



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

01.09.25



STATE SENATOR MARK ROMANCHUK (R-Ontario) was sworn into the 136th General Assembly. He enters his second term in the Ohio Senate. "I am humbled to continue serving our community at the Statehouse," said Romanchuk. "I look forward to another successful two years working towards creating a strong business climate and promoting economic growth in Ohio." Romanchuk is pictured with his wife, Zoi.

Area Agency on Aging scholarship applications now being accepted

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

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

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

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

Winter reading program returns

The Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) invites the community to participate in the annual Winter Reading Program from Jan. 6–Feb. 1.

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

This winter, MRCPL continues to offer curbside service, an ideal option for picking up library materials that have been put on hold without leaving the warmth of your vehicle. For 24/7 digital resources, hours and information regarding the program visit mrcpl.org.

Mike Clapper comes full circle as local sports announcer

By Kris Leiter
(Part 1 of 2)

By looking at Mike Clapper from Bellville, he looks like any other person walking down the street. He's a great guy to talk to and just very congenial.

You may not recognize him, but if you have followed local basketball games for the past number of years, there is no doubt that you have heard his voice. Clapper's voice is his forte, as he is the PA announcer for the Lexington Minutemen and Clear Fork Colts teams during the high school basketball season.

You may think what a cool job that is...and it really is. You can tell it's his passion.

But there is one small item of interest that you may not know about Clapper. That's where we begin his story. As Paul Harvey used to quote, "and that's the rest of the story."

Clapper has been blessed to have had an occupation that only one out of 30 people in the world hold.

As a youth, Clapper grew up in the Hamilton area, the southern part of Ohio. They moved to Lexington in 1956, when General Motors was starting up. Mike attended Lexington High School.

"I played football and ran track, but didn't play basketball. I was not nearly talented enough to play basketball," said Clapper.

As a typical high school student, Clapper moved to Bowling Green to further his studies. He always knew he wanted to pursue some type of career in tv or radio.

"I knew I didn't want to be an accountant, so when I went to BG, I always had the bug for radio," he said. "I grew up listening to AM radio. I kind of emulated those guys, the boys at CKLW in Detroit, Windsor."

"When I went to Bowling Green, they had a radio, tv and film program and a campus radio station. They would hire anybody with a pulse off the street. I worked at the campus radio station and luckily with that, not only playing records, but other duties as well."

"We played real records. I played records most of my radio career. Tape decks then came into play. We had everything on tape my last couple years on radio."

"I had lots of hair back then too," Clapper chuckled.

"During my summer breaks, I worked for WGLX in Galion. The Billow's owned it. I was just filling in, all the holidays, every Christmas and Thanksgiving. That's just kind of the way the business works."

"Then I worked full-time for a Mansfield radio station for about nine months. Back then, it was called WCLW. Now it's called Y-105. I was hired there to kind of make it like a WTVN in Columbus. It's right off of McPherson Avenue, and still there to this day."

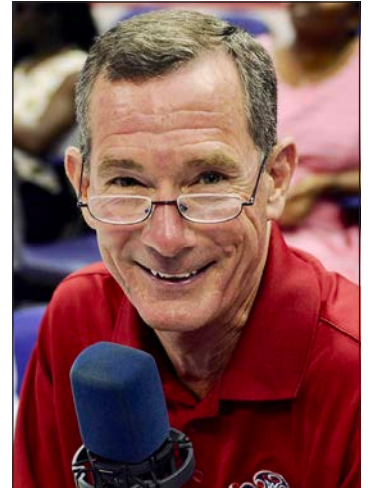
"So, I worked there for a few months and then got a chance to go to East Lansing, Michigan. I went to work for a station up there."

Back in those days, 1977-'78, they carried all of Michigan State's basketball games.

"I got to call the Michigan State/Indiana State Championship game with Larry Bird and Magic Johnson in 1979 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Nowadays, you couldn't do that. Today, it's all network stuff."

"The company that I worked for owned a whole bunch of radio stations. So, I went to South Bend, Indiana to work for another radio

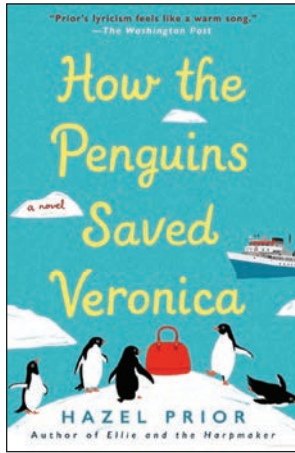
(Continued on Page 8)



LOST IN A BOOK Audition dates are scheduled



A Book Review
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



How the Penguins Saved Veronica by Hazel Prior is precious gem that offered far more depth than the cover implies.

Veronica is an elderly lady with plenty of wealth and no family. She is determined to visit Antarctica and the penguins, whether the scientists agree or not.

Just before her trip an unknown grandson comes into her life, unraveling a back story of a young girl struggling without her parents during the horrors of WWII. This story had all the makings of our classic favorites — comedy, hidden history, romance and adorable penguins. If you loved characters like Eudora Honeysett, Vera Wong, Bernadette and Britt-Marie, then this story is for you.

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

The Renaissance Theatre will hold auditions for the MY Theatre production of Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins* on Monday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 pm and Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 6:30 pm in the Renaissance Theatre Ballroom, located at 138 Park Avenue West in downtown Mansfield. Appointments are not required for auditions.

Those auditioning must be 18 years of age or younger (unless still attending high school) during the 2024-'25 school year and should be no younger than nine years of age. Anyone auditioning should be prepared to sing a 16-32 measure excerpt from a song of their choice and bring sheet music in the proper key.

An accompanist will be provided. Some actors may be asked to read a short scene from the script. Those auditioning should bring a list of schedule conflicts between the dates of auditions and the performances of *Mary Poppins*. Performance dates are April 25-27. All performances will be held on stage at the Renaissance. *Mary Poppins* will be directed by Dauphne Maloney, with musical direction by Brian K. Nabors.

Based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film, the musical features original music and lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman, with new songs and additional music and lyrics by Anthony Drewe and George Stiles. The book of the show was written by Julian Fellowes.

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THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER — By Ian Stumbo —

Inside Out 2 is the much anticipated (and long time coming) sequel to 2015's *Inside Out*, one of Disney and Pixar's best films.

Riley and her emotions have returned with Joy (voiced by Amy Poehler), Anger (Lewis Black), Fear (Tony Hale) and Disgust (Liza Lapira).

These emotions must deal with Riley turning 13-year-old and dealing with all new emotions. Most of these come in conflict with Sadness (Phyllis Smith). The most prominent is Anxiety voiced by Maya Hawke who drives out the other emotions as they have to find their way back and turn Riley back into her normal self.

Inside Out 2 is such a well-done sequel. Everything that happens to Riley in terms of turning her back on her friends to join more mature players on her hockey team, her arguments with her parents and all the different emotions she is feeling

feels so true to life. The journey back for her emotions is a great adventure that is funny and entertaining as they try to suppress her new emotions in all different ways.

Disney and Pixar have been creating such great entertainment for children and adults since *Toy Story* in 1995.

They have had some misses though mostly have been hits as well as enduring films. *Inside Out 2* delivers in part because it was such a long time coming for a sequel and it has surprised critics and moviegoers by being such a winning sequel and another great chapter in Riley's story.

Inside Out 2 is now available to stream on Disney+. Definitely check this out for a great story, engaging voice actors and one of the best animated films of the year.



Venita Shoulders elected to serve on the Richland County Board of Elections

In a special public meeting of the Richland County Democratic Executive and Central Committees on Thursday, Jan. 2, First Vice Chair Venita Shoulders was elected to serve a full 4-year term on the Richland County Board of Elections.

Shoulders has served on the board for the last two years to complete the term vacated by Jonathon C. Elgin.

Amy Yockey nominated Shoulders to the position and no nominations from any other candidates were presented to the members. Venita Shoulders was thus unanimously elected as a Member of the Richland County Board of Elections for the term commencing March 1, 2025.


Shoulders, who is a graduate of Ashland University, has professional experience which includes extensive work as a labor consultant in the OEA, as well as having taught in the Mansfield City School District. She has served in various capacities in other organizations including as a board member and president of Heritage Trails Girl Scout Council, secretary of Mansfield Schools Employees Association and as a national trainer for the National Education Association Staff and Leaders in state affiliates.

Party Chair Larry Weirich congratulated Venita Shoulders, telling the 60 democratic members at the meeting, "We are fortunate to have someone with Venita's vast experience and knowledge to represent us on the Richland County Board of Elections."



Vol. 64
No. 13

Tribune-Courier



Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in
Madison, Mifflin, Springfield, Troy, Washington and Jefferson Townships

PO Box 127, Ontario, OH 44862 • 419-529-2847
news@tribune-courier.com • www.tribune-courier.com
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Lexington Police Department welcomes new officer

The Village of Lexington Council met Dec. 16. Attending were council president Wynn Kearns, Keith Bacin, Michael Benson, Rodney Earick, Kim Little, Jeff O'Brien and Todd Wise. Also attending were law director John Studenmund, administrator Peter Them, assistant finance director Rachel Fagan and Chief Troy Weaver.

Christine Myers, representative for the Visual Bucket List Foundation, requested to use of the front grounds of the water department for a Culpepper and Merriweather Circus Tuesday, May 27 through Wednesday, May 28, for a two-day event. Visual Bucket List will provide insurance. She was given permission by council to proceed.

News Briefs

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

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Jan. 25 and 26. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Martina Thompson, UUMA Aspirant, to present "Martina Thompson, UUMA Aspirant" on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 10:30 am.

For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

★

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

★

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens will have no January meeting.

★

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

★

The Richland Republican Party's First Monday Luncheon will be held Monday, Jan. 13, featuring guest speaker Ohio Secretary of State, Frank LaRose.

The lunch will be held from 11:45 am to 1 pm in the Kobacker Room at DLX Events and Catering, 28 N. Main St., Downtown Mansfield.

To ensure an accurate headcount, please RSVP by calling 419-528-8223 or emailing rcoghop@gmail.com to request seats and optional lunches (\$10 each).

★

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West will be offering senior boxes of non perishable food provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm or until supplies run out. This comes with a 15 lb. box of fresh produce and a two lb. box of cheese. These items are free to those who qualify by age (60+) and low income guidelines. Recipients must have at least one person age 60 or older in the household.

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

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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

Brian Groff owns three properties within the village limits. He is concerned with the village owning rental properties that will be in direct competition with him. Groff has two properties near the village properties and believes they will be threatening his rental opportunities. Mayor Jarvis noted the village has a consultant who has assured him the village will not be jeopardized.

Groff noted his property with loan costs him approximately \$4,000 per month. He said the village needs to maintain properties for all residents. He suggested the newly acquired property be kept a green space and not a rental. The mayor noted that the land with the building will be deeded over to CIC and the rest of the lot will be used for economic purposes.

Charles Comstock asked if the village is working with schools and its safety. He referred to the recent school shootings and wants to be assured that all children attending Lexington Schools are safe. He questioned whether the schools should be addressing students with mental health issues. Mayor Jarvis noted there are two officers on duty during school hours protecting the children. Mental health questions need to be expressed to the school board.

Due to HIPPA laws, no one is permitted to release any mental/physical information regarding the students. Them added that the schools work hard to protect the students and nothing is ever shared with the village.

Administrator Them reviewed the monthly expense report with council members. The month of November is closed and balanced.

Them thanked Rachel Fagan and Chief Weaver for assisting with the 2025 budget. He invited all council members to a staff Christmas party.

Mayor Bob Jarvis requested, as recommended by the finance committee, longevity payout for employees. This was created a couple of years ago. The finance committee has approved the 2024 payout. The amount fluctuates based on the individual retirement.

Dec. 24 is Employee Appreciation Day and council was asked to allow employees an extra four hours. It was approved.

"I talked with a property developer interested in developing 100 acres for approximately 350 townhouses, patio houses for families and the elderly," said Mayor Jarvis. "As more is known, we will have the planning commission involved."

Councilman Bacin asked if this will be a planned unit development? Attorney Studenmund replied that the village will include what council will initially allow; nothing after the fact.

As reported by Them, two cruisers were to be ready Jan. 1. A new officer passed final exams and is good to start with the village. This will bring the police department to be fully staffed at 12 officers.

As reported by councilman Keith Bacin, four pieces of legislation tonight; #50 will be the second reading.

Them reported that the finance committee has met and approved the permanent budget for 2025 including employee health care insurance and daily operating.

An ordinance was approved ratifying the purchase of real property and execution of related documents.

An ordinance was passed that provides for the permanent budget amendments and appropriations for December for police, community environment, park levy, parks, administration, finance, streets c.m. & r, street levy, assistance to the needy, sewer and water funds.

Ms. Fagan noted this is necessary for reallocation used to finish up year end. Monies used for multiple projects, including an accident that took down a hydrant, and receiving the payment. This is monies in and out.

A resolution was made confirming the appointment of Andon S. Wade as a full-time probationary police officer of the Village of Lexington and declaring an emergency.

**Past Issues of the Tribune-Courier
are available
at www.tribune-courier.com**

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free of charge**

Advocates call on lawmakers to increase tobacco prevention efforts

As lawmakers dive into the 2025 legislative session, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) urges legislators to prioritize passing legislation to ease the burden of cancer on Buckeyes.

ACS CAN calls on Governor Mike DeWine to work with lawmakers during the budget process to continue his legacy of standing up to Big Tobacco and protecting our youth by increasing the state's cigarette tax by \$1.50 per pack, with a parallel tax on all other tobacco products and allocating \$20 million annually to programs that prevent kids from starting to use tobacco and help those already addicted quit.

Significant tobacco tax increases are one of the most effective ways to prevent kids from starting to use tobacco and help adults quit. Furthermore, with Big Tobacco spending \$409.6 million marketing their deadly and addictive products in our state annually, well-funded, fact-based tobacco prevention programs are needed more than ever.

To improve access to care for those who hear the words "you have cancer," ACS CAN also calls on the legislature to increase access to biomarker testing, a game changer in the fight against cancer and an

essential step in accessing precision medicine treatments by ensuring state-regulated health insurance, including Medicaid, covers appropriate biomarker testing for patients who could benefit. Dubbed 'the right treatment at the right time,' precision medicine has played a critical role in improving cancer outcomes. Despite its benefits, health insurance coverage of biomarker testing has not kept pace with innovations in treatment.

Over 76,000 Ohioans heard the words, "you have cancer" last year. Gov. DeWine and state lawmakers have an opportunity to lessen the burden of a cancer diagnosis for those who will hear those words in the future.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) advocates for evidence-based public policies to reduce the cancer burden for everyone. It engages volunteers across the country to make their voices heard by policymakers at every level of government. Since 2001, as the American Cancer Society's nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy affiliate, ACS CAN has successfully advocated for billions of dollars in cancer research funding, expanded access to quality affordable health care and advanced proven tobacco control measures. For information visit www.fightcancer.org.

Church Directory

Clay Memorial Lutheran Church

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

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

Clear Fork Alliance Church

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

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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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

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

First Congregational Church

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

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

First English Lutheran Church

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

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

Lexington Church of Christ

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

Lexington Presbyterian Church

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

Mansfield 1st EPC

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

Mansfield Baptist Temple

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

Oakland Lutheran Church

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

Ontario United Methodist Church

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

St. John's United Church of Christ

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

Southside Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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

Trinity Grace Fellowship

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

G & M Body & Paint Shop

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

Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland
419-522-5211



Seceda Ridgeline in Italy • Photo By Mark Shutt

Winter Author Experience will showcase Ohio photographer

In a collaboration of Crawford County libraries and the Crawford Park District, Ian Adams, photographer and author, will speak at the Lowe-Volk Nature Center, Leesville, at 2 pm on Saturday, Feb. 1. He will be presenting a program about his latest book, *This Place of Silence*, an anthology of Ohio's cemeteries.

A photo display of Adams' work will also be available to see at the Lowe-Volk Nature Center from Jan. 25 through Feb. 28.

Adams is an environmental photographer, writer and educator specializing in Ohio's natural, rural, historical and garden areas. Twenty-four books of his color photography have been published, including *Our First Family's Home: The Ohio Governor's Residence & Heritage Garden*, *Backroads of Ohio* and *Cuyahoga Valley National Park*. Adams is also an avid iPhone photographer, and his eBook, *iPhone Landscape & Nature Photography*, was released in September, 2018.

Since 1989, Adams has produced 65 Ohio calendars and conducted more than 200 seminars and workshops in nature, garden and digital photography throughout North America. He was an adjunct professor at Ohio State University's Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio where he taught digital photography from 2010 to 2019, and has carried out garden photography assignments for Country Gardens, Fine Gardening, Horticulture, Living the Country Life, Ohio Magazine, and Organic Gardening magazines, as well as numerous landscape design firms and other organizations.

Several books will be awarded as door prizes, which Adams will be available to sign, and other books will be available for purchase.

The event is made possible by the sponsorship of the Galion Friends of the Library, Bucyrus Friends of the Library, Crestline Public Library and the Crawford Parks, and is free to the public. No reservations are required, however seating is limited.

Agency appoints board members

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. has announced the appointment of two new members to its Corporate Board of Trustees.

Tamara Wolfe MS, BSN, RN has previously served as the agency's foundation board chair and returns to the corporate board as the Wyandot County Representative.

She is the Senior Consultant Associate Provider & Well-Being for OhioHealth Dublin Methodist and Grady Memorial, serving the care site as a trusted well-being expert, leader, and advocate. Her aptitude for process/quality improvement, well-being and leadership have proven to be invaluable assets to the Area Agency on Aging Board and their programs.

Additionally, the agency welcomes Pam Rose, who is to serve as the Knox County Representative. Her history in education and mental health offers a unique perspective and skillset to the team.

As a former educator and administrator in the Mount Vernon City Schools, she currently contributes and supports Knox County through her membership to The Experience Mount Vernon Board, The Freedom Center and The Ackerman Nature Preserve.

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., located at Hawkins Corner in Ontario, serves Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties, providing assistance to aging individuals and disabled individuals.

Contact the Area Agency on Aging at 524-4144 or 800-560-5799.

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Paula Anne Reid, December 22
David Glenn Burggraf, December 24
William Bernard Reilly, December 24
Charlotte Marie Risser, December 26
Jeannette Violet Stitt, December 28
Lloyd Ellis Bennett, December 29
Charlie Wayne Boggs, December 29
David Whitcomb, December 29
Trichelle Anne Foulks, December 31
Margaret C. Method, December 31
Wayman Eugene Musick, January 1
Margaret Bridget Thompson, January 1
Richard "Dick" E Richey, January 3
Donna T Thompson, January 3

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Ashland • 308 Claremont Avenue • 419-289-1552

www.wappner.com

Miss Ohio Stephanie Finoti takes fourth runner-up at Miss America pageant finals

By Traci Little

Stephanie Finoti shined at Miss America, placing fourth runner-up — the first top five finish for Miss Ohio since 1994. She also won the Fitness Wear award during preliminaries.

A first-generation Brazilian-American and college graduate, Finoti earned her degree in biomedical science and public health from the University of Cincinnati, completing over 500 hours of community service during her reign as Miss Ohio.

Financial constraints once made higher education seem impossible, but through the Miss Ohio program, she earned \$15,000 in scholarships and turned her dream into reality.

Her journey is a testament to resilience, determination, and the power of learning from challenges. Stephanie entered Miss America as a scientist, ballerina, public health advocate, and proud college graduate.

The Miss America finals, held on Jan. 5, can now be rewatched on YouTube. Visit www.pageantvision.com for more details.

Congratulations also went to Miss Ohio's Teen, Allie Gray, for representing Ohio with such grace and poise. Reflecting on an incredible year, she shared, "2024 has been nothing short of amazing! The countless life-changing opportunities I've received have been the biggest blessing."

Ahead of the competition, on Dec. 30, Allie expressed her excitement, saying, "I just interviewed to be the representative for the greatest organization in the nation! I walked into the interview and showed the judges who Allie Gray is. It felt surreal to stand before such a prestigious panel. They know who I am and what I stand for, and I couldn't feel more at relaxed about the outcome. I've put everything in God's hands and am letting Him guide me through the rest of the week."



Submitted Photo



Photos By Traci Little

STEPHANIE FINOTI AND ALLIE GRAY were crowned Miss Ohio and Miss Ohio's Teen at the Renaissance Theatre in Mansfield this past summer. Both competed in the Miss American pageant on Sunday, Jan. 5.



kimmy's cucina
By Kim Sterry

MEAT STUFFED POTATOES

Ingredients

- 10 large baking potatoes washed
- 1/2 cup olive oil or Crisco
- 1 lb fresh spinach
- 1/2 lb ground lamb
- 1/2 lb ground pork
- 1/2 lb ground bacon (you can put in food processor)
- 2 cloves garlic chopped
- 2 sage leaves, rolled and chopped
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1 cup greek yogurt
- 10 eggs, poached

Instructions

In a cast iron skillet or large baking pan, add oil and put in oven to heat while you are preparing the potatoes. To prepare the potatoes cut the top and bottom — you can roast pieces of potatoes for future use. Core out a round hole in the potatoes (this part of the potato can also be roasted with ends). We used a pineapple corer which seemed to work well. just keep in mind you will need some muscle for this one. Set the potatoes in the pan. You want them to sizzle when you put them in. Place in a 350 degree oven and cook for 25 minutes. Turn potatoes and cook for another 20–25 minutes, until potatoes are crispy. Remove pan from oven but keep potatoes in the cast iron skillet or pan. To Prepare the Stuffing In a sauté pan add some olive oil and garlic. Saute for 5 minutes. Add the spinach and sauté until wilted. Remove from pan and set into a bowl. In the same saute pan, add olive oil and the lamb and pork and cook, stirring continually until meat is cooked through. Add to a bowl. In the same pan, cook the bacon until it is crispy. Drain. In a large bowl mix all the stuffing ingredients. Add the sage and salt and pepper to taste. Have eggs ready to poach. (You will want to do this when you put potatoes back into the oven with the yogurt on them). Assembling the potatoes, add grated parmesan to the bottom of the potatoes. You want this for a “barrier” to keep the stuffing in. Add stuffing to the potatoes and place back in oven. Cook for 15 minutes until stuffing is warmed. Remove from oven and add a “dollup of greek yogurt on each potato and put back in oven for 5–10 minutes. Poach your eggs and serve over top. You want a bit of a runny yolk, to come down over potato.

LIKE Kimmy’s Cucina on Facebook & Instagram



Lifestyle Inspiration



Photo by Damon Callis



Day Trippin’ With Damon – Squire’s Castle is a gatehouse from the 1890s modeled after German and English baronial castles and is a unique feature of North Chagrin that is a popular destination for people of all ages. The open expanses in front of the castle are great for games and picnics, and the castle itself is a popular spot for weddings. It is located on the North Chagrin Reservation in Willoughby Hills, OH, near Cleveland.

•Clapper comes full circle as local sports announcer

(Continued from Front Page)

station and was fortunate to get into the Chicago Market. I started working for the Chicago Federation of Labor.”

“I made more money there in nine months than most people would make in ten years back in the day.”

“I soon got married and started raising a family and decided of all places to move back to Mansfield. It was my roots. My mom and dad were still here.”

After returning to Mansfield, he took a break from the airwaves for a bit. At that time, he was around 30 years old.

“I just didn’t want to get back into the radio thing. I kind of fell back into this (public address) about 1995.”

“I started doing Conference USA tournaments in Cincinnati and Memphis and then I started doing work for Lexington in 1997 while my daughter was playing basketball. So, I just filled in one day and then the rest is history. She played until her freshman year, but then I just kind of stuck with it.”

“I continued to do our high school basketball games and then that parlayed into 2006. Lexington used to host a ton of tournament games.”

“A Cavs representative was watching someone play at one of the tournament games and they approached me.”

“Dan Gilbert had just bought the Cavs. The tradition is when a new owner buys a team, they usually fire everybody. Except maybe probably the president. Everyone is gone, including the game entertainment people.”

“The Cavs invited me up to tryout. They had hired a guy from Montreal, Canada to work for the Cavs, but the problem was, they couldn’t get him a green card because he was from Canada.”

“Of course back then, you couldn’t just walk into the country, you know. They called me and I got to do all of their preseason and some of their regular season games. It was in 2006 when I got my big break with the Cavs. They had just signed LeBron James and he was the main attraction.”

As I continued to relish chatting with Mike, it was amazing that he truly had the dream job a lot of people admire and I mentioned to him that it couldn’t have been too bad of a job.

Clapper smiled, “It was a great job.”

“There are approximately 450–500 events that the PA announces during one game — who made the shot, whose going in the game and reading all the promotional advertisements.”

“I always tell people there’s 80 minutes of shtick and 48 minutes basketball. As soon the timeouts happen, that’s when we go into ac-

tion. That’s when the dancing girls come out, the parachutes from the rafters, the Kiss Cam,” Clapper chuckled. “You have to think on your feet a lot.”

“So in 2010, another recommendation came. A new owner bought the Washington Wizards and they recommended me to try out for that job. I figured I could go down there and maybe something would happen.”

“As I walked into the arena, there were 250 people auditioning but it worked out fine because it went from 250 and was whittled down to 30 people and then down to 16 and down to five. All in one day, we had to interview with the owners and do a little demo. We also had to do a mock game.”

“I made the final five. Then I was on my way home, not feeling great. I was driving across Interstate 70, going through Maryland. The owner of the team called me on the phone and told me I didn’t get the gig.”

“The owner said ‘We gotta find a place for you. Would you be interested in doing the women’s WNBA team?’ I said, ‘I’ll do it.’”

“I got to do all the women’s games for the Washington Mystics. I did that for 12 years. We won the championship in 2019. And then the deal was, I would do all Friday and Saturday games, for the Wizards. He just wanted to keep me involved.”

“It was the best of two worlds. I had a full-time gig with the women’s team and I got to do Friday and Saturdays for the Wizards. It was so cool. That’s the way it was until I retired in 2023.”

“I was an independent contractor, and that was okay with me. I was part of the team.”

“I was part of the Game Entertainment Team. We had benefits. They would provide full prime rib meals. They would lay it out for us. We also had rockstar parking, right under the arena. I would take the player’s elevator right up to the event floor, I knew these guys.”

“I was part of the salary cap and I got a check from the Wizards and the Mystics. This continued from 2010 to 2023.”

Next week’s article will continue with Mike Clapper’s story after his retirement in 2023.





CHARLES DICKENS' CHRISTMAS CLASSIC, *A Christmas Carol* inspired Israel Horovitz's adaptation of the novella into a play which seventh grade students at Ontario Middle School recently studied. As a culminating assignment for the unit, students created one of three projects — mobiles featuring various symbols or characters from the play, dioramas depicting a scene or a large character poster. Students' creations are on display in the library, some line the second-floor hallway and a few hang from the ceiling in the literature room.

News Briefs in Education

Ohio Dominican University has named 318 students to its fall 2024 dean's list. To make the list, full-time undergraduate students must have achieved a 3.5 GPA or better after completing a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Among those named to the list are Naomi Haring of Mansfield, Madeline Heichel of Lexington, Cameron Todd of Ontario, Andrew Young of Lexington, Elizabeth Zerby of Lexington and Luke Zerby of Lexington.



In recognition of academic performance, the Office of Academic Affairs at University of the Columbians has announced the students named to the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester.

To be eligible for the list, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours (a full course load), maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50 for the semester and be in good academic standing.

Local students name to the list are Abigail Little of Lexington and Karl Etzel of Ontario.



Capital University has announced its president's list honorees for the fall 2024 semester.

Capital has three lists denoting academic distinction among full-time, degree-seeking students: the president's list, provost's list and dean's list.

The president's list indicates the highest level of academic distinction. To be named to the list, students must have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.85. On the list are Elizabeth Corn of Ontario and Thomas Sechrist of Ontario.

In order to be named to the dean's list, full-time, degree-seeking students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.69. On the list are Theresa Dzugan, of Ontario and Liam Paxton of Mansfield

To be named to the Provost's List, full-time, degree-seeking students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.70 to 3.849. Ryan Brophy of Ontario was named to provost's list.



Bowling Green State University undergraduate students who achieved grade point averages of 3.5 or higher during the fall 2024 semester have been named to their respective college's dean's list.

To be selected for the dean's list, students must carry no fewer than 12 letter-graded credit hours per semester.

Local students on the list are Jerry Mowry, Devin Darr, Caitlyn Drockton, Arica Uplinger, Caleb Baker, Joshua Mohr, Paige Hoffbauer, Luke Lesseuer, Jessica Long, Kendall Lantz, Maryn Lantz, Alexsia Davis, Allegra Ruhl, Grace Sarbach, Cameron Taracko, Kari Eck-enwiler, Jordan Rader, Riley Mabry, Nykera Gardner, Emily Asher, Chloe Dean, Brandon Walker, Sydney Franklin, Justin Gibson, Kami Baker, Olivia Barley, Alivia Ash, Kendyll Kershner, Autumn Ervin, Abigail Mink, Sophie Henderson, Madison Carns, Macy Chambers, Sarah Thatcher, Luke Hodapp, Isabelle Thoman, Breanna Ford and Jiselle Martinez.

Renaissance to host free concert

The Renaissance Theatre will host Ren Country: An Evening of Community and Country Music, a free concert celebrating the spirit of country music, on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 pm.

The concert will feature performances by Tom's Kitchen Table, Simba Jordan and Emily Raff, each bringing their unique take on country music and storytelling.

Tom's Kitchen Table – Rooted in Ohio's heartland, they blend rich harmonies, folk instrumentation and a mix of country, rock and clas-sics.

Simba Jordan – Known as the "Urban Cowboy," Simba's dynam-ic vocals, energetic dance moves and heartfelt performances have made him a favorite at festivals and clubs across the Midwest.

Emily Raff – This rising star hailing from Ohio brings heartfelt sto-rytelling and melodies to life.

Reservations are required. Reserve at rentickets.org.



Ohio State Mansfield plans Buckeye Preview Days

The Ohio State University at Mansfield will offer multiple campus visit opportunities this spring, beginning with a Jan. 17 Buckeye Preview Day from 10 am to 12:30 pm.

“Buckeye Preview Days are perhaps the best way to experience The Ohio State University at Mansfield,” said Diane Kanney, director for Regional Campus Recruitment Strategies and Initiatives. “The day includes an opportunity to learn about campus and the enrollment process during an admissions overview, hear firsthand from current students what they love most about campus and learn about the academic experience from faculty.”

Additional Buckeye Preview Days are planned for Feb. 17, March 26 and April 21.

Students at Ohio State Mansfield can choose among 13 bachelor’s degrees offered on campus or start any of Ohio State’s 200-plus undergraduate degrees and finish in Columbus.

“Whether you wish to just start your degree with us or complete all four years, there is a place on our campus for you,” said Kanney. “We look forward to welcoming you soon and providing you with a Buckeye experience filled with exciting opportunities, growth and the ability to work toward a degree from The Ohio State University.”

Additionally, students will learn more about scholarship and financial aid, campus housing, student clubs and organizations and much more. Faculty and current students will share their perspectives as well as their experiences on campus.

Each preview day will conclude with a campus tour and time for all guests to ask questions.

All events will begin in Riedl Hall and students can register online at go.osu.edu/visitmansfield

While registration is encouraged, walk-in participants are welcome. For more information contact the Office of Enrollment Services at mansfield-askabuckeye@osu.edu or call 419-755-4317.

The Unexpected Crisis: Preparing for the Financial Impact of Alzheimer’s

During Financial Wellness Month this January, the Alzheimer’s Association is encouraging individuals and families to make financial plans that will create some security in preparing for an unexpected crisis of caring for someone with Alzheimer’s or other dementia.

One in nine Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer’s disease — that’s nearly 7 million Americans across the country and 236,200 in Ohio.

Dementia not only takes a tremendous physical toll on diagnosed individuals, but the costs associated with the disease can be overwhelming and put a huge economical strain on families. Disease-related costs can jeopardize a family’s financial security, and many families and caregivers make enormous personal and financial sacrifices.

The 2023 Alzheimer’s Association Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures report found:

In 2022, the lifetime cost of care for a person living with dementia was \$392,874.

In 2021, dementia caregivers bore nearly twice the average out-of-pocket costs of non-dementia caregivers (\$12,388 versus \$6,667).

Nearly half (48 percent) of care contributors must cut back on their own expenses — including basic necessities like food, transportation and medical care — to afford dementia-related care, while others must draw from their savings or retirement funds.

Nearly two out of three people incorrectly believe that Medicare helps pay for nursing home care or are unsure whether it does.

To help families navigate these and other financial challenges, the Alzheimer’s Association offers a free online education program entitled “Managing Money: A Caregiver’s Guide to Finances.” Tips from the program include:

Plan early. There are many benefits of planning early when it comes to your finances — both for the caregiver and the person with the disease.

Start a positive discussion about finances. Bring in trusted family members or close friends for a discussion about what the person with the disease wants for the future.

Avoid financial abuse and fraud. Individuals living with dementia have a greater risk of becoming victims and may struggle with making good financial decisions.

Organize your finances. Conduct an inventory of your financial resources (such as savings, insurance, retirement benefits, government assistance, VA benefits). A financial planner or an elder care attorney can help.

Create a backup plan. Designate a trusted back-up agent for the person’s power of attorney and consider designating responsibilities to more than one person.

“We know that caring for a person living with Alzheimer’s or another dementia can have a devastating effect on the family’s overall financial health,” said Pam Myers, senior director, programs for the Alzheimer’s Association Northwest Ohio and Central Ohio Chapters.

“As this is a progressive disease, the demands of caregiving will increase, including the cost of care. This program provides practical tips and hands-on worksheets on holding conversations about finances and creating a balanced monthly budget. These things are really important to reduce caregiver stress and reduce fear about the future.”

For more information on financial planning, visit alz.org.

The Northwest Ohio Chapter offers free monthly education programs, care consultations and local caregiver support groups. Contact the Alzheimer’s Association Northwest Ohio Chapter at 419-537-1999 to schedule a care consultation and be connected to free local resources.

There are 236,200 Ohioans 65 and older living with Alzheimer’s disease according to the Alzheimer’s Association 2024 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures. A total of 414,000 Ohio caregivers provide 624 million hours of unpaid care each year, valued at \$11.4 billion.

To access free tools and resources visit alz.org or call the Alzheimer’s Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



Photos By Jeff Hoffer

RECOGNIZED — Connor Hauger, Peyton Hoskins, Nate Lind, Luke Schlosser, Joe Stupka and Adam Vanausdale were recognized as Clear Fork All Ohio and State Qualifiers on Dec. 27. Also recognized at a later date was Annika Labaki.

Schlosser receives first-ever Clear Fork award recognizing All-Ohio status in three sports

By Kris Leiter

Clear Fork High School honored Luke Schlosser as an All-Ohio three-sport athlete — the first Clear Fork athlete to ever receive this award.

Numerous athletes from Richland County received All-Ohio recognition, which is a feat in itself, but to receive this award in three separate sports in one school year is quite an honor.

Luke is the son of Matt and

Kasey Schlosser.



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COLTS WIN 65-53 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS EDISON BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL · JAN. 4
EDISON WINS 47-39 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS LEXINGTON BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL
DEC. 27 · RAMS WIN 65-45 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



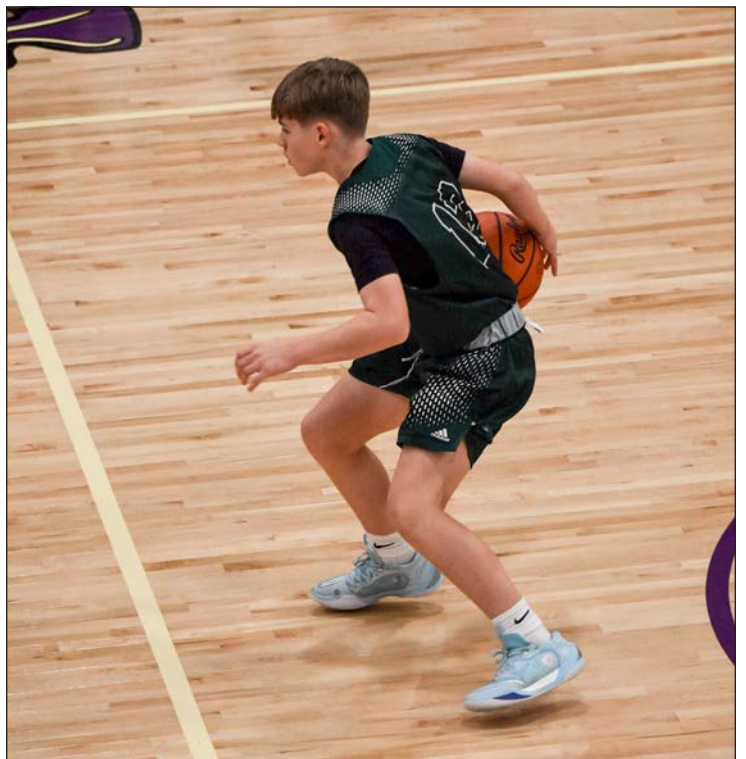
Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS LEXINGTON BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL
DEC. 27 · RAMS WIN 57-28 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS LEXINGTON BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL
DEC. 27 · RAMS WIN 39-38 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Warrior swimmers end 2024 with strong momentum

As the calendar flips to 2025, the Ontario Warrior boys and girls swim teams are riding high on a wave of success. With an undefeated 8-0 record in local competitions and an impressive showing at the prestigious Northwest Ohio Classic, the Warrior swimmers are setting the stage for a promising finish to the season.

A Season of High Expectations

With the return of seven All-Ohioans and 20 district qualifiers, the Warriors have the pieces necessary for a strong conference and postseason run. Both the boys and girls teams have been dominant in local dual meets, most notably their victories over cross-town rival Lexington.

In the most recent head-to-head dual, the Warrior boys and girls showcased their depth and talent, outscoring Lexington 63-31 on the girls' side and 65-29 on the boys' side. The Warriors took an impressive 19 of the 22 events contested, demonstrating their prowess in nearly every discipline. Lexington, however, did manage to claim wins in the girls' and boys' 200 medley relays and the girls' 500 freestyle.

At the second annual Colonel Crawford Pentathlon, the Warriors further solidified their reputation as one of the area's top teams. Grantham Trumpower led the boys with a triumphant defense of his pentathlon champion title, while senior Logan Bernat and sophomore Owen Walter earned top-five finishes. For the girls, Mirielle Trumpower made a strong statement, winning all five pentathlon events and the overall title for the second consecutive year. She was followed closely by junior Tessa Crum and freshman Ava Zehe, who both landed on the podium.

Northwest Ohio Classic Highlights

The early season's crowning event, the Northwest Ohio Classic, brought together 70 teams from across the region, including powerhouses from Cincinnati, Columbus, and even Detroit. Among the competition was Detroit Catholic Central, a perennial powerhouse in Michigan swimming, which shared the top honors with Toledo St. Francis De Sales in the boys' category.

The Warrior boys earned a commendable fourth place overall, tying with Cincinnati Elder, while the girls finished in fourth place, following Cincinnati Sycamore, Toledo St. Ursula Academy, and Avon. Both Warrior teams finished as the top Division II team at the meet.

The Warriors shone brightest in the relay events. On the boys' side, the 200 medley relay team of senior Logan Bernat, sophomore Carson Smith, freshman Colten Montgomery, and senior Evan Ruhe placed fourth with a time of 1:42.23.

In the 400 freestyle relay, Montgomery, Walter, Bernat, and Trumpower finished third with a time of 3:19.66, while the boys' 200 freestyle relay quartet — Walter, Smith, Ruhe, and Trumpower — topped the podium with a victory in 1:30.59. The Warrior girls were similarly outstanding, particularly in the relay events. The 200 freestyle relay team — Tessa Crum, Ava Zehe, Joie Simmering, and Mirielle Trumpower — claimed the top spot with a time of 1:42.56. The 400 freestyle relay team of Crum, Zehe, Simmering, and Trumpower took second place with a time of 3:44.96.

Individual Standouts

The Warrior swimmers also made waves individually. Several boys earned top finishes, with Grantham Trumpower leading the charge. Trumpower finished fourth in the 50 Free (22.21) and 4th in the 100 Free (47.88), while also anchoring relay victories. Sophomore Owen Walter also had a solid individual performance in the 100 Free (50.70, 22nd) and junior Carson Smith made an impact in the 100 Fly (57.13, 17th) and 100 Breast (1:03.95, 13th). Freshman Colten Montgomery, in his first year of high school swimming, was particularly impressive in the 100 Fly (54.73, 11th) and the 200 IM (2:01.96, 5th).

For the girls, freshman Ava Zehe made her mark in the 100 Fly (1:09.78, 27th) and 200 Free (2:09.33, 17th). Mirielle Trumpower battled in her events, finishing 2nd in the 100 Back (56.49) and 3rd in the 100 Fly (56.49), while Tessa Crum made a strong showing in the 200 Free (2:04.01, 7th) and 100 Back (1:02.26, 12th). Lily Secrist followed a solid 100 Back (1:07.96, 28th) with an impressive 200 Free (2:08.57, 14th). Junior Joie Simmering finished 23rd in the 100 Breast (1:14.29).

Looking Ahead

As the Warrior teams look toward the final stretch of the season, the momentum they've built through strong performances cannot be overstated. Both teams have proven themselves as formidable contenders in their respective divisions, and with athletes stepping up in big moments, Ontario's swimmers are poised for a successful conclusion to 2024.

Whether it's through individual accomplishments or collective relay triumphs, the Warriors have proven time and again that they are a force to be reckoned with in northwest Ohio and beyond. As the season continues, the Warrior swimmers are set to ride this wave of success into the postseason, leaving a trail of impressive finishes in their wake.



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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS LEXINGTON GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL
DEC. 28 · RAMS WIN 39-28 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS ONTARIO BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL
DEC. 28 · RAMS WIN 52-49 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS ONTARIO BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL
DEC. 28 · RAMS WIN 53-46 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS ONTARIO BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL
DEC. 28 · RAMS WIN 50-35 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON GIRLS WRESTLING • DEC. 29 • PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS ASHLAND GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL
JAN. 4 · ARROWS WIN 66-48 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

**MADISON VS ASHLAND GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL
JAN. 4 · RAMS WIN 29-16 · PHOTOS BY LILLIANA ALLEN**



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS FREDERICKTOWN GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL JAN. 6 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS FREDERICKTOWN GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL JAN. 6 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Ohians can receive help from Home Energy Assistance Program

The Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging wants to remind older Ohioans that assistance is available to help with their home energy bills. The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps Ohioans at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of up to seven members and 60% of State Median Income for a household of eight or more members to pay their heating bills.

Older Ohioans may go an area agency office for help with assembling the required documents and completing their HEAP application. Those in need of assistance may also visit www.energyhelp.ohio.gov to apply online or print a copy of the application.

When applying, individuals need to have copies of most recent utility bills, a list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers), proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types), proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members and proof of disability (if applicable).

Applications for the HEAP program must be received by May 31, 2025. For information call 419-524-4144.

USPS asking customers to clear walkways of snow and ice

USPS is reminding customers of the importance of keeping walkways, sidewalks and areas around mailboxes clear from snow and ice so letter carriers can provide safe and timely mail delivery.

Snow and patches of ice in front of mailboxes can make it difficult for letter carriers to safely deliver the mail. Residents maintaining a clear path to the mailbox — including steps, porches, walkways and street approach — will help letter carriers maintain consistent delivery service. Customers receiving curbside delivery should also ensure clear access to their mailboxes for letter carriers who deliver from the street.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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 18, 2024.

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. 24 -10 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING UPDATES TO THE CITY’S PERSONNEL MANUAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-23 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 193 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO REGARDING MUNICIPAL TAX, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-24 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-25 – AN ORDINANCE REZONING PARCEL #s 038-60-170-12-000 and 038-60-170-13-000 ON MABEE ROAD FROM R1- LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO B- BUSINESS DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-30 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WAGES

AND SALARIES FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THIS CITY, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 24-19, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-31 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 24-06 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2024 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, AND THE ENTERPRISE FUND.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-32 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT THROUGH BUCKEYE ENERGY BROKERS FOR THE GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.66 PER CCF, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-33 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND CHARTER NEXT GENERATION, INC., ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 24 – 34 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR THE MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXPEND DEMINIMUS FUNDS FOR EMPLOYEE MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS FOR EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION FUNCTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 1-2, 9 '25) (81L)



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