attend an accredited school and be a resident of Richland County or a graduate of a Richland County high school. The deadline for college scholarship applications is April 1.

The Foundation Board of Trustees also awards career technical education (CTE) scholarships to individuals who want to obtain certifications and credentials at accredited technical institutions. The applications will be considered as they are received, and the award determinations will be made within eight weeks.

The scholarship will be sent directly to the school. These are not recurring scholarships so students must re-apply each year. College and CTE scholarships are based on financial need. For more information visit [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org) or contact Marth-May at 419-525-3020 or [smarth@rcfoundation.org](mailto:smarth@rcfoundation.org).



THE PIONEER PRESCHOOL program was held last week. Families could enjoy a hot cocoa bar and visits with Santa Claus.

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## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Lady Rams fall to Yellow Jackets in close matchup

By Cal Rickert

**MADISON** — After an impressive Ohio Cardinal Conference victory against Ashland, a greatly improved Rams team looked to pick up their second conference win of the season against Mount Vernon last Thursday.

In a hectic back-and-forth matchup that went down to the wire, the Yellow Jackets outlasted Madison 38–33. However, in a moral victory, the Rams showed signs of improvement, playing excellent defense and executing on the offensive end.

From the tip, Mount Vernon implemented a two-three zone defense, keeping the pace of the game at an even tempo. Showing signs of hesitation on offense, the Rams were slow to attack the zone, quickly falling behind 8–2. Forward Nevaeh Williams took control of the low post, dominating the Rams inside picking up a couple of baskets quickly and dishing out assists.

Williams quickly picked up two fouls, however, heading to the bench and allowing the Rams to regroup. Cutting Mount Vernon's lead to just 10–9 at the end of the quarter, guard Savannah Rachel knocked in a deep buzzer-beating three pointer.

"[Williams] just posts up and we weren't doing a good job being aware of her. She has a nice touch and she shoots the basketball well. She definitely played a good basketball game against us," said Madison coach Mike Leeper.

In the second quarter, Leeper quickly adjusted his offensive strategy against Mount Vernon's two-three zone, feeding the ball to the high post and looking to the low post for easy scores. The Rams executed flawlessly, finding a hole in the open zone and dumping the ball down to forward Chloe Ebeling for the score and quickly retaking the lead.

"We just had to be patient on offense because a lot of times we just throw up the first shot that we get," said Ebeling. "Once we started swinging the ball, more opportunities opened and that's how we started getting more quality shots."

The Yellow Jackets did not sit back for long though, guard Brooklyn Thayer took charge now that Williams was still on the bench in foul trouble. Off of a Madison turnover, Thayer bolted down the court and, receiving the pass, made a nifty move in the paint to score over a Ram defender. On the next possession, Thayer stole the ball herself and layed the ball in on the other end, reclaiming the lead 16–15 at the half.

Heading into the third quarter, the Rams looked to force the initiative on the defensive end, looking to slow down Mount Vernon's excellent guard play. Madison implemented a mixture of a one-three-one full court press and man-to-man. This paid dividends quickly as the Yellow Jackets struggled to handle the ball in traps. The Rams forced seven turnovers, helping them to keep pace but failed to pull away and really capitalize on Mount Vernon's mistakes.

"We were just trying some different things to try to confuse them. The problem was when we did get a stop or a possession, we did not do a good job of converting on the other end," said Leeper.

Chloe Ebeling once again stepped up big for the Rams, dominating Mount Vernon's lethargic two-three zone. Madison continued to swing the ball around the perimeter as they looked to find a gap in the high post. Once they found an opening, Ebeling quickly established her spot on the block, sealing her defender behind her for an easy score. Ebeling scored all but two of Madison's points in the quarter.

Ebeling praised her teammates ability to move the ball, emphasizing the importance of waiting for an open opportunity resulting in a high-quality look saying, "a lot of times my [teammates] passed the ball around the wings. Then I was able to post up on my girl on the block, get a good pass and just go up strong."

The Rams were finally able to claw back and tie the game just under the three minute mark. The Yellow Jackets struggled to penetrate past Ebeling in the post, so they turned to beyond the arc for their points. With just over a minute remaining, shooting guard Re-

es Lepley nailed a three-pointer to push the Yellow Jackets ahead and gain momentum going into the final quarter.

In the final quarter, Mount Vernon had still not found a solution to Madison's dominating post presence. Ebeling and Brianna Bowles both found success in the paint, scoring around the rim to keep the Rams within reach. Unfortunately, Madison struggled from outside the paint, failing to connect on jump-shots.

"I thought we missed some opportunities and we did not shoot the basketball well," said Leeper. "We missed some bunnies and we need to be strong when we're shooting the basketball when we are under duress. I think that will cure a lot of our other problems."

While the Rams battled to retake the lead in the fourth quarter, the Yellow Jackets took much better care of the ball, limited their turnovers and played more efficiently on the offensive end. Matters were only made worse for the Rams when Savannah Rachel went down and exited the game with an injury.

After the long delay from the injury, the Rams seemed to lose any momentum they had previously created. Failing to get stops on the defensive end, the Yellow Jackets began to pull away. Late in the quarter and trailing, Madison was forced to foul and send Mount Vernon to the free-throw line.

Shooting guard Hayley Burke showed great poise for Mount Vernon as she was fouled on back-to-back possessions, giving her the opportunity to put the game out of reach at the line. On both opportunities, Burke sank both free throws, pushing the final score to 38–33 and cementing their win over the Rams.

In the victory, the Yellow Jackets shared the load on offense well with six players scoring on the night. Williams led the way with 11 points. Thayer followed behind her, contributing eight points of her own. Burke followed directly behind with 7 points.

Although the Rams still have just one win on the season, they showed great signs of improvement. Madison forced 16 turnovers on the night and rotated well defensively to give up just 38 points. On the offensive end, Ebeling had a stand-out performance, scoring 18 points and amassing a number of rebounds.

Leeper praised Ebeling's performance and noted her continual improvement this season saying, "Chloe played hard and she played well under duress and in some tough situations. I think that she is getting better with each basketball game."

Ebeling's fellow forward Brianna Bowles also contributed six points on the night and played well on the defensive end, displaying her ability as a rim-protector. Rachel also pitched in three points before her night was cut short by injury.

## News Briefs in Education

Will Bolin of Ontario was appointed a student ambassador by the Baldwin Wallace University Center for Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement. BW Student Ambassadors is a student organization that fosters relationships between BW alumni and the University. Ambassadors undergo a competitive selection process with finalists invited to the home of BW President Bob and Linda Helmer for a group interview.

Bolin, a graduate of Ontario High School majoring in finance, was appointed along with 11 other students.

For over 20 years, the BW Student Ambassadors organization has encouraged high-level volunteerism and service to the university as well as advanced professional and personal development training for its members.

★

Elizabeth Zerby of Lexington is among 285 students who have been named to Ohio Dominican University's 2022 Fall Semester Dean's List. In order to make the list, full-time undergraduate students must have achieved a 3.5 GPA or better after taking a minimum of 12 credit hours. Ohio Dominican University is located in Columbus.

## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

### Spreading the love: Lexington tops Madison with five players in double digits

By Cal Rickert

**LEXINGTON** — Coming off of a three-game losing streak, Madison knew they were in for a tough matchup against an undefeated Lexington team that clearly had a height advantage across the board.

While it was to be expected that the Minutemen were going to play to this advantage and force the ball inside to their dominant post players, it is nearly impossible to prepare for a team that shared the ball and the scoring load so well. In their 67-40 blowout victory on Tuesday night, Lexington had five players record double digit points on their way to keep their winning streak intact.

“It’s something that we thought we had the personal to do. Maybe not all five guys in one night, but we knew we had a number of different guys that could step up on any given night,” said Lexington coach Scott Hamilton. “I think it’s a testament to these [players] being able to move the ball around with different guys in different positions. If you focus on one guy then the others are going to take their shots.”

Coming out of the tip, however, the Minutemen were not able to find their shot right away. The Rams, led by freshman guard Seven Allen, quickly went on a 10-4 run. Allen quickly put up six points, however, also committed two fouls, limiting his time played in the first.

“One thing we talked about with [Allen] is getting those dribble hand-offs or ball screens, if [our defenders] go under those he has such a quick release and he can look at the rim and get those [shots] off so fast,” said Hamilton. “I thought when he picked up those two fouls early and went to the bench... it changed the way he played a little bit.”

With the Rams offense now in check, the Minutemen went on the offensive. Sticking to their gameplan, Lexington fed the ball in the post to senior forward Baden Forup, connecting on a short layup opportunity and recording a block on the defensive end the next possession. Guard Gavin Husty knocked down a deep three with just under a minute remaining to secure a 16-13 Lexington lead at the end of the first.

Lexington did not waste any time in the second on the offensive side of the ball. Continuing to dominate in the post, the Minutemen went on a 14-4 run. Again Forup made his presence felt, slamming home a monster two-hand dunk and also knocking down free throws after getting fouled around the rim.

“Offensively [Baden] was really looking for the ball. He had 16 [rebounds] tonight. I think that was the name of the game for us,” said Hamilton. “We won the boards forty seven to twenty four; that was the big difference for us - those second chance opportunities we had.”

While the Rams had an impressive start to the game, they were unable to carry this momentum going forward. Scoring just eight points in the second quarter, Madison failed to find quality shot opportunities. While they were successful getting into the paint, Lexington’s height resulted in altered shots, holding the Rams to making just 28 percent of their field goals on their way to a 34-20 lead in the first half.

“I thought we looked winded early in the game and I thought we were going to catch our second wind,” said Madison coach Chris Armstrong. “A lot of times in big games you just over-exert yourself initially, but it’s like we never caught the second wind.”

Coming out of the break, Madison showed signs of fight outscoring the Minutemen 14-13 in the third. Senior guard Jayden Jeffries attacked the basket and was able to find success scoring in the paint. He also connected from deep behind the three-point line. Allen once again was able to penetrate past Lexington’s taller defenders, working his way to the free-throw line and also scoring in transition.

(Continued on Page 15)



Photo By Jeff Hoffer

**MADISON FRESHMAN** Seven Allen goes up for a basket against two Lexington players.



Photo By Jeff Hoffer

**LEXINGTON SENIOR** Hudson Moore avoids an attempted block by Madison junior Will Kepple.

# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## •Lex tops Madison with five players in double digits

*(Continued from Page 14)*

With just under 1:30 remaining, the Rams cut Lexington's lead to just 11 points.

Fortunately for Lexington, freshman Brayden Fogle came alive in the third. After being held scoreless in the first half, Fogle quickly put up six of his ten points in the third and played tenacious defense around the rim.

"I really just had to get myself right to be honest. I started off slow and wasn't feeling too great. It's really just a mental game and I had to lock in and get myself ready to go," said Fogle.

Even with Lexington's dominant play in the post, they were also able to find success from beyond the arc. Shooting an efficient six for nine from three, the Minutemen were able to find open shot opportunities on kick out passes when Madison's defense collapsed in the paint.

"I never been one to rely on that three point line, but we have some guys that can knock them down," said Hamilton. "I told them we took nine, that's it, not some of these conference teams that are taking twenty-one or twenty-two... but if we get nine or ten good looks, let's let it go because we have the guys that can knock it down."

Heading into the final quarter of play, the Rams offense had completely stalled out, scoring just six points. The Minutemen took advantage of a depleted Madison defense, forcing quality shots in the paint and also getting easy put-back points on offensive rebounds.

Overall, the Minutemen scored 12 points on second chance opportunities to Madison's two. A 20 to six run to end the game sealed Lexington's 67-40 victory to remain undefeated.

Thus far, Lexington has won all of their matchups by double-digits and has yet to face a tough test down the stretch in games. However, coach Hamilton is still sure his team can make strides as the season continues and emphasized the need for better execution on offensive sets.

"I think we've got a lot to work on... there's a lot of things tonight when we were trying to run stuff... and execute it didn't happen. Maybe something good came out of [the play], maybe it didn't, but it wasn't what we were trying to run and it wasn't the play we were executing. When you get into those tight games, that has to happen."

On the night, Forup led the Minutemen in scoring with 18 points and also on the boards with 16. Forwards Hudson Moore and Elijah Hudson each had impressive nights, posting 15 points and 10 points, respectively. They also combined for 19 of Lexington's 47 rebounds. Senior guard AJ Young reached double digits with 11 points and contributed four assists.

Madison relied heavily on Allen and Jeffries for their offensive production. Jayden led the way for the Rams with 17 points and seven rebounds. Allen followed closely with 16 points. Tatum Turcott pitched in with five points of his own. With the loss, the Rams continue their losing streak, extending it to four games.



Photos By Jeff Hoffer

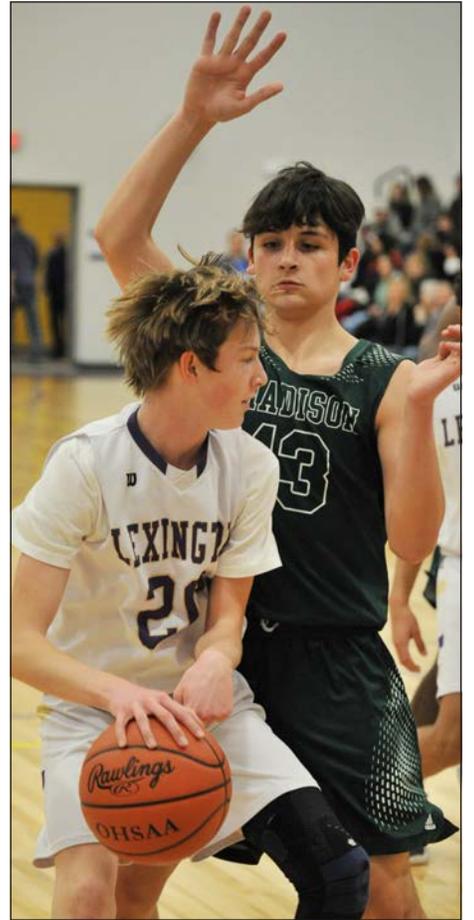
# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**LEXINGTON VS MADISON VARSITY BASKETBALL · DEC. 13 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



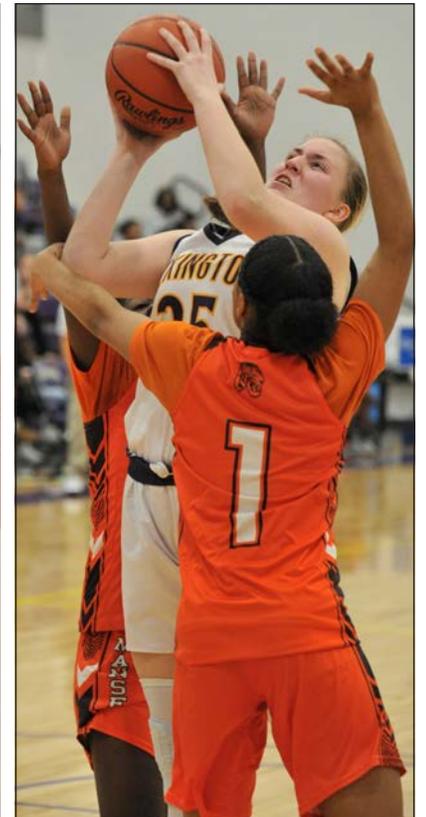
# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS LEXINGTON JV BASKETBALL · DEC. 13 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS MANSFIELD SENIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · DEC. 15 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS MANSFIELD SENIOR JV BASKETBALL · DEC. 15 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



## Madison board hires substitute teachers, supplemental staff

Madison Local Schools Board of Education met Dec. 14 in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

Jonathan Muro, Madison Middle School Principal, and Andrew Kepple, Madison Middle School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, gave a presentation. Bradd Stevens gave the treasurer's report and the November monthly financial report was approved as submitted.

Kalen Oslie resigned as head coach for ninth grade baseball, effective Nov. 30. Supplemental positions were awarded to Troy Schulz, online academy teacher, 2nd semester; and Kalen Oslie, assistant varsity baseball coach.

Madison Adult Career Center hired Josh Boliantz as the Heartsaver CPR/AED/FA instructor.

Substitute teachers hired on an "on-call" basis, as needed for the 2022-'23 school year are Todd Wynn and Erica Love.

Hired for the 2022-'23 school year are Christopher Kukowski, 2-hour cook at the high school; and Diana Donahue, 2-hour AM bus aide as assigned.

Resignations were accepted from Maranda Clark, MECLC, effective Nov. 29 and Beth Conn, 2-hour cook at the middle school, effective Dec. 20. The retirement of J. Maxine Hall, Adult Career Center, was approved, effective Jan. 31, 2023.

Substitute employees hired on an "on-call" basis, as needed, for the 2022-'23 school year are special education aided Beth Conn and Tara Elliott.

The board approved the revision of the Administrative Salary Schedule with the addition of the assistant treasurer position to the schedule. A treasurer's licensure issued by the Ohio Department of Education and a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree are required for placement.

A Memorandum of Understanding was approved with OAPSE Local #292 to modify the deductible requirement for a single high deductible health plan to \$3,000, indexed up from \$2,800 to meet the minimum deductible requirements established by the I.R.S.

A Memorandum of Understanding was reached with the Madison Local Education Association (MLEA) to modify the deductible requirement for a single high deductible health plan to \$3,000, indexed up from \$2,800 to meet the minimum deductible requirements established by the I.R.S.

The board approved the termination of the employment of Dai-sha Reuer on the grounds of violations of the rules and regulations of the Madison Early Childhood Learning Center, violations of Ohio Revised Code and/or Ohio Administrative Code, insubordination, neglect of duty and other acts of misfeasance, malfeasance and/or nonfeasance and direct the treasurer to serve upon her notice of this board's action by certified mail.

A resolution will allow the school district to place an 8 mill levy on the May 2, 2023 ballot.

An organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 6 pm and the next regular board of education meeting will be announced at a later time.

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# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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12-22, 29 '22

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their regular meeting held on December 14, 2022.

The complete text of this Ordinance may be viewed and copies obtained at the Office of the Clerk of Council, Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio, during regular business hours.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-50 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023.

Cathy VanAuker  
Clerk of Council  
City of Ontario, Ohio  
(T-C 12-22, 29 '22) 23L



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## Bill removing regulations to advance career pathways approved

State Rep. Marilyn John (R-Richland County) announces her legislation, House Bill 509, reviewing professional occupational licensures across the state has been approved by the General Assembly on Wednesday. John served as a joint sponsor of the bill alongside State Rep. Sarah Fowler Arthur.

“Throughout the legislative process on this bill, we reviewed over 200 licenses and did our due diligence to work collaboratively with the boards to make the proper modifications advancing career pathways for residents across our state,” John said. “By updating these licensures, we’re breaking down barriers and competitively aligning ourselves with surrounding states to promote job growth and enhance our economy.”

The legislation is part of the process to review professional occupational licensure and ensure balancing of consumer protections and quality standards with best practices, competitive fees, and reasonable education requirements. This occupational licensure review process was established in Senate Bill 255 in the 132nd General Assembly.

Throughout the legislative process, the representatives reviewed materials from 19 state boards as well as other interested parties to be sure the best legislation has been drafted. Some of the boards impacted by this legislation are the Board of Building Standards, Board of Pharmacy, Board of Psychology, and the Vision Professionals Board. The legislation now moves to the governor’s office for his signature.

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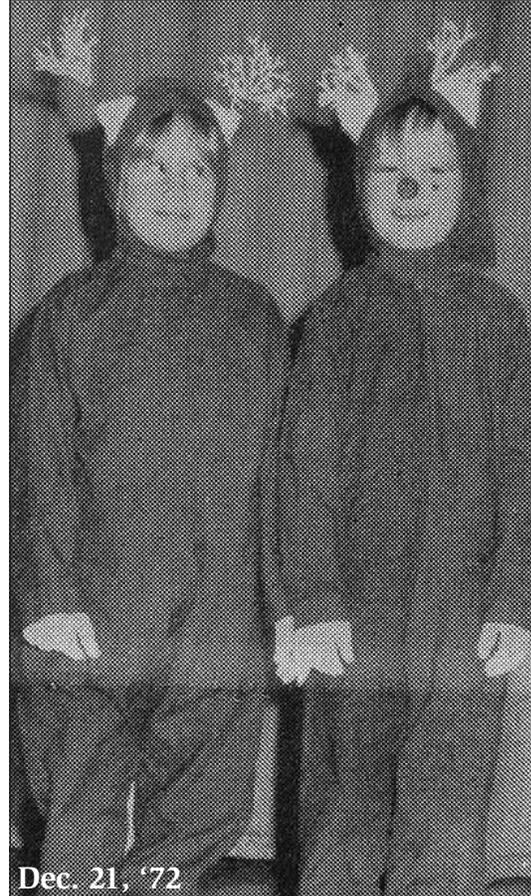
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LOOKING BACK • THIS WEEK IN TRIBUNE-COURIER HISTORY



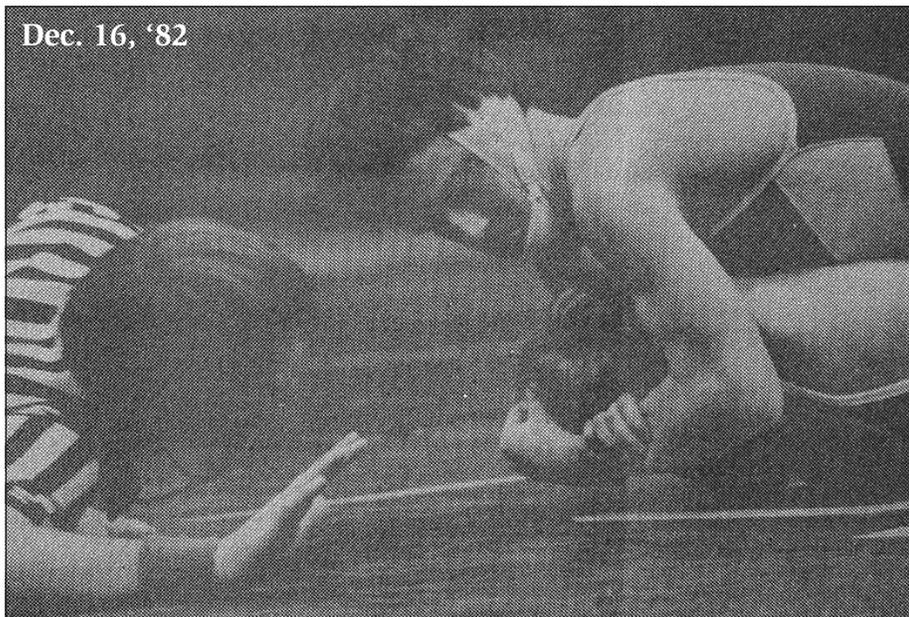
Dec. 21, '72

When the First Grade Choir at Bedford Elementary School presented their part of the "Merry Christmas from Our House to Yours" this week, four elves dressed in red and green costumes showed up to display some of the toys they have been making all year long. They are (L. to R.) Debbie McMillen, Karen Mitchell, Jennifer Eaton and Pam Orsan.



Dec. 21, '72

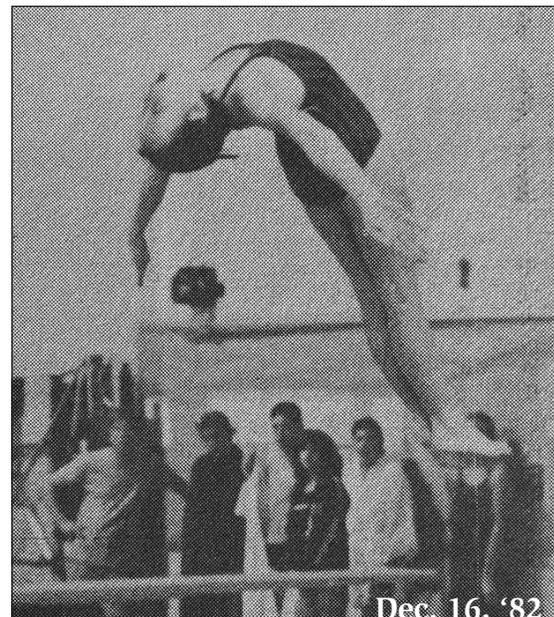
A Christmas program would not be complete without the appearance of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and some of his buddies. Lea Ann Radford and Susan Bumpus as Rudolph, both first grade pupils, sang "We're a Couple of Misfits" at the Bedford Elementary School program this week presented in the gymnasium for parents and friends.



Dec. 16, '82

**JUNIOR KEVIN SHEEHE** of Ontario won his 126-pound weight class match against Willard's David Handshoe by a pin in the Ontario grappling crew's 1982-83 season opener against the Flashes. Ontario went on to claim an unexpectedly close 36-34 victory in the meet last Wednesday here at Ontario.

Photo by JM



Dec. 16, '82

**FRESHMAN Denise Kreutzer** of Ontario performs the graceful back dive during last Saturday's meet against Sandusky Perkins and Ayersville. Denise finished first against Ayersville and second against Perkins.

Photo by JM