



# TRIBUNE-COURIER

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

news@tribune-courier.com

07.17.25



**NEW LIEUTENANT** — Firefighter Ben Ricker has been promoted to lieutenant at the Springfield Township Fire Department in Ontario. Representatives of the department said, "Lieutenant Ricker has consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication and a deep commitment to serving the community. This promotion is a reflection of his hard work, professionalism and passion for the fire service."

## Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program available for 2025

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., in partnership with the Ohio Department of Aging, is pleased to announce the return of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) for income-eligible older adult residents of Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot counties.

The program provides income-eligible seniors with \$50 in vouchers to purchase locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, and honey at participating farmers' markets and roadside stands.

All new applicants and past participants must apply online at <https://www.aaa5ohio.org/services/sfmp-1/>

The fastest and most convenient way to apply for the SFMNP program is through the online application form.

An email address is required to complete the electronic form. Applicants in Ohio who register with an email address will receive a confirmation email once approved and can begin using their \$50 benefit beginning May 15. For application assistance, call 567-247-7101.

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

## Shelby pastor making return to motocross track

James Taylor, lead pastor at Shelby Alliance Church, is dusting off his riding boots and returning to the motocross track after an eight-year hiatus, all for a cause close to his heart — supporting local foster care families.

He will be making his return to racing at the Richland County Fair on Aug. 8, bringing his passion full circle to support a great cause.

Motocross, a sport typically reserved for athletes who retire by their early to mid-thirties, might seem an unusual choice for Taylor, now 37. However, he sees his return to racing as an opportunity to inspire others to leverage their personal talents and passions to benefit the community.

"I've become increasingly convinced that we can bring glory to God through everyday activities, especially those outside the traditional church walls," Taylor explains. "Motocross was a huge part of my childhood, and now it's a way for me to shine a light on an important issue: supporting local foster care families."

Taylor's fundraiser is currently live through Richland Gives, a secure and trusted local fundraising platform. All proceeds will benefit New Mercy Outreach, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting foster children and their families in the Richland County area.

"Every child deserves not just life, but life abundantly," says Taylor. "Foster families are doing incredible work, and this is my small way of helping ensure they have the support they need."

Community members interested in supporting Taylor's efforts and local foster families can visit <https://richlandgives.mightycause.com/story/Pastorjames2025> or contact Pastor James directly via Facebook or Instagram for more information.

New Mercy Outreach is a Richland County-based nonprofit providing resources, support, and encouragement to foster families and children in need. They strive to create environments where every child experiences care, love and stability.



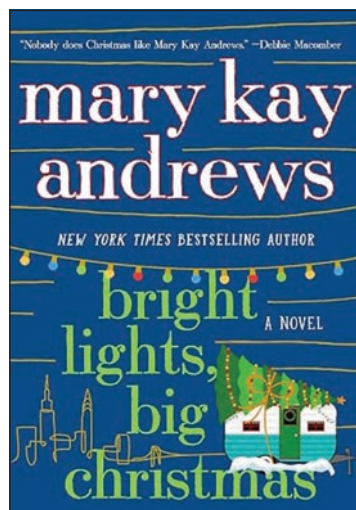
**PASTOR JAMES TAYLOR** taught kids at Hilltop Church's Vacation Bible School in Bellville about how motocross racers need sponsors, just like Jesus is our sponsor who paid our way to heaven.



## LOST IN A BOOK



A Book Review  
By Mandy Belczak Gurney



Celebrating Christmas in July, we look back at Mary Kay Andrews' *Bright Lights Big Christmas*. Andrews delivers another holiday classic with all the vibes of a Hallmark movie.

This time the setting is flipped when a brother and sister leave their Christmas tree farm in the south and show up in Manhattan to sell cut trees to the neighborhood.

Their dad is home recovering from illness and it's up to them to turn a profit to keep the farm from going under. This story has romance, endearing characters, and a few fun surprises along the way. It was the feel good story I needed.

I love how Mary Kay Andrews can always be trusted to give me

a heartfelt ending.  
My rating: ★★★★★  
Follow my blog at Green Gurneys at [GreenGurneys.com](http://GreenGurneys.com)

## Ashland County Airport welcomes veterans Aug. 9

The Ashland County Airport is has announced a special Veterans Appreciation Day on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 10 am to 10 pm, dedicated to celebrating and supporting veterans and their families.

This uplifting, community wide event will feature a full day of complimentary activities, live entertainment, and tributes to the men and women who have served our country.

Event Highlights include a formal opening featuring local military honors, flag raising and heartfelt speeches; Veterans group picture taken right after opening ceremonies; performances by bands and artists throughout the day; an historic aircraft display with L5, PT26, BC12D, Stinson 10, T6 and a TBM Avenger.

There will also be face painting, bounce houses, a foam bash for children of all ages, food trucks, vendors and booths from veteran service organizations offering support and networking opportunities.

Huey and Cobra rides will be available and free haircuts will be available for veterans from 1-3 pm.

Three hundred drones will take the air at 9:30 pm.

The event will be held at Ashland County Airport 700 TR 1102, Ashland.

Admission is free for everyone. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/A.C.V.A.D> for more information.

## THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —



James Gunn's *Superman* is the kickstart the DC films needed after countless hits and misses. Gunn brings his signature style, humor and sense of fun to one of the better Superman movies.

David Corenswet makes a terrific debut as Clark Kent/Superman. The movie opens with Superman defeated after getting involved in an international conflict. He and other heroes are already established and he is involved with Lois Lane (Rachel Brosnahan).

Another terrific performance is Nicholas Hoult as Lex Luthor. Hoult brings a ruthlessness to his defeat of Superman, even taking him to a created pocket universe to try and take him down. Hoult is one of the better Lex Luthor's and ranks up there with Gene Hackman's iconic portrayal.

What makes Gunn's movie so great is a combination of the right actors while giving the audience a fun time. The cast is very strong and the movie is loaded with engaging action sequences.

The weakest element may be that the international plot line is not as interesting as it could be though everything else works so well.

Other positives though are actors Nathan Fillion, Edi Gathegi and Isabella Merced as the Justice Gang who are very fun while supporting Superman. Gunn's ideas of keeping the origin part of the plot though not necessarily showing it was a very smart move and makes this movie a more unique experience.

Absolutely go and see *Superman*. James Gunn creates an energetic, entertaining and re-watchable movie that is made to be seen in a theater. Corenswet, Brosnahan and Hoult nail their roles and let's hope there is more to come and DC can finally get its feet firmly back on the ground and move forward with ease.



## Stuff the Bus to benefit Madison students

The 2nd Annual Stuff the Bus will be held at Frenchie Roast, 1262 Ashland Rd., Mansfield (Madison area), on Sunday and Monday, Aug. 3 and 4, from 8 am to 1 pm.

There are also drop off locations at Caliber Collision, 892 Park Avenue E., Mansfield, and VFW Post 3494, 853 Ashland Rd., Mansfield. An Amazon Wish list is available at <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/JR8ZMDAVN3M3>.

The event will benefit students in Madison Local School District.

Vol. 63  
No. 40

## 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](mailto:news@tribune-courier.com) • [www.tribune-courier.com](http://www.tribune-courier.com)  
© All Rights Reserved

The Tribune-Courier is published by Stumbo Publishing Co., Inc. Advertisers should check their ad immediately. The Tribune-Courier is not liable for failure to publish an ad or for a typographical error or errors in publication, except that adjustment for Tribune-Courier errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. Marc A. Stumbo, publisher; Frank A. Stumbo, president/CEO (1961-2018); Betty E. Stumbo, co-publisher (1961-2017); Jenna M. Wolford, managing editor, general manager and feature/travel writer; Teresa Vore, office manager; Traci Little, photojournalist/advertising representative; Kris Leiter, sports writer; John J. Kirschenheiter, editor (1961-2008); Linda Fulmer, columnist (2005-2014). By-lined stories are opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the position of this newspaper.

 **Recycling Today  
to Improve Tomorrow**

Formerly Milliron Recycling

**BUYERS OF:**  
aluminum . stainless steel . brass . all scrap iron  
commercial & industrial pick-up

2384 St. Rt. 39 | Monday - Friday 8 - 5 | Sat. 8 - 12  
419 - 747 - 6522 | 800 - 921 - 0054

# News Briefs

Ontario Lions Club will host a fundraiser for another local charity at Tractor Supply in Ontario on Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Donations will be collected and the club will donate a portion of its food trailer sales to Flying Horse Farms located in Mt Gilead, OH.

Flying Horse Farms provides a no-cost summer fun camp for children with serious illnesses. The camp is staffed to accommodate the special needs of the campers so they may enjoy the camp and activities and hopefully make new friends.

★

Trinity Grace Fellowship Church, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield (Madison area), will hold its annual Vacation Bible School July 20–24 from 6–8:30 pm each night.

The VBS is for children kindergarten through eighth grade.

Entitled “Wonder Junction,” children will marvel at the life of Jesus and learn to live for His glory. Registration is available online at <https://trinity-grace.myanswers.com/wonder-junction>.

★

The City of Ontario will host Concerts in the Park at Marshall Park’s band shell from 6 to 8 pm this summer.

Concerts are scheduled for:

July 22, The Return

Aug. 12, Soul Town Live

Aug. 26, Oolong Gurus

★

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 Aug. 20, with turkey and entertainment from Olivia Rayburn, music therapist and piano player.

The group will meet for lunch Aug. 6, at 11 am at Red Lobster in Ontario.

For information visit [www.lexasc.org](http://www.lexasc.org). Dues are \$10 per year.

★

Mansfield Airport Day will be held at Mansfield Lahm Airport on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 2–10 pm.

The lighted drone show is back for a third year and there will be a food truck rally, aircraft fly-in, airplane and helicopter flights, free live entertainment and kids zone. There will also be a car, truck and cycle show.

Admission and parking are free. Lahm is located at 2000 Harrington Memorial Rd., Mansfield. For information call 419-295-2478.

★

Lexington Church of the Cross UMC, 236 Otterbein Dr., Lexington, is hosting Wonderful Wednesdays now through July 30, from 10–11:30 am. The Wednesdays will include crafts, snacks, games, music and stories. A fiesta will be held Aug. 3, at 11 am.

For information and registration call 419-884-2150 or visit [www.churchofthecrosslex.com](http://www.churchofthecrosslex.com).

★

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, July 22.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, July 26 and 27. 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.

★

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](mailto:andersont@cacyohio.com) for details. If someone is thinking of harming themselves, call the local crisis helpline at 419-522-HELP (4357).

★

The 35th Annual Silver King Tractor Festival and Show will be held Aug. 1, 2 and 3 at Mary Fate Park, 200 Sandusky St. (Rt. 61), Plymouth.

The Silver Kings of Yesteryear Tractor Club will host the event that will include all brands of antique tractors and farm equipment, a parts swap meet for Silver King parts, vendors, entertainment, raffle items and a 50/50 drawing.

Set-up is July 31. For information call 567-275-1105.

★

Richland County Children Services (RCCS) will team up with community partners Richland Newhope, Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Catalyst Life Services, Mansfield Branch-YMCA of North Central Ohio and Richland Public Health for the Together We Move 5K & 1-miler Fun Run.

(Continued on Page 5)



It's planting your roots in the perfect place.

With new options that could lower your down payment, we make financing your dream home as enjoyable as putting some geraniums in your flower beds. (Excellent choice, by the way.)

[MyMechanics.com/mortgages](http://MyMechanics.com/mortgages)

**Mechanics Bank**  
Member FDIC

Subject to credit approval.  
Additional terms and conditions apply.





# 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](http://www.clearforkalliance.org)

Rev. Matt Merendino

Rev. Mike Stine, Associate Pastor

9 am Sunday School • 10 am Sunday Worship

Sunday Evening 6 pm Home Groups

Monday Men's Group 7:30 pm

Wednesday evenings: 6:45 pm, Prayer Meeting

6:30-8 pm and TeamKID and Youth Group

## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 West Third St., Mansfield

419-524-4813 • [mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.FirstChristianChurchMansfield.com)

FB: FirstChristianChurch,Mansfield,Ohio

## First Congregational Church

640 Millsboro Rd., Mansfield

419-756-3046 • [www.mansfieldfcc.com](http://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](http://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](http://gracemansfield.org) • [facebook.com/GraceChurchMansfield](https://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](http://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 Presbyterian Church

399 Trimble Rd., Mansfield

419-756-7066 • [www.mansfield1st.com](http://www.mansfield1st.com)

Rev. Joseph Yerger

9 am Adult & Youth Sunday School

10 am Traditional Sunday Worship

ADA Accessible Nursery & Children's Programming

## Mansfield Baptist Temple

752 N. Stewart Rd., Mansfield

419-589-5413 • [www.mbt.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://trinitygracefellowship.org)

Pastor Larry Carnes

9:30 am Sunday Worship • 11 am Sunday School

Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

## Nominations being accepted for awards

The Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development is accepting nominations for the 2026 ATHENA Leadership Award and the RCDG Economic Excellence Awards. Winners will be announced and honored at the Chamber's Evening of Excellence Annual Meeting and Dinner in February.

One outstanding woman in our community will be honored with the ATHENA Leadership Award, sponsored by Park National Bank.

The Richland Area Chamber became the new home for the ATHENA Leadership Award in 2016. It was previously awarded through the TWIN (A Tribute to Women & Industry) Committee in Richland County since 1989. A panel of past ATHENA Award recipients reviews the nominations, which are due Oct. 3.

The Chamber will also honor Economic Excellence Awards winners. The RCDG Economic Excellence Awards are an opportunity to highlight a business, individual, or organization that has significantly impacted the growth and development of the local economy. Economic Excellence Award nominations are also due Oct. 3.

Nominations for these awards can be submitted to the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development at <https://richlandareachamber.com/initiatives/athena-leadership-award/> and <https://richlandareachamber.com/initiatives/rcdg-economic-excellence-award-nomination/>.

The annual meeting will be held on Feb. 11, 2026, at the Mid-Ohio Conference Center, starting with cocktail hour at 5:30 pm, followed by dinner and awards at 6:30 pm. The early bird ticket price of \$50 is good through Monday, Feb. 2.

Sponsorship packages are also available. Call the Chamber office at 419-522-3211 or visit [www.RichlandAreaChamber.com](http://www.RichlandAreaChamber.com) for more information.

**View, Print & Save  
Past Issues at  
[www.tribune-courier.com](http://www.tribune-courier.com)**

# •News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

The event will be Saturday, July 26. The 5K starts at 9 am at the Mansfield YMCA and the 1-Miler Fun Run starts at 10:15 am at Sterkel Park. Race day registration opens at 8 am. Sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Mansfield/TogetherWeMove5K>

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will host Wendy Bartlett on Sunday, July 20, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Wisdom of Elders Service."

For information visit [www.allsoulsuuohio.org](http://www.allsoulsuuohio.org).

★

Kingwood Walks, hosted By Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, will be held July 8 and Aug. 12, at Kingwood, 50 N. Trimble Rd., Mansfield, from 10–11:30 am.

No registration is required for this Mobility Steps event and gates open at 10 am. Check-in is at the welcome desk and admission is free if participating in the walk.

Learn about the AAA5 programs and services and Richland County Mobility Management while walking through Kingwood Center Gardens. For more information on the walk at Kingwood contact Randy Hutchinson at 567-247-6483.

Mobility Steps meets at The Ontario Center (formerly Richland



Valley of the Gods, Utah • Photo By Mark Shutt

Mall) from 10 am to noon on the first and third Wednesday of every month (excluding holidays). Walkers meet at the Center Mall anytime between 10 am and 12 pm.

★

Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio will host the Annual Golf Classic on Monday, July 21 at Deer Ridge Golf Course in Bellville. The event supports financial literacy, career readiness and entrepreneurship education for thousands of K–12 students across our rural communities.

Cost is \$600 for a four-person team and the fee includes lunch, snacks, SuperTicket, drink tickets and contests. Cash prizes include awards for first, second, middle of the pack and 24th place. There will be a putting contest, hole-in-one challenge, closest to the pin, longest drive and more.

For information or to register visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/shcgo/event/2025drgolfclassic/>

## Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Lois Ann Dean, July 3

Daniel Allen Atwell, July 5

Willie James House Jr., July 5

Shelby Jean Swiney, July 6

Antionette Thompson, July 6

Kenneth Lee Wellendorf, July 8

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

## Our Family Serving Your Family for Five Generations Since 1872



**WAPPNER**  
Funeral Directors & Crematory

Three Locations to Serve You

Mansfield • 98 South Diamond St. • 419-522-5211

Ontario • 100 S. Lexington-Springmill Rd. • 419-529-2323

Ashland • 308 Claremont Avenue • 419-289-1552

[www.wappner.com](http://www.wappner.com)



## TOP 10 REASONS TO CHOOSE ST. MARY OF THE SNOWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



10. Ed Choice Scholarships Available For Everyone

9. 1:1 Technology for All Students

8. Field Trips and Enrichment in All Grades

7. Transportation Through Public Schools

6. Before and After School Care

5. Free Lunch for All Students

4. Family Atmosphere with Experienced, Caring Staff

3. Small Class Sizes = One on One Attention

2. Strong academics and Leadership Opportunities

1. Christ is the Reason for Our School

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8 | CALL 419.589.2114 | ADMITS STUDENTS OF ANY RACE, COLOR, AND NATIONAL OR ETHNIC ORIGIN



# Jordan Feliz, Riley Clemmons coming to Richland County Fair

The 175th Richland County Fair is coming Aug. 3-9 and among the many activities will be a concert featuring Christian music artists Jordan Feliz and Riley Clemmons on Tuesday, Aug. 5. Gates open at 6 pm with the concerts set to start at 7 pm. For tickets visit <https://app.fairs.com/e/4a69d5626f0f4591>.

Jordan Feliz is known for numerous hits including "Witness," "Never Too Far Gone," "Beloved," "The River" and "Changed."

Riley Clemmons' top songs include "Miracle," "Broken Prayers" and "For the Good."

The fair's opening day is Sunday. At 2 pm there will be a 4-H Dog Agility Show in the horse pleasure arena. A fair opening ceremony and flag raising will be held at the center flag pole at 3 pm. The Jr. Fair King & Queen Pageant and Coronation will be held in the John Hartz Building at 5:30 pm. Harness racing will also be at 5:30 pm.

The Bake-a-Rama Awards & Auction will be in the John Hartz Building at 6:30 pm. Heartland will perform in the Nature Park at 7 pm. They are a contemporary Christian band.

On Monday, the Ageless King/Queen Contest will be held in the John Hartz Building at 2 pm. The Horse Royalty Coronation will be held at 5 pm in the horse arena. Harness racing will be at 5:30 pm, followed by weiner dog racing. The Jr. Fair Dog Fun Show begins at 6:30 pm in the John Hartz Building. The Mid-Ohio Community Band will give a performance in the Nature Park at 7 pm.

On Tuesday, Mason Shane will give a performance of light rock and original songs in the Nature Park at 7 pm.

On Wednesday, a pie auction is planned for 5 pm in the Arts and Crafts Building. Keith Hunter will give an acoustic/easy listening concert in the Nature Park at 7 pm.

The rodeo will be held Wednesday at 7 pm. Grandstand seating is free with \$10 reserved seats available. Also at 7 pm will be the Jr. Fair Talent Show in the John Hartz Building.

At 1:30 pm, the Barnyard Olympics will be held in the show arena on Thursday. The Central Ohio Truck Pull Circuit and County Tractor Pull is also Thursday beginning at 5 pm. Grandstand seating is

included with admission with \$10 reserved seats, \$10 pit and \$20 back gate tickets.

The Johnny Appleseed Squares will meet in the Red Barn from 6-8 pm. The Draft Horse/Pony Under Saddle Fun Show will be in the Draft Horse Arena at 6 pm and the 4-H Style Revue will be in the John Hartz Building at 6:30 pm. The classic rock group Diminished will perform at 7 pm in the Nature Park.

The Light Horses "Easy Gaited Fun Show" will be at 10 am Friday and the Kiddie Pedal Tractor Pull will be in the show arena at 1 pm.

The Jr. Fair Showman of Showmen Contest is at 3:30 pm and Open Free Style Reining is at 5:30 pm. At 6:30 pm will be the Draft Horse/Draft Pony Pull in the Draft Horse Arena and Sweet Umbra will perform older classic rock at 7 pm in the Big Red Barn.

Motocross will begin at 7 pm on Friday. Gates open at 3 pm with practice until 5 pm. This is included with admission. \$10 reserved seats, \$10 pit and \$20 back gate tickets are also available.

The Jr. Fair Livestock Auction will be held in the Show Arena at 9:30 am Saturday. The Jr. Fair Recognition & Awards Program will be in the John Hartz Building at 4:30 pm. Saturday's entertainment will be a demolition derby at 5 pm. This is included with admission with \$10 reserved seats and \$20 back gate seats available. Gone Sovereign, a classic rock and country band, will perform at the Red Barn at 7 pm. General gate admission includes most grandstand activities and is \$10 and free for children under 48 inches tall. A membership ticket (seven admissions) is \$40.

Senior Citizens Day is Monday Aug. 4, with \$5 admission for senior citizens. Armed Forces Day is Thursday Aug. 7, from 8 am to closing. Admission is free with ID to all veterans and active duty.

Kids Day is Tuesday, Aug. 5, from noon to 4 pm. Ride wristbands will be \$10. Sunday through Wednesday, wristbands will be \$20 and Thursday through Saturday they will be \$25. Rides open at noon, Sunday through Saturday.

For the full schedule visit <https://richlandcountyfair.com>.

## Richland County Fair August 3-9, 2025

### GRANDSTAND EVENTS:

**Sunday:** Harness Racing, 5:30 pm

**Monday:** Harness Racing, 5:30 pm

**Tuesday:** Riley Clemmons/Jordan Feliz, 7 pm  
(Tickets: [richlandcountyfair.com](https://richlandcountyfair.com))

**Wednesday:** Rodeo, 6 pm • \$10 Reserved Seats

**Thursday:** Truck/County Tractor Pull, 7 pm  
\$10 Pit or Reserved • \$20 Back Gate

**Friday:** Motocross 7 pm  
\$10 Pit or Reserved • \$20 Back Gate

**Saturday:** Demolition Derby, 5 pm  
\$10 Reserved • \$20 Back Gate

**Monday Senior Citizens \$5**

**Tuesday Kids Day (\$10 Ride Wristbands 12-4 pm)**

**Thursday Free for Military & Veterans with ID**

General Gate Admission (Includes Grandstand) \$10  
Admission for Children 48" and under is free!

Membership & Season Tickets (7 admissions) \$40

Richland Co. Fairgrounds • 750 N. Home Rd. Mansfield  
**[richlandcountyfair.com](https://richlandcountyfair.com)**

## Your local agent for home & auto

Call me for a quote today



**Brian R Gates Ins Agcy Inc**  
Brian Gates, Agent

2021 Park Avenue West, Suite 100  
Ontario, OH 44906-2259

Bus: 419-529-3888  
[brian@gatesagency.com](mailto:brian@gatesagency.com)  
[www.gatesagency.com](https://www.gatesagency.com)



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL





Photo by Damon Callis



**Day Trippin' With Damon** – Miller Nature Preserve contains 145 acres of woodlands and is located in Avon, OH. There is a visitor center featuring a café, gift shop and event hall. The highlight of this preserve is the 5,000 sq. foot Conservatory. A butterfly house is open seasonally. For information visit <https://www.loraincountymetroparks.com/miller-nature-preserve>.



# Interior design inspo



## Transitional STYLE



## Transitional Style

Transitional style decor blends traditional and contemporary design elements to create a balanced, timeless look. It's characterized by clean lines, neutral colors, and a mix of textures that create a sophisticated yet inviting atmosphere.



# Kentucky offers a bit of “down under” fun

Photos and Article By Jenna Wolford

In last week's article we visited the National Corvette Museum, this week as our travels continue, we find ourselves a bit of “down under” fun. We didn't have to travel across the globe, but instead stopped at the Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo (KDU) in Horse Cave, Kentucky.

After arriving, we picked up our golf cart and were off on our adventure. Our first stop along the paved trail was a building containing two Owl Monkeys. Native to tropical rainforests, we caught these wide-eyed creatures at their breakfast time and watched as they rummaged through their food trays on the hunt for banana pieces.

Next to this building was an enclosure containing a Serval, an African wildcat. These cats can catch up to 4,000 mice per year, run 50 mph and jump 10 feet vertically. We were able to see a Serval in action later in the day as it ran along the fence beside two Dingoes who were playing and chasing each other around their habitat.

One thing that became very clear is that these animals seemed very happy and energetic. So many times when I've attended a traditional zoo, all we were able to do is watch the animals sleep. Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo was definitely more lively than a typical zoo, making it much more fun for my whole family.

All of us agree that our favorite part of the zoo was The Outback, a walk-through enclosure where we could actually pet and interact with kangaroos. This area included kangaroos of all sizes and even mommies carrying their babies in their pouch. We watched as baby Joeys climbed in and out and other kangaroos enjoyed snacks from visitors.

We have been to zoos that allowed us to get close to kangaroos but this is the first time we had ever been able to actually have a real experience with them. The photo memories alone are worth the trip.

In this enclosure Emus, Sulcata Tortoises and even an Eastern Grey albino kangaroo roam free.

A nearby aviary permitted us to meet and feed Rainbow Lorikeets. These Australian birds were able to fly freely around the enclosure and a few landed on my daughter as she offered a snack of nectar.

The petting zoo includes goats, emus, sheep and horses. The goats especially enjoyed greeting visitors at the fence and begging for food. We always enjoy meeting goats and have fun with their persistence to receive attention.

The Exotic Bird Garden contained a wide array of winged creatures. We were able to visit Toucans, Kookaburras, Blue Crowned Conures, a Goffin Cockatoo, a Barred Owl, Blue and Gold Macaws, a Red Tail Hawk, Doves, Jandaya Parakeet and a Salmon Crested Cockatoo. The Macaws had a sign warning not to feed fingers to the birds — Macaws can bite with up to 2,000 psi!

The majority of KDU's parrots are donation animals who were

once kept as pets. These birds require a strong emotional connection to remain tame and happy in captivity.

We soon found our way to the sheep herding demonstration and watched as trained Border Collies herded sheep to the fence. One of the dogs was a veteran and one was still in training. It was interesting to see them wait for their commands. Those gathered around heard about the training program from the shepherd and were able to ask questions.

As we continued on our adventure we were able to see a Ring Tailed Lemur, Reticulated Python, North America Grey Wolves, Fennec Fox and Capybara. We stopped by the animal show to hear from a zoo keeper. These presentations are scheduled throughout the day and allow for those in attendance to ask questions and hear about the animals and their care.

Admission to Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo even includes a guided tour of their very own cave — Mammoth Onyx Cave.

The entrance is located inside the zoo and tours gather at scheduled times throughout the day. The 30-minute cave tour is fairly easy, allowing for children to explore with their adults.

The active limestone cave was discovered in 1799 and our guide gave a history of the cave and its owners as we walked the cave floor.

Opening to visitors in 1922, the cave includes dripstone formations such as stalactites, stalagmites, cave popcorn and cave cauliflower. We spoke to our guide after our tour and she even allowed us to see the original entrance to the cave which is kept in a nearby building.

Shortly after leaving the cave, a rainstorm came through and we spent some time in the nearby gift shop. Inside are a few parrots to

(Continued on Page 9)



Kookaburra



Owl Monkey





## •Kentucky offers a bit of “down under” fun

(Continued from Page 8)

visit and a housecat that found his way between the shelves of gems and carved stones for a perfect hiding place. The gift shop also serves homemade fudge and sells gemstone bags for the nearby gem mining sluice.

Once the clouds lifted, we climbed aboard the golf cart for the nature trail, a paved path through a wooded area with additional animal enclosures. Here we saw a Coatiundi, a member of the raccoon family from South America, and an African Crested Porcupine, the largest species of porcupine in the world, which can weigh up to 60 lbs.

We concluded our tour with a stop to see the camel near the entrance and exit of the zoo. A nearby zoo keeper offered my son cheese crackers and he was able to feed the friendly camel named Calvin.

It is recommended that guests arrive early in the day to allow for plenty of time to see the animals, watch the shows and experience all the zoo has to offer.

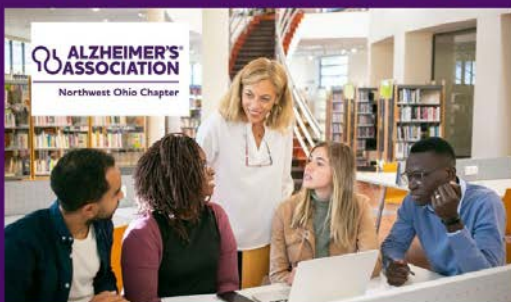
The paths to all the animal enclosures are paved and can either be walked or explored by 4-person or 6-person golf cart, making this zoo accessible to all ages and abilities.

Since the zoo can take a good part of the day, The Outback Café is available for anyone needing a refreshment or a snack and guests are invited to bring a picnic lunch.

Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo is 75 acres and is located at 3700 L&N Turnpike Rd., Horse Cave, KY. For more information visit [www.kentuckydownunder.com](http://www.kentuckydownunder.com) or call 270-786-1010.



## Make a difference – Volunteer as a Community Educator



Contact Jennifer Miller (Program Manager)  
at [jencmiller@alz.org](mailto:jencmiller@alz.org) if interested!



What is a  
Community Educator?

Volunteer public speakers who deliver Alzheimer's Association programs and raise awareness in their communities.



You'll Need:

A passion for making a difference, Age 21+ with a background check, Strong Communication skills, PowerPoint & Email



Key Responsibilities:

- Present 12 educational sessions per year
- Schedule, promote, and deliver programs
- Help with chapter conferences as a speaker
- Refer individuals to local Alzheimer's Association services and helpline



We Provide:

- Training & Support
- Skill-building in public speaking
- Opportunities to lead and serve locally





**THE ANNUAL SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT BANQUET** was held recently. The department celebrated the dedication and service of its team. The evening included a special tribute to recent retiree Jim Kinney and the official swearing-in of three new full-time members. Kinney served the community for 30 years. The newest full-time firefighters are Angelo Tino, Mike Carey and Kyle Foust. At the Ontario Lions Club Annual Awards Banquet, two department members were recognized for their excellence. Nathan Volz was named Firefighter of the Year and Reece Miller was named EMT of the Year.







**ONTARIO'S** Kennedy Sapp placed second in event management winning a gold score at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida. She spent her time networking with her peers, attending workshops, going to Universal Studios and taking full advantage of the many leadership opportunities that were available.

## News Briefs in Education

Robin N. Koehler of Lexington graduated cum laude from Columbus State Community College during Spring Semester commencement held on May 9.

★

Local students have been named to the 2025 Spring Semester Dean's List at Columbus State Community College. To be named to the list, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher and be enrolled for six or more credit hours.

On the list are Robin Koehler of Lexington and Felicia Arthur, Noah Burton, Dot Chin and Olivia Krupar, all of Mansfield.

**Scan to Subscribe to the FREE Weekly Issue**



# Summer Crisis Program begins July 1

The Ohio Department of Development and Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. are once again offering assistance to help Ohio's families stay cool during the hot summer months.

From July 1 through Sept. 30, income-eligible Ohioans can receive assistance in paying their electric bill, purchasing an air conditioner or fan, or making repairs to their central air conditioning unit through the Ohio Department of Development's Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program (HEAP).

"We're proud to partner with community action agencies across the state to deliver this critical support during the hottest months of the year," said Lydia Mihalik, director of the Ohio Department of Development, which administers the program. "Time after time, this program has proven to be a vital lifeline for countless Ohioans when temperatures start to rise."

The Summer Crisis Program assists low-income households or those that have a disconnection notice, have been shut off, are trying to establish new service on their electric bill, require air conditioning, or those with a person 60 years or older living in the home who can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for their health. Qualifying medical conditions can include lung disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, asthma, and others.

To qualify for assistance, Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a

family of up to eight members, and 60 percent of the State Median Income for a family of nine or more members. For a family of four, the annual income must be at or below \$56,262.50.

Last year, the Summer Crisis Program assisted more than 44,000 households in Ohio, providing a total of \$13.5 million in benefits.

Starting this year, applying for assistance and managing an account will be easier than ever. A new, streamlined online portal will be available at [energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://energyhelp.ohio.gov). To get started, Ohioans must register for an OHID account, which provides a secure and convenient way to access their HEAP account.

"We know that when someone is facing a crisis, every minute counts," said Director Mihalik. "This new online system makes it faster and easier for Ohioans to apply for help — so they can get the support they need, when they need it most."

Registration takes less than seven minutes, and can be completed at [energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://energyhelp.ohio.gov). Click "Log into the EA portal," then click "Create an OHID," and follow the six-step account creation process. Ensure account security by setting up multi-factor authentication.

To apply for the program, clients are required to schedule an appointment with the local County Community Action Commission.

Documents needed at the appointment include most recent energy bills, a list of all household members and proof of in-

come for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member, proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members, proof of disability (if applicable) and physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health.

For more information about the Summer Crisis Program, and what is needed to apply Older Americans can contact the Area Agency on Aging at 419-524-4144. To be connected to your local Energy Assistance Provider visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov) or call 800-282-0880. Learn more at [development.ohio.gov](http://development.ohio.gov).

## 5th Annual Kay Day Community Celebration is Saturday, July 19

The community is invited to the 5th Annual Kay Day Community Celebration on Saturday, July 19, from 12-4 pm at the NECIC Urban Farm, 311 S. Bowman St., Mansfield.

This free event honors the legacy of North End Community Improvement Collaborative (NECIC) community organizer and anti-violence advocate, Geneva 'Kay' Smith, who died in December 2019.

This year's celebration includes a concert featuring Christian Hip Hop artist Chawa Music, Danny "Dynasty" Holmes and De'Zs Wayy. There will be free food, backpacks, school supplies and a balloon release.

The community celebration also serves as a day to uplift mothers who have lost a child recently and kids in the community that need school supplies — both are groups that Smith was passionate about.

This year families in the community will be honored whose loved ones were the victims of gun violence. Each family will be presented with a beautiful Compassion Blanket.

For more information about the 5th Annual Kay Day Community Celebration contact Aretha Grier at 419-565-2793 or Tionna Perdue, NECIC Chief Operating Officer (COO), at 419-522-1611 ext. 102. Donations for the event are also being accepted at Park National Bank.

## Richland County Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan available

Richland County Mobility Management, a program established through a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and a service of the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, will host a Richland Transportation Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 29, at 9 am at Hawkins Corner, 2131 Park Avenue West Ontario. The meeting is open to the public.

The Richland Transportation Advisory Committee meets quarterly to address services and gaps in the local transportation services and develop strategies to better meet local transportation needs.

During the July 29 meeting, the 2026-'30 Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan will be reviewed and considered for approval. The plan is available to review on the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging website ([aaa5ohio.org](http://aaa5ohio.org)). The Plan will be open for public comment until the meeting on July 29th. Comments or questions about the plan can be directed to Randy Hutchinson, Richland County Mobility Manager via email at [rhutchinson@aaa5ohio.org](mailto:rhutchinson@aaa5ohio.org) or by phone at 567-247-6483.



## Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## OHSAA makes divisional changes to fall sports

By Kris Leiter

It's hard to believe we just wrapped up the Independence Day holiday and fall sports are just around the corner.

I was glancing at the OHSAA website recently, and they always do a great job of posting changes for everything related to high school sports in Ohio.

Fall sports for the 2025-'26 season will see some changes for Richland County schools. The divisions listed below are for this upcoming season.

**CLEAR FORK**

Golf Girls & Boys, Tennis Girls: Div. II (same as last year)  
Soccer Girls & Boys, Football: Div. IV (same as last year)  
Volleyball Girls: Div. V (same as last year)

**CRESTLINE**

Cross Country Girls: Div. IV (last year, Div. III)  
Football: Div. VII (same as last year)

**CRESTVIEW**

Cross Country Girls & Boys: Div. IV (last year, Div. III)  
Golf Girls: Div. II (same as last year)  
Golf Boys: Div. III (last year, Div. II)  
Soccer Girls & Boys, Volleyball: Div. V (same as last year)  
Football: Div. VI (same as last year)

**LEXINGTON**

Cross Country Girls & Boys, Tennis Girls: Div. II (same as last year)  
Golf Girls & Boys: Div. I. (same as last year)  
Soccer Girls & Boys, Football: Div. III (same as last year)  
Girls Volleyball: Div. III (last year, Div. IV)

**LUCAS**

Cross Country Girls & Boys: Div. IV (last year, Div. III)  
Girls Volleyball: Div. VII (last year, Div. VI)  
Football: Div. VII (same as last year)

**MADISON**

Tennis Girls: Div. I (same as last year)  
Cross Country Boys: Div. II (last year, Div. I)  
Cross Country Girls: Div. II (same as last year)  
Soccer Girls & Boys, Volleyball Girls, Football: Div. III (same as last year)

**MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN**

Volleyball Girls: Div. VI (same as last year)  
Cross Country Girls & Boys: Div. IV (last year, Div. III)  
Soccer Girls & Boys: Div. V (same as last year)

**MANSFIELD SENIOR**

Tennis Girls: Div. I (same as last year)  
Soccer Girls & Boys, Volleyball Girls, Football: Div. III (same as last year)

**ONTARIO**

Cross Country Girls, Tennis Girls Boys, Soccer Girls Boys, Golf Boys: Div. II (same as last year)  
Cross Country Boys: Div. III (last year, Div. II)  
Volleyball Girls, Football: Div. III (last year, Div. IV)

**PLYMOUTH**

Cross Country Girls & Boys: Div. IV (last year, Div. III)  
Golf Boys: Div. III (same as last year)  
Volleyball Girls, Football: Div. VII (same as last year)

**TEMPLE CHRISTIAN**

No data per OHSAA website

**SHELBY**

Cross Country Girls & Boys, Tennis Girls: Div. II (same as last year)  
Volleyball Girls: Div. III (last year, Div. IV)  
Soccer Girls: Div. III (same as last year)  
Football: Div. IV (same as last year)

**ST. PETERS**

Golf Boys: Div. III (same as last year)

So, you may ask yourself what in the world all this means? Is it really a big deal? Well, it might mean nothing, or it could be important, depending on which lens you look at things through.

Division I, the largest Division, is for the largest schools in the State. Schools decrease in size from Division 2 to 7. Some sports only have two or three divisions.

Golf has grown so much that girls teams have two divisions and the boys have three.

Some schools offer sports like ice hockey and gymnastics and some do not.

To determine divisional breakdown, the number is calculated on the number of students in grade 9-12 — not by number of athletes. That total number of students is used to determine the division for each sport based on what sports that school has available.

Some families may consider moving to another school district to give their athlete better opportunities for future endeavors such as college.

Every year, the OHSAA shuffles the deck and “evens” the playing field in an attempt to make things as fair as possible. For instance, some schools have both boys and girls cross country teams. That sport added a fourth division starting this fall. Depending on the student count, teams might move up or down a division each year.

These changes may or may not affect regular season contests, considering schools may play opposing schools in the same division, but are permitted to play schools in a higher division. This could be significant when it come to post-season play.

## Ohio State Mansfield to host Buckeye Preview Day July 25

The Ohio State University at Mansfield welcomes students of all ages for a special summer Buckeye Preview Day July 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Students interested in a college degree from Ohio State will get to explore campus and interact with staff in admissions, financial aid, current students and faculty.

“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. “We’re very excited to offer this opportunity during the summer, when most students are out of class and still making plans for college.”

Students who would like to enroll for the autumn semester, but have not yet applied, are welcome. Students who are already admitted are encouraged to register for orientation.

Attendees are asked to register by July 23, although walk-in participation is also welcome. To register, visit [go.osu.edu/visitmansfield](http://go.osu.edu/visitmansfield). For more assistance contact [Mansfield-AskABuckeye@osu.edu](mailto:Mansfield-AskABuckeye@osu.edu).

Subscribe for FREE and receive the weekly issue delivered to your email. Send us an email with your name to - [news@tribune-courier.com](mailto:news@tribune-courier.com)



# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course – If You Build It, They Will Come

By Kris Leiter

I hope you all had a great holiday weekend last week. It's good to be back typing the keystrokes for all you sports fans.

In the upcoming few weeks, I will have some high school fall sports previews coming, so keep your eyes peeled. I'm sure it will be another fun-filled fall, as last year there were some really good matchups.

I'm sure many of you parents are probably counting the days until the school bus starts rolling again.

I have a summertime idea for you. If you haven't finalized your family "mini-vacay" yet, it's not too late. The Mid-Ohio Race Car Course is not far away. You won't have to travel hours-on-end with the kids getting rambunctious and they won't have enough time to bicker that all familiar phrase, "Are we there yet?"

Taking in a race at this beautifully, sleeping giant of a race track is well worth it. Mid-Ohio is one of those gems that is well-attended by a multitude of race teams and spectators, not only locally, but nationally and even internationally.

It is one thing to watch a professional auto or motorcycle race on a television, but being there in person is another dimension.

The Indy Cars just recently came to the track July 4th weekend, but there is still some good racing left in the season.

Rolling into Mid-Ohio will the Pemco Superbikes Aug. 15-17. I attended this race years ago, and if you have never seen professional motorcycle racing, this is a race to take in!

These bikes are screaming down the back straight-way, reaching speeds of 190 mph as they approach the S-curves. It's amazing to watch them slow down just enough not to wipe out, and some have before. You never know what you will see, but again, it's breathtaking to watch these guys.

**From The Beginning...Les Griebing, The Founding Father of Mid-Ohio**

The older I get, the more interested I am in history.

The movie *Field of Dreams*' catch-phrase, "If you build it, they will come..." best describes Les Griebing's dream in 1961. Thousands upon thousands of people have come to Mid-Ohio since its founding.

The race track has grown exponentially. The crowds and race teams are still coming and aren't slowing down anytime soon.

Griebing was a Mansfield/Lexington native and was born in 1924. He designed the Mid-Ohio race car course, which opened in 1962.

Griebing was a pioneer of road racing. At the age of 13, he was the winner of Mansfield's first Soap Box Derby in 1937, igniting his passion for racing.

During World War II, Griebing was a pilot for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics in Cleveland, a forerunner to the current NASA program, where he tested experimental engines.

As the years went by, one of his first businesses, Les Griebing Garage, grew into Suburbanite Motors Foreign Car Dealership on West Cook Rd., which he owned for over 30 years.

The building is still in existence today, and has a very unique design, which has housed multiple businesses over the years.

Imagine if Griebing could be here today to see what a mecca the track has become over the years.

When I chat with drivers about why they come to Lexington, the quaint village of around 5,000 residents, the answer is common — "It is one of the most competitive road courses in the United States," continuing its reputation it has had for years.

### Stats

Like any athlete on a sports team, players have stats and so does Mid-Ohio. The course sits on an incredible 330 acres. It features a permanent road circuit with two primary race track configurations: a 2.4-mile, 15-turn or 2.258-mile, 13-turn layout.

Another favorite feature among race car drivers is that it was built utilizing the natural terrain of the existing land.

Jeffrey Holley, crew chief for Silver Hare Racing of High Point, North Carolina says, "Once you get through any given area of the

track, there's another hill or curve. You always need to be ready for what is coming around the next turn. It's just a fun place and we always run good here."

### Ownership

As with all professional sports, owners can change quite frequently while some may have minimal changes throughout the years.

Mid-Ohio can boast about the latter, only changing hands three times since its inception in 1962.

In 1981, the owner was Jim Trueman, founder of Red Roof Inns. Trueman's wife, Barbara, and daughter, Michelle, undertook management of the facility in 1986, continuing track improvements throughout the decade with the resurfacing and widening of the entire course.

As with any good business model, the key to success is to continue to re-invest in the product or company, and Mid-Ohio has done just that. Milestones memories over the years have included in 1972, the entire track was re-surfaced; in 1982, Johnny Rutherford won the first championship race, piloting his Chaparral-Cosworth to the win at an average race speed of 86.60 mph and 1982, TrueSports, Inc. purchased Mid-Ohio and invested millions into the facility. National Speed Sport News founder Chris Economacki called Mid-Ohio "The showcase of U.S. motor racing."

In 1983, championship car racing returned to Mid-Ohio as AMA Pro Road Racing debuted. Steve Wise won the first SuperBike race. The Sportscar Vintage Racing Association made its first trip to the track as well. Amphitheaters were then built around several turns and a scoreboard was added. The Goodyear Tower and three garage buildings with 28 stalls were also built.

From 1984 to 1988, a concession stand was added which included infield concession and a picnic area built in the lower paddock. The Mid-Ohio deck was also built.

Amphitheaters and a tunnel connecting the infield to the grandstands were completed and maintenance, food service and continental buildings were constructed.

The pit lane was widened by 13 feet and lengthened by 250 feet and concrete barriers and tire walls were added.

From the eight years between 1990 and 1998, the track was once again resurfaced after being widened to 40 feet. A chicane/straight option is added prior to the keyhole, giving the track its 2.258-mile, 13-turn configuration. The starter's stand was constructed on the back straight and The Mid-Ohio School was established with a building being added in the lower paddock.

During this time, the Goodyear Bridge was upgraded to include two lanes and pedestrian paths and the guest services building was erected at gate 3.

In 2006, the track and pit areas went through extensive re-surfacing and other improvements and in 2011, the track changed hands once again to the third and current owners — Kim Green and Kevin Savoree.

The track and school staff operates year round in Dublin, OH. Marketing, sales, promotions, PR and accounting efforts for Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course and The Mid-Ohio School are coordinated through this office while operations, safety, tickets and hospitality are run at the track.

### From Amateur to Professional

The track annually hosts a diversity of locally, regionally and nationally-sanctioned race events for amateur, club and professional drivers and riders.

The race track operates from March through November and during those months, it hosts six race weekends open to the public and hundreds of days each year are filled with smaller events. Needless to say, Mid-Ohio continues to evolve to keep its reputation of excellence.

It takes a magnitude of personnel to keep this venue running smoothly. Recently, I had a chance to chat with one of the staff members, Carol Ann Murphy.

(Continued on Page 14)



# Construction projects continue in Richland County

Construction projects are anticipated to affect ODOT roadways in Richland County. All outlined work is weather permitting and is subject to change.

State Route 13 northbound and southbound, from Hanley Road to Chilton Ave, will have long-term lane closures for a resurfacing project. The northbound and southbound driving lanes will be closed for roadway reconstruction and culvert work. Traffic will be maintained in 10' lanes in each direction with barrels.

The South Main Street entrance ramp to SR 13 north is closed for 60 days for resurfacing work. The detour route to SR 13 north will be South Main St. south to W. Cooke Road west to U.S. 42 north (Lexington Ave.) to SR 13. Estimated ramp reopening is Friday, July 11.

The SR 13 south exit ramp to South Main Street is closed for 60 days for resurfacing work. The detour route to South Main Street

will be to continue south on SR 13 to Hanley Road west to South Main Street north. The estimated ramp reopening is Friday, July 11.

Access from Chilton Ave to SR 13 will close is closed for 60 days due to resurfacing work. The detour route will be SR 13 to W. Raleigh Ave to Marquis Ave to Chilton Ave. Estimated ramp reopening is Friday, July 11.

The SR 13 north exit ramp to Cook Road is for 60 days for resurfacing work. The detour route for motorists travelling to Cook Road will be to continue on SR 13 north to E. 1st Street to S. Diamond Street to Woodville Road to Cook Road. Estimated ramp reopening is Sunday, July 13.

The Cook Road entrance ramp to SR 13 south is closed for 60 days for resurfacing work. The detour route for motorists traveling to SR 13 south will be Cook Road to S. Main St. to Hanley Road to SR 13. The estimated ramp reopening is Friday, Aug. 1.

Estimated completion for the 2025 construction season is November 2025 and the estimated completion of the entire project is May 2027.

State Route 603 through Richland and Ashland County, from SR 39 to Mowery Road; and from the village of Mifflin to Franklin Church Road, will have single lane closures for a resurfacing project. Traffic will be maintained by flaggers. Crews will begin at the south end of the project at SR 39 and continue along SR 603 north. The estimated completion is September 2025.

## Admission is free to RCCS Family Summer Dayz Celebration

Richland County Children Services (RCCS) will host the First Annual Family Summer Dayz Celebration on Thursday, July 31, from 3–6 pm. at RCCS, 731 Scholl Rd., Mansfield.

The free afternoon will feature family-friendly activities, live entertainment, food trucks, games, prizes, free giveaways, bounce houses, furry friends from the animal shelter and dance performances by the YMCA Dance Team.

Youths and families will also meet local author of the children's books *Squad Goals*, *Bro Code* and *Money Makers in the Making*, Tena Sykes and student athletes from area high school sports teams.

"When I became the new executive director in February of this year, one of the promises I made was to host an event at Richland County Children Services to give back to the community. This event is open to everyone I hope to see everyone at our First Annual RCCS Family Summer Dayz event," said RCCS Executive Director Tara Lautzenhiser.

Representatives from local agencies and safety forces will have resource booths providing helpful information at the celebration. RCCS staff will also provide information about adoption and volunteer programs.

For more information or to be part of the Family Summer Dayz celebration call 419-774-4100.

## Free backpacks offered at event

Local Verizon Wireless stores will be giving away free backpacks on Sunday, July 27 at 1 pm.

Verizon authorized retailer, Round Room, is hosting its 13th annual "School Rocks Backpack Giveaway" event.

Occurring at more than 1,200 stores, Round Room will be giving over \$3M worth of backpacks to students across the country.

Any leftover backpacks will be donated to local schools of each store's choice.

Local stores participating are 1443 Claremont Ave, Ashland; 625 Lexington Ave., Mansfield; and 1206 Park Avenue W., Mansfield.

## Sports Highlights

### •Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course – If You Build It, They Will Come

(Continued from Page 13)

Murphy started working at Mid-Ohio six years ago as a summer job. She has advanced over the years to her current position of security supervisor.

Murphy says, "I worked out here just one summer, and it was a rush. I remember how much fun it was."

"I worked in all the areas that first summer. One of the craziest races was the super bikes."

Murphy spoke about her daily duties. As a supervisor she has quite a number of dedicated workers that keep things running smoothly.

"We have about 140 people for security and roughly 50 maintenance workers. There's a couple of supervisors."

Among the employees, I was blessed to chat with Keith Oliver, father of Scott Oliver. Keith was kind enough to transport me on a golf cart shuttle to grab some interviews.

You may recognize the Oliver name, as Scott Oliver is a race car driver and was a feature story in the *Tribune* a year ago.

What a great venue we have in our own backyard. Stay tuned for part two of this series, where we chat with various drivers — from weekend warriors to the professional teams.



**THREE LOCAL SPECTRUM FIELD OPERATIONS** team members were able to get an inside look at Marcus Armstrong's No. 66 IndyCar prior to a practice session for the Honda Indy 200 at Mid-Ohio in Lexington, Ohio on Friday, July 4. Spectrum is a sponsor of the No. 66 IndyCar. Spectrum field operations employees are Josh Smith, Logan Daniels and Alex Weissberg.



# Ontario holds June and July meetings

The Ontario Board of Education met June 10 and approved the employment of Steven Rowe as Stingel Assistant Principal and Pre-school Director, effective for the coming school year, \$90,795.

Mallorey Guillereault was hired as a middle and high school choir teacher, \$45,712, and Carter Keinath was hired as high school physical education and health teacher, \$45,712.

Lana Garberich resigned as the middle school art teacher, for retirement purposes, effective at the end of her 2024-'25 contract. It is the intent of the board to employ Lana Garberich as a middle school art teacher for the 2025-'26 school year, pending the completion of all retire/rehire requirements. A public hearing later took place at the July 8 meeting.

The bids from the May 29 asphalt project bid opening were approved and the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, Iberia Earthworm, for \$443,694.79.

The board approved the employment of classified staff personnel for the 2024-'25 school year including Nicolas Temple, high school evening custodian, one-year contract, \$5,560.16; and Brad Wagner, high school evening custodian, one year contract, \$2,763.52. Wendy Griefenstine was hired for the upcoming school year as a Stingel six-hour cook on a one-year contract, \$23,746.

Roberta O'Day, bus driver, will return as a retire/rehire on a one-year contract for 2025-'26.

Approve the resignation of the following certified staff personnel: Jeremy Barrett, High School Spanish teacher, effective at the end of his 2024-2025 contract

Samantha Mills resigned as a Stingel Playground Aide, effective May 23, 2025. Carrie Murray, sixth grade language arts teacher, will retire, effective Feb. 28, 2026.

Extracurricular/supplemental staff personnel hired for the 2025-'26 school year are Academic Challenge Advisors Roger Nikiforow, high school, \$1,290; James Willis, middle school, \$985, Tonya Winningham, Stingel- \$1,290; choir, Emily Gerak, Stingel Elementary, \$938; Mallorey Guillereault, middle school, \$1,173; and Mallorey Guillereault, high school, \$3,401.

Also hired were class advisors Melissa Fittante, senior, \$1,290; Kayla Cain, senior, \$985; Matt Wentz, junior, \$985; Jodi Cooper-Wentz, junior, \$1,290; Megan Whisler, sophomore, \$704; and Megan Whisler, freshman, \$704; competitive academic enrichment, Lisa Secrist, Stingel Spelling Bee, \$1,615; Michelle Laymon, middle school, \$1,173; Tonya Welch, high school science club, \$1,615; and

Matt Lautanen, middle school Power of the Pen, \$1,615.

Jodi Cooper-Wentz was hired for the district newsletter, \$1,615.

Hirings included Elijah Henkle, marching band director, \$10,057; Mallorey Guillereault, assistant band director, \$3,401; Melanie Ferguson, Key Club Advisor, \$811; Kelly Conn, National Honor Society, \$970; Kim Bell middle school news reporting, \$300; Jodi Cooper-Wentz, high school news reporting, \$300; and Tonya Winningham, Stingel news reporting, \$600.

After School Club hirings included Lisa Secrist, \$1,290; Tonya Winningham, \$1,615; James Watkins, \$1,290; Logan Leitzzy, \$1,290; James Willis, \$1,290; Amanda VanHarlingen, \$1,234; and Michelle Laymon, \$1,173. Hired as student council advisors were Jodi Cooper-Wentz, high school, half, \$1,069.50; Cathleen Johnson, high school, half, \$1,069.50; Aubrey Cardwell, middle school, half, \$807.50; and Wendy Wilging, middle school, half, \$807.50.

Jonny King was hired as theatre director, \$2,451; and Condrea Mason was hired as assistant director, \$1,615.

Jodi Cooper-Wentz, will be the high school webmaster, \$1,783; Aubrey Cardwell will be the middle school webmaster, \$1,783; and Tyler Gates will be the Stingel Elementary webmaster, \$1,970.

Jim Buker was hired as the high school yearbook advisor, half, \$2,338, along with Jodi Cooper-Wentz, \$2,338. Karen Kaufman was hired as the middle school yearbook advisor, \$1,783.

The board approved the SparkJoy BCBA contract for ABA therapy for the 2025-'26 school year. and an ESY service contract with Imperial Autism Connections for services.

Two extended days were approved for for Kelly Conn and Veronica Cain at their daily per diem rate. Eight extended days were approved for Amy Nagel at her daily per diem rate. Extended days at the per diem and mileage were approved for CCP teacher Allison Haver to attend required summer trainings, not to exceed two days.

Baylee Higgins was hired as a temporary substitute teacher for the 2025-'26 school year for Stingel, OMS and OHS.

Thomas Gordon was hired as a substitute custodian for next school year. Parker Willis and Timo Winningham were hired as summer technology interns at \$13 hourly.

2025 summer help hired for facility and transportation maintenance includes Gavin Miller and Cooper Kilgore, both \$13 hourly.

Student handbooks for the 2025-'26 school year were approved for pre-school, Stingel Elementary and the middle school.

(Continued on Page 16)



**Thank you**  
**CLEAR FORK SPONSORS 2025**

- Allure Studios Salon & Spa
- ArcelorMittal
- Clear Fork Athletic Boosters
- Clear Fork Board of Education
- Knox County Career Center
- Locust Corners Bulk Food & Deli
- Madison Adult Career Center
- Ohio Bird Sanctuary
- Schmidt Security
- Specialized Pipe Technologies
- Storyside Church
- The Legacy on Possum Run
- The Ohio State Reformatory
- Wade and Gatton Nursery

**tribune-courier.com**



**Thank you**  
**SHELBY SPONSORS 2025**

- ArcelorMittal
- Madison Adult Career Center
- Ohio Eye Associates
- Richland Academy of The Arts
- Richland Newhope
- Shelby City Schools Board of Education
- Storyside Church
- The Ohio State Reformatory

**tribune-courier.com**



# •Ontario holds June and July meetings

(Continued from Page 15)

The board authorized 2025-'26 membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association and approved temporary appropriations for the 2025-'26 school year, July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Extended school year services were approved for a fourth grade student, Carissa Whitmer, 10 hours at \$22.50 per hour.

Donations were accepted from Andrea Sneeringer, Marcia Baer Scholarship, \$1,000; Steve and Theresa Arnett, Marcia Baer Scholarship, \$280; Eleanor Kline, Bill and Eleanor Kline Scholarship, \$3,000; and anonymous, Ontario Football, \$1,000.

Approve the insurance quote for property, fleet, and liability coverage from Ohio School Plan for the 2026 fiscal year. Insurance premiums will be effective July 1, 2025.

The board approved the 2025-'26 increase to lunch prices. All meals increased by 25 cents making breakfast \$1.75; Stingel, \$3.25; middle school, \$3.50; high school, \$3.75 (A), \$4.25 (B), \$4 (C); and adult lunch, \$5.54.

The board met again on July 8. Wendy Wilging, eighth grade language arts teacher, awarded the eighth grade poetry contest winners.

Rosa Minnear was hired as a Spanish teacher, effective with the 2025-'26 school year, \$64,746.

Grace Reven was hired as a high school instrumental music teacher and band director, effective with the upcoming school year, \$45,712. Emma Ruhe was hired as a fourth grade teacher, \$45,712.

Sarah Sherk was hired as a middle school intervention teacher, \$60,980.

The superintendent and treasurer's contracts with Ontario Board of Education were amended. Amendments were also made to the Ontario Local Schools Administrators/Central Office Staff/Other Administrators Salary and Fringe Benefit Agreement.

Julie Buker was hired as the high school Art teacher on a one-year contract as returning retire/rehire personnel. Michelle Brown was hired as a substitute custodian, cook and secretary.

Elijah Henkel resigned as a high school instrumental music teacher and band director and Jeremy Barrett resigned as a high school Spanish teacher. Lindsay Cardwell resigned as Stingel secretary.

Classified staff hired on a two-year contract for the 2025-'26 and 2026-'27 school years includes Nicolas Temple, OHS custodian, \$47,960; and Brad Wagner, OHS custodian, \$45,370.

Classified staff hired on a one-year contract for the 2025-'26 includes Stephanie Hoffer, OHS 2 1/2 hour cook, \$8,570; and Vicki Walters, Stingel Secretary, Salary, \$37,981.

Grace Reven was hired as the marching band director, \$7,314.

Athletic extracurricular/supplemental staff hirings included boys soccer, Stephen Armstrong, head varsity, \$5,804; Jared McPeck, varsity assistant, \$3,743; Jacob Brown, freshman, 25%, \$1,169; and Neil Chitwood, freshman, 75%, \$3,506; cheer advisors, Maggie Love, JV, two sharing one position, \$891.50; and Maggie Love, freshman, \$1,783; and cross country, Megan Willeke, head varsity, \$5,531; Matt Lautanen, OMS (50%), \$1,532.50; and Karen Kaufman, OMS (50%), \$1,532.50.

Other hirings include flag director, Amanda Smith, \$1,783; football, Aaron Eckert, head varsity, \$10,057; Ted Mutti, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Jeremy Muncy, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Ryan Ball, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Ryan Oliver, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Carlos Smith, freshman, 3 sharing 2 stipends, \$3,402; Dale Stevens, freshman, 3 sharing 2 stipends, \$3,402; Kyle Ward, eighth grade, 5 sharing 4 stipends, \$3,995; Ed Cotter, OMS eighth grade, 5 sharing 4 stipends, \$2,721; Jonny King, seventh/eighth grade, 5 sharing 4 stipends, \$3,995; Tyler Coley, 7th grade, 5 sharing 4 stipends, \$3,995; Carter Keinath, seventh grade, 5 sharing 4 stipend, \$2,721; Jared Hamm, Volunteer, \$0; J'Ontay O'Bryant, Volunteer, \$0; and Mark Genders, Volunteer, \$0.

Hired for girls soccer was Larry Atkinson, head varsity, \$5,804; Stacy Seif, varsity assistant, \$3,912; and Greg Atkinson, volunteer, \$0. Todd Friend was approved as the girls tennis head coach, volunteer, \$0; and Father Mike Ellis will serve as the assistant coach, \$2,340.

Also hired were Scott Kreger, girls golf assistant, \$3,065; major-ettes, Darcie Broom, \$1,290; summer and fall strength coordinator, Jonny King and Ethan Pensante, 2 sharing 1 stipend, \$2,765.50; winter and spring strength coordinator, Ryan Ball, \$5,531; and ticket manager, Deb Eddleblute, \$1,615.

Natalie Shell was hired as the head varsity volleyball coach, \$5,804; and Morgan Groscoft, was hired as the seventh grade volleyball coach, \$2,561.

Fall activity coordinators hired are Pete Brophy, Ethan Pensante and Jamee Burke, OHS, 3 sharing 1 stipend, \$1,701; and Heath Sager, OMS, \$3,065.

The board approved a Memorandum of Understanding with OFT for the hiring of a girls varsity assistant golf coach. Payment of the registration fee for Brett Baxter to attend Leadership Unlimited was approved as was the high school handbook.

(Continued on Page 17)



## Thank you

### Ontario Sponsors 2025

<p>Advantage Credit Union Allure Studios Salon &amp; Spa ArcelorMittal BP Electric Brian and Michelle Gates - (State Farm Insurance) Hudson &amp; Essex Madison Adult Career Center Mark Romanchuk Mechanics Bank Ohio Bird Sanctuary Ohio Eye Associates Ontario Athletic Booster Club Ontario Local Schools Reflections Salon &amp; Spa Schmidt Security</p>	<p>Storyside Church Sutton Bank The Ohio State Reformatory What's Smoken Zara Construction</p>
--	--



[tribune-courier.com](http://tribune-courier.com)



## Thank you

### Madison Sponsors 2025

<p>Advantage Credit Union ArcelorMittal B-Dry Waterproofing Dream Huge Realty (Pavlansky) Hamloaf Inc. Catering Madison Adult Career Center Madison Local School Board Mechanics Bank Mid-Ohio Youth Mentoring Radar's Dairy Bar Richland Academy of The Arts Richland Newhope</p>	<p>Richland Pregnancy Services Schmidt Security Storyside Church The Ohio State Reformatory Third Street Family Health Services</p>
--	---



[tribune-courier.com](http://tribune-courier.com)



## Great Lakes Science Center youth admission is free this Saturday

The Great Lakes Science Center will host a free youth admission day on July 19. The day is funded by a gift from the Wenk Charitable Fund

Free general admission will be available for youth ages 2-12 from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday, July 19

The day will feature live science shows, hundreds of hands-on exhibits, special Summer of Innovation day hands-on activities and the interactive Steam and Steel: Propelling the Future of the Great Lakes exhibit.

This special summer day is the fourth of five free youth days funded through a gift from the Joan P. Wenk Charitable Fund since 2022.

"The generous support of the Wenk family has allowed us to offer more families in our community the opportunity to experience the Science Center. It has been wonderful to welcome children free of charge on this special day for last three years. We are extremely grateful for their support," said Science Center President & CEO Kirsten Ellenbogen.

"We are especially delighted that this year, children will also be able to engage with a range of tech activities and career explorations as part of our second Summer of Innovation Day."

The Science Center's second Summer of Innovation day will focus on different careers in technology, including information technology, cybersecurity, data science, AI and quantum computing.

Area companies will be on site with fun, hands-on activities tied to the work done in their field. The second Summer of Innovation day is being sponsored by SIM Cleveland.

Steam and Steel: Propelling the Future of the Great Lakes, is a special temporary exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Steamship William G. Mather and exploring the innovations in technology that have made shipping on the Great Lakes faster, safer and more efficient.

Ride on the Taconite Express, discover how bow thrusters make it easier for ships to navigate the Cuyahoga River, learn more about innovations in navigation technology and much more. The exhibit will be open through September 1.

The Great Lakes Science Center is located at 601 Erieside Ave., Cleveland. For information call 216-694-2000 or visit the website at GreatScience.com.

The Science Center is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

## Ontario BOE holds meetings

(Continued from Page 16)

A salary change was approved for Wendy Griefenstine. She was previously approved as a Stingel six-hour cook on a one-year contract, \$23,746 and will be changed to a continuing contract, \$20,853.

The previously approved adult lunch price of \$5.54 will be changed to \$5.50 for the 2025-'26 school year.

The board approved change funds in the amount of \$5,875 for the 2025-'26 school year.

An anonymous donor gave the boys basketball program \$280.

Facility requests were approved and a public hearing regarding the rehiring of Lana Garberich as a middle school art teacher was discussed.

The next meeting will be held on Aug. 12.



Thank you to our

2025 TEMPLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SPONSORS



Mansfield Baptist Temple  
Richland Pregnancy Services  
Specialized Pipe Technologies  
Storyside Church  
The Ohio State Reformatory  
The River Radio

tribune-courier.com

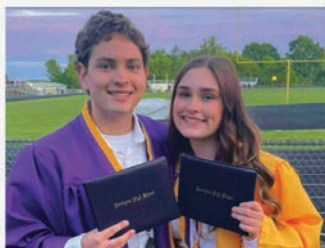


Thank you

Lexington Sponsors 2025

Advantage Credit Union  
ArcelorMittal  
BP Electric  
Comfrey Corner  
Forget Me Not Flower Shop  
Fresh Grounds Coffee House  
Hamilton Insurance Group Inc.  
Madison Adult Career Center  
Mechanics Bank  
Ohio Eye Associates  
Richland Academy of The Arts  
Richland Newhope  
Richland Pregnancy Services

Rinehart-Walters-Danner & Associates Insurance Agency Inc  
Schmidt Security  
Storyside Church  
The Local @ 97  
The Ohio State Reformatory  
Third Street Family Health Services



tribune-courier.com



Thank you to our

2025 MANSFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SPONSORS



Allure Studios Salon & Spa  
Hamloaf Inc. Catering  
Mansfield Christian School Board  
Richland Pregnancy Services  
Specialized Pipe Technologies  
Storyside Church  
The Ohio State Reformatory  
The River Radio

tribune-courier.com



## LOOKING BACK • THIS WEEK IN TRIBUNE-COURIER HISTORY

July 13, '06



Submitted Photo

**TOURNAMENT CHAMPS** — Ontario won the second annual Ontario Summer Classic 10U tournament July 8. The team finished this five-team tournament with a 4-0 record with a combined score of 70-2. Team members are front, Luke Gorbett, Brier Stanley, Spencer Frizzell, Tony Kirk and Eric Powell; and back, Kyle Pasheilich, Bradley Dretzka, James Hillyer, Tyler Gorbett, Cameron Mack, Vinny Sansalone, Logan Armstrong, assistant Coach Joe Sansalone, Bill Stanley and head Coach Dan Gorbett.



George Billman

**JIM HEPNER** of Madison proudly shows one of his electronic flyers. He flies model airplanes almost every day north of town at Shenandoah from noon to 3 in the afternoon. Jim has seven planes. Jim says he's 76 years old and proud of it, adding that flying the electronic flyers keeps him young.

**This Day in History — July 17, 1955** — Disneyland, Walt Disney's metropolis of nostalgia, fantasy and futurism, opens. The \$17 million theme park was built on 160 acres of former orange groves in Anaheim, California, and soon brought in staggering profits. Today, Disneyland hosts more than 18 million visitors a year, who spend close to \$3 billion. Walt Disney, born in Chicago in 1901, worked as a commercial artist before setting up a small studio in Los Angeles to produce animated cartoons. In 1928, his short film *Steamboat Willy*, starring the character "Mickey Mouse," was a national sensation. It was the first animated film to use sound, and Disney provided the voice for Mickey. From there on, Disney cartoons were in heavy demand, but the company struggled financially because of Disney's insistence on ever-improving artistic and technical quality. His first feature-length cartoon, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1938), took three years to complete and was a great commercial success. In the early 1950s, Walt Disney began designing a huge amusement park to be built near Los Angeles. He intended Disneyland to have educational as well as amusement value and to entertain adults and their children. Land was bought in the farming community of Anaheim, about 25 miles southeast of Los Angeles, and construction began in 1954. In the summer of 1955, special invitations were sent out for the opening of Disneyland on July 17. Unfortunately, the pass was counterfeited and thousands of uninvited people were admitted into Disneyland on opening day. The park was not ready for the public: food and drink ran out, a women's high-heel shoe got stuck in the wet asphalt of Main Street USA, and the Mark Twain Steamboat nearly capsized from too many passengers. Disneyland soon recovered, however, and attractions such as the Castle, Mr. Toad's Wild Ride, Snow White's Adventures, Space Station X-1, Jungle Cruise, and Stage Coach drew countless children and their parents.

History.com



## 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 July 9, 2025.

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.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-06 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker  
Clerk of Council  
City of Ontario, OH  
(T-C 7-17, 24 '25) 20L

## Ohio moves into top five states for business

CNBC released its “America’s Top States for Business” rankings for 2025, and Ohio came in at fifth overall.

An important part of the Ohio Chamber’s mission is economic competitiveness. To fulfill that mission, the organization has partnered with JobsOhio to improve awareness of the state’s current economic competitiveness rankings and the Ohio Chamber’s recommendations to improve them.

As part of this effort, the Ohio Chamber will publish one chart per month offering a critical, data-driven perspective on key measurables of Ohio’s economic health and prosperity. The organization has also published a

book of roughly 40 different economic charts that will be distributed to Ohio policymakers.

“While these new rankings aren’t surprising, they are encouraging,” said Steve Stivers, President & CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. “We know Ohio is a great state — we have a low cost of living and a high quality of life, and our GDP is the seventh largest in the country. We’re proud that others are recognizing our potential as a top state for business. We do still have work to do, but our improvement this year shows that we’re certainly on the right track.”

This year, Ohio improved from its 2024 overall ranking of seventh to the current fifth place position. Notably, the state ranked first in Infrastructure, a significant jump from last year’s 13th. The study enhanced its Infrastructure metrics in the 2025 edition to determine how states are delivering on companies’ power and data demands, and Infrastructure is now the second-heaviest weighted category.

“Thank you to Gov. DeWine and the Ohio Legislature for their continued efforts toward improving infrastructure in our state. We couldn’t have achieved this first-place rank without their service,” said Stivers. “To continue this upward momentum, we now need to focus on bolstering our workforce, strengthening electric generation and modernizing our grids, and continuing to diversify Ohio’s economy.”

In addition to Infrastructure,

Ohio landed in the top five for four of the other 10 broad categories, including second in Cost of Doing Business, sixth in Technology & Innovation, and seventh in both Access to Capital and Cost of Living.

Ohio does still have some areas of improvement to tackle, ranking in the 20s for Economy, Business Friendliness and Education and at 31 for Workforce.

The Ohio Chamber had also included the “America’s Top States for Business” rankings in its new three-year strategic plan’s benchmarks, identifying a top-five rank as one of its highest priorities. While the organization celebrates this win, it also recognizes that Ohio business advocates cannot grow complacent, and it will continue to work toward making Ohio the best place in the world for business.

The study, which is now in its 19th year, scores all 50 U.S. states on 135 business-related metrics that are separated into 10 broad categories. To form these categories, the study identifies the factors that companies consider when making site selection decisions and those that states tout when looking to attract and retain businesses.

The Ohio Chamber is the state’s leading business advocate and represents thousands of companies that do business in Ohio. Our mission is to aggressively champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans.

## Volunteers needed at Flying Horse Farms in Mt. Gilead

By Jasmine Clark

Imagine spending your summer worrying about a brother or sister fighting a serious illness. For many siblings, childhood becomes filled with hospital visits, silent fears and feelings of being overlooked. Flying Horse Farms’ Siblings Camp offers these kids one powerful thing: the chance to feel like kids again.

From July 23–27, Flying Horse Farms, 5260 OH-95, Mt. Gilead, is in need of 10–15 more volunteers to make this life-changing week possible.

Roles include cabin counselors, activity counselors and K-crew (kitchen helpers).

Every volunteer helps create a place filled with laughter, games, singing, and campfires — a place where these siblings can set aside worries and just belong.

As one past volunteer shared, “I thought I was coming to give back. I didn’t realize how much these kids would change my life too.”

Flying Horse Farms is urgently seeking volunteers this month to ensure every sibling has a safe, joy-filled camp experience. Volunteering at camp is more than service — it’s becoming part of a child’s happiest summer memories.

To sign up or learn more, visit [https://flyinghorsefarms.camp-management.com/p/register\\_staff\\_m.php](https://flyinghorsefarms.camp-management.com/p/register_staff_m.php)

## Local health facilities planning Free Community Health Day

Richland Public Health in collaboration with Avita, Cleveland Clinic, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, OhioHealth and Third Street Family Health Services, will present the 2nd Annual Free Community Health Day on Tuesday, July 22 from 9 am to 3 pm in the Richland Public Health parking lot, 555 Lexington Ave., Mansfield.

Free and low cost health services will be provided including mammograms, skin cancer screenings, blood pressure checks, hemoglobin checks and Hepatitis C and HIV testing.

Cologuard test kits will be available and information will be available on the WIC program and The Newborn Home Visit program.

Adult and children’s vaccines will be available as will Detera disposable drug pouches, menstrual health products, mosquito, tick and rabies resources and therapy dogs.

For information contact Shannon Nelson at [snelson@richlandhealth.org](mailto:snelson@richlandhealth.org) or 419-774-4761.

Walk-ins are welcome, but registering for a mammogram or vaccines will guarantee an appointment.

To register for these services or to schedule transportation call 419-774-4761, email [chps@richlandhealth.org](mailto:chps@richlandhealth.org), or visit [richlandhealth.org/free-day](http://richlandhealth.org/free-day).

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**First Federal  
Bank of Ohio**

THE RIGHT LOAN. THE RIGHT BANK.

1728 W. Fourth Street  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
Phone: 419-529-4687  
Fax: 419-529-4154

[landerson@firstfederalbankofohio.bank](mailto:landerson@firstfederalbankofohio.bank)



**Lisa Anderson**  
NMLS 618735

Branch Manager - Loan Officer