TRIBUNE-COURIER
RICHLAND COUNTY'S ONLY LOCALLY-OWNED NEWSPAPER • SINCE 1961
news@tribune-courier.com 11.19.26

# Stories of service and sacrifice take center stage at annual Mansfield Veterans Day ceremony

**Photos and Articles By Traci Little**

**MANSFIELD —** Every veteran carries a story of service, sacrifice and experiences that helped shape their lives. But when those stories go untold, important pieces of history can be lost forever.

That message was at the heart of the Veterans Day ceremony held Wednesday, Nov. 11, at Central Park in downtown Mansfield, where the Richland County community gathered to honor the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Presented by the Richland County Joint Veterans Council, the annual observance brought together veterans, families and community members for a morning of remembrance, gratitude and patriotic traditions.



Joint Veterans Council Commander Bruce Phipps led the ceremony, which included the presentation of colors, prayers, musical selections and a solemn tribute to fallen service members.

The program opened with a warm welcome, followed by the presentation of colors by the color guards. John Darby performed the national anthem, while Josh Hurrell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Jim Berry of Berean Baptist Church offered the invocation.

The Jared Mansfield Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented a wreath in honor of those who have answered the call to serve their country.

Ken Estep introduced keynote speaker Robert Mason, a United States Air Force veteran and historian for the American Legion Department of Ohio.

Mason's own journey into military service was far from ordinary.

Mason faced significant obstacles long before entering military service. Blind at birth, he underwent surgery to restore his vision as an infant. Despite doubts about whether he would qualify for military service, he remained determined to enlist.

He enlisted in the Air Force in 1979 and later served as an administrative specialist and squadron photographer with the 1908th Communications Squadron at England Air Force Base in Louisiana.

Drawing from his military experiences, Mason emphasized that every service member plays an important role, whether serving on the front lines or carrying out responsibilities behind the scenes.

But it was a deeply personal family story that illustrated the lasting importance of preserving veterans' experiences.

Mason shared the story of his late brother-in-law, Lee, whose military service included combat duty as a machine gunner during the Vietnam War.

When Lee later developed cancer associated with Agent Orange exposure, Mason encouraged him to seek assistance through the Department of Veterans Affairs. However, Lee was reluctant to pursue benefits and died before his claim could be processed.

After his brother-in-law's death, Mason began searching for military records to obtain a marker recognizing Lee's service at his gravesite.

What he discovered revealed a part of Lee's military history that even his closest family members had never known.

Lee had been awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam.

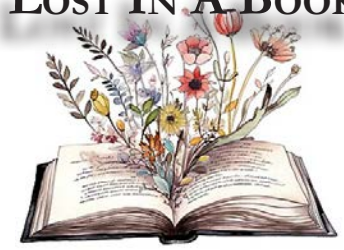
The discovery underscored Mason's message that veterans' stories deserve to be told, not only to preserve history but also to help families understand the sacrifices made by those they love.

Mason encouraged veterans to share their experiences with loved ones and ensure their families know where important military doc-

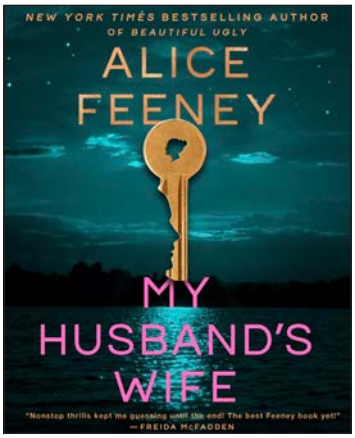
*(Continued on Page 12)*



# Lost In A Book



A Book Review
By Amanda Belczak




*My Husband's Wife* by Alice Feeney was wild with twists and a story that kept jumping perspectives.

Set in the Cornish Seaside, the wild sea, small town and cliffs were as much a character as the people who inhabited the houses.

A wife is locked out of her house and a woman who has her same name claims to live there.

When a woman is found dead on the beach, a new detective from the big city suddenly arrives to this town that has never seen any real crime.

This book is a page turner. As the perspective shifts, each character fills in new clues along the way. If you like mysteries and thrillers, this one is for you!

My rating: ★★★★★

*Follow my blog at amandabelczak.com*

# Toys being collected for local children

Buckeye Superstore in Shelby is partnering JPB Professional Marketing in Mansfield, Ally Bank and the Empire Jeepers Club for the 3rd Annual "Fill the Promaster" Toy Drive, collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts to benefit local youth navigating the foster care system through Richland County Children Services (RCCS).

"For children who have experienced the upheaval of being separated from their families, the holidays can sometimes feel more overwhelming than joyful," said Brigitte Coles, Community Engagement Supervisor for Richland County Children Services.

"Every child deserves to experience the wonder of opening a gift during the holidays, but for youth in foster care, those moments mean even more," said John Crosswhite, Sales Consultant at Buckeye Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM FIAT Superstore.

Community members are invited to drop off new, unwrapped toys, games, books or gift cards.

The drive is focusing on all age groups, from infants needing comfort toys to teenagers who appreciate gift cards, tech accessories and games.

Donations will be accepted through Saturday, Dec. 5, at Buckeye Superstore, 278 Mansfield Ave., Shelby; Shelby Fire Department, 40 High School Ave., Shelby; Premier Tanning and Nutrition, 35 Mansfield Ave., Shelby; House of Pieces, 2031 Park Avenue West, Ontario; and Shelby Eagles, 46 E. Main St., Shelby.

For more information about the toy drive call Buckeye Superstore at 567-333-8581.

Vol. 66
No. 6

**Tribune-Courier**

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

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# The Entertainment Examiner

**— By Ian Stumbo —**

Martin McDonagh scores again with *Wild Horse Nine*. The director of In *Bruges, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* and *The Banshees of Inisherin,* makes a hilarious movie about two CIA agents in 1973 who travel to see Easter Island after their assignment in Chile.




John Malkovich gives one of his best performances as Chris, an aging agent who has more going on than initially thought. His partner Lee (Sam Rockwell) is trying to keep him in line while being advised by their superior MJ (Steve Buscemi).

Chris is recording a memoir that is constantly being scrutinized and soon both agents find they are being watched after years of being involved in covert operations.

This movie is another hit for McDonagh. He writes dialogue that just pops off the screen.

I laughed out loud for at least the first 10 minutes and many times throughout the movie.

Malkovich and Rockwell have a great chemistry and their bickering is a highlight. As the movie progresses, it also has some touching moments about mortality and looking back on your life related to the wild horses that are part of Easter Island. The scenery is beautiful as well.

*Wild Horse Nine* is one of the best films of 2026. John Malkovich deserves serious awards consideration and Rockwell and Buscemi also give great performances. McDonagh's writing and directing are top level with an engaging story that hits on different themes and really captures the look and feel of the time.



# Prospect Park's Jingle & Mingle tradition moves to The Grotto Hall

The highly anticipated "Jingle & Mingle in the Prospect Park Neighborhood" community celebration is officially back for its third year. The free event is moving to a new, larger venue at The Grotto Hall, 747 S. Main St., Mansfield.

Families, friends and neighbors are invited to gather on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 11 am to 3 pm for a celebration of the winter season.

This annual tradition is brought to the community by Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church, Richland County Children Services, First English Lutheran Church and Zoe's Learning Center.

"What started as a neighborhood gathering has blossomed into a hallmark holiday event. The move to The Grotto Hall ensures that organizers can deliver an even more magical experience for children and families, keeping the tradition 100% free and open to everyone," said Renea Collins, founder/senior pastor of Kingdom Grace Church & Zoe's Learning Center.

"Attendees can look forward to a welcoming atmosphere filled with community fellowship, smiling faces and plenty of holiday cheer."

The day will be filled with free food, music, games and gifts. Santa and Mrs. Claus and The Grinch will attend.

At the holiday celebration, organizations and businesses will be giving away special gifts and information to spread cheer.

"The holiday community celebration is just one more example of community partners coming together building relationships and bringing hope to the children and families we serve in our community, " said Brigitte Coles, community engagement supervisor for Richland County Children Services.

For more information contact Beth Ferguson, community development/co-organizer Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church, at 567-303-4213 or 419-522-0908.

# News Briefs

West Hanley Road, on both sides of the U.S. 42 intersection, will close Monday, Nov. 30 for signal upgrade work. Motorists will not be able to access U.S. 42 from Hanley Road.

Those traveling along U.S. 42 will be able to pass through the intersection north and south but will not have access to turn onto West Hanley Road. The detour routes will be U.S. 42 to Orchard Park Road east to Middle Belleville Road north to West Hanley Road (east) and reverse; and U.S. 42 to Plymouth Street north to West Hanley Road (west) and reverse. Estimated completion is Friday, Dec. 4.

★

Clear Fork Alliance Church, 1008 St. Rt. 97 E., Bellville, will once again host "Experience Bethlehem" this December.

Those attending can enjoy the sights and sounds of ancient Bethlehem, taste foods in the marketplace, see and hear soldiers in the streets, meet the animals in the stable and follow the star to the manger and the newborn King. Other activities include games and a live nativity.

The experience will be open Friday, Dec. 11 from 6:30–8:30 pm; Saturday, Dec. 12 from 6:30–8:30 pm; and Sunday, Dec. 13 from 2–4 pm. Admission is free. The entire event takes place inside and is handicap accessible and family friendly.

Clear Fork Alliance Church is located across the street from Clear Fork High School. Call the church office at 419-886-4333 or visit clearforkalliance.org for more information.

★

The Lexington Area Senior Citizens Inc., invites those 55 and older to attend meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am at Der Dutchman, Rt. 97, Bellville. Cost is $17 for the meal, with an additional $2 for pie.

The next meal will be Dec. 16, which is the Christmas luncheon. The Fun Center Chordsmen will provide entertainment.

The group will also meet for lunch on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 11 am, at El Puerto Vallarta Mexican Bar & Grill on N. Lexington Springmill Rd., Ontario.

For information visit the Facebook page at Lexington Area Senior Citizens (LASC). Dues are $10 per year.

★

The 33rd Annual Crestview Craft Show will be held Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9 am to 3 pm at Crestview Middle School, 1575 St. Rt. 96, Ashland. Proceeds go to support the music department.

★

The Springfield Township Trustees have hired Michael Morton as zoning inspector. Morton may be contacted anytime at 419-529-4416, ext. 117. Leave a message and the call will be returned promptly to schedule a convenient meeting time and location.

All zoning forms will be available online soon at www.springfieldtwprc.org.

★

The Pioneer Career and Technology Center Board of Education has changed its regular November meeting to Monday, Nov. 23, at 6 pm in the Pioneer Board of Education Conference Room.

The regular December meeting will be moved to Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 6 pm at Table 27 (Previously The Pioneer Room) Restaurant located in the west end of the building at the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Shelby.




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# Richland County businesses prepare for annual Shop Small event

Local businesses throughout Richland County will take part in Shop Small — Richland County on Saturday, Nov. 21, an annual initiative designed to encourage residents to support locally owned businesses during the holiday shopping season.

Organized by Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development, the event provides an opportunity for residents to discover local businesses, shop for holiday gifts and support the small businesses that contribute to the economic vitality of the community.

This year's event will include participating businesses in Bellville, Lexington, Mansfield, Ontario and Shelby. In addition to encouraging local shopping, the program offers shoppers opportunities to win prizes through two separate drawing opportunities.

Customers who visit participating businesses can enter individual prize drawings at each location. Shoppers can also scan a Shop Small QR code displayed at participating businesses to enter a drawing for a $100 prize, provided by the Chamber. Participants may submit an entry at each location, up to six locations. No purchase is necessary to enter the prize drawings.

"Small businesses are an important part of our local economy and events like this help introduce residents to businesses they may not have visited before," said Jennifer Wagner, member services director at Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development. "We hope people will take the opportunity to explore our communities, discover something new, and make a conscious effort to support local businesses as they begin their holiday shopping."

Shop Small - Richland County is scheduled one week ahead of the nationally recognized Small Business Saturday, providing an opportunity for residents to get an early start on holiday shopping.

A list of participating businesses and additional event information is available at https://portal.richlandareachamber.com/events/details/shop-small-richland-county-2026-6450.

## Nominations being accepted for hall of fame

Nominations are open for the Madison Rams Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2027. This marks the fifth year honoring the remarkable individuals and teams who've shaped Madison's legacy. To nominate athletes, coaches, teams or community members fill out the form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1suzNw71LmwWuh3M-vw6l-zLhe6eNDOWbJA0qHp7jI86A/viewform?edit_requested=true or https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1yXml2o2wkz1d2B3A47n9_nAG-ITbF2WHObS7zyfqOx9c/viewform?edit_requested=true

## Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors & Crematory

Shirley Rae Staten, October 30
Linda Kay Anderson, November 7
William Paul Bittner, November 9
Kenneth P. Rachel, November 9
Jan Frank Wuicik, Nov. 14

**View full obituaries at www.wappner.com**






## Church Directory

**All Souls Unitarian Universalist**
25 Church St., Bellville
419-886-3497 • www.allsoulsuuohio.org
10:30 am Service and Sunday School
Adult RE Book Club (quarterly)

**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 am Monday Morning Bible Study

**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.

**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**
2010 Park Avenue West, Mansfield
(At Hope Lutheran Next to Drug Mart)
419-522-2813 • www.stjohnsmansfield.org
contact@stjohnmansfield.org
Pastor Faith Proietti • 11 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

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


**G & M Body & Paint Shop**
1689 West Fourth St., Ontario • 419-529-2747

**Wappner Funeral Home**
Mansfield • Ontario • Ashland • 419-522-5211

# Mansfield faces urgent need for shelter as winter approaches

By Traci Little

**MANSFIELD —** A warm place to sleep can mean the difference between surviving another night in the cold and taking the first step toward a new beginning.

For Matt, that first step came on Nov. 19, 2025, when he walked through the doors of Truth Ministries' warming center after a stroke left him unable to work and eventually without a home.

Throughout the winter, Matt returned to the center on nights it was open, finding temporary refuge from the cold. On Feb. 28, 2026, he moved into Elijah's House, a transitional home operated by Truth Ministries, where he began working toward permanent housing.

Today, Matt has a home of his own.

According to Truth Ministries, he continues attending Saturday church services and has shared that he has never been happier.

His experience reflects what Peggy Powers of Truth Ministries hopes to make possible for others experiencing homelessness in Mansfield. But as winter approaches, she says the need for shelter continues to exceed the resources available.

"I wish people understood how many homeless we actually have, over 200 that are visible, many more hidden," Powers said.

While Mansfield residents generously donate food, clothing and other necessities, Powers said finding a safe place to sleep remains one of the community's greatest challenges.

"The homeless shelter is almost always full, and that is the only shelter they have to go to," she said. "There is no organization in town that has emergency shelter, there are a few temporary housing programs, but they are always full also."

With temperatures beginning to drop, Powers is preparing to reopen Truth Ministries' warming center at 2 Marion Ave., which operates from 7 pm to 7 am when temperatures reach 20 degrees or below. There are two shift options available overnight (7 pm to 11 pm and 11 pm to 7 am).

The center provides a warm place for individuals to sleep overnight, but its ability to open depends on having enough volunteers.

"The people can freeze without shelter," Powers said. "We have a warming center with limited space and volunteers, but we can only open if we have volunteers."

Volunteers primarily supervise the center overnight and assist with basic needs while guests sleep. Those interested in helping can contact Powers at 419-564-9542.

During daytime hours, The Arc Empowerment Center, located at 378 Park Avenue West, plans to provide a place for individuals to stay from 7 am to 7 pm, along with breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Together, the two centers are intended to provide refuge during periods of dangerously cold weather.

**Six Months to Find Solutions**

The need for additional shelter comes as Mansfield City Council voted Nov. 4 to delay consideration of a proposed ordinance restricting camping in the downtown central business district until May 18, 2027.

The decision allows additional time for city officials, community organizations, faith leaders and advocates to explore solutions to homelessness while addressing concerns raised by downtown businesses.

Powers welcomed the opportunity, saying discussions are already underway. "We are already in meetings with many different organizations to try to come up with solutions," she said.

Among the priorities is establishing additional emergency shelter where individuals can go regardless of their circumstances, while creating opportunities to pursue employment and permanent housing.

Powers said affordable housing remains the greatest long-term need. She believes providing additional emergency shelter could also help address concerns downtown by giving individuals a safe alternative to sleeping outdoors or in public spaces.

The next six months present an opportunity for the community to work toward solutions that address both the immediate need for shelter and the underlying challenges that contribute to homelessness.

**Helping People Find Stability**

Through Truth Ministries, Powers and other volunteers are already working to bridge the gap between emergency assistance and long-term stability.

Addy's Attic Thrift Store, located at 280 Marion Ave., provides clothing, shoes, toiletries, blankets and other essential items at no cost to individuals experiencing homelessness during regular business hours.

Purchases made by community members help cover the store's rent and utilities, with additional proceeds supporting other outreach efforts when funds are available.

Truth Ministries also operates Elijah's House, a transitional discipleship home on Third Street, where six men currently reside while working toward greater independence and stability.

The program provides more than temporary housing, offering residents a supportive environment as they take steps toward rebuilding their lives.

For some individuals, assistance may mean something different.

When funding allows, Truth Ministries helps purchase bus or airline tickets for people who have become displaced and need transportation to return to family or other support systems. The organization also occasionally provides motel accommodation for individuals needing a safe place to stay for a night or two.

These efforts depend largely on donations and community involvement.

**A Community Called to Help**

Truth Ministries is seeking to raise $25,000 through its year-end campaign to support the warming center, Elijah's House and other outreach efforts.

Financial contributions help provide temporary shelter, transportation, clothing, food, hygiene products and emergency accommodation.

The organization also welcomes donations of toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, new men's and women's undergarments and personal care items.

Powers encourages residents to consider volunteering, contributing financially or sharing resources with organizations serving individuals experiencing homelessness.

While the challenges facing Mansfield cannot be resolved overnight, she believes collaboration among residents, organizations and city leaders can create meaningful opportunities for change.

For Matt, that change began with a warm place to sleep on a cold November night.

Months later, he had something that once seemed out of reach — a permanent home.

His story offers a reminder that behind the discussions about ordinances, shelter capacity and housing shortages are individuals whose circumstances can change when the right support becomes available.

And for those still searching for a safe place to sleep, Powers hopes Mansfield will continue working together to make that opportunity possible.

Consider giving to this cause through Richland Gives - https://richlandgives.mightycause.com/organization/Truth-Baptist-Church-6. To volunteer at Truth Ministries' warming center, contact Peggy Powers at 419-564-9542.





# WORTHY ladies night brings women together for worship and encouragement

**Photos and Article By Traci Little**

Women of all generations gathered at Berean Baptist Church on Thursday, Nov. 12, for WORTHY, an annual evening of faith, fellowship and encouragement centered on the message that true worth is found in Jesus Christ alone.

Now in its sixth year, the event offered women an opportunity to step away from their daily routines, connect with others and enjoy an evening of shopping, food, worship and spiritual encouragement.

The evening began with local food trucks offering dinner and covered outdoor seating for guests. Attendees then enjoyed shopping from a variety of vendors, including returning favorites and new participants, along with desserts provided as part of the event.

The highlight of the evening was a time of worship followed by a message from featured speaker Joanna Kimbrel, a Bible teacher and author passionate about helping others discover the beauty and truth of God's Word.

Centered on the theme of finding one's worth in Christ, the gathering encouraged women to look beyond the expectations and pressures of the world and embrace their God-given identity and purpose.

Following the worship program, guests had another opportunity to shop and enjoy fellowship.

Through WORTHY, Berean Baptist Church continues to provide a welcoming environment where women of different generations can grow in faith, strengthen friendships and be reminded of their value in Christ.


























Photos by Traci Little











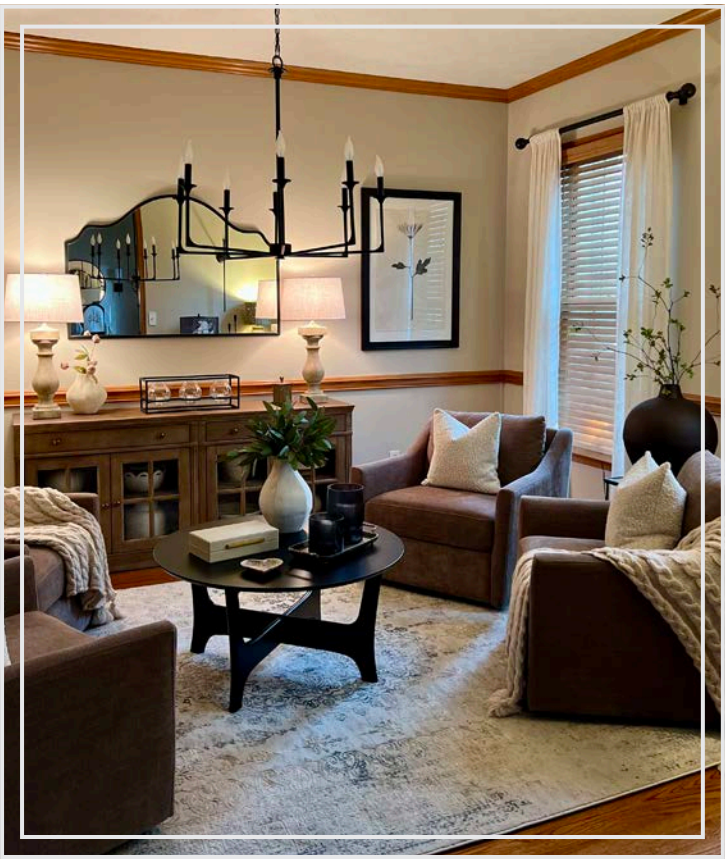





Photos By Jenna Wolford

**THE ONTARIO LIONS CLUB** held its fall pancake breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 6:30 am to noon at Ontario High School. The all-you-can-eat pancakes came with sausage, orange juice, milk, coffee and a chance to win a door prize donated by local businesses. Proceeds from the event will go towards funding local and worldwide Lions projects. For more information on the Ontario Lions Club and to inquire about becoming a member email ontario.lions.club@gmail.com.

# Lifestyle Inspiration



## Beating the Holiday Blues

*By Kelley Kovacs, LMT*
*Comfrey Corner*

The holiday season is usually associated with happiness and togetherness, yet it can be a difficult time for many people. Loneliness, grief, family disagreements and money worries may feel heavier when everyone is expected to be cheerful.

If the season has you feeling low, remember that you are not alone.

One way to ease holiday stress is to simplify your plans. You do not need a perfect meal, expensive gifts or a full calendar to enjoy the season.

Choose the traditions that matter most and let go of those that leave you tired or overwhelmed.

Reaching out to others can also make a difference. Call an old friend, visit a neighbor or take part in a local community activity. Volunteering at a food pantry, shelter or holiday event can lift your spirits while helping someone else. A small act of kindness often brings comfort to both the giver and the receiver.

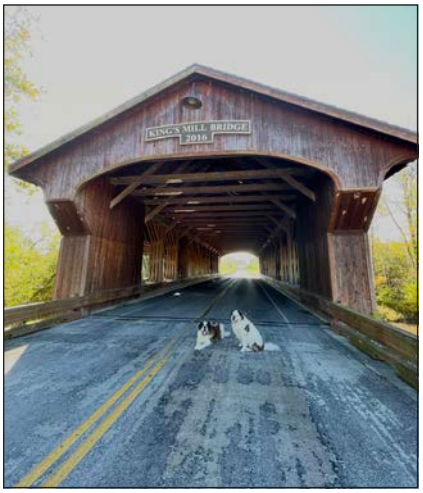
Pay attention to your physical health as well. Regular sleep, nourishing meals and gentle exercise can support your emotional well-being. A walk around the neighborhood or a few quiet minutes outdoors may offer a helpful change of perspective.

It is also important to make room for difficult emotions. The holidays can bring back memories of loved ones who are no longer here. Rather than ignoring those feelings, consider honoring that person by lighting a candle, preparing a favorite recipe or sharing a treasured story.

When feelings of sadness become difficult to carry alone, reach out to a trusted friend, counselor or health care provider. Seeking support can provide comfort and help you find healthy ways to cope.

The season offers many opportunities to celebrate the people and moments that bring us joy. By slowing down, welcoming kindness and appreciating life's simple pleasures, you can create a holiday filled with warmth, meaningful connections and happy memories.






## Day Trippin' With Damon

The Kings Mill Covered Bridge is located in southeast Marion County and spans the Olentangy River. The bridge, built in 2016, is 190 feet in length and 28 feet in width, with an arch height of just over 18 feet. The original bridge was a 190-foot, single-lane, steel high truss bridge that had become expensive to maintain and was due for major rehabilitation. The bridge is located at 3899 Whetstone River Rd., South, Marion.



# Madison Middle School continues tradition of honoring veterans at military appreciation breakfast

**Photos and Article By Traci Little**

**MADISON** — Gratitude, patriotism and community pride were on display as Madison Middle School hosted its second annual Military Appreciation Breakfast, continuing the tradition of honoring veterans, active-duty service members and military families within the Madison community.

What began last year as an idea shared by Principal Jordan Nelson and school counselors Jessica Rush and Monique Eberst has grown into an annual opportunity for students and staff to express their appreciation for those who have served our country.

The breakfast brings military families together with students and school staff, creating an atmosphere of connection, remembrance and gratitude while recognizing the sacrifices made by service members and their loved ones.

Beyond the breakfast itself, students have played an important role in making the event meaningful. Through classroom activities and personal letters, they have been encouraged to reflect on the importance of military service, and the freedoms Americans enjoy.

Among those expressing appreciation was eighth-grade student Mackenzie Wiggins, who wrote a heartfelt letter to a veteran as part of a project-based learning assignment.

"Thank you for your service. I am entirely grateful for everything you have done for our country to protect and preserve our freedom," Wiggins wrote. "Your bravery is entirely unmatched and very much appreciated by the entire nation."

Wiggins, 14, also shared her interest in learning about American history and the service of veterans. Her letter included thoughtful questions about military experiences, favorite memories and what inspired veterans to serve.

"I hope that you enjoy my letter and feel honored and appreciated every single day," she concluded.

Her words reflect the spirit behind the annual gathering — helping younger generations understand that military service represents more than a chapter in a history book. It represents real people, personal sacrifices and a lasting commitment to protecting the nation.

The Military Appreciation Breakfast also reflects the dedication of Madison Middle School staff, who established the tradition last year through a collaborative effort involving teachers, counselors, cafeteria employees, custodians and student groups.

Now in its second year, the event continues to strengthen the connection between the school and its military families while reminding veterans and service members that their sacrifices are recognized and appreciated.

Through simple gestures of kindness, heartfelt letters and a shared meal, Madison Middle School is teaching students an important lesson: gratitude for those who serve should extend far beyond Veterans Day.



**AMONG THOSE ATTENDING** Madison Middle School's second annual military appreciation breakfast were Mitchell Covert and his mother, Norma Tebbs, 92, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in 1955.











Photos by Traci Little



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# •Stories of service and sacrifice take center stage

*(Continued from Front Psge)*

-uments, including discharge records, are kept.

His message carried particular significance for families whose loved ones returned from military service reluctant to speak about their experiences.

Mason also recognized the challenges faced by Vietnam veterans, many of whom returned from war without the appreciation or welcome afforded to other generations of service members.

Joined at the podium by his wife, Teresa, Mason concluded his remarks by extending a message of gratitude and recognition to Vietnam veterans in attendance.

"You are our heroes," Mason said. "Welcome home."

Mason's dedication to veterans extends beyond his own military service. Since joining the American Legion in 2011, he has held several leadership positions, including commander of Earl Green Post 344 and second vice commander of the organization's Fighting Fifth District.

As historian for the American Legion Department of Ohio, he works to preserve military history and ensure the contributions of veterans are remembered for future generations.

The Mansfield ceremony continued with a Salute to the Honored Dead by the Richland County Joint Veterans Burial Squad, followed by the playing of Taps — a solemn reminder of those who gave their lives in service to the nation.

Doug Keppler performed "Amazing Grace," and Pastor Berry offered the benediction before Phipps concluded the observance.

While Veterans Day provides an opportunity to recognize those who have worn the uniform, the meaning of the occasion extends far beyond a single day.

It is a time to remember the sacrifices made in defense of the nation, express gratitude to those who served and recognize the personal histories that might otherwise be forgotten.

As Mason's message reminded those gathered in Central Park, honoring veterans means listening to their stories and ensuring future generations understand the sacrifices behind the freedoms they enjoy.









Photos by Traci Little










**MARLENE BLANTON** of VFW Post 9943 on Grace Street celebrated her 89th birthday last week. For more than 15 years, Blanton has been a familiar face at local Veterans Day and Memorial Day parades, faithfully handing out American flags and sharing her patriotic spirit with the community. She is dedicated to honoring our nation's veterans and spreading pride in the American flag.









# Support Local Coffee Shops

*Visit a featured location below, then email your order and visit date to tribune.courier.traci@gmail.com for a chance to win a $20 coffee gift card!*

**Goldberry Roasting Company**
1262 Franklin Ave, Ashland
goldberryroasting.com

**Bloom Nutrition & Drink Bar**
126 East Main Street,
W 2nd St Rear, Ashland

**4th Street Coffee House**
1996 W 4th St, Ontario

**Pump and Grind**
586 Park Avenue East,
OH-430, Mansfield

ADVERTISE HERE

**Fresh Grounds Coffee House**
1621 W 4th St, Ontario

**Brew'd Coffee & Donuts**
7 Main St, Hayesville

**Bubble Bean And Sweets**
44 East Main St., Shelby

ADVERTISE HERE

**Revive Coffee Bar**
1201 Mill Rd, Bellville
revivecoffeebar.com

ADVERTISE HERE

**The Cafe at Arbor Creek Gardens and Floral**
3052 Mabee Rd, Ontario

**Honey B Express Coffee Trailer**
567-303-5248

**Pronto Pizza and Coffee**
914 Ashland Rd, Mansfield
419-589-7777

**The Green Bean House**
230 Main St, Bellville
419-719-6026
@thegreenbeanhouse

# Ontario BOE approves coaching positions, accepts donations

The Ontario Board of Education met for an organizational and regular meeting on Nov. 10.

The girls tennis team was recognized for being the first team in school history (50 years of girls tennis) to win a league championship.

Ontario Middle School Principal Tina Crim provided an update on the Color Run and literacy intervention program "Rewards." OMS teacher Kellie Ritchey and seventh-grade student Adam Mackey presented the student's essay about heroes.

Olivia Fogle was hired as a fifth grade intervention specialist, $30,540.

Sally Carsner resigned as a Stingel Intervention Specialist in the Intermediate Cross Categorical Room.

The board approved employment of extracurricular/supplemental staff for the 202–'27 school year including Nick Miller, OMS wrestling head coach, $4,815; Jeremy Peoples, girls wrestling coach, (five sharing four stipends), $4,464; Zach McGrain, OMS assistant wrestling coach, (five sharing four stipends), $4,464; Monty Ohl, varsity assistant wrestling coach, (five sharing four stipends), $4,464; Taylor Komives, varsity assistant wrestling coach, (five sharing four stipends), $4,464; Jerod Them, eighth grade girls basketball volunteer assistant coach, $0; Jamee Oliver, varsity head softball coach, $5,978; Scott Kreger, varsity assistant softball coach, $4,815; Rachel Miller, OHS head track coach, $7,769; and Brandon Witherspoon, OMS girls basketball seventh grade coach, $3,503.

The board approved a resolution to adopt the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's Special Education Model Policy.

Certificated substitute teachers hired for OMS, OHS and Stingel for the current school year are Chloe Hill, Katie Hiser and Anna Kurt. Substitute classified staff hired for the 2026–'27 school year include Jane Baker, custodian; Colin Walters, custodian; and Olena Shulga, bus driver.

The board approved new and revised board policies.

Donations were accepted from Milark Industries, $2,680.01 for soccer team buses; an anonymous donor, $2,700 for Warrior Wishmaker; Ontario Hospitality, Inc. DBA Holiday Inn Express & Suites , $5,000 for the technology fund; Ikes Pub Two, $50 for Warrior Wishmaker; Exhaust Pipes Plus, $500 for Warrior Wishmaker; and School Specialty and Spherion, 10 pallets of school supplies.

Facility requests were granted and the board discussed the Farm to School Grant Award ($100,000) and an update on the concession building design and construction from Ontario Athletic Boosters.

Property value re-evaluations and tax explanations were given.

The next regular board of education meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

# Town hall meeting is Nov. 23

Members of the public are invited to the second of a series of town hall meetings designed to build a better relationship between the Mansfield Police Department and the community.

This idea arose from conversations between Mansfield Mayor, Jodie Perry, Police Chief, Jason Bammann and members of the NAACP #3190. This meeting will take place on Monday, Nov. 23, at 5 pm at Mount Hermon Missionary Baptist Church, 292 Charles St., Mansfield.

Perry suggested that holding the meetings at local churches would allow attendees to speak freely and feel that they are in a "safe haven."

This is a continuation of the conversation between Mansfield City Administrators and the public. At the meeting in August, the city administrators spoke about recent incidents that had taken place in Mansfield and the police chief outlined the ongoing training that all police officers receive. This meeting will be an opportunity for community members to get a further understanding of what is being done to earn their trust and continue to improve local policing.

All are welcome to attend this information session and are asked to come with an open mind and an intention to learn and discuss.






# Mansfield Christian School celebrates 65 years, announces progress toward new high school

**Photos and Article By Traci Little**

**MANSFIELD —** Mansfield Christian School celebrated 65 years of faith, growth and educational excellence during its annual fundraising banquet, highlighting record enrollment, expanding academic opportunities and significant progress toward construction of a new high school.

One of the evening's biggest announcements was that the school has secured $10 million in gifts, pledges and commitments toward its $12 million high school building project, bringing the campaign within $2 million of its goal.

The banquet also introduced the Carl Key Capital Campaign Fund, established to honor Key's legacy through a designated room in the new building. A $50,000 matching gift will double contributions made to the fund, with a goal of raising $100,000 in his honor.

The evening centered on the theme "1000 Hours: Stand Firm — Know It, Live It, Defend It," reflecting the approximately 1,000 hours educators have each school year to influence students academically, spiritually and personally.

Drawing from 1 Corinthians 16:13-14, Superintendent Dr. Cy Smith emphasized the importance of preparing students to understand their faith, live out their convictions and confidently share their beliefs with others.

"We are not merely instructors of content; we are shapers of culture and builders of the future," Smith shared.

A special highlight of the evening was the induction of five individuals into Mansfield Christian School's Hall of Flames, honoring their years of faithful service, leadership and lasting contributions to Christian education.

The 2026 inductees included Thomas M. Banks, a 1990 graduate who served 12 years on the school board and 24 consecutive years on the Finance Committee; Cindy Bish, a 1991 graduate who founded the Sam Bish Foundation in memory of her nine-year-old son to support families facing pediatric cancer; and Barbara McLeary, who dedicated 42 years to the school as a teacher, intervention specialist and volleyball coach, becoming the winningest coach in school history.

Also honored were Rosalie Wade, whose 45 years as food service coordinator made her the longest-serving employee in school history, and Dr. Cy J. Smith, a 1987 graduate who has served the school for 35 years as an educator and administrator. Superintendent since 2008, Smith has helped guide significant growth in academic programs and facilities. Together, the inductees represent generations of faithful leadership, compassion and service that have shaped Mansfield Christian and the lives of countless students and families.

The celebration also served as a reminder of the school's longstanding mission, which began 65 years ago when a group of believers envisioned a Christian school that would serve generations of families.

Today, Mansfield Christian is experiencing its highest on-campus enrollment in school history. To accommodate continued growth, the school replaced its original 1963 maintenance garage with a fourth modular classroom building, allowing for three sections of every elementary grade.

Academic opportunities continue expanding as well. This fall, Mansfield Christian launched its Academy of Business, joining existing career academies in STEM and Medicine, along with its Media Production and Ministry and Missions programs.

The new academy provides students with opportunities to explore business ownership and management through coursework, guest speakers, internships and field experiences, all while incorporating Christian principles into leadership and decision-making.

School leadership also reported a 94% faculty retention rate and a 96% student retention rate, reflecting continued investments in educators, staff and the school community.

Facility improvements remain another priority. Last summer, the school completed a major roofing project, installing a new roof with a 30-year warranty over more than half of its building. Future improvements will focus on campus security, including additional exterior cameras, improved lighting behind the school and upgraded classroom doors and locking systems.

Financial assistance for families was another important focus of the evening. Mansfield Christian currently provides more than $500,000 annually through its financial aid programs to help make Christian education accessible.

Last year, the school received $125,000 through the Ohio Christian Education Network's Scholarship Granting Organization program, which allows eligible taxpayers to receive an Ohio state income tax credit for qualifying donations that support student scholarships.

Beyond academics and facilities, the banquet highlighted opportunities for students to put their faith into action. This spring, more than 40 students and a dozen parents traveled to the Dominican Republic to serve local students and families through the school's longstanding missions partnership.

The evening concluded with an emphasis on prayer and community involvement.

As part of its 65th anniversary celebration, attendees received commemorative coins encouraging them to continue praying for Mansfield Christian's students, teachers, families and future.

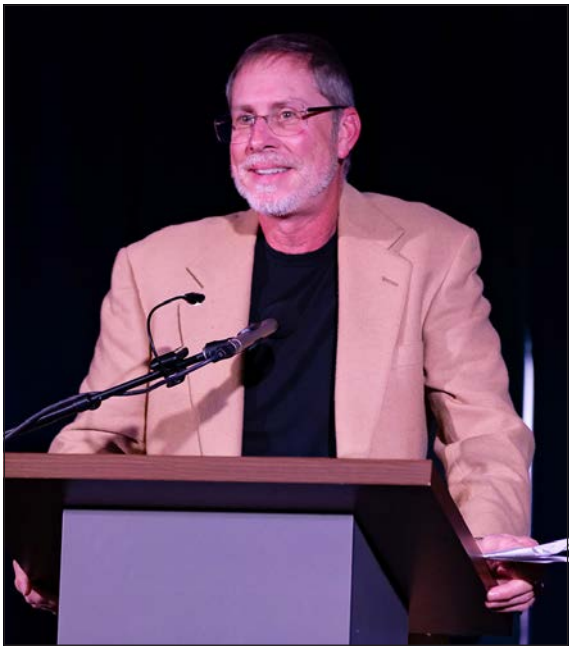
School leadership also reflected on "The 500 Moment," an initiative inviting 500 families to pause at 5 p.m. each weekday to pray for the school at 500 Logan Road.

As Mansfield Christian looks toward its next chapter, the school remains committed to the vision established by its founders more than six decades ago: providing a Christ-centered education that prepares students to stand firm in their faith and make a lasting difference in the world.















Photos by Traci Little







**BELLVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH CENTER** held its annual Empty Bowls soup luncheon fundrasier on Sunday, Nov. 15, at Clear Fork High School. Those attending were able to pick a one-of-a-kind hand-glazed ceramic bowl made by community members to use and take home. Soups, fresh bread and desserts were provided by area restaurants. Proceeds benefit the Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center food pantry.











# The Ashland Kroc Center invites community to holiday events

This November and December, The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Ashland is inviting the community to celebrate the season with special events designed to bring people together and spread a little holiday cheer.

Before heading to downtown Ashland for the Christmas Parade, the community can join The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center at the annual holiday arts & crafts show on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9 am to 2 pm.

Held at The Ashland Kroc Center, 527 E. Liberty St., Ashland, the show offers shoppers an opportunity to browse a variety of 20+ vendors and discover unique, handcrafted gifts and holiday treasures.

New this year will be a gift-wrapping service. Suggested donation starts at $2 per gift. Cash and credit/debit card will be accepted as forms of payment, and all proceeds will support The Kroc Center's Christmas food box and assistance programs.

"It's a Wonderful Kroc Christmas" returns Saturday, Dec. 12, from 2–5 pm at The Ashland Kroc Center.

This year's featured attractions include Anna, Elsa & Friends presenting a holiday musical celebration and meet 'n greet, ice sculptures and a live ice-carving demonstration, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, a double 18-foot slide, a Frozen-themed bounce house, Santa's reindeer and a Christmas train.

Presented as a Holiday Hope Fundraiser, this year's event also introduces new activities for adults.

Admission is $15 per person or $65 for a family ticket which includes admission for up to five immediate family members. Additional children may be added to a family ticket for $5 each.

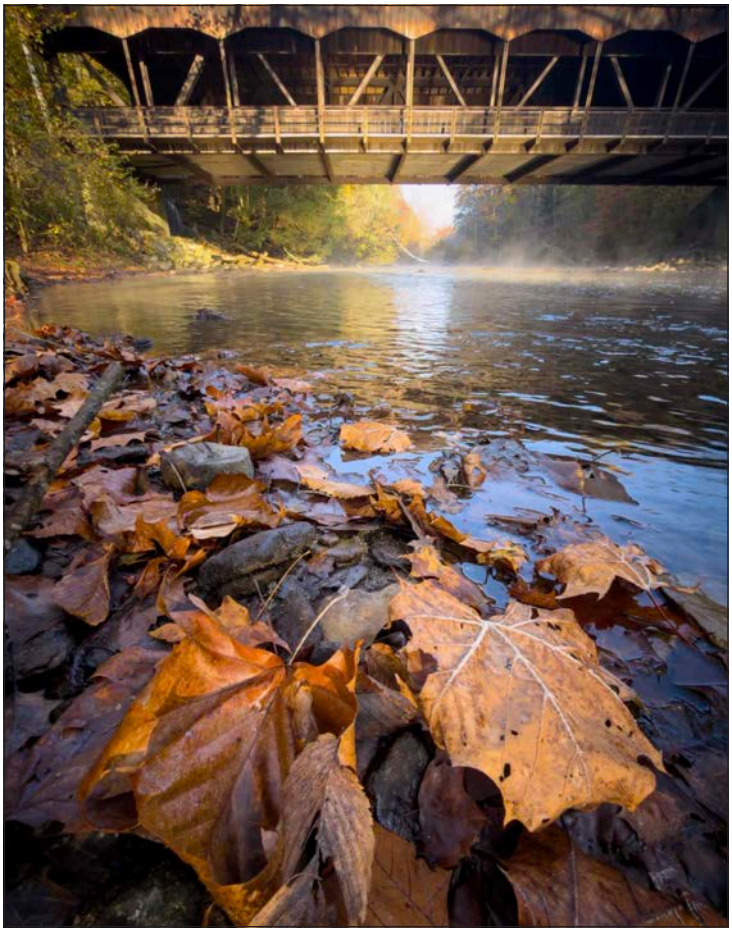
A ticket is required for every guest, including adults, to enjoy the expanded activities and enhanced experiences. Family tickets may be purchased at https://ashlandkroc.usaeast.org/s/registration?courseSessionId=a1wVs000002R9FlIAK&courseOptionId=a1tVs00000IZ7AjIAL and Individual Tickets may be purchased at https://ashlandkroc.usaeast.org/s/registration?courseSessionId=a1wVs000002R9FlIAK&courseOptionId=a1tVs00000GAFe5IAH.

"We are thrilled to bring "It's a Wonderful Kroc Christmas" back to The Ashland Kroc Center. Not only does this event provide an important fundraising opportunity for our organization, but it also gives families a chance to make memories, be active together, and celebrate the magic of the holiday season," said Dan Lawson, PhD, Director of Community Relations and Development for The Ashland Kroc Center.

Dr. Lawson added that the community's support is especially meaningful this year as the need for assistance continues to grow. "We are projecting that we will provide approximately 400 Christmas food boxes this year — about 75 more than last Christmas. We are also seeing an increase in the number of individuals and families seeking assistance through our Angel Tree program, along with more calls from neighbors who need help putting food on the table."

"The funds raised through the Holiday Arts & Crafts Show and It's a Wonderful Kroc Christmas will directly support our Christmas food box program. Each box contains the ingredients needed to prepare both a special Christmas breakfast and dinner, helping ensure that more of our neighbors can experience the joy, comfort, and togetherness of the holiday season. We are incredibly grateful to the Ashland community for helping us make that possible."

For additional information about these events, contact The Ashland Kroc Center at 419-281-8001, visit ashlandkroc.org, or follow Ashland Kroc Center on Facebook or @AshlandKroc on Instagram.



Mohican • Photo By Mark Shutt




**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL** junior Tyler Turnbaugh has been selected as a Pioneer Career and Technology Center October Student of the Month. Tyler is enrolled in Pioneer's cosmetology program. He is actively involved in the Pursuit Wrestling Club and Ontario Varsity Wrestling. Outside of school, Tyler enjoys hunting, fishing, working out, building his truck and cutting hair. His interest in barbering extends beyond the classroom as he continues to explore his future career opportunities. Looking ahead, Tyler plans to pursue a career as a professional barber with the goal of owning his own business. Pictured with Tyler is Pioneer instructor Caitlin Roub.

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**THE ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL** Warrior Leadership Council hosted a Veterans Day Breakfast and Parade on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at Ontario High School. Students had the opportunity to eat breakfast with a veteran and ride in the parade alongside them.

















**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL 'S** National Honor Society Kona Chapter induction ceremony was held Nov. 4, welcoming new members Ally Bell, Myles Born, Alyvia Buckner, Yvette Carrizal Ramos, Ellie Dawson, Grant Domyan, Maxwell Gfrer, Briella Hall, Hailee Hilbrands, Adelina Hines, Addysen Jacobsen, Yuka Mora, Ian Morrison, Kamryn Pelphrey, Camila Perez-Archuleta, Conner Perry, Norah Potter, Roxy Purvis, Kennedy Sapp, Daycee Schlotterer, Vaydie Schroeder, Ella Them, Mason Wilkerson, Parker Willis, Tanner Winningham, Ava Zehe, Leeah Ziegler, Aaliyah Caldwell, Haleigh Hefner, Kiera Hughes, Dane Kearns, Braelyn Llewellyn, Isla Peachee, Carter Pond, Zakari Ramos, Sophia Sandwall, Cooper Schroeder, Aaliyah Skowronski, Piper Studer, Mia Summers and Carson Smith. Current members are Ryleigh Ames, Emma Bell, Alexander Bilyj, Bryant Born, Kaylei Chandler, Connor Dawson, Eliana Fittante, Maia Fox, Logan Goldbach, Eva Hadsell, Camryn Hanning, Jazlyn Johnson, Yuchen Lin, Madison Mabry, Sydney McManes, Tatum Mottayaw, Ayla Reed, Skylie Salmons, Maja Seibel, Paxton So, Ava Spearman, Jackson Swiatek, Lin Angel Tan, Elton Toska Mirielle Trumpower, Lauren Uhde, Owen Walter, William Wang, Braedon Watson, Timo Winningham, Mitchell Ye and Madelyn Yoa.

# Seniors invited to celebration

Local senior citizens are invited to kick-off the Christmas season with an afternoon of festive fun, friendship and free holiday cheer.

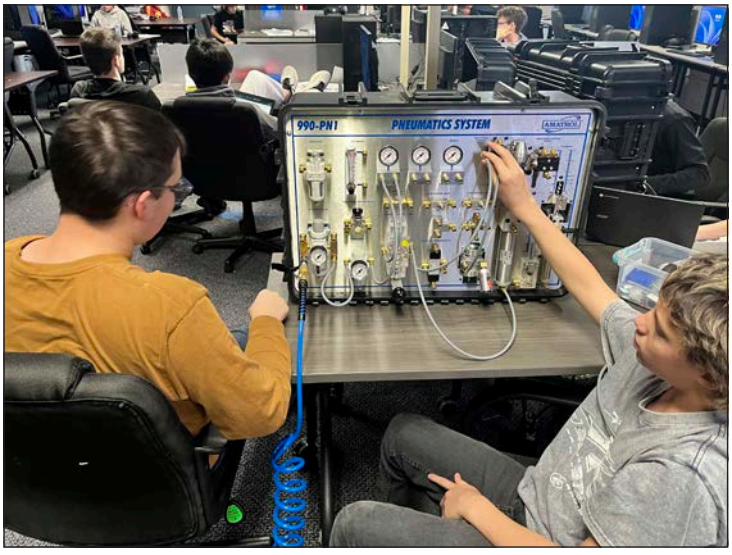
Mansfield UMADAOP and We ACT will co-host SPARK Senior Day, a special holiday celebration dedicated to seniors throughout Mansfield and Richland County. SPARK stands for Self-discovery, Purpose, Achievement, Resilience, Knowledge

The event will take place on Friday, Dec. 11, from 11 am to 2 pm at Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., Hawkins Conference Center, 2131 Park Avenue West, Suite 500, Ontario, with doors opening early at 10:45 am to welcome guests into a warm, cheerful atmosphere.

SPARK Senior Day is designed to bring the community together for a joyful Christmas gathering. Attendees will be treated to a delicious, complimentary holiday meal, live music, and high-energy games of bingo with exciting prizes. It is the perfect opportunity for area seniors to socialize, celebrate the season, and enjoy a vibrant, uplifting afternoon.

This event is proudly sponsored by the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., an organization dedicated to supporting and enriching the lives of older adults in the region.

While there is no cost to attend, seating for this celebration is limited. Organizers strongly encourage area seniors to reserve their spots as soon as possible by calling 419-930-4263.




**STUDENTS IN MR. SAGER'S** Introduction to Mechatronics class at Ontario High School are prepping to earn credentials by passing SACA certifications in their Advanced Manufacturing Amatrol coursework.





**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL** held its own version of *The Masked Singer* during a school assemby. Middle school and high school students, staff and families raised $5,370 for Warrior Wishmakers. Every penny raised stays in the community to provide Christmas gifts, holiday meals and essential necessities for local Warrior families. In addition to the performances, donations were collected at lunch and canned goods were collected.




**MR. SAGER'S ROBOTICS** student design teams are developing their ode to the World Series. Their robotic systems have to project a ball into the air. They need to use a sensor of their choice to ultimately trigger a swing response. They must write a code or program incorporating the correct timing in order to initiate a bat mechanism of their design to "hit" the ball over a wall simulating a home run.

# Hocking Hills treasure hunt runs through Dec. 12 for visitors

Explore Hocking Hills announced that its highly anticipated annual Holiday Treasure Hunt is now up and running and takes place through Saturday, Dec. 12.

The treasure hunt inspires travelers to unwind this holiday season surrounded by the stunning natural beauty of the Hocking Hills as they explore the unique independent local shops and art studios.

Visitors can grab a treasure map from the Hocking Hills Welcome Center at 13178 OH-664 in Logan, OH 43138 or download it at explorehockinghills.com/holiday-treasure-hunt-2026, where they can also plan a complete Hocking Hills getaway.

Participants who visit at least six of 31 participating indie shops and art studios and collect stamps from each are eligible to enter a drawing for a host of prizes, including shop-specific gifts and certificates. One grand prize winner will receive an inclusive weekend getaway featuring: a two-night stay in a cabin, Hocking Hills Canopy Tour passes, canoe rental on the Hocking River, Hocking Hills Adventure Golf, candle making, lunch and dinner — all for four people.

The holiday treasure hunt encourages travelers to support local small businesses while helping them find truly unique, locally made gifts. Local art studios and galleries, coffee roasters, craft breweries, wineries and distillers — even the last remaining washboard factory in the U.S. — offer one-of-a-kind gifts.

Visitors can watch gifted artisans at work at local studios, make a gift for a loved one and even purchase a gift certificate for glass blowing, blacksmithing or other learn-to-make-it classes.

For information visit ExploreHockingHills.com or call 1-800-Hocking (800-462-5464).



# Honor and Merit Rolls

## Madison Local Schools

First Nine Weeks

**ALL A**

**Third Grade —** Ricky Bailey, Ember Ballard, Emery Bishop, Dawson Bowling, Greyson Dangelo, Amaya Dean, Will Eckenwiler, Brixten Evans, Isabella Glenney, Barrett Hendrickson, Bensen Hicks, Sofia Holcomb, Thorin Howell, Sawyer Hubert, Makenzie King, Deonte Leadingham, Liam Mason, Tyler Meadows, Avry Miller, Braxton Murray, Aria Parker, Archer Pool, Emmalyn Ruckman, Emma Sloan, Alexa Spurlock, Sarah Utt and Audrey Wade

**Fourth Grade —** Kamden Adams, Rashawn Alexander, Cooper Allen, Rayna Baker, Camden Barr, Amelia Bowman, Lilyann Bransted, Emily Foster, Camiya Goodwin, Nicholas Harvey, Mia Heier, Hayden Holmes, Kason Huss, Brylie Loucks, Silas Ogle, Lucas Ohl, Kenley Oslie, Charleigh Pennywitt, Delilah Rigney, Maci Robinson, Lillian Rowland, Maddox Roy, Hayes Sauder, Kendall Turner, Xzavian VanWagner, Amaira Watson, Garrett Watson, Blake Wingler and Brody Zeigler

**Fifth Grade —** Evan Baldridge, Lyncoln Collins, Owen Elswick, Rayson Evens, Livia Foote, Grayson Hoehn, Ryleigh Holmes, Dalton Hudson, Scarley Kindinger, Caleb King, Asher Larsen, Lillyana Lohr, Stacey Montgomery, Theron Ogle, Troy Schafer, Mekhi Schaub, Ava Sigman, Johnathan Swanciger and Jocelynn Tindal

**Sixth Grade —** Elena Allen, Embree Baker, Kyrie Byrd, Lyllian Chambers, Seth Clark, Kylee Cushard, Allie Fellure, Andrew Finley, Ember Fry, Ada Havens, Vera Havens, Sawyer Howell, Malika Mion, Alaina Palmer, Gentry Robertshaw, Brynn Sauder, Mykelti Sly and Logan Smith

**Seventh Grade —** Jade Anderson, Ella Barr, Lincoln Bays, Corinne Beal, Isabelle Beatty, Caysance Bradshaw, Skylar Carlson, Wyatt Clark, Madeline Dunlap, Peyton Hager, London Hamilton, Hailey Hedrick, Ingrid Keffer, Bentley Kershner, James Lang, Parker Larsen, Zeke Markley, Olivia Mason, Peyton Meek, Timothy Mion, Kellen O'Brien, James Price, Carter Shenberger, Tyson Silsby, Emily Spillman, Olivia St Clair, Jaxon Stacy, Avaya Stephenson, Gabriel Utt, Tyson Wendling, Michael Williams and Chazlyn Zehner

**Eighth Grade—** Za'mya Ajian, Aaron Baker, Annalise Barber, Abbigale Crist, Lily Eckenwiler, Lauren Foster, Hailey Hedrick, Roman Hipfl, Kennadi Knipp, Parker Larsen, Abrianna Micallef, Gavin Moore, Damari Roper, Eleanor Sidwell, Haden Sisson, Shawn Sydnor, Beckham White, Mackenzie Wiggins and Makenzie Wingler

**Freshmen —** Liam Barr, Gavin Bishop, Nola Bishop, Cameron Boyd, Reagan Brooks, Amelia Clayburn, Abbigale Crist, David Cunningham, Baylee Cushard, Karsyon Dravenstott, Ashtin Edmonds, David Elliott, Daevon Endicott, Samara Gillespie, Lainee Heston, Troy Horn, Jordan Jeffers, Izabella Kenner, Emma Lewis, Kaeleb Llamas, Declan Maddy, Aziyah McKnight, Carson McQuillen, Faith Metcalf, Macy Moore, Olivia Morris, Brooklynn Moyer, Kathryn (Kay) Myers, Casey Rachel, Kendal Shrader, Natalie Smith, Mariah Stacy, Jonas Stapleton, Alexander Weightman, Sarah Weightman, Tyler White, Ethan Wingo and Jersie Yunker

**Sophomores —** Anna Ankrum, Alaina Ash, Jenna Bebout, Makena Berkshire, Lainey Binns, Jaylee Black, Isabella Childs, Chester Conley, Alexander (A.J.) Dillon, Hannah Evans, Kordell Hardy, Michael Hughes, Arenal Hunsinger, Madison Kliewer, Leanna Lawrence, Andrew Lowe, Abigail McWilliams, Gabriella Mickouma, Aryiah Miller, Mason Morrow, Addyson Powell, Savanna Ransom, Alexandria Seibert, Kallee Short, Kaysten Sly, Nevaeh Spurgeon, Cloe Taylor, Mylee Temple, Sofia Thompson

**Juniors —** Zaylynn Ball, Isaiah Blust, Aniyah Bond, Kaley Bowman, Henry Brinley, Zayne Burks, Caliyah Clapper, Alec Day, Allysia Deems, Carter Foley, Ariel Foote, Lily Fox, Chloe Gilbert, Cadence Gushard, Owen Hendershott, Journee Jaranowski, Payton Kellner, Bradley Lawhorn, Kara Matthews, Victoria Neal, Landon Parsons, Landen Pfund, Madison Riffe, Khloe Sayre, Bryson Smith, Landon Stone and Makenzie Wynn

**Seniors —** Kory Baldridge, Caden Bishop, Anna Blanton, Kylie Carroll, James Cecil, Kinley Clow, Kaylea Cole, Destini Conrad, Brianna Coulter, Samantha Crist, Gage Cyrus, Lucas Davidson, Zachary Davies, Giavanna DiPuccio-Resendiz, Claire Durbridge, Trenton Ford, Nicolas Gatten, Kaitlyn Haring, Travis Hicks, Kennedy Hofer, Santanna Hoffman, Cambree Howe, Chase Hunsinger, Austin Jacobs, Mason Johnson, Kaiden Koch, Layla Krizan, Evan Larsen, Sophie Lowe, Christopher Manley, Kiya McConaughey, Taylor McKown, Jordan McWilliams, Addison Miller, Alexander Moore, Camdyn Neal, Ashley Nikolaus, Avery O'Brien, Sophia Palmer, Ravino Pena, Cadance Peters, Ellie Powell, Gage Ramey, Emily Saunders, Geraldo Sayre, Autumn Schroeder, Zoei (Zee) Sealey, Joseph Seibert, Brayden Seymour, Jaxson Shaffer, Colton Shaw, Anthony Sheffield, Lincoln Shepherd, Allie Shrader, Landon Simpson, Shiann Skeen, Isabella Smith, Hudson Stacy, Kinlei Stoltenberg, Kristopher Sutton, Gabriela Vega-Wieland, Lyla Walker, Izabel Wamsley, Julian Washington, Brynleigh Webb, Emma Wilds, Knight Wolfe and Baylee Yost

**HONOR ROLL**

**Third Grade —** Zoey Akins, Josiah Andrews, Ivan Brewer, Lillian Brownewell, Jace Calame, Cash Caudill, Jaxsyn Comisford, Haydon Dangelo, Franklin Denzer, Elijah Drugan, Samuel Fellure, Katelyn Gaunt, Angel Granger, Eyzick Hallam, Nova Harrod, Hunter Heier, Octavia Holcomb, Alyse Jackson, Lillian Jones, Jaxon Kisor, Jayce Knudson, Destiny Laquatra, Lillianna Lieb, Zion Lloyd, Journey Mack, Roslyn Marsh, Travis Matthews, Reese Miller, Nala Moore, Piper Morrow, Micah Mosier, Kinleigh Mullins, Jaxson Myers, Serenity Napier, William Neal, Hannah Newsome, Derrick Novoa, Myles Oslie, Cohen Prise, Ricky Rhinebolt, Beau Ricer I, Bowie Roy, Eva Sasis, Weston Shambaugh, Gemma Shepherd, Ellie Slone, Leland Thompson, Xavier Vanetta, Evelynn VonStein, Preston Watson, Hudson Whitcomb, Avery Witten, Liam Woodruff, Keaton Workman, Charli York and Aryonna Young

**Fourth Grade —** Olin Amert, Emily Amstutz, Brody Bautz, Cassius Bell, Ravenna Best, Aria Brooks, Izabelle Brown, Layla Brown, Braxten Cabell, Camden Carpenter, Tabious Carter, King Chan, Jeremiah Conway, Rylee Dale, Jaxson Dangelo, Braxton Day, Scarlett Edwards, Jax Greenich, Allysyn Haag, Avery Hager, Jaelynn Hamilton, Brantley Henderson, Asher Hill, Christopher Hill, Evan Holt, Kasper Hooper, Ava Howell, Jaxson Hunt, Amari Jones, Liam Kanz, Isabella Leadingham, Ja'Ceon Lee, Bentley Lewis, Lyric Lykins, Abrianna Marks, Landon Mathews, Zariyahh McIntyre, Isabella Messersmith, Brooks Miller, Waylyn Moore, Kylee-Ann Neighbors, Delainey Salser, Barrett Salyers, Bianca Schwartz, Bailey Sigman, Raelynn Siwek, Dominick Smollen, Jaxxon Swanciger, Mila Swigart, Issebella Thoman, Mason Turner, Ellis VanDriest, Madalynn Webb, Harper Wolf and Gabriel Workman

**Fifth Grade —** Karter Allen, Praxton Allen, Zoe Baker, Jaxson Bebout, Blaire Belcher, Jasper Blair, Josiah Brammer, Aeris Brown, Madilyn Bryant, Raylee Carmichael, Tanner Drake, Wyatt Fouts, Beckham Gleason, Harrison Greving, Liam Hammond, Emma Horsley, Oliver Hubert, Konner Jessee, Lily Kegley, Oliver Kestner, Abram Kliewer, Madilynn Kline, Adrian-James Knight, Ellorie Lang, Ava Lewis, Emeri Lewis, Cobey Mccoy, Bailey Mcquillen, Logan Myers, Destiny Napier, Emme Neron, Cameron Parsley, Zeighla Perry, Karma Renfroe, Faith Richards, Madelyn Risner, Remington Ruley, Marlee Smith, Novalene Smith, Lincoln Spannhake, Luke Stantz, Jacob Sturgell, Mckinley Tackett, Evelyn Wake, Liam Wake, Donald Ward, Averie Washington and Andrew Witten

**Sixth Grade —** Llilian Barrett, Thomas Bautz, Chloe Bridges, Kyson Brinker, Haydn Brown, Maddox Brown, Steven Burnell, Braxton Cole, Jessi Conway, Ryker Cullen, Brantin David, Mahlaya Davis, Mason Edmiston, Jayden Estes, Zoey Griswold, Layla Gushard, Landon Hammond, Deasia Herring, Bryson Holloway, Alexander Holt, Harley Kindinger, Kinsey Kirkpatrick, Teagan Kirsch, Grace Kunz, Shaquille Lane, Phoenix Lewis, Na'riah Likely, Aniyah Lozier, Paige Mathie, Hunter Moore, Macie Moss, Lucas Perry, Ares Peters, Zachary Pryor, Lacey Reynolds, Samantha Seibert, Callie Shoffstall, Lexys Shrock, Conner Slone, Jasmine Stanford, Owen Stclair, Brennan Stephens, Elizabeth Stoner, Blakely Swanstrom, Brynn Wheitner and Benjamin Wittig

**Seventh Grade —** Danica Bell, Benton Brandt, Braxton Brandt, Aria Brewster, Araina Charley, Carter Clow, Jack Dekrell, Layla Fix, Laila Henderson, Naomi Houston, Jackson Howard, Landon Hunt, Abigail Hunter, Miiah Johnson, Kaliyah Keith, Paxton Scott Leo, Isabella Loera, Brayden Mason, Keira Matthews, Baylee Mitchell, Dane Moysi, Alexis Pace, Stella Perry, Jylian Ramey, Allison Risner, Joel Robertson, Tyler Salyers, Aliyah Schwartz, Carter Smollen, Emma Stapleton, Amelia Wamsley, Ace Washington, Kristopher Washington, Hoyt Watson, David Wood and Arianna Zeigler

**Eighth Grade—** Ashley Amstutz, Tanner Bays, Eli Bell, Mason Bennett, Jacob Bond, Jeffrey Brooks, William Bundesen, Delaney Conway, Kendra Corl, Liam Cushard, Ezra Dewitt, Johnathan Flores-Devaughn, Ethan Hicks, Aaiden Hilbrandt, Erin Johnson, Branson Littleton, Bryden Moore, Lelia Myers, Mileena Porter-Race, Mason Putney, Zavier Roberts, Addisyn Ruckman, Elena Santiago, Harper Sasis, Hagen Sauder, Jocelynn Shaffer, Lorelai Sly, Sadie Smith, Madelynn Thompson, Seth Utt, Anthony Weightman, Milla Wertz, Myla-Jane Wilds and Spencer Wynn

**Freshmen —** Karleigh Anderson, Jaxson Bennett, Ky-Lyn Byerly, Katrina Carson, Kwintyn Chan, Gannon Conway, Grady Davis, Da'niah Edwards, Alyse Emery, Carson Feltner, Peyton Foote, Lola Gieseman, Aria Hartzell, Dillon Herder, Nakiyah Johnson, Sadie Jones, Sophia

*(Continued on Page 24)*

# •Honor and Merit Rolls

*(Continued from Page 23)*

Kershner, Gabrielle Kline, Ava Lewis, Aniyah Lloyd, Aaron Makeever, Landon McFarland, Liam Miller, Vaughan Miller, Harmony Moses, Gabriel Orth, Katherine Palma Maradiaga, Preston Patrick, Marielle Peters, Razan Rabee, Charlize Rafeld, Matthew Risner, Isabella Rosier, Gabriel Salyers, Khiara Simones, Aryan Spencer, Vincent Studer, Addison Uncapher, Kiara Wakeley, Keshawn Walker, McKenzie Williams, Brennen Wilson and Coryell Wooden

**Sophomores —** Abigail Anschutz, Hailie Ballash, Ava Bays, Camden Conrad, Carson Cook, Tynley Cook, Aaron Crittenden, Dylin Cyrus, Aubree Fisher, Jack Foster, Aleayah Garlinghouse, Bella Guardiola, Isabelle Hall, Shianna Harper, McKenna Haynes, Amir Hence, Grady Hunt, Jon Jacobs, William Jones, Troy Kegley, Andrew Kippenberger, Lily Ann Klecka, Abram Likes, Kya Longood, Brandon Maglott, Lillian Miller, Lillian Mutter, Jalyonna Nelson, Daniel Norris, Gweneth Pennington, April Perkins, Tavian Porter, Gabriel Prater, Amari Rasch, Miah Reid, Avery Rust, Trace Schafer, Corbin Shopbell, MacKynzie Smith, Maddison Smith, Garrett Spiess, Trenton Sweet, Leah Symsick, Morgan Turney, Brooklyn Wheeler, Cameron Williams and Jaihmier Williams

**Juniors —** Lillie Baker, Hudson Bays, James Broyles, Jillian Brummett, Ashtin Carmichael, Logan Carmichael, Bryant Carroll, Layla Cushard, Jarrod Cyrus, Kaylin Gilbert, Kaleia Gonder, Izaiah Gordon, Lawson Gray, Livia Grove, Sarah Hall, Amerah Reign Hapin, Alana Henriquez, Jaelyn Herndon, Sarah Holt, Haylie Hutcheson, Adalynn Jordan, Camylle King, Julian Kuenzi, Kaden LaPene, Gracee Lee, Alexander Maddy, Izabel McDermott, Ayden McGlasson, Angel Montanez, Cerenity Montgomery, Emma Myers, Elliot Ousley, Jose Palma Maradiaga, Leeann Perkins, Rachel Porter, Alexandre Raynier, Lacey Renfroe, David Salyers, Gracie Schaade, Sarah Schulte, Allie Shambaugh, Gavin Spiess, Kenley Turner, Maci Whitesel, Phillip Wiggins, Peyton Wylie and Crue Yunker

**Seniors —** Alivia Adams, Leo Atwell, Zoie Ball, Noah Beidelschies, Jackson Brummett, Caiden Byerly, Isabella Conway, Sophia Curry, Landyn Dodd, Payton Fife, Micah Finley, Kaelynn Gerhart, Brady Gretzinger, Aliya Hall, Ashtyn Huffman, Victoria Jacobs, Chloe Jeffers, Christopher Kaufman, Lola Kerrick, Koree Kershner, Wyatt Kimes, Nevaeh Lawhun, Hayden Lewis, Joshua Maglott, William Mann, Darius Marsh, Malachi Marsh, Briar McConehea, Emmalee (Em) McDaniel, Tyler Medley, Kylie Merritt, Aseem Mickouma, JulieAnna Miller, Camden Moysi, Cadence Mutter, Aubrey Ohl, Mia Orth, Branson Porter and Zoey Rachel

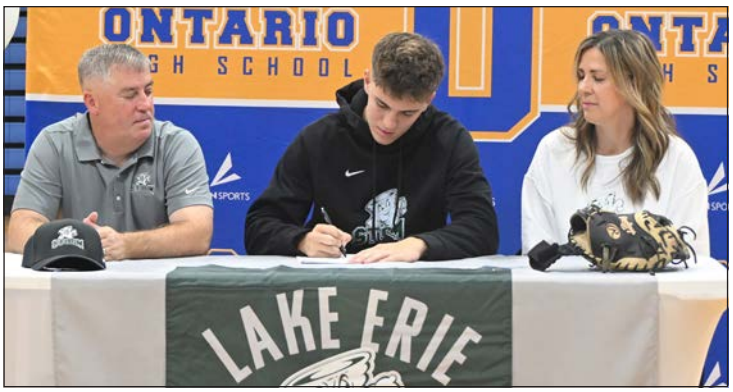


**THE ONTARIO ACADEMIC CHALLENGE** team traveled to Ashland University to compete in the Loudonville/Mohican Academic Challenge tournament. The team competed against nine other schools with both varsity and two JV teams. A highlight of the trip was the all-you-can-eat team meal in the campus center afterward.













**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL** students signed Letters of Intent to play college sports. Jaren Holden will attend Wabash Valley for baseball, Kayleigh Chandler will attend Ashland University for soccer, Dane Kearns will attend Lake Erie for baseball, Audrey Mahon will attend Kent State for track and field and Mirielle Trumpower will attend Liberty University for swim.

# Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

## Clear Fork, Ontario and Shelby continue to regional finals

**By Kris Leiter**

This Friday, three of our local football teams will be vying for regional titles! Clear Fork, Ontario and Shelby will be tangling on the gridiron as the stakes get a little higher. Now each team will be playing at a neutral site.

**Division III — Region 10**

Neutral site: Marion Harding High School
Time: 7 pm
Ontario 2 seed (11–1) vs Wapakoneta 4 seed (9–3)

Wapakoneta's head coach Travis Moyer knows about Ontario more than you may think

In the 1990s, the North Central Conference included Ontario, Wynford and other teams from Richland County. Before Moyer ventured south to Wapakoneta, he was a 1995 alumni phenom for the Crestline Bulldogs.

Crestline, being a D–VII school, sometimes goes unnoticed, so to get recognized is an impressive thing! Moyer earned All-Ohio Honors twice and set the all-time tackle record of 515 for the Bulldogs.

He was an inductee into the 2019 Crawford County Hall of Fame and Wyandot County's Class of 2025. He can hang his hat as a multisport letterman, with nine varsity letters to his name, four in football.

Crestline claimed the 1993 NCC football championship with Moyer being monumental in the mix. He was the Wynford head coach from 1999–2011 and compiled accolades of 118–28 and winning 58 consecutive regular season games!

He tangled with the Warriors 13 times, leading the series 9–4 and winning the last seven consecutive games of the rivalry.

He then went south to Wapakoneta to run the helm for the Redskins, He currently holds a mind-boggling record of 120–29!

All that being said, neither team that Moyer has coached has ever met the Warriors in a post-season matchup.

Warrior head coach Aaron Eckert comes to the table hungry for their first-time accolades of a regional crown and final four appearance. In Eckert's short five-year head coaching tenure with the Warriors, he has qualified for the playoffs the past three consecutive years 2023–2025!

The Warriors will bring their awesome offense and stout defense to Marion Friday night! Let us not forget the offensive players that got the Warriors to the game this Friday: Tanner, Ciroli, Porter and Brown. Adding to the mix are Powers, Flenoury and Moritz with double-digit trips to the end zone in recent weeks.

On the defensive side of the ball, there is Curry, and the Smith duo of Maddix and Liam.

To say this will be a good game would be an understatement! Pack the car and kids and the trip to Marion is under an hour, it should be worth the trip!

**Division IV — Region 14**

Neutral site: Mansfield Arlin Field
Time: 7 pm
Shelby 2 seed (12–0) vs Clear Fork 4 seed (record 10–2)

Last Friday night, the mighty Shelby Whippets defeated the Sandusky Perkins Pirates 20–14. The victory landed them into this week's regional finals this week. They will be facing a familiar opponent, the Clear Fork Colts.

This showdown will take place at Arlin Field in Mansfield.

In 2024, the Whippets were narrowly defeated in post-season play by the Ontario Warriors 49–48. In 2025, the Whippets manhandled the Galion Tigers 41–7 in the regional finals, the second time in school history claiming a regional title!

Last week, in a tightly contested match with Sandusky Perkins, Shelby was behind the eight ball 14–7 going into the final quarter. The Pirates were sure to claim the victory and send Shelby home for the season. However, never say die until the final horn sounds. The Whippets weren't loading the bus quite yet.

With 5:12 on the fourth quarter clock, Shelby quarterback Michael Shepherd scored on a one-yard scamper into the endzone to deadlock the score 14–14!

As the clock would tick down to a mere :54 seconds left in the game, none other than the Shepherd-Bowman duo would connect! Bowman added to his claim of over 4,000 in his high school career.

Bowman caught Shepherd's 44-yard pass to the Perkins 6-yard line. This would allow Shepherd to plow through multiple Perkins players and find paydirt for the game winning score!

Now let's take a look at Shelby's rival MOAC opponent, the Clear Fork Colts.

Two weeks ago, the Otsego Knights rolled into the valley, bringing their bread-and-butter wing offense. The Colts wasted no time with a running clock in the third quarter! The Colts came out the victor with the pummeling shutout of 38–0!

They showed the Knights how thier defense has literally kept opponents corralled all year. The defense has notched three shutouts on the year and never allowed the majority of their opponents to score more than fourteen points in a game!

Last Friday, the Colts destroyed the Ottawa-Glandorf Titans, 35–9 as Ottawa was the one seed with an incredible 11–1 record.

It may sound like a cliché, but the battle at Arlin field this Friday will be well worth the price of admission!

This isn't the first rodeo for these two teams! They have battled each other over 50 times on the gridiron! There will be no love lost between the two teams, as one team will leave with the regional title.

Shelby has the good habit of putting plenty of points on the scoreboard. Coach Rob Maheny also brings the track record of seven straight playoff appearances to the party!

Clear Fork has only been allowing their opponents a few digits, so this could get interesting.



**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S** Sofia Sturts earned second place in the VFW Voice of Democracy District 6 competition. The annual competition challenges students in grades 9–12 to prepare and record a patriotic-themed audio essay. This year's theme is "What a Veteran Taught Me About America." Sofia represented Ontario High School and Killbuck VFW Post 7079.

# 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 November 4, 2026.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 26-27 – AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE, CONSIDERATION AND/OR GRANTING OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL LICENSING APPROVAL, AND/OR ANY ZONING, OCCUPANCY, OR OTHER PERMITS RELATING TO DATA CENTERS SUPPORTING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR ANOTHER SIX (6) MONTHS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Abbey Beaver
Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 11-12, 19 '26) 27L

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of voluntary dissolution of Richland Engineering Limited, an Ohio limited partnership association. To all creditors and claimants of Richland Engineering Limited.

Notice is hereby given that Richland Engineering Limited, an Ohio Limited partnership association, whose principal office is located at Richland County, Ohio, has filed a Certificate of Dissolution and is winding up its business.

Jerod M. Them,
Attorney, Weldon, Huston & Keyser, L.L.P
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 10-22, 29, 11-5, 12, 19, 26 '26) 16L

LEGAL NOTICE

The following is a succinct summary of the legislation adopted by the Council of the City of Ontario, at their special meeting held on November 9, 2026.

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. 26-22 – A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE BORROWER) TO REIMBURSE ITS 501 WATERWORKS FUND FOR THE CP13AC / CP14AC, MAPLE LANE AND LEXINGTON SPRINGMILL WATERLINE LOOPING AND REPLACEMENT WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-23 – GIVING CONSENT OF THE CITY FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE AND USE SNOW AND ICE CONTROL MATERIAL ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE CITY CORPORATE LIMITS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL; AND GIVING CONSENT OF THE CITY FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM CERTAIN MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE CITY CORPORATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CERTAIN MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-24 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE (SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR) TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THROUGH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-28 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 26-08 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2026 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, THE ENTERPRISE FUND, INTERNAL SERVICE FUND, AND EMPLOYEE DEDUCTIONS FUND.

Abbey Beaver
Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 11-19, 26 '26) 74L

## Donors can receive free mug

The American Red Cross and Wheel of Fortune are teaming up to give back to donors this Thanksgiving. Those who come to give blood or platelets between Nov. 23 and Dec. 6, will receive an exclusive Red Cross/Wheel of Fortune oversized mug, while supplies last. Additionally, all who come to give Nov. 23–Dec. 6 will automatically be entered for a chance to win a three-night trip for two to Los Angeles with entry to a Wheel of Fortune taping.

Reserve a spot to give blood or plateletsby visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

In November during National Diabetes Awareness Month, successful donations will get free A1C testing (one result per calendar year, do not fast before donating).

## Rep. John supports senate bill, aligns Ohio with federal gun laws

State Representative Marilyn John (R-Richland County) recently voted in support of Senate Bill 214 – legislation to remove firearm suppressors, short-barreled rifles, and short-barreled shotguns from Ohio's definition of dangerous ordnance in alignment with federal law.

"Ohio's firearm laws should be consistent with federal law while protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens. Senate Bill 214 provides greater clarity for firearm owners and removes unnecessary state-level restrictions on these firearms. I was proud to support this legislation and its effort to ensure Ohio law reflects these changes at the federal level," said Rep. John.

Senate Bill 214 works to allow a person to acquire, have, carry, or use a firearm muffler or suppressor; remove firearm mufflers or suppressors, short-barreled shotguns, and short-barreled rifles from the classification of dangerous ordnance; and provide that under Ohio law, an owner of a firearm muffler or suppressor is no longer required to register the firearm muffler or suppressor in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

Last month, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced it would no longer enforce the requirement for individuals to obtain prior approval before making or transferring short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns or suppressors. If enacted, Senate Bill 214 would align Ohio with these federal firearm laws. Senate Bill 214 now awaits consideration from the Governor.

## Registration open for youth workshop

The Renaissance Performing Arts Association invites students in grades 2–12 to participate in the 2027 Renaissance Youth Opera Theatre (RYOT) Workshop Showcase, directed by Lori Turner. This program, part of the Mechanics Bank Education Series, begins Jan. 4, with sessions leading up to a public showcase performance in February.

The workshop is designed to nurture creativity and performance skills in young artists through personalized instruction and ensemble collaboration. Participants will work one-on-one and in small groups with guest professionals, refining their vocal techniques, developing acting abilities and building confidence on stage.

The program features two age groups — one for students in grades 2–6 and another for grades 7–12 — allowing each participant to receive tailored coaching appropriate to their experience level. The workshop culminates in a fully staged showcase performance, featuring scenes and musical numbers from a variety of classic and contemporary works.

To register or learn more, contact Lori Turner at lori@mansfield-tickets.com. Space is limited. For information visit rentickets.org.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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