



TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

10.23.25



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE visited kindergarten students at Ontario during Fire Prevention Week. The department members shared important lessons about fire safety and showed that behind the gear—which can sometimes look a little scary—is just a regular person that can help. After a presentation, students got an up-close look at a real fire truck and learned all about what firefighters have to do to prepare for responding to a fire.

Shelter will host candlelight vigil

The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. announced the candlelight vigil is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 6 pm on the campus of The Ohio State University at Mansfield and North Central State College in Riedl Hall.

The vigil honors survivors and victims of domestic violence during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, every October. During the same year of the shelter's founding in 1978, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) was formed, and over 100,000 women marched in Washington, D.C. to demand equal rights.

In October 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) declared a national Day of Unity on Oct. 17 to raise public awareness around domestic violence and to support abuse survivors. Purple was adopted as the official color of the Day of Unity. Domestic Violence Awareness Month has occurred annually since its first celebration in 1987.

Founded in 1978 as one of Ohio's first three domestic violence shelters, The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. began in a downtown Mansfield office with an all-volunteer staff. The shelter moved into a donated three-story house, which was renovated into a four-bedroom shelter with administrative offices. Today, the shelter spans over 16,622 square feet, featuring 16 rooms for survivors, families, and pets, and can accommodate up to 48 individuals. Services include emergency shelter, a 24-hour crisis hotline, intensive case management, support groups, legal advocacy, hospital advocacy for survivors of sexual assault, community awareness and education. The shelter supports survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking.

To learn more or to make a donation call 419-774-5843 ext. 101.

Food giveaway, holiday toy drive accepting donations

Richland County Youth and Family Council is partnering with the Mansfield Police Department, Richland County Children Services, and First Call 2-1-1 to offer a Thanksgiving food giveaway for families in the community. The aim is to serve 150–200 families.

The Thanksgiving food giveaway will be Monday, Nov. 24, from 8 am to noon at the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center, 890 W. 4th St., Mansfield.

Richland County families must call 211, 9 am to 4 pm, Monday–Friday, to register for the food giveaway. The deadline to register is Nov. 5. Families are not eligible if receiving a box from another organization.

Those wishing to donate items for the food giveaway can bring items to Michelle or Rico at Richland County Youth and Family Council, 171 Park Ave E., Mansfield until Oct. 31.

Suggested items include cream of mushroom soup, french fried onions, canned corn and green beans, canned cranberry sauce, dessert mix, canned pie filling, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, jar/packet gravy, boxed mac and cheese, canned yams, brown sugar, marshmallows and turkey pans. Call 419-774-5442 for information.

Richland Correctional Institution (RiCI), in collaboration with Richland County Children Services (RCCS), is hosting a Holiday Toy Drive for youths in the care of RCCS. Currently RCCS has 170 youths in foster care.

Donations of new unwrapped toys and gifts can include baby toys, kids toys for age 1–13 -years-old and teenager gifts or gift cards.

Donations will be accepted now through Dec. 1, Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, at Richland County Children Services, 731 Scholl Rd. Mansfield; North End Community Improvement Collaborative (NECIC), 134 N. Main St., Mansfield; and Dollar Tree, 770 Ashland Rd., Mansfield.

For more information contact Brigitte Coles, RCCS Community Engagement Supervisor, at 419-774-4168 or brigitte.coles@jfs.ohio.gov.

RPH offers free safe RX locking pill bottles and Deterra pouches

As part of ongoing efforts to protect families from prescription drug misuse, Richland Public Health is now offering free Safe RX locking pill bottles and Deterra drug deactivation pouches — two powerful tools to help residents safely store and dispose of prescription medications. These free resources are made possible through funding from the Drug Free Community (DFC) grant, part of the agency's continued commitment to preventing substance misuse in Richland County.

"These free resources put the power of prevention directly into our residents' hands," said Dr. Julie Chaya, Health Commissioner at Richland Public Health. "When families have secure storage and safe disposal options at home, we see real change — fewer accidental poisonings, less unauthorized access to medications and stronger community health."

Safe RX locking pill bottles are secure, tamper-resistant containers designed to prevent unauthorized access to prescription medications. Each bottle features a four-digit combination lock.

Deterra drug deactivation pouches offer an environmentally safe and effective way to dispose of unused or expired medications. Simply add pills, patches, or liquids to the pouch, fill with water, seal, and shake. The patented carbon technology neutralizes the drugs, rendering them unusable and safe to throw away in regular household trash.

Both items are available to the public at no cost at RPH, 555 Lexington Ave., Mansfield.

Blood Prison will make transformation to Christmas Incarceration for first time

Nov. 2 marks the last opportunity for Halloween thrill seekers to enter Blood Prison after dark for a walk through unrelenting horror at the notoriously haunted Ohio State Reformatory. The prison is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays plus Thursday, Oct. 23.

Due to the incredible popularity of Blood Prison, its creators developed Christmas Incarceration, inviting guests to trade holiday stress for seasonal screams as they step into a chilling holiday experience.

Christmas Incarceration transforms the festive season into a spine-tingling spectacle where the ghost of Christmas is around every corner.

Advance online tickets for both experiences are required and found at BloodPrison.com, including \$35 Blood Prison general pass timed ticketing, \$55 lightning or \$80 ultra lightning pass, which significantly reduces wait time. A \$7 touch pass adds even more intensity to the Blood Prison experience, allowing scare actors to touch attendees.

Christmas Incarceration tickets are \$25 or \$15 for a limited time if purchased with Blood Prison Passes. Group rates are available by emailing SCREAM@mrps.org.

Beyond the Scare reformatory tours are offered in daylight during the run of Blood Prison and Christmas Incarceration letting visitors see behind the scenes of Blood Prison with the lights on. Those tickets are available 11 am to 4 pm, daily at MRPS.org.

Red Cross schedules bloodmobiles

The American Red Cross asks donors to make an appointment now to give blood or platelets to support patients counting on a consistent blood supply to survive and heal. Because blood has a short shelf life and can only come from volunteer blood donors, any disruptions in the ability to collect lifesaving blood can have serious consequences for those seeking medical care.

Make an appointment to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. Those who give Oct. 20–Nov. 16, will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three \$5,000 gift cards.

Wednesday, Oct. 22, noon to 6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Friday, Oct. 24, 8 am to 1 pm, Medical Office Building-4th Floor, 335 Glessner Ave., Mansfield

Saturday, Oct. 25, 9 am to 2 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Monday, Oct. 27, noon to 6 pm, Ashland University, 1020 S. Trimble Rd., Mansfield

Wednesday, Oct. 29, noon to 6 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

Friday, Oct. 31, noon to 5 pm, The Ontario Center, 2209 Richland Mall, Ontario

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*Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in
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THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

The sequel to 2021's *The Black Phone* released in theaters this past weekend. *The Black Phone 2* picks up with the same characters four years later.

In 1982, Finney (Mason Thames) is still traumatized from his encounter with the Grabber.

The Grabber is dead but does not seem to really be gone. Finney's sister Gwen (a terrific Madeleine McGraw) is still having psychic thoughts and she has visions of children that were murdered at the bottom of a lake. This brings Gwen and Finney to a camp where things start to go from bad to worse.

While not as good as the original, *The Black Phone 2* is a solid sequel. It's great to see Ethan Hawke back as the Grabber and there are some suspenseful sequences. This movie does owe quite a bit to *A Nightmare*

on Elm Street so in that respect it does not feel as original as it could though it settles into its own movie.

Demian Bichir as the owner of the camp and a returning Jeremy Davies as their father provide fine work. There are some edge of your seat moments as when the Grabber is going after Gwen in a kitchen and the last sequence on

an icy lake works very well.

The Black Phone 2 has great performances from Thames and especially McGraw and Scott Derrickson returning as director does a fine job at the helm. While not as overall engaging as the first one, this is a solid sequel that is sure to entertain fans of the genre.



I am writing this letter in support of the upcoming Madison Local School District 1.5% income tax levy on the Nov. 4 ballot. The passage of this levy is important to our community. A yes vote is one that invests in the youth of the Madison community. The levy passage will allow our district to maintain its quality student programs and activities. Continuing our quality educational system is an important link to home values. Good schools increase property values and are a sign of a thriving community.

The Madison community is a unique group of people. Many of our families have flourished in this area for several generations. The Ram Pride commitment has followed generations of families. Madison is a family-friendly community embracing both young and old. Our retirees are also a vital part of the Madison community. It is a community supporting growth and prosperity. Community pride thrives in Madison.

Your yes vote on Nov. 4 will impact the continuing assurance of a positive community environment. Ram Pride surrounds us. Its values follow our students everywhere they go. Let's continue to encourage and provide new and existing opportunities for Madison students and community members. Youth holds the hope for tomorrow. Our community provides a caring and nurturing environment. Let's continue to stand together.

Vote yes for Madison Schools on Nov. 4.

Ramona Applegate
70-year resident of the Madison community



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News Briefs

The Village of Lexington has released upcoming events. A Halloween Walk on the bike trail will be held Saturday, Oct. 25 from noon to 4 pm and trick-or-treat will be Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5:30–7 pm. Light Up Lexington is set for Monday, Dec. 1, at 7 pm at Lex Landing.

★

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am. February through May, the group will meet at New Life Church of Christ (NLC of C), 195 W. Durbin, Bellville. Cost is \$17 for the meal. Meetings June through December will be held at Der Dutchman, Rt. 96, Bellville. Meals are \$16, with an additional \$2 for pie.

The next meal will be on a special date, the second Wednesday of the month, on Nov. 12 with roast turkey. There will be a program from the Clearfork Vo Ag Department and the election of officers will take place.

The group will meet for lunch on Nov. 5 at Athens Greek Restaurant on Lexington-Springmill Rd., Ontario.

For information visit www.lexasc.org. Dues are \$10 per year.

★

The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. has announced that Donna L. Hight, Ph.D. has joined the shelter as the deputy director. She will serve as the chief development officer for the shelter. She brings 35 years of leadership in higher education, including serving as the former assistant dean, student success at The Ohio State University at Mansfield. She has served on the Richland County Transit Board, 33 Forever Board, president of the Music Academy of Karate and Empowerment (MAKE) board and vice president of Love on a Mission (LOAM) board. To reach her call 419-774-5843 ext. 110.

★

The City of Ontario will have its Trick or Treat night on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5:30–7:30 pm.

★

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

★

Richland County Children Services (RCCS), in collaboration with the Madison Township Fire Department and UH Samaritan Richland Health Center, are hosting a trunk-or-treat and touch-a-truck event for the community on Thursday, Oct. 23, from 5:30–7:30 pm at UH Samaritan Richland Health Center, 1033 Ashland Rd. The

rain date is Saturday, Oct. 25, from 4:30–6:30 pm.

There will be food, activities, live music and more. To participate as a community trunker or to donate candy, food or other items call 419-774-4168 or email paula.caldwell@jfs.ohio.gov and brigitte.coles@jfs.ohio.gov.

★

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, Oct. 28.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Jen Gibson on Sunday, Oct. 26, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "A Spiritual Case for Halloween." For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

★

For over a decade, Tiger P.A.W. Karate in Shelby has provided tuition-free martial arts training to local kids — helping them build discipline, confidence and community. After the building they trained in for 12 years was sold, the program has temporarily moved to a church basement while searching for a new permanent home.

A GoFundMe organized by Richard Benavides aims to secure a new space and support students with competition expenses. Money raised will be used to help find a new home and to help fund some of the students' competition expenses. Visit <https://www.gofundme.com/i/new-home-for-tiger-paw-karate?cdn-cache=0> to donate.

★

First Congregational Church, 640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield, will welcome families and community members to its annual trunk-or-treat on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 5–6:30 pm. The event offers children and families a safe, fun and festive evening.

Families are encouraged to bring a friend and come dressed up in costume. Trunk or Treat is free and welcome for everyone. For information call 419-756-3046 or visit First Congregational Church on Instagram and Facebook.

★

The Ontario High School Warrior Leadership Council is hosting a Veterans Day Continental Breakfast and Program on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at Ontario High School. Breakfast will be available from 8:30–9:15 am, followed by a program in the gymnasium from 9:15–10 am. Students are welcome to join veterans for breakfast, as long as they are included in the RSVP. To RSVP, call the high school office at 419-529-3969 or email Kayla Cain at cain.kayla@olsohio.org.



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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 and TeamKID and Youth Group

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield
419-524-4813 • mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com
Rev. David Zerby
10:30 am Sunday Worship
Office Hours: Tu., W., Th. 9 am to 1 pm
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 (nursery–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.

Grace Episcopal Church

41 Bowman Street, Mansfield
419-524-2661
Rev. Christopher D. Hofer, Priest-in-Charge
Rev. Daniel Orr, Associate Priest
Worship: Sundays, 8 am and 10:15 am
Christian Formation for All Ages: Sundays, 9:15 am
Food Pantry: Thursdays, 9–11 am
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 4–6 pm
gracemansfield.org • facebook.com/GraceChurchMansfield

G & M Body & Paint Shop

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

Wappner Funeral Home

Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland • 419-522-5211

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 Church of the Cross

236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington
419-884-2150 • Churchofthecrosslex.com
Pastor-Rev. Dr. Edna Stahl
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Junior Church for 10 and under • Wesley Class 10:45
5th Sunday of the month-Do Something Sunday AA, Girl Scouts,
Yoga, Knotty Ladies
and Bible Study.

Lexington Presbyterian Church

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

Mansfield 1st Presbyterian Church

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 & Children's Programming

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 Olivesburg 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
Rev. J.P. Snyder
9:30 am Grace & Eggs
11 am Sunday Worship and 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 School • 11 am Sunday School
Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

Mansfield author returns to Olive Hill, Kentucky

Willie Davis, Mansfield resident and author of a two-volume historical fiction novel documenting the history of Olive Hill, Kentucky, was invited to Olive Hill recently as a guest speaker at two Olive Hill venues.

Davis spoke to Olive Hill High School students, and also at an inaugural community forum about how this small Kentucky town contributed to our nation's industrial growth. In addition, Davis was invited to meet the general public at Olive Hill's annual fall festival.

"Kentucky lost about 400,000 of its sons and daughters in the 40s and 50s to the industrial north," says Davis. "My family migrated in 1959 to Mansfield when I was twelve. When I began researching Olive Hill history in the 1990s I discovered a wonderful creation story that few people knew, including many Mansfielders and Olive Hillians. I became committed to telling that story in the future, which culminated in my historical fiction novel, Olive Hill."

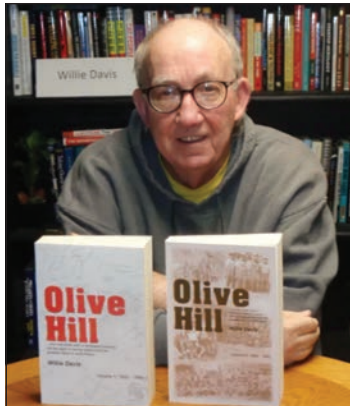
Carter County, Kentucky was blessed with an abundance of diverse natural resources, including timber, iron ore, coal, and limestone. During the Industrial Revolution Olive Hill, became the center of a 600 square mile hotbed of fireclay, a unique heat-resistant clay used to make firebricks. For decades, thousands of hard-working Olive Hillians dug, moulded, and fired that uncommon clay into hundreds of thousands of firebricks per day to line open hearth steel furnaces, locomotive fireboxes, and steamship boilers. They did this for decades.

"Without steel, there would be no skyscrapers and no rail lines," says Davis. "Without the trains and ships, there would be no movement to expedite a growing nation. Olive Hill firebricks helped make this possible. Olive Hill and its people gave all that it had in a time it was most needed until a time it was needed no more."

Davis expressed his belief that the study of history is important. A person cannot choose where they were born, or how they were raised, but they can choose how they live. He told the two venues that the past causes the present and the present causes the future. To better live in the present and plan for the future, people need to better understand how the world has, has not, is, and is not working.

"History is great storytelling. History well told builds individual identity, enhances self-worth, inspires personal growth, and generates a connection to something larger than oneself," says Davis. "Understanding one's local and family history is a path that can lead one to who they are, where they are, and where they can go."

For more information contact Willie Davis at willied@neo.rr.com.



Larch Valley, Alberta, Canada • Photo By Mark Shutt

Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Bertha Lee Taylor, October 10
Timothy Burt Johnson, October 13
John Richard Martin, October 13
Helen Kay Saylor, October 15

View Full Obituaries at www.dignitymemorial.com

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Ashland • 308 Claremont Avenue • 419-289-1552

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To register: call (419) 522-3211, or visit the event calendar at RichlandAreaChamber.com

Lexington Board of Education has short agenda for October meeting

The Lexington Board of Education met Oct. 15 and approved the District Financial Forecast for the FY26 through FY29.

Salary adjustments were made for Heidi Roush ME + 40 to Dr. Ed and Kevin Richer BA + 20 to ME. 7. Maternity Leave was approved for Samantha Keaney from approximately Jan. 22–March 16, 2026.

Janice Knox resigned from the food service department and Jacob Brown resigned as the junior high wrestling coach.

2025–'26 school year employments include Mason Ball and Isiah Kimmel, second shift custodians for the 7–12 building; Todd Scheiber and Derek Mittner substitute custodians; and Nicole Martin, substitute educational aide.

Coaches hired for the 2025–'26 season are Abigail Hooker, volunteer cheer advisor; Roger Long, head bowling coach; Jeff Stehle, volunteer bowling coach; Scott Hamilton, head boys basketball coach; Kevin Morrow, junior high boys basketball coach; Buck Morton, junior high boys basketball coach; Elijah Miller, junior high girls basketball coach; Kyle Strauch, junior high girls basketball coach; Tricia Brown, volunteer assistant basketball coach; Melisa Watters, swim coordinator; John Watkins, head wrestling coach; Brad Kasper, assistant wrestling coach; Chad Miley, assistant wrestling coach; Johnathan Watkins, volunteer assistant wrestling coach; Dustin Bender, volunteer assistant wrestling coach; David (Mike) Moore, volunteer assistant wrestling coach; Mike Mampieri, volunteer assistant wrestling coach; and Seth Cole, junior high wrestling coach.

Parent volunteers approved were Michael Jones, Central and Western Elementary; Carly Kastran, Central and Western Elementary; and Brady Dodson, Band of Gold.

The board approved the substitute lists as provided by MOESC dated Oct. 10–Nov. 14, 2025.

Shop Small scheduled for Nov. 22

The Richland Area Chamber has announced that its Small Business Saturday will be one week earlier this year — on Nov. 22.

The local Shop Small celebration will take place early to avoid the OSU vs. Michigan football game on Nov. 29. The event is a community-wide celebration of locally owned businesses with Chamber membership not required.

Businesses can register until Nov. 10 to be included in the special day. Each business will host a \$25+ prize drawing on Nov. 22 and invite shoppers to enter while visiting with no purchase required. Businesses then pick a winner and notify them that day, sharing a photo on social media and tagging @RichlandAreaChamber.

Shoppers can also scan a QR code at each store to enter for five \$100 county-wide grand prize drawings. The Chamber will notify grand-prize winners and distribute the winnings.

The Chamber invests thousands of dollars each year promoting Shop Small — Richland County. The only cost to businesses is a \$25 prize donation. Register as a vendor by Nov. 10 at <https://portal.richlandareachamber.com/events/details/shop-small-richland-county-2025-vendor-registration-6335>.



THE KINDNESS CLUB from Ontario visits Ontario Pointe, an assisted living facility, a couple times a month to do crafts with the residents. Leader, Cathleen Johnson, takes around 15 students each visit. During the last visit, students and residents made fall leaves for an activity.

**Anita ★
KOCHHEISER**

**For Springfield
Township Trustee**

Paif for by Kochheiser for Trustee



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ENDORSED BY:
STATE SENATOR
MARK ROMANCHUK

Free musical tribute honors local veterans and service members

The community is invited to attend "Veterans' Salute," a free concert presented at the Renaissance Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 9, at 2:30 pm.

This event recognizes the courage, service and sacrifice of veterans and their families, and stands as an open invitation to all to join in reflection, gratitude and musical celebration. Tickets are free and available now via the Renaissance Box Office, by phone at 419-

522-2726, or online at www.rentickets.org.

"Veterans' Salute" brings together the Local 159's 80-member concert band alongside the vocal strength of the Mansfield Symphony Chorus in a program of patriotic, ceremonial, and reflective works. Under the baton of Local 159 President Michael Grady, the performance will include marches, anthems, choral selections and collaborative ensemble pieces to evoke pride, remembrance and unity.

"This concert is our heartfelt opportunity to recognize the service and sacrifice of our armed forces and their families," said Chelsie Thompson, president & CEO of the Renaissance Performing Arts Association. "We're proud to work alongside our musicians' union and symphony chorus to provide this moving tribute. Together, we hope this performance will serve as both a salute and a reminder that their dedication is never forgotten."

ONTARIO LIONS PANCAKE DAY

**Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025 • 6:30 am to Noon
at Ontario High School**



Tickets: \$7 • Age 6 & Under Free

Door Prizes donated by local businesses

(Winners need not be present to win)

Proceeds support local and world-wide Lions projects

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BP ELECTRIC and HomeServe North America representatives, including, from left, Clint Cravens, HomeServe Ohio Regional Operations Manager; Jonathan Cunningham, HomeServe Vice President of Contractor Operations; Robert Judson, HomeServe Chief Operating Officer; Jen Poth of BP Electric, Tom Rusin, HomeServe Chief Executive Officer; Sylvester Criscone, HomeServe Senior Vice President of Contractor Management and Administration; and Bryan Rooney, HomeServe Senior Director of Operations, celebrated the Lexington-based company being named the Large Market Contractor of the Year during the tenth annual HomeServe Contractor Awards held Oct. 14-15 in Orlando, FL.

BP Electric honored with Contractor of the Year Award

BP Electric of Lexington, Ohio, was awarded the Large Market Contractor of the Year Award at the 10th Annual HomeServe Contractors Conference held Oct. 14-15 at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel. This award recognizes BP Electric as a standout partner in HomeServe's network of more than 2,900 skilled trades contractors across North America.

The award is presented to the contractors who are the top performers across all metrics – quality of service, timeliness and customer satisfaction – in all North America.

BP Electric also was awarded the Pinnacle Performer Award for the Ohio Region. The award is given to the top-performing contractor partners in each region who consistently delivered exceptional service, held their teams to the highest level of accountability and ensured their operations were in line with HomeServe's values and goals.

The annual conference brought together less than 150 contractors, representing the top five percent of HomeServe's contractor network, for presentations and workshops on customer service, technology and business growth strategies; a tradeshow; and an awards ceremony. Winners were selected based on evaluations of their performance metrics, with a focus on customer service excellence, repair quality, responsiveness and timeliness.

"Earning the Contractor of the Year Award is a testament to the unwavering dedication that BP Electric has shown in delivering exceptional repair services and prioritizing customer satisfaction for our shared customers," Tom Rusin, HomeServe North America CEO, said. "Their tireless efforts to raise the bar for quality make them an invaluable part of our mission to simplify homeownership."

Celebrating its 10th year, the conference is more than an awards event, it's an opportunity to recognize the best professionals in the skilled trades. The recipients, including BP Electric, represent the highest standards in customer care and technical expertise.

"BP Electric truly cares about their customers," Clint Cravens, HomeServe's Ohio regional operations manager, said. "Recently, while they were providing a major exterior repair, issues occurred with a third party that left our customer without power. BP Electric bought and delivered a generator and fuel to keep the customer going until the power company could restore power. They always go the extra mile!"

"Their techs, Ethan, Drew, Thane and Ben, exemplify putting customers first in everything they do, and Jen and Amy in the office take every concern our customers have and make their own to solve. They are truly an amazing group to have on the HomeServe team."

The family-owned and operated business was founded in 2004 and its 20 employees provide residential, business and industrial services in the Greater Richland County area.

"Our contractor partners are the backbone of everything we do," Sylvester Criscone, HomeServe's senior vice president of contractor management and administration, said. "BP Electric's work exemplifies the excellence and professionalism that make HomeServe a trusted source for home repair solutions. We are proud to honor their achievements and thankful for their invaluable partnership."

HomeServe, in cooperation with its contractor network, offers emergency home repair services to more than 4.5 million customers, servicing hundreds of thousands of households each year.

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Madison accepts grant from RCRTA for classroom supplies

The Madison Local School District Board of Education met Oct. 15, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

The Ram Pride Award was presented to Jim Dillon, high school science teacher and Carol Moore, administrative assistant at Mifflin Elementary.

Nathan Stump, Mifflin Elementary Principal, gave a presentation and a \$1,500 donation was accepted from VFW Post 9943, to be used by the RISE (Real Independent Skills through Education) program.

The board approved the September 2025 Financial Report and accepted a grant from the Richland County Retired Teachers Association in the amount of \$2,000, to be used by Troy Schulz to purchase classroom supplies.

Appropriation modifications, certificate of estimated resources for FY26 and student activity budgets for FY26 were approved.

A resolution approved The Jefferson Health Plan and Madison Local School District's participation in the Health Benefits Program of the Plan. It also allows treasurer Bradd Stevens to execute, file and deliver all documents associated with the Madison Local School District's membership in the Plan.

Resignations were accepted from Zac Huff, head varsity girls' soccer coach; Steve Zellner, assistant 7/8 track coach; Theodore Haring, assistant 7/8 wrestling coach; Leann Hall, Title I – Mifflin, retirement; and Kimberly Miller, high school business ed, retirement.

Supplemental positions were awarded for the 2025-'26 school year to David Hipp, assistant varsity boys' basketball; Jeff Keener, head eighth grade boys' basketball; and Troy Schulz, online academy teacher, first semester.

Pupil activity positions for the 2025-'26 school year were awarded to Kelly O'Brien, interim head varsity girls' soccer coach; and Trenton Osborne, assistant varsity wrestling coach, half contract.

Robert Dings was hired at the adult education welding technology instructor.

Substitute teachers hired on an "on call" basis, as needed for the 2025-'26 school year were Kierstin Brannon, Amy Brown, Janeille Ditlevson, Jessica Francisco, Jada Lamp, Taylor Morgan, Alexis Osborne, David Parsons, Frank Reed, Taylor Stillion, Maggie Thomas, Lisa Turner, Jason Voelp, Gage Weaver and Wayne Whitehead.

Jayden Jeffries was approved as a varsity boys' basketball volunteer. Madison Early Childhood Learning Center hirings include Jamie Riggans, assistant teacher; Olivia Price, assistant teacher; and Emily Treadway, assistant teacher. Jami Sweet was hired as a special education paraprofessional at South. Tori Sloan, was hired as a lead teacher substitute at MECLC.

Resignations were accepted from Jaqueline French, Mifflin Latchkey site coordinator; Sarah Johnson, special education paraprofessional at South; Jocelyn Turner, assistant teacher at MECLC; Lester Dixon, bus driver; and Kimberly Belt, special educational paraprofessional at Mifflin.

Approval was given for an overnight trip for SkillsUSA students to attend the SkillsUSA Fall Conference on Nov. 20-21, 2025 in Columbus. The board approved the amended staffing agreement between Madison Local Schools, Mansfield Christian Schools and Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center from July 1-31, 2026.

It was decided to terminate inactive student activity accounts including MHS Cheerleaders, MS Library Club, Rampage, Hospitality, MS History Club and Robotics Club. Transfers from the terminated student activity funds, totalling \$1223.85, will go to the general fund.

A second reading was held of new/revised/replaced/rescinded board policies.

The next regular meeting will be held at 6 pm, on Nov. 19, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

Troopers target Move Over violators in ODOT work zone

Ohio's Move Over law is designed to protect the lives of everyone who works on or uses our roadways, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) routinely makes this a priority. The law requires all drivers to move over to an adjacent lane when approaching any stationary vehicle with flashing or rotating lights, including law enforcement officers, emergency responders, road construction, maintenance vehicles, utility crews and tow trucks. If moving over is not possible, motorists should slow down and proceed with caution.

One of the most vulnerable groups of roadside workers are Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) employees. Since January 2025, ODOT employees, vehicles, and equipment, have been struck 88 times. This unfortunately surpasses the 2024 total of 84.

OSHP Aviation Section and Troopers from the Elyria Post joined ODOT in a work zone where crews were cleaning drainage structures on U.S. Route 20 near Grafton Road in Lorain County. During the approximately two-hour work operation, 21 motorists were cited for violations of Ohio's Move Over law.

From 2020-'24, troopers issued over 30,000 citations to motorists in work zones. Seventy-four percent of these citations were for speed violations, including more than 11,000 for speeds of 20 MPH or more over the speed limit. Nearly 120 of these citations involved motorists traveling 100 MPH or more.

To date in 2025, there have been more than 3,200 work zone crashes in Ohio. Among those there have been 17 fatal crashes and another 79 crashes where serious injury is suspected.

The law recognizes that sometimes it is not safe or possible to move over because of traffic or weather conditions or because a second lane does not exist. In those situations, slow down and proceed with caution. Watch for people or objects that could enter the travel lane and be prepared to stop.

Mansfield Symphony Youth Strings to present fall concert

The Renaissance Performing Arts Association invites the community to celebrate the next generation of musicians at the Mansfield Symphony Youth Strings Fall Concert on Sunday, Nov. 16, at 3:30 pm at Lexington High School.

Since its founding in 1992, the Mansfield Symphony Youth Strings (MSYS) has provided opportunities for students in grades 6-10 to grow as musicians and performers. Comprising approximately 50 young players, the ensemble blends classical training with contemporary repertoire.

The Youth Strings are directed by Alora Eyerly, a Mansfield native and accomplished violinist, pianist and ensemble performer.

"This program is an integral part of the Mansfield Symphony's education initiative," said Chelsie Thompson, President & CEO of the Renaissance Performing Arts Association. "Through opportunities like Youth Strings, we nurture not only musical skill but also creativity, discipline, and community connection in young people across our region."

General Admission tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets are available at www.rentickets.org, by calling 419-522-2726, or by visiting the Renaissance Theatre Box Office at 138 Park Avenue West, Mansfield.



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Milkweed collection underway

As fall returns, milkweed seed pods starting to dry out in preparation of being harvested. Milkweed is the only plant monarch butterflies will lay eggs on and the only plant monarch caterpillars will eat. It also provides a food source for many other pollinators.

The Monarch butterfly population continues to decline and one of the reasons for their decline, is the lack of milkweed. An easy way to help monarch butterflies is to provide a habitat for them by collecting the seed pods and planting the seeds.

Those who don't have space to plant the seeds can collect the milkweed seed pods and drop them off at Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD). Each year the district partners with the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) and county citizens to collect Common Milkweed seed pods to help foster habitats for Monarch butterflies.

Drop milkweed seed pods off by Oct. 31 in the green and yellow container placed outside the Richland SWCD office at 1495 W. Longview Avenue, Suite 205 B, Mansfield. Place collected pods inside the bin that will have a large paper bag. Do not keep pods in the bag used to bring them.

Those collecting pods should become familiar with common milkweed to avoid harvesting pods from similar plants such as hemp dogbane and swamp milkweed.

Pods will appear slightly gray, begin to dry, and have brown seeds inside. If the center seam of the pod pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked.

Open pods that are already open should not be collected as they might be infested with insects. Pods that are damp should be avoided because they can cause mold and damage to all the pods collected.

Rubber bands should not be used. They can damage the equipment used to remove the seeds from the pods. Pods should be kept in a cool, dry area until they can be delivered. Only collect property where permission is given.

During the winter, seeds from this year's collection will be removed from the pods to be distributed for planting next year. Those who want free milkweed seeds with planting instructions, can pick them up from the hallway table found outside the Richland SWCD office. For information about collecting seed pods call 419-747-8685 or visit <https://richlandswcd.net/residential/programs/>

Tattoo fundraiser raises nearly \$1,500 for survivors of violence, trafficking

A tattoo fundraiser on Oct. 16 successfully generated nearly \$1,500 in vital funds dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. The event brought the community together to provide direct assistance for individuals and families rebuilding their lives after experiencing trauma.

The funds raised will go directly toward providing critical services, including emergency shelter, support groups, legal advocacy and other essential resources for survivors. This support is a lifeline, offering a path to safety, healing and independence for those who have faced unimaginable hardship. The success of the event underscores the community's commitment to standing in solidarity with survivors.

"Our community's support is nothing short of inspiring," said Colleen Rice, Executive Director. "Every dollar raised represents hope, safety, and the chance for survivors to rebuild their lives. We are deeply grateful for everyone who came together to make this event possible. Your compassion ensures survivors know they are not alone."

This impactful event was made possible through a partnership with Outer Mind Creation, which hosted the fundraiser and dedicated its artists' time and talent to the cause. The organization extends its sincere gratitude to the entire Outer Mind Creation team for their generous collaboration and unwavering support. Their contribution was instrumental in the event's success.

A special acknowledgment is also extended to Kameron, a dedicated advocate whose vision and passion for tattoos helped bring this unique fundraising concept to life. Kameron's commitment to supporting survivors was a driving force behind the event's powerful community engagement and positive outcome.



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S FCCLA held a Red Cross Blood Drive on Oct. 15. Students and teachers showed up to donate.

Women's Fund to announce annual grants

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation will announce this year's grant recipients during a luncheon Friday, Nov. 7 at Westbrook Country Club. The Women's Fund also will announce the recipient of the JoAnn Dutton Volunteer Service Award.

The award honors women who are leaders and devote a significant amount of time and energy in a meaningful way to local charitable organizations. The award was named in honor of JoAnn Dutton, former executive director of the Mansfield YWCA.

Richland Source Audience Engagement Editor Brittany Schock and reporter Katie Ellington Serrao will be the keynote speakers. They will share information on the Richland Source Series "It Takes a Village: Why Child Care is Everyone's Business."

Tickets can be purchased at richlandcountyfoundation.org, click the donate button then the events tickets tab.



Crestview FFA has busy September

The Crestview FFA program held its chicken BBQ fundraiser at Crestview High School on Friday, Sept. 26..

All week, Crestview FFA officers, members and community members worked hard coming in to help get all of the food ready for Friday evening.

The chapter cooked 950 half-chickens, 950 baked potatoes, 950 brownies and as well as 950 servings of green beans.

It takes a lot of preparation to get everything ready for the BBQ. Getting ready includes setting up grills and cleaning coolers and roasters.

This year, with the new addition of the seventh and eighth grade FFA, members were able to divide into duties to get things ready for the BBQ faster and more efficiently.

Thanks go to Mrs. Amy Bays as she had the middle school assist in packing the BBQ sauce. This year, many volunteers came in on Friday morning and help with cooking the chicken on the pits. The Crestview FFA Chapter wants to shout out to all the volunteers that helped make the event possible.

Crestview FFA attended the District Forestry Contest at Pleasant Hill Campground on Thursday, Sept. 18. This year the contest consisted of tree identification, chainsaw parts ID, timber stand improvement,

board foot measuring and value of trees. Crestview FFA placed second overall. Jeremy Esbanshade was second overall, Mason Moss was 14th overall, Drew Ramsey and Fin Rowland tied for 19th and Jeriel Martinez was 36th overall. The team's second place win was also achieved by the efforts of Hayden Metheny, Sean Nolan, JJ Osburn and Carson Metcalf.

On Tuesday Sept. 23, The Crestview Ag Soils and Urban Soils headed down to Holmes County for the district soils contest. The Ag soils team placed 11th place and the top five performers on the ag soils team were, Jack Ramsey, Jermy Esbenshade, Quinn Ramsey and Carson Metcalf.

The urban soils team placed seventh and the top five performers on the Urban team were Jessica Smith, Chloe Ringler, Drew Ramsey, Sean Nolan and Harper Dinsmore. Crestview would like to thank the volunteers that made this happen as well as all team members.

Soils is a learning adventure that teaches how to survey land, to find out where the best place would be to build a house and the quality of the soil for farming. Overall soil judging is a learning experience for the students and there are lots of things to learn at the soils contests every year.



Prescription Take Back Day returns this Saturday

The METRICH Enforcement Unit will be partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration and local law enforcement to present another Prescription Take Back event for the community on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 10 am to 2 pm. A drive-through location will be held at Richland County Regional Solid Waste Management Authority, 1125 National Parkway, Mansfield.

This is a completely confidential program and no personal information will be collected. Prescription labels should be removed.

Accepted items include prescription medicines of any kind, over-the-counter medications, medication samples, pet medications, vitamins, inhalers, medicated ointments and lotions and liquid medications in leak-proof containers.

Prohibited items include needles, syringes, lancets, thermometers, aerosol cans, IV bags, hydrogen peroxide, bloody or infectious waste, empty containers and personal products such as non-medicated shampoo.

Collection locations include Mansfield Police Department, 1125 National Pkwy., Mansfield; Richland County Sheriff's Office, 597 Park Avenue East, Mansfield; Lexington Police Department, 44 W. Main St., Lexington; Shelby Police Department, 31 Mack Ave., Shelby; and Plymouth Police Department, 48 W. Broadway St., Plymouth.

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SECOND GRADE STUDENTS from Ontario visited the Ohio Bird Sanctuary for a field trip Oct. 15. Students enjoyed seeing the new paintings by local artist Allison Pence. The guide, Miss Claire, told students about all the birds who live at the sanctuary. (Top Right Photo) Natalie completes an obstacle in the woods. (Bottom Right Photo) Mea from Mrs. Winningham's class especially liked the wings.

Dr. Julie Chaya recognized nationally as a rising leader in public health

Dr. Julie Chaya, health commissioner of Richland Public Health, has been recognized as one of the 40 Under 40 in Public Health for her innovative leadership, strategic vision and commitment to improving community health in Richland County and beyond.

The de Beaumont Foundation announced its Class of 2025 on Oct. 14, following a competitive national selection process that reviewed nominations from hundreds of professionals working to advance public health across the country.

"The 40 Under 40 Class of 2025 is a high-achieving, passionate group of professionals whose accomplishments and experience showcase the very best of the public health field," said Brian C. Castrucci, DrPH, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation. "I look forward to working with them to advance health outcomes in communities across the nation."

"Public health leadership is about collaboration, compassion, and courage," said Dr. Chaya. "I'm honored to represent Richland County and to continue building partnerships that improve the health and well-being of our community."

As health commissioner, Dr. Chaya has led Richland Public Health through a period of strategic growth and transformation — strengthening partnerships across healthcare, education and local government; spearheading initiatives to improve access to preventive ser-

vices; and advancing community engagement through data-driven health improvement planning. Her leadership has helped advance initiatives such as Live Well Richland, the county's emerging comprehensive wellness framework and in coordinating the department's ongoing efforts toward public health reaccreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).

Both initiatives reflect her commitment to continuous improvement, cross-sector collaboration, and long-term community impact.

In addition to Dr. Chaya, the program's honorees include program managers, researchers, community engagement professionals and senior leaders from health departments, universities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector.

A panel of national public health leaders evaluated nominees based on leadership, vision, collaboration, and measurable impact in their communities.

Through this recognition and a year-long professional development program, honorees of the 40 Under 40 in Public Health will build a robust network, learn from their peers, and amplify the impact of their work nationwide.

For more information about the 40 Under 40 in Public Health, including a full list of honorees, visit www.debeaumont.org/40Under40.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS MADISON VOLLEYBALL · OCT. 15 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS NORWALK VOLLEYBALL · OCT. 15 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



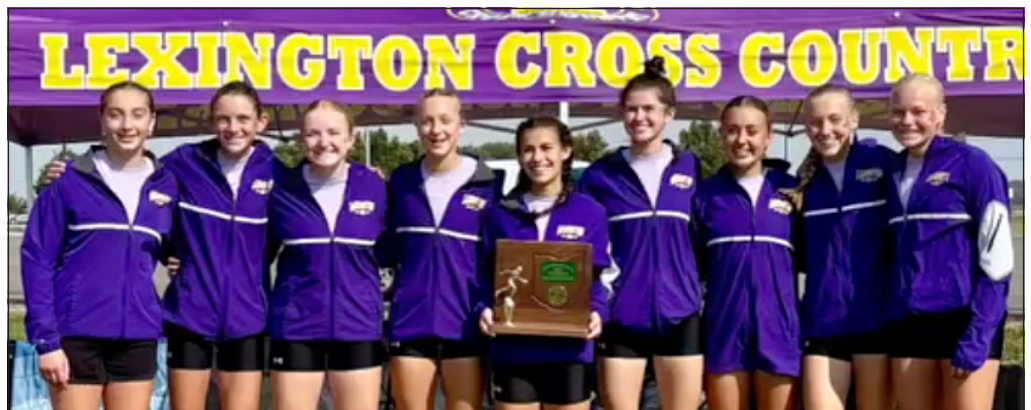
Photo By Jenna Wolford

THE CRESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL girls cross country team was named the OHSAA Division IV Northwest District Champions with a score of 46 at Amman's Park in Galion Oct. 18. The girls' team was led by senior Alina Durbin, placing sixth (20:59). She was followed by teammates senior Emmie Kemp in seventh (21:01); senior Audrey Wolford, 11th (21:43); sophomore Laynie Kemp, 12th (21:49); sophomore Alex Cutlip, 31st (23:40) and sophomore Emily Pond, 61st (30:51). The boys' team placed third with a score of 83. The boys were led by sophomore Isaac McFarland in sixth place (17:18). He was followed by teammates freshman Isaac Smith, 11th (17:38); junior Wyatt Love, 19th (18:18); sophomore Brandt Leidigh, 23rd (18:36); sophomore Logan Robinson, 28th (18:56); sophomore Jackson VanScyoc, 38th (19:33); and freshman Wyatt Turchan, 43rd (19:51). Other team members pictured are senior Nick Soto, sophomore Titus Kelley and sophomore Gracie Galloway. The teams are coached by Stephanie Brockway, Emma McCarron and Amy McFarland. Both teams advance to regionals at Hedges-Boyer Park in Tiffin this Saturday.



Photo By Jenna Wolford

MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN senior Riley Patrick is the OHSAA Division IV Northwest District Champion, placing first with 19:11 at Galion's Amman's Park on Oct. 18. The MCS team placed fourth with 97 points and will advance to regionals in Tiffin this Saturday.



THE LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL cross country teams are both OHSAA Division II Champions. The teams ran at Owens Community College in Findlay on Oct. 18. Latrell Hughes and Katya Prykhodko (18:42) are both district champions.

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Cramer sparks Flames to remarkable comeback victory

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Mansfield Christian senior Adelle Cramer delivered an MVP-worthy performance as the Flames stunned New London in district volleyball action last Thursday night, Oct. 16, with a sweep.

Down 19-9 in the third set, Cramer ignited one of the most memorable comebacks of the season. Her energy, leadership, and composure flipped the script, inspiring her teammates to rally point by point until the Flames pulled off the upset win.

"We had a lot of energy the first two sets and then we got low in the third; but then Bella Rayburn told us in the huddle to celebrate everything," Cramer said after the match. "So we did—we celebrated every point, cleaned up our serves, and just got the job done."

Cramer's relentless positivity and determination were contagious, lifting her teammates to a new level of intensity. The Flames' only two seniors, Cramer and Rayburn, have led with heart all season—and fittingly, Rayburn sealed the victory with a match-ending ace.

"I love every single one of my teammates," Cramer added. "We're like a family. Bella's my senior buddy, and everyone stepped up to-night. It's only right that she finished it for us with the ace."

Cramer's outstanding performance earned her MVP honors, presented by the New London Athletic Boosters.

The Flames now look to carry their trademark grit and passion into the next round — hoping to create another magical moment in their post season run.



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

LEXINGTON VS MANSFIELD GIRLS SOCCER · OCT. 15 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Sports Highlights

Regular football season prepares for wrap-up this Friday night

By Kris Leiter

Division IV — Region 14

1. Shelby (9-0) 26.8111, 3. Galion (8-1) 19.0056 8. Clear Fork (6-3) 12.6

Need I say more about the number one in Region 14, Shelby? Hinging on last year, they seem to just keep getting better!

Last week, they handily defeated Pleasant 55-10 and they are secure as a playoff contender and ranked 21 in the state.

This Friday, week 10, the Whippets will tangle with Marion Harding.

Clear Fork is having another amazing year! They are in the 8-spot as they recently defeated River Valley 44-7. This week, the final Friday, they travel to Crawford County to go head-to-head with the Galion Tigers. This should be another great battle in Heise Park, as Galion is tauting a great record if 8-1! The Tigers only loss was to powerhouse Shelby in week 4, 45-34, a nip-and-tuck game.

Division VI — Region 27

8. Crestline (5-4) 7.5606 13. Lucas (4-5) 6.8788

The mighty Bulldogs have had another awesome season and look good for making the post-season for the second year in-a-row!

Last Friday, week 9, they fell to the tough, undefeated North Baltimore Tigers, 63-20.

This coming Friday, they will travel to Cub Country to take on the Lucas Cubs. This will be another good game to take in as both teams are Region 27 and could possibly face each other in post-season play.

The Cubs have turned the corner the past two weeks and notched victories against week 8 opponent Reynolds (PA) 22-15, as they traveled two hours on the road. They recently defeated week 9 opponent Lutheran East at Bob Wine Field.

This Friday, they will go head-to-head with the vicious Crestline Bulldogs, who have been putting the smack-down on their opponents this year. With one game left, things look challenging for the Cubs, but could possibly move up with some help from some other teams.

Div VI — Region 23

14. Crestview (5-4) 8.9111

The Cougars have had a respectable season and are just outside the playoff bubble in the 14-spot. Last Friday, week 8, they fell to defeat, 28-26, in a tight-knit battle in Ashland county against Firelands Conference opponent the Monroeville Eagles, who are currently 7-2.

This finale week 10, the Cougars will battle it out on the road with the Mapleton Mounties.

Division III — Region 10

3. Lexington (8-1) 18.0889 12. Ontario (5-4) 9.2944 25. Madison Comprehensive (2-7) 27. Mansfield Senior (1-8)

Big Lex is sitting nicely in the 3-spot and with one week left, look good for being in the top tier for the region. Their only loss was to Shelby in week 2, 37-13.

This Friday, the Minutemen will go at it with Ashland. The Arrows have been on fire as well. This should be a battle for the two Ohio Heartland Conference teams. This will be a must see game.

Ontario will host River Valley at Copeland Field this Friday night. They are now in the 12-spot.

Ontario Board of Education has busy October meeting

The Ontario Board of Education met for its regular session on Oct. 14, in the Ontario High School Library with Brett Baxter, Amy Hiner, Jerod Them, Heidi Zimmerman and Todd Friend, attending.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Todd Friend and high school principal Chris Smith gave a NCSC/OHS Business Cohort update. OHS Spanish teacher Rosa Minnear discussed the proposed 2027 Spanish trip for June 25-July 11, 2027. The trip was approved by the board.

The treasurer's financial reports, spending budget and financial forecast were both approved.

Appropriation adjustments were made and a 15-year CRA for Charter Next Generation for a warehouse at 631 Stumbo Rd., per the CRA resolution, was approved.

Michele Hasten resigned as Stingel Intervention Specialist and Lisa Secrist resigned as the Stingel STEM after-school club advisor for the 2025-'26 school year.

Substitute teachers hired for the 2025-'26 school year include Autumn Barry, Gabriella Johnson, Lameshia Partin, Taylor Cottrill, Justice Holmes, Braeden Rachel and Emily Lee.

Substitute classified staff hired for the 2025-'26 school year include Valencia Madaris, cook, secretary; Zach Wurm, custodian; and Kristine Collier, cook.

Extracurricular/supplemental staff hired for the current school year include Troy Sapp, revision from seventh to eighth grade girls basketball coach, \$3,570 (previously board approved amount); Hope Miller, seventh grade girls basketball head coach, \$3,570; Jeremy Peoples, girls wrestling coach, \$4,333.80; Taylor Komives, OHS wrestling assistant coach, 4 sharing 3 stipends, \$4,333.80; Allison Haver, After School Club (Ontario Outreach Club), \$1,173; Zach McGrain, OHS Volunteer wrestling assistant coach, \$0; Bryan Geist, volunteer football assistant coach, \$0; and Keirsten Proulx, volunteer gymnastics Coach, \$0.

The board approved Wendi Henige to provide tutoring services as a Wilson Reading System certified tutor, \$125 per day, as needed for the 2025-'26 school year and Ron Crawford to drive the school van two hours per day at \$20 per hour for transportation for two students to Leap. Payment of stipends to board members was approved for their participation at OSBA Capital Conference, Nov. 17-18.

A payment stipend was approved for Jodi Cooper-Wentz, \$1,000, for coordinating a fall book study, maximum three book studies during the 2025-'26 school year, using federal grant funds.

The board approved revised, new and replacement board policies.

Donations were accepted from Richland County Retired Teachers Association for the Zack Canfield grant, \$350; Richland County Retired Teachers Association, for the Joni Stierhoff grant, \$150; High School (senior parking spots) for the CamStrong Fund, \$1,432; Gorman Rupp for boys basketball, \$350; Walmart for Stingel school supplies, \$5,800 (estimated value); Stingel Donut Sales for Warrior Wishmaker, \$932.64; Texas Roadhouse/Dine to Donate for Warrior Wishmaker, \$202; Ice Cream Float Sales (OHS) for Warrior Wishmaker, \$189.76; anonymous, Warrior Wishmaker, \$87; and Kiwanis Club of Mansfield Inc. for Key Club, \$200.

Facility requests were granted to Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland (Gemma Bush) for use of Stingel library for meetings; Girl Scout Troop 3591 (Ellen Yoakam) for use of Stingel library for meetings; Ontario Blaze 13U (Matthew Ruhe) for use of middle school gym for baseball practice; Tim Mergel for use of high school gym for girls and boys basketball; and Amy Hiner for use of high school gym for volleyball open gym.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Nov. 11.

Women's Fund will announce annual grants during November luncheon

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation will announce this year's grant recipients during a luncheon Friday, Nov. 7 at Westbrook Country Club. The Women's Fund also will announce the recipient of the JoAnn Dutton Volunteer Service Award.

The award honors women who are leaders and devote a significant amount of time and energy in a meaningful way to local charitable organizations. The award was named in honor of JoAnn Dutton, former executive director of the Mansfield YWCA.

Richland Source Audience Engagement Editor Brittany Schock and reporter Katie Ellington Serrao will be the keynote speakers. They will share information on the Richland Source Series "It Takes a Village: Why Child Care is Everyone's Business."

Tickets can be purchased at richlandcountyfoundation.org, click the donate button then the events tickets tab.

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before Council of the City of Ontario, during the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at the Ontario Municipal Building, upon a proposal to rezone six parcels on the east side of Lex-Springmill Road, from Princeton Drive and continuing south, from R-1 Low Density Residential to Office Service.

Planning Commission has recommended against this rezoning.

All persons interested in this issue are invited to attend and express their views.

Cathy VanAuer
Clerk of Council
City of Ontario, OH
(T-C 10-23 '25) 20L

Journalist will speak Nov. 6

The Kaleidoscope Speaker Series continues this fall with an evening featuring acclaimed investigative journalist Mya Frazier, on Thursday, Nov. 6, at 5:30 pm at the Renaissance Theatre.

In her talk, Frazier will lead an engaging discussion on economic mobility in America, offering an investigative journalist's lens on the structural barriers many families face in their pursuit of financial stability. Drawing from real-life stories and in-depth reporting, she will challenge assumptions, highlight systemic inequities, and explore what a more equitable economic future could look like.

Audience members are invited to stay after the event for a networking reception in the Renaissance Lobby, where the conversation will continue in community.

A follow-up engagement session, "Economic Mobility," will take place on Thursday, Nov. 20 at 5:30 pm in the Community Room at the Ontario Branch of the Public Library. All are welcome to attend and join a deeper discussion sparked by Frazier's talk.

Tickets are pay-what-you-can, with a suggested price of \$25, ensuring accessibility for all, available at www.RenTickets.org.



KCCC's JROTC hosts competition at Ariel Foundation Park

Knox County Career Center's (KCCC) JROTC held its 11th annual Raider Competition on Saturday, Oct. 11, at Ariel Foundation Park.

The event featured 13 schools and 25 teams from across two states. The overall champion of the competition was Beavercreek High School's A team followed by Green High School's A team in second place. Beavercreek High School's B team rounded out the top three in third place.

KCCC's A team finished in fourth place overall and the KCCC B team finished in tenth place overall.

"This year's competition was once again a tremendous success. We were thrilled to welcome students from across Ohio, along with a dedicated team from Pennsylvania. The event offers a physically demanding environment that challenges young cadets and fosters personal growth. Through the experience, they learn to push beyond their perceived physical limits, work cohesively as a team, and demonstrate leadership and encouragement when it matters most," said KCCC's Colonel Salvucci.

He added, "It's in this setting that we help shape today's youth into tomorrow's responsible citizens, ready to lead their country. I find it incredibly rewarding to provide this opportunity for growth—and even more inspiring to witness it unfold in real time."

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