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

news@tribune-courier.com

12.07.23



DICK AND JIM HAGERMAN will retire their infamous light display after this Christmas season. The display can be seen in the Madison area at the S-curve of Beal Rd. and Fleming Falls Rd.

Donors make Richland Gives another success

Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Richland County Foundation, raised \$514,386 via 2,000 donors to benefit 106 Richland County nonprofit organizations. Since its inception in 2015, Richland Gives has raised almost \$3M.

Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits through a single giving website. The foundation hosted the day to build capacity, grow philanthropy and make the community stronger. It allows local organizations to raise funds and awareness as well as cultivate new donors and reinvigorate lapsed donors.

The foundation awarded \$80,000 in grants as prize incentives during the giving event. The nonprofit organizations that had the most donors or raised the most dollars in the small, medium and large nonprofit categories were awarded \$5,000 for first place, \$3,000 for second place, and \$1,000 for third place. Nonprofits could win only one leader board prize.

The winners in the small nonprofit category for achieving the most donors were Visual Bucket List, first; Altrusa, second; and Mid-Ohio Guardianship, third.

Winners in the small nonprofit category for achieving the most dollars were Taking Root Farms, first; North Central Ohio Land Conservancy, second; and Clear Fork Valley Foundation, third.

The winners in the medium nonprofit category for achieving the most donors were: Ohio Bird Sanctuary, first; Humane Society of Richland County, second; and Habitat for Humanity, third.

The winners in the medium nonprofit category for achieving the most dollars were Lucas Community Center, first; North Central State College Foundation, second; and Rise FM, third.

The winners in the large nonprofit category for achieving the most donors were Discovery School, first; Richland Pregnancy Services, second; and North End Community Improvement Collaborative, third.

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Hagerman brothers celebrate 63rd and final year with Beal Road light display

By Traci Little

As the winter blues set in, it's always magical to drive around town and look at all of the bright and beautiful Christmas lights! Children in the backseat, sipping their mugs of hot cocoa, and shouting out their favorite light display.

After 63 years, Mansfield's Hagerman brothers will be retiring their light display at the corner of Fleming Falls Rd. and 1348 Beal Rd., in the Madison area.

This was a hard decision for these brothers and their families. Dick will turn 87 on Dec. 8 and his brother, Jim Hagerman, is 77. It's definitely bittersweet for the family and the community.

With 2023 being the Hagerman brothers' farewell season, you won't want to miss driving by this truly special Christmas light display.

When the announcement was made on Facebook about their final season, comments came flooding in with love and appreciation! Who knew that they would warm so many hearts in North Central Ohio for more than 60 years!

When Dick Hagerman built his very first Santa Clause plywood display for his chimney in

1960, he never imagined what it would turn into! For 63 years, these lights have brought smiles and laughter to families around Richland County.

Dick Hagerman built his house on Beal Road back in 1958, with his dad. He remembers moving into his new home in December of 1959.

"I've been in construction and electrical work my whole life," said Dick.

He married his sweetheart, Barbara, in 1955. Dick says she enjoyed all of the lights, but pretty much stuck to decorating indoors. Barbara passed away five years ago on her wedding anniversary, surrounded by family. She battled with Parkinson's Disease and finished well.

Dick graduated from Madison High School and went through a four-year apprenticeship program to become an electrician. He worked for Richland Electric and went through a couple different buyouts over the years and finally retired from Lake Erie Electric company after working for 46 years.

Working as an electrician, he knew exactly how to make the light display all come together. Each year it grew bigger and better, with 99 percent of the displays made by hand. Dick's be-

loved train was built and first debuted in 1978. This is Dick's favorite display, because he made it for his first granddaughter, Candace, when she was one-year-old. In 2002, she passed away from a heart condition at the age of 23.

Over the years they've made new displays using discarded parts or scraps from their garages and basements. With more than 45 displays in his front yard, it's quite a sight to see! The lights take two weeks to set up with more than 30,000 - 40,000 lights between the two brothers' homes and the field in between. Something has been added each new year with nothing ever retired.

In 1975, Dick's younger brother, Jim, followed in his brother's footsteps and started decorating the outside of his home as well at the corner of Fleming Falls Rd. A carpenter by trade, Jim made most of his displays out of wood in the beginning. As his lights started to evolve over the years, he moved to metal like his brother Dick.

The last few years Dick has made something new in the month of September. He moves everything from the little horse barn to the big garage in October

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*Home of
The Speelman Family
of Westerville*

Christmas
outdoor
SPACES

Noah Cook, Soldier and Pioneer

By Bob Carter

Noah Cook was born in Morris County, New Jersey, on Aug. 9, 1758. His father was Jacob Cook, whose ancestors came from Holland on the Mayflower. Noah was an exceptional man, serving the whole time of the Revolutionary War. Cook had served six enlistments in the Pennsylvania Militia, between 1777 and 1782.

Having served several terms, he was one-time chaplain of the Fifth Regiment of The Continental troops under General Sullivan's brigade.

After the war ended, he received no written discharge as only scattered records were kept. He then returned to southwestern Pennsylvania. He next was a volunteer under Col. William Crawford with 480 troops that set out primarily to kill Indians in northern Ohio in 1782.

The army of 480, which started out from Mingo Bottom, Pennsylvania, marched through the counties of Jefferson, Harrison, Tuscarawas, Holmes, Ashland, Richland and Crawford, nearly the center of Wyandot country. The army passed through what would become the northern part of Mansfield. They came to the Indian village of Old Town, which they found deserted.

The volunteer army ran into a buzz saw when they tried to attack an Indian settlement west and were met by Delaware, Wyandot and Seneca Indians and a bunch of British Rangers from Detroit.

The British did their best to get the Indians to ally against the American movement westward.

In the defeat known in history as Crawford's Defeat, Crawford was captured near Leesville, just north of Galion, and hideously tortured and burned at the stake at their Delaware village near Upper Sandusky. Noah Cook was in that ambush and, in retreat, lost his horse, saddle and bridal, all of which he owned. He also had furnished his own rifle. The defeated a regiment of about 300 members and were able to stay together and escape.

That was enough of that. Cook moved to Knox County and then to Richland County in 1813 and bought 164 acres in Washington Township and another 160 acres in Troy Township.

A son, Jacob, had moved to what became Lexington in 1812 and built a tavern near Amariah Watson's grist and sawmills. Watson no doubt cut the lumber for the tavern as one would have to wait in line to have its grist ground into flour, hence the need. There was no other mill for miles.


In old age, Noah applied for a government pension for those who had served in the Revolutionary War and also the regiment with Col.

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A SIMILAR bronze marker denotes Revolutionary War Soldiers.



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News Briefs

The Herlihy Christmas House, 170 W. Second St., Mansfield, will host its open house Dec. 7, 8, 9 and 10, from 6-9 pm.

The Christmas House has been a holiday tradition for many years. The family's personal collection is on display and features over 30 Christmas trees, hundreds of Santas, villages, trains and themed collections.

A minimum \$2 donation is requested per person. Donations will be given to local animal shelters and the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program. Parking is in the Herlihy Funeral Home parking lot.

For more info or private tours for over 20 people call Terri Herlihy at 419-544-9863 or visit www.herlihychristmashouse.com

★
First Congregation Church Choir will present The Dawn from on High by Dan Forrest on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 10:30 am in the sanctuary.

This is a five-movement work for chorus and orchestra encompassing ancient chant, shimmering light, unconditional love, heavenly joy and deep peace. The church is located at 640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield.

★
Locust Corners Bulk Food & Deli, 6917 Ankneytown Rd., Bellville, will host its Annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, Dec. 9.

The open house will feature free homemade cookie tasting and chocolate dipping.

Deli specials include black forest ham \$4.49/lb.; smoked turkey \$5.19/lb.; Pearl Valley marble cheese \$3.49/lb.; Guggisberg baby swiss cheese \$4.19/lb.; and John F. Martin crab dip \$6.59/lb.

Dark chocolate almonds will be on sale for \$6.59/lb. and roasted and salted cashews will be \$6.29/lb.

★
The Pioneer Career and Technology Center Board of Education will hold its regular December board of education meeting at 6 pm, Monday, Dec. 18, in the Pioneer Room Restaurant located in the west end of the building at the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Shelby.

★
There will be two sessions of the Senior Citizen Luncheon at Madison Comprehensive High School's Ramble Inn, 600 Esley Ln., on Thursday, Dec. 14. The first session will be at 11 am, and the second will be at 12:30 pm. The cost is \$8 per lunch. Reservations must be made by noon on Tuesday, Dec. 12. Call the board office at 419-589-2600, ext. 65001, or email rlyons@madisonrams.net to make a reservation.

★
The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month.

The December meal will be held Wednesday, Dec. 20, at the Ontario Event Center at 11 am. Reservations are \$20 for members and \$25 for non members. Call Anita for availability at 419-565-3461.

Jane Horton, country/gospel singer, will perform.
For information visit www.lexasc.org. Dues are \$10 per year.

★
The Richland County Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings are scheduled for Jan. 24, April 24 and July 24 at 3:15 pm at Richland Public Health, 555 Lexington Ave, Mansfield, in the Corley

Room. For information contact Richland County EMA 419-774-5686.

★
The Ohio District 5 Corporate Board of Trustees meeting will be held Dec. 12, in the boardroom at 2 pm. For additional information, contact Susie Danuloff at sdanuloff@aaa5ohio.org. The boardroom is located at 2131 Park Avenue West in Ontario.

★
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome James Seamus Dillard at 10:30 am on Dec. 10. He will speak on "Yule Traditions Young and Old." For more information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

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

This Week's Pet Looking for A Forever Home



Casey

Casey is a 4-year-old male who has been at the shelter since February of this year.

Casey is incredibly sweet and affectionate. He is also very playful and loves running. He seems to be potty trained and almost always uses the restroom outside. He absolutely loves going on walks.

He can sometimes be a little intimidating on a leash, because he pulls hard. Casey also likes to walk himself and play tug of war with his leash. It can be a little scary when he jumps up to get it, but once you understand he's

playing, it's understandable.

Poor Casey has been in a kennel for almost 10 months; of course he wants to play! Casey is incredibly smart and will drop the leash and sit the second he sees a treat. He wants to be good, he just needs someone to show him how!

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

Currently, adoptions are on a schedule, based on the time the dog has been at the shelter. Dogs that have been at the shelter for more than a year are \$50, dogs there more than six months are \$100, dogs at the shelter longer than three months are \$125, and dogs there less than three months are \$150. This fee includes spay/neuter, microchip, dog license, and some vaccines.

The shelter's current needs are volunteers to walk and play with the dogs as well as fill kongs for the dogs to play with when they are in their kennel, help with laundry or dishes, or clean the yard. The shelter uses a lot of bleach, laundry detergent and dog treats and welcomes donations.

IRAs should come with some TLC.

Mechanics
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• Donors make Richland Gives campaign another success

(Continued from Front Page)

The winners in the large nonprofit category for achieving the most dollars were St. Peter's School, first; Renaissance Performing Arts, second; and Friendly House, third.

The first 10 organizations to raise \$10,000 via 10 donors were awarded a \$1,000 grant prize were Lucas Community Center, North Central State College Foundation, Discovery School, Renaissance Performing Arts, St. Peter's School, Ohio Bird Sanctuary, North Central Ohio Land Conservancy Inc., Women's Fund/Connections Fund, North End Community Improvement Collaborative and Buckeye Imagination Museum.

The organizations awarded grant prizes for raising either the most money or having the most donors during Golden Ticket hours were Time for a Change Diaper Bank, Lucas Community Center, Salvation Army, Clear Fork Valley Foundation, Rise FM, Buckeye Imagination Museum, Renaissance Performing Arts, Taking Root Farms, Visual Bucket List, Habitat for Humanity, St. Peter's School and Richland Pregnancy Services.

Nonprofits that raised at least \$2,000 between Nov. 13-27 during early giving were entered into a random drawing for a chance to win a \$250 grant prize. The winners were Discovery School, Mansfield Noon Optimist Club, Lucas Community Center, North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Taking Root Farms, Richland Pregnancy Services, Friendly House, Richland Academy of the Arts and North Central State College Foundation.

Peer-to-peer fundraiser pages that raised at least \$250 were entered into a random drawing to get their total matched by up to \$1,000. LU Class of '22 -Best Class Ever, set up by Gabe Zader bene-

fitting Mansfield-Richland Area Educational Foundation, raised \$250 and will have that amount matched by the foundation.

Nonprofit organizations that set up matching grants and achieved a 100% match by donors and met the criteria for their organization's category were entered in a random drawing to win a \$1,000 grant prize were North Central Ohio Land Conservancy, St. Peter's School and The Domestic Violence Shelter.

The Best Looking #RichlandGives page as judged by Mighty Cause employees were Boy Scouts of America, Buckeye Council, first, \$1,000; Renaissance Performing Arts Association, second, \$500; and Discovery School, third, \$250.

A \$500 grant prize was awarded by a random drawing for those who attended the educational webinars. The winner was The Ohio State University at Mansfield.

The Richland County Foundation, a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization, was established in 1945 as a way for individuals to pool and invest their gifts for the long-term good of Richland County and its residents. The foundation helps people in Richland County give back to their community by investing their gifts so that grants can be made to improve the quality of life for all of the county's citizens.

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Church Directory

Clear Fork Alliance Church

1008 State Route 97, Bellville
419-886-4333 • www.clearforkalliance.org
Rev. Matt Merendino
Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Sunday Evening 6 pm Home Groups
Monday Men's Group 7:30 pm
Wednesday evenings: 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting
6:30-8 pm TeamKID and Youth Group
Wednesday Ladies Bible Study 6:30-8 pm

Community Bible Church

1043 Springmill St., Mansfield
567-560-8011
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
Interim Pastor Lisa Peterson
9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship
Call about Prayer Groups, Small Groups, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, Pub Theology, Community Meals, Free Produce distribution and Senior Boxes.

Lexington Presbyterian Church

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

Mansfield 1st EPC

399 Trimble Rd., Mansfield
419-756-7066 • www.mansfield1st.com
Rev. Joseph Yerger
9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School
10 am 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
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
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
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
Pastor Faith Prioretti
10 am Sunday Worship

To learn how to be added to this listing send an email to advertising@tribune-courier.com

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MRCPL offers new memory kits

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) has added memory kits to its collection. These memory kits are curated specifically for people with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment.

Each kit is a themed collection of materials that help individuals to reminisce and create meaningful conversations. Materials include a variety of tactile objects, digital media, activities and conversation starters. Kits also include resources to support caregivers and suggest ideas for ways to interact and connect.

According to Alzheimers.org, “Good communication is an important part of living well after diagnosis of dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease. It helps diagnosed individuals to keep a sense of self, sustain relationships, and maintain their quality of life.” The Memory Kits are a part of MRCPL’s Library of Things, a collection of non-traditional items that complement the mission to offer engaging and relevant experiences for people of all ages, supporting a vibrant quality of life.

Memory kits are offered on various topics of interest to an older generation. Customers can borrow kits on topics like the 1950s, cars and trains, farming, and more. These kits can be put on hold and picked up from any of the library’s nine locations or at a Bookmobile stop. For more information visit to mrcpl.org.

Friends of the Library monthly used book sale is this week

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) Evergreen Bookshop will be open for the monthly Friends of the Library Used Book Sale on Friday, Dec. 8, from noon to 4 pm; and Saturday, Dec. 9, from 9 am to 1 pm.

A preview sale will be held for Friends of the Library members only on Thursday, Dec. 7, from noon to 4 pm. Memberships may be purchased at Thursday’s Preview Sale (\$3 per year for individuals).

This sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. Materials (adult, teen and juvenile items) are library discards and public donations offered for sale at extremely low prices. The bookshop is stocked with “new to the store” items each month.

Proceeds from the monthly sales sponsor enrichment activities provided by the main library and its eight branches in Richland County throughout the year.

Evergreen Bookshop is located in downtown Mansfield at 37 N. Walnut St. (at the corner of West Third St. and North Walnut St., next to the main library).

For more information, contact the Evergreen Bookshop at 419-526-4652.

Senior box distribution date changed to third Tuesday for the month of December

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave. West, Mansfield, offers senior boxes on the fourth Tuesday of each month, year ‘round. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank has a program called “Senior Boxes” whereby anyone 60+ who falls in the “low income” guidelines can register and then pick up a 30 pound box of non-perishables including two pounds of cheese and a 15 pound box of pre-pack- aged produce.

Age is a qualification, so those attending should bring a current identification card complete with date of birth and proof of income. Distribution is on the east side of the building between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm to get registered and pick up a box. There is no cost. Call 419-522-0662 for more information.

Because of the holiday, this month the distribution will be held the third Tuesday on Dec. 19.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

- Darrell Chambers Massey, November 25
- Charles “Charlie” R. Murphy, November 26
- Jack Milan Banks, November 27
- Tonya Lynn Kral, December 3

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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•Hagerman brothers celebrate 63rd and final year

(Continued from Front Page)

and performs any repairs. The displays are set up two weeks before Thanksgiving, finetuning every last detail.

The rest of the displays came year after year with the Zero Turn Mower being the last one added. On Thanksgiving night, Dick has about 20 places that he needs plug cords in, set a timer in his basement and then the entire thing lights up all at once!

Dick told me that he's enjoyed living in Ohio all his life and really has enjoyed the seasons. "I'm getting to where I don't enjoy the cold as well, and without the displays, I won't have to go out in it," he said.

"I enjoyed being an electrician, although it was a challenge. As I get older, my hands get cold and when they get cold, they don't work as well and get numb. Handling these little bitty miniature lightbulbs, I just can't do it in anymore in the cold."

Dick makes the displays with half inch electrical thin wall tubing and gets most of the lightbulbs from Lowes. Dick made most of his structures with this method, bending and welding it all together.

Over the years, as grandchildren came along, they gave the brothers a lot of inspiration for any new displays. Be on the lookout for Pokémon, Elmo, Peanuts, Minecraft and many more! Jim's light display became known as the Island of Misfit Toys and Dick's Santa's Workshop.

"One evening, I counted over 1,000 cars coming down our little country road in just one hour. Most people go one way and turn around and come back for another look. You usually catch something you didn't see the first time around," said Dick.

The lights come on Thanksgiving evening and will have one final showing through New Year's Eve of 2023. There will be a Facebook silent auction where they will be taking bids on the whole light display up until Dec. 21. If it doesn't get sold as a unit, it will mostly get broken up among family members. Visit https://www.facebook.com/events/225154920605725/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%5B%7D for information. Jim said his items will be split up among family members. For all bidding or questions, send an email to hagermanlights23@gmail.com.

was for a couple of years during the 1970's energy crisis.

These beloved Ohioan Brothers know how much the community has loved this tradition year after year. They want to thank the community for all of their love and support.

"Remember, when viewing the lights, prepare for slower traffic. Use your low beams so everyone can see. Feel free to roll down your window to hear the festive music. Think "safety first" and please stay in your vehicle. Be respectful of other drivers and please do not hold up traffic. As a courtesy to neighbors, we ask that visitors please do not turn around in neighboring driveways."



Photos By Traci Little



Photos By Traci Little

Dick Hagerman will celebrate his 87th birthday on Dec. 8.

Ontario Community Events Craft Show • Dec. 2



Photos By Traci Little



BUCKEYE EXPRESS CAR WASH hosted the grand opening of its new location on Park Avenue West on Friday, Dec. 1. The new location is at 381 Park Avenue West (formerly Park Avenue Car Wash Mansfield). Buckeye Express Car Wash has other locations nearby at 616 N. Lexington-Springmill Rd., Ontario; 3115 Park Avenue West, Ontario; 633 N. Stewart Rd., Mansfield (Madison area Kroger plaza); and 1261 Claremont Ave., Ashland. For information visit www.buckeyeexpresscarwash.com, email BuckeyeExpress@ohiocwh.com or call 419-567-6133.



ONTARIO STUDENTS are having energetic debates as they analyze and decipher real-world scenarios, using variables and inequalities to untangle situations. The focus is not only on their understanding and unraveling the given problems but, they also need to apply their knowledge of solving inequalities to find the answer. The active questioning, explaining, and critiquing of each other's approaches fosters collaboration and sharpens their problem-solving skills.

•Noah Cook, Soldier and Pioneer

(Continued from Page 2)

Crawford. Two respected citizens, Crus Longworthy and Ichabod Clark, testified Cook had been in the Continental Army as he remembered the officers he served under. Few records were kept in that war.

On April 20, 1833, Noah Cook received a certificate of pension which stated that Noah Cook of Richland County in State of Ohio, who had been a private in the company commanded by Col. Crawford in the Pennsylvania Line would receive an annual pension of \$23.23 for the rest of his life. That only amounted to \$2 a month!

He died in December of 1834. He was buried in the northeast section of the Lexington Cemetery and a bronze marker at his grave indicates he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

He was one of only two from that war buried there.



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ASHLAND CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING, PARADE & FIREWORKS



Photo by Traci Little



Photo by Traci Little



Photo by Traci Little



Photo by Rachel McKenzie



Photo by Traci Little

ONTARIO CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING · NOVEMBER 30





MRS. GARBERICH'S sixth grade art class at Ontario participated in an International Peace Poster contest sponsored by the Ontario Lions Club. The theme was "Dare to Dream." Students worked hard researching what it would mean to draw "Dare and Dream" as a theme for their posters. It took weeks to draw and paint the posters. Tony Sansalone, from the Mansfield Art Center, along with the Ontario Lion's Club Board selected Emma Boor to represent the region in the contest. First runner-up was Phebe Hipsher, second runner-up was Aileen Mora Steiding and third-runner up was Sylvia Burns.



Photo By Mark Shutt

Events planned at the Renaissance

The Renaissance Theatre has announced a December full of events. A retelling of the classic holiday tale *A Christmas Carol* will be performed Dec. 8, 9 and 10. Angela Ianonne, in a one-person show, will bring the story to life. General admission tickets are available for \$27 for this performance located in Theatre 166.

The Richland Academy of the Arts presents its sixth annual production of *The Nutcracker Ballet* on Dec. 9 and 10.

On Dec. 16, at 7:30 pm, the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra and Chorus will provide traditional and contemporary holiday repertoire. Tickets start at \$15.

On Dec. 17, at 3:30 pm, is the Mansfield Symphony Youth Orchestra, under the baton of Stephen Domka. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

For tickets visit rentickets.org or contact 419-522-2726.



Plymouth FFA members attend national convention

By Nicole Beverage, Plymouth FFA Reporter

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, Plymouth FFA set off to attend the 96th annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Plymouth sent 10 members to the convention. Members that attended were Nicole Beverage, Rylee Gowitzka, Rylie Edwards, Braden Montgomery, Olivia Balkin, Kyrsten Caudill, Kendall Oakley, Matthew Gillum, Zach Miller and Isaiah Miller.

The convention took place from Nov. 1–4 and had a record breaking attendance of 72,952 members from all 50 states. The convention highlights and awards members' success through the FFA and agricultural education.

On Wednesday, members had the opportunity to tour Jungle Jims where they learned many interesting facts about the history of the store, many different foods and cultures, how to prepare specific foods from different countries and much more.

Next, they had a self guided tour of the Newport Aquarium which is host to many different aquatic creatures. Students were given the opportunity to touch a stingray, see alligators, crocodiles, many different varieties of fish, penguins, lizards, iguanas, sharks, a sea turtle, frogs and even a few snakes. There were so many hands-on learning opportunities.

On Thursday and Friday, members attended leadership workshops, career shows, and a FFA shopping mall and expo. Members received information from colleges, ag businesses and other organizations associated with agriculture. There were 287 different exhibitor booths that members could explore and gain information from throughout the expo center.

Friday after spending time at the convention center, members and chaperones attended the fifth general session. They watched many hardworking and talented students receive awards including Proficiency Awards: Agricultural Processing, Diversified Crop Production, Diversified Horticulture, Environmental Science and Natural Resources, Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production, Forage Production, Forest Management and Products, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife Production and Management, Agriscience Research Plant Systems and Career and Leadership Development Event Awards: Poultry Evaluation, Conduct of Chapter Meetings, Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems, Employment Skills, Meats Evaluation & Technology, Environmental & Natural Resources, Milk Quality & Products Agriscience Fair Awards: Plant Systems and Building Communities: Premiere Chapter Award.

Opening ceremonies started with the National Officers from 1972–'73 for their 50th anniversary! They thought that was so cool and everyone was so excited that they got to see it! They met the candidates for National Officers for 2023 and the National FFA Band and heard them play some amazing music! The group then traveled to the Indiana State Fairgrounds to watch the World's Toughest Rodeo.

On Saturday, the group traveled back to the Lucas Oil Stadium to watch Aliya Echelbarger receive the American FFA Degree. During

the convention, there were 4,423 American Degrees awarded. Of these, 457 were awarded to the Ohio FFA members. The American Degree is the fourth and final degree awarded in the FFA and less than 1 percent of FFA members receive this degree. Aaron Artrip-Kuhn also earned his American FFA Degree, but he was not able to attend and receive his degree in person as he was at Basic Training for the U.S. Army Reserves.

The Plymouth FFA Chapter would like to thank the Plymouth-Shiloh FFA Alumni for financially helping to sponsor this trip, the Plymouth-Shiloh Local Schools Board of Education for allowing students to attend and all trip chaperones including Becky Snyder, Megan Caudill, Berta Baker, and Matt and Sarah Montgomery for assisting with a fantastic trip for our students.

Daughters of the American Revolution offers scholarship opportunities

Various local, state and national scholarships are available through the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Each has separate requirements.

The Jared Mansfield Chapter local scholarship is open to all students, both genders, who will be attending OSU-Mansfield, NCSC, or the Dwight Schar College of Nursing, Mansfield and pursuing any field of study. The local scholarship is open to any student currently enrolled at any of the above schools, as well as high school graduating seniors. Call scholarship chair Joedy Studer at 419-631-1015 for more information. The completed application must be postmarked by April 15.

The Ohio Society Daughters of the American Revolution awards the "Wings of Eagles" scholarship to graduating high school seniors, including those completing a certified home school program, in the amount of \$1,000 each. Awards are based on academic excellence and financial need.

All applicants must be citizens of the United States and legal residents of the state of Ohio and must attend an accredited college or university in the United States. Visit OSDAR at ohiodar.org to obtain a scholarship application. All applicants must be sponsored by the local DAR chapter and applications must be submitted to the local chapter by Jan. 31.

The National Daughters of the American Revolution also offers scholarships in many different majors. This year all students will submit their applications using an online process. The direct link to the online application submission portal is dar.academicworks.com.

Emailed or mailed applications will no longer be accepted. The deadline for these is Jan. 31.

Call scholarship chair Joedy Studer at 419-631-1015 for more information.



MRS THOMPSON'S KINDERGARTEN CLASS at Ontario made butter after learning about the past. They then read *Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving* and had a "Friendsgiving" of their own. Students shared the same meal the characters had in the book (toast, pretzels, popcorn and jelly beans). They even used their homemade butter for their toast.



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Village of Lexington Council prepares for winter, new mayor

The Village of Lexington Council meeting was held Nov. 20. Council members present were Adam Gongwer, Bob Jarvis, Wynn Kearns, Kim Little, Jeff O'Brien and Todd Wise. Also attending were Attorney John Studenmund, Chief Troy Weaver, Village Administrator Andrew Smallstey and Assistant Finance Director Peter Them.

As reported by Administrator Andrew Smallstey, the salt bins are full and the salt contract is with Richland County only.

There was a water break in front of the old Key Bank building and repairs started after 6 pm to wait for traffic congestion to pass through. Repairs were completed by 7:15 pm.

"I am still moving monies for year end," said Smallstey. "We have an ordinance tonight regarding all the changes. All monies have been received for project reimbursements, and last payment for the Washington Township annexation agreement has just been made."

He reported that K.T. McCartney will be in town for 2024 street resurfacing measuring.

"We have lengthy appropriations as required by the state auditor," said Smallstey. "Previously I was able to move year-end funds up to \$5,000, but the auditor has said this is not acceptable."

Assistant Finance Director, Peter Them, noted the final report for this year's audit has been completed and will be submitted on the village's behalf. State Auditors are recommending use of the Hinkle Annual Financial Date reporting system to remove stress put on the village. This will also improve access and functionality. It can be submitted from one to three-year plans.

A staff Christmas luncheon will be held Dec. 15 at the Depot.

Councilman Little asked about the depression in the center of Yorkshire Rd. Smallstey replied that there is a small water leak.

Council President Jarvis requested dates and times for the budget

meeting with the Finance Committee. These will be at 6 pm on Dec. 4 at 6:30 pm on Dec. 18.

As reported by Mayor Brian White, the new mayor and council members will be sworn in at Depot on Dec. 20 at 6 pm.

"We will have five to six extra officers present for Light Up Lexington," said Chief Weaver. "We will also have cruisers with flashing lights at the US Route 42."

An ordinance was approved providing for permanent budget amendments and appropriations for November for the administration, police, parks, street lighting, finance, lands & buildings, income tax, police levy, park levy, depot, sewer, water and storm water funds.

A resolution was approved confirming the appointment of Eric Wendling as a full-time probationary police officer of the Village of Lexington and declaring an emergency.

Councilman Kearns commended Chief Weaver for returning the department to full force.

Councilman Kearns updated information regarding the Lexington Cemetery. The committee has completed the first step as required by the state auditors and has completed and filed the certification from the county auditors.

"We are currently preparing the second certificate necessary for the auditors," said Kearns. Local government services are now working with our reconstruction in our finances, bill payments and other financial formats."

"We have also created new documents for deed applications, internment spaces, and other forms. We have new signage at the Bell Road and Gass Road Cemeteries. We have a Dec. 19 deadline to file for the March ballot."



THE ONTARIO MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE band students Jonathan Winans (clarinet) and Myles Born (trombone) participated in the Ohio Music Education Association's District 10 Honor Band on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. The students in the honor band were under the direction of Dr. Wendy Matthews from Kent State University.

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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS CLEAR FORK GIRLS VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL · DEC. 2
LADY COLTS WIN 46-40 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS CLEAR FORK GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL · DEC. 2
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS CLEAR FORK BOYS VARIETY BOYS BASKETBALL · DEC. 1
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS CLEAR FORK BOYS JUNIOR VARIETY BOYS BASKETBALL · DEC. 1
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS LOUDONVILLE VARIETY GIRLS BASKETBALL · NOV. 28
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS LOUDONVILLE JUNIOR VARIETY GIRLS BASKETBALL · NOV. 28
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS ONTARIO SEVENTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL · NOV. 27
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



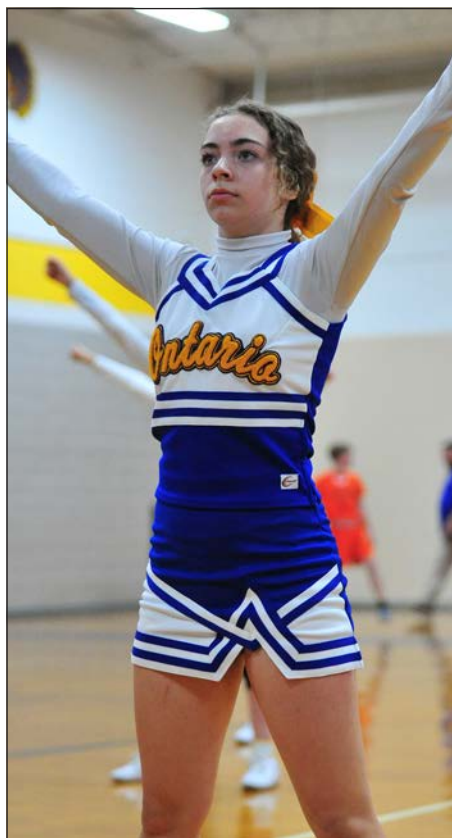
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS ONTARIO EIGHTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL · NOV. 27
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS GALION SEVENTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL · DEC. 4 PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS GALION EIGHTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL · DEC. 4
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

High school basketball has a busy week in Richland County

By Kris Leiter

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Girls High School Basketball • Lexington at Loudonville

I really enjoy going to Loudonville High School, which still has an older, smaller gymnasium. It's great for an exciting game of good high school basketball.

The Lady Lex girls gave all they could, but met their foe against the Loudonville Lady Redbirds at the "Cage." Being a home game for the Redbirds, they took advantage of the opportunity.

Loudonville came flying out of the nest by applying the ole' full court press right away, and by the time the first quarter concluded, Loudonville was leading 22-5.

As the next three quarters progressed, they were averaging 17 points per quarter and never let off the gas. I give credit to the Redbirds and their staunch defense, keeping Lexington held up in the fortress.

Lexington could only muster up an average of 8 per points per quarter, as the Redbird defense and their height gave them the upper edge for a final score 71-32.

Thursday, Nov. 30

Girls High School Basketball • Galion at Clear Fork

When you travel to the "Colt Corral" in Bellville, the Clear Fork Colts will usually be ready and waiting, as their high school teams are poised and ready to kick some dirt up in the stall.

As the Galion Lady Tigers came roaring in to take on the Lady Colts, the roaring was squelched very quickly as the roster of mainly juniors and seniors showed their experience.

After the first quarter of play, the Lady Colts were showing their expertise and continuity as they kept Galion from scoring one single point! The quarter ended 27-0.

Their stingy defense kept true, and not until 2:51 remaining in the second quarter, did the door open a tad and Galion scored their first point making it 31-1.

And just a few minutes later, and by the time the first half ceased, the Lady Colts were leading by an incredible score of 42-1! Something you don't see very often!

As the third quarter ensued, Galion was able to sprinkle in a few more points.

As the second half continued, the dust got a little dustier for Galion and the Lady Colts were able to come away with a final of 53-12.

Friday, Dec. 1

Boys High School Basketball • Madison at Shelby

Have you ever seen a tennis match on steroids? Back and forth, back and forth. Only fast forward 10 speed...or so it seemed!

If you were in attendance last Friday in Shelby for the boys basketball game, you know exactly what I mean!

I have watched hundreds of games and officiated the game a few years ago and a few "extra" pounds ago — in the mid 90's to be exact. This game was definitely a rare one.

If you had your track shoes on, you may have been able to keep up, but I doubt it!

Even the officials were wishing they had a sub.

The younger visiting Madison Rams led by Chris Armstrong and the loaded upperclassmen for the Shelby Whippets manned by head coach Greg Gallaway, both played great defense and rarely gave the crowd time to take their eyes off the action.

As the "sprint race" for both teams continued, seeming for a solid four quarters, the end finale tallied in favor of the more experienced Whippets, to the score 72-44.

Coach Armstrong and his crew all gave a gallant effort, again, showing solid defense play, but Madison could not get the offensive buckets to drop, and the Whippets could do no wrong on the scoring end.

I'm still catching my breath! Oxygen please... a great effort by both teams!!

Also hats off to Shelby for another great football playoff run once again!

Saturday, Dec 2

Boys High School Basketball • Ontario at Crestview

First year Ontario head coach Jerry Moten brought his Warriors into Cougar Land last Saturday to battle with the Crestview Cougars.

Jon Kurtz of the Crestview Cougars had the growling prepped as both teams put a few points on the scoreboard Saturday night...oh more than a few I'd say? How about a fun filled "shootout frenzy" that NBA teams achieve quite frequently.

The Warriors were able to drop a mere 95 points in the basket, and one would think that would seal the deal and bring a victory. But, au contraire.

Head coach Jon Kurtz has been at the helm for the past four seasons and tenured in previous years at Crestview as well.

Let the truth be told, Kurtz has been around the game for a minute or two, and wanted to make sure he wasn't going away empty handed, and so he toppled the 95 points from Ontario with his own 105 points!

I'm not sure if Kurtz checked his blood pressure during the time-outs, but most of the fans, myself included, were definitely checking ours for "basketball stress syndrome."

Crestview led the entire game and as the Cougars started off the first two quarters, the Warriors seemed to be like flies buzzing around a picnic. Once in awhile, the fly will go away for a bit, and then it keeps buzzing right back.

The Cougars would keep a lead of 4 to 6 to 10 points at times, but then the "buzz" of that pesky fly would come back again. The third quarter is when Coach Kurtz maybe could feel a little sting, as the Warriors and Coach Moten were within 2 points! The second half was definitely worth the price of admission, as they say.

Well, I definitely got my money's worth as the final buzzer sounded and the score was only a "mere" 105-95...whew!! Great job both teams!



Photo By Kris Leiter

SHELBY'S Casey Lantz is guarded by a Madison player at Shelby.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS CRESTVIEW BOYS BASKETBALL · DEC. 2
PHOTOS BY TROY MAGERS



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Local runners end their season by qualifying for post season races

By Kris Leiter

Lucas and Crestview High School teams had a great cross country season. Writing about it late is better than never, right?

Lucas Cross Country

This year, the Cubs advanced to the Galion District meet. This was the first time in school history and since Coach Adam's short three years he has been running the helm at Lucas.

Chloe Sturtz advanced to the regional meet in Tiffin and placed 41st out of 190 runners, within 18 runners from going to state.

Coach Adams even gave me a "learning participation award" for wanting to be educated on the sport itself.

Since I was coined "Turtle" back in my youth, running was not obviously my forté. Someone had to be the sacrificial lamb with a lack of speed to make others look good, yep, we'll go with that philosophy.

Coach Adams guided me through "Cross-Country 101" for sports writers.

"The high school course is 5K, 3.1 miles" he said. "Each coach has the liberty to layout their own course, within some guidelines."

"The middle school runners' course is only two miles." It's one of the few unique scholastic sports where high school and junior high athletes attend the same meet.

"The OHSAA weather rules are the same as high school football, rain, shine or cold. If lightning is observed, there is a 30 minute delay and then runners resume after the delay, unless another lightning strike."

Crestview Cross Country

The Crestview High School runners had another great season. The girls won their fourth consecutive Firelands Conference title and also finished 14th at regionals. Junior Leyna Gerich qualified for state and finished 84th at the state meet.

For the boys team, junior Cooper Brockway and freshman Wyatt Love qualified for regionals. Brockway went on to qualify for state and finished in 74th.



Photo by Jenna Wolford

THE CRESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL girls cross country team won its fourth consecutive Firelands Conference Championship at the Mapleton conference meet. Team members are Audrey Wolford, Emmie Kemp, Makenzie Spoerr, Leyna Gerich, Alina Durbin, Georgia McFarland, Mia Humrichouser and Regan Brooky. The girls went on to qualify for regionals with Gerich advancing to state as an individual.



Photos by Jenna Wolford

CRESTVIEW'S Leyna Gerich and Cooper Brockway were individual qualifiers for state.



LUCAS' Chloe Sturtz advanced to the regional meet in Tiffin.

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Conservation Creation Arts & Crafts Workshops planned

With the holidays upon us, gift givers may be thinking about what to gift the favorite people in their life. Gifting experiences is always a possibility. Now is the perfect time to think about next year's Conservation Creation Arts & Crafts Workshops hosted by Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) to share with and gift to someone. The evenings are filled with laughter, fun, learning about interesting topics related to nature and conservation, and creativity.

Richland SWCD provides the materials and tools needed to make the project. Reservations are requested and the workshops cost \$12 per person. All participants will also receive a free pair of eclipse glasses at the January and April workshops, while supplies last.

The quarterly workshop schedule is as follows:

January 9: Solar Eclipse Suncatcher at 6 pm at the Longview Center located at 1495 W. Longview Avenue, Mansfield. You will make a beautiful suncatcher and John McClintock, amateur astronomer, will share some of his eclipse experiences.

April 1: Horray for Herbs! at 6 pm at the Longview Center. Participants will plant herbs from recycled alpaca pellets in a container.

July 9: Long Live Leaves at 6 pm at the Longview Center. Participants will make a clay bowl from an impression of a leaf.

October 8: Buckeye Beauties, 6 pm at Gorman Nature Center located at 2295 Lexington Avenue, Mansfield. Participants will make an ornament from Buckeye tree nuts.

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

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District develops, implements, and assists landowners, government agencies and our partners with a wide range of natural resource conservation programs.



CLASSIFIEDS

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 November 15, 2023.

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.

NANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 23-02 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2023 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, ENTERPRISE FUND, AND THE TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 11-30, 12-7 '23) 38L

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 23-19 – AN ORDINANCE REZONING ONE (1) PARCEL, LOCATED AT WALKER LAKE ROAD FROM R2-MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R3-HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-22 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO 23-25 – AN ORDI-

The Springfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals will be holding a Public Meeting at 7:00 PM Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at the Springfield Township Meeting Hall located at 3700 Park Avenue West, Ontario Ohio 44862. The Board will be reviewing an application for a variance for a cell tower to be located at 400 Lexington-Springmill Road. The Public is invited to attend.

Steve Arnett Chairman
Springfield Twp. Zoning Board
City of Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 11-30, 12-7, '23)15L

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