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07.23.26



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT in Ontario congratulated Angelo and Lucas on successfully completing their nine-month paramedic class. The program includes months of classroom instruction, hands-on training and countless hours of clinical rotations.

Pollinator and Native Plant Festival returns to Gorman Nature Center

The Richland County Park District's Pollinator and Native Plant Festival is back Saturday, July 25, from 9 am to 4 pm, at Gorman Nature Center.

All A Flutter Butterflies will set up their live butterfly exhibit again, thanks to sponsorship from Buckeye Express Carwash. The Butterfly House will be available all day on Saturday, as well as Tuesday through Friday the following week.

In addition to the Butterfly House, there will be native plant vendors, a local artist, informational tables, the MRCPL Bookmobile and HoneyB Express Coffee. The Park District will also offer programming throughout the day, including guided pollinator hikes through the prairies.

At 1 pm, the Richland County Park District will have a showing of *The Extraordinary Caterpillar*. Space is limited, so arrive early.

Contact the Richland County Park District or follow on Facebook for more information.

Kleerview Farm will host Christmas in July

Kleerview Christmas Trees, 2454 Baughman Rd., Bellville, will host a Christmas in July celebration on Saturday, July 25, from 5:30 to 10 pm.

The family-friendly event will feature visits with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, visits with the farm's reindeer, farm demonstrations, kids' lawn games, wagon rides to the Christmas House, food trucks, a gift shop and a fireworks display to end the evening.

Admission is \$20 per vehicle.

For more information visit Kleerview Christmas Trees on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063622807295>

Avita dedicates new pediatric nutrition and therapy park

Family, friends, community supporters, and Avita Health System leaders gathered on Thursday, July 16, to celebrate the dedication and ribbon cutting of the newly named Cangelosi Family Pediatric Park, an outdoor therapeutic space designed to support children receiving pediatric nutrition and therapy services.

Hosted by the Avita Health Foundation, the celebration recognized the community-wide effort that transformed a vision into reality. The park features the Sol Systems Activity Area and the Timken Foundation Playscape, providing innovative outdoor spaces that encourage physical activity, sensory development, therapeutic play, and family engagement.

"This project was made possible through the extraordinary generosity of our community and Avita employees, who together contributed more than \$500,000," said Matt Horn, Chair of the Avita Health Foundation Board. "Several years ago, our Chief Development Officer, Chuck Cangelosi, shared a transformational vision to create an outdoor therapeutic environment for children with diabetes, disabilities, and other specialized healthcare needs.

Through his leadership, generosity, and unwavering commitment, he led the campaign to secure 100 percent of the funding needed to bring this innovative park to life. Naming the park in honor of Chuck, Robin, and the Cangelosi Family is a fitting tribute to their vision, philanthropy, and the lasting impact on children and families throughout our region this project will have."

The Cangelosi Family Pediatric Park is expected to benefit more than 1,500 children annually across the communities Avita serves, including those with disabilities, juvenile diabetes, eating disorders, and other conditions requiring specialized pediatric care.

The project reflects the power of collaboration, shared purpose, and the generosity of nearly 100 donors who invested in improving the lives of local children and families. Lead gifts from The Timken Foundation and Sol Systems helped make the project possible from its earliest stages.

"The Foundation is honored to have led this initiative in partnership with Avita Health System," Horn added. "We are deeply grateful to every donor, volunteer, and supporter who helped make this dream a reality."

The Sol Systems Activity Area includes a renovated activity court supported by Covert Manufacturing, a raised greenhouse donated by Richard and Janet Harer, and a refurbished pavilion made possible through the Walter R. Hessenauer Charitable Trust.

The activity area has already become home to the Foundation's Happy Healthy Habits Camp, developed in partnership with Avita Nutrition & Therapy Services and Gordon Food Service.

Now in its second year, the program combines physical activity, nutrition education, hands-on gardening experiences, and healthy snack preparation to encourage lifelong healthy habits among children.

The Timken Foundation Playscape features ten interactive therapy stations developed in collaboration with Avita's Pediatric Therapy Team to encourage sensory exploration, balance, coordination, and imaginative play. Each feature was intentionally designed to complement pediatric therapy services while providing an engaging environment for children and families.

The celebration concluded with the announcement of a perpetual pediatric endowment, established through gifts from the Cangelosi Family and Jerry Morasko, with matching support from the Avita Health Foundation.

Annual distributions from the fund will provide ongoing financial support for pediatric programs and future enhancements to the park and related services. The Foundation also held its first Loren's Hugs & Lemonade Stand (In memory of Loren Grubel from Bucyrus) the previous week that raised more than \$2,600 for these programs.



Selva di Val Gardena, Italy • Photo By Mark Shutt

RCCS to host Family Summer Dayz

The first-ever Richland County Children Services (RCCS) Family Summer Dayz Celebration is planned for Wednesday, July 29, from 3-6 pm at RCCS, 731 Scholl Rd., Mansfield.

The rain date is set for Thursday, July 30.

The afternoon will be packed with free events including live entertainment provided by Jeff Angelini of Nyte Flyte, food trucks, games, bounce houses, raffle prizes and giveaways. Those attending can meet area high school sports teams and see demonstrations by Music Academy of Karate and Empowerment.

Special appearances will include Miss Greater Cleveland Teen MaKayla Lawrence, Miss Ontario 2026 Kennedy Sapp and Ms. Priscilla the Volkswagen Beetle.

Local agencies and safety organizations will be on-site with resource booths offering helpful information.

RCCS staff will also be available to share details about adoption and volunteer opportunities.

For more information call 419-774-4100.

Free miniature train rides offered

Northeastern Ohio Live Steamers will offer free 10-15 minute ride on a miniature train at the Lester Rail Trail, part of the Medina County Park District, 3654 Lester Rd, Medina.

The rides will be offered Saturday, Sept. 19, from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. Guests of all ages are encouraged to ride.

For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/northeasternohiolivesteamers>.

THE ENTERTAINMENT EXAMINER

— By Ian Stumbo —

The Odyssey is one of the most epic movies I have seen. Christopher Nolan has become one of the greatest living directors. From the *Dark Knight* trilogy, *Interstellar*, *The Prestige*, *Dunkirk* and the Oscar winning *Oppenheimer*, he has been one of the most consistent directors.

Adapting the classic mythological story by Homer, Odysseus (Matt Damon) is on a long journey home after the battle of Troy.

His son Telemachus (Tom Holland) betrays his mother (Anne Hathaway)'s orders and goes to find him. There are so many amazing setpieces it is hard to know where to begin.

From the riveting cyclops scene, the armed giants, the whirlpool and the land of the dead, this movie hits on every mark and is a beautiful journey to watch.

The supporting cast includes such names as Jon Bernthal, Samantha Morton, Zendaya, Char-

lize Theron, Robert Pattinson, Lupita Nyong'o, Elliott Page and Corey Hawkins.

Matt Damon gives a great lead performance. He is in nearly every scene and has so many emotional points, Hathaway also does fine work and they have great moments together, especially one near the end where he hides his identity.

Epics like this are just not made anymore, or done this well. Filmed entirely with IMAX cameras, the cinematography and scenery is stunning.

As a moviegoer, it was nice to see full showtimes and people applaud at the end of my showing. It shows how audiences will still show up for a worthy film.

The Odyssey is absolutely one of the best films of the year and may get even better on rewatch.



Alton promoted at Mechanics Bank

Mechanics Bank has announced the promotion of Lindsay Alton to Senior Vice President, Controller.

Alton joined Mechanics in 2018 and served as a Senior Financial Analyst and Strategic Finance Manager prior to her current role. Lindsay has over 20 years of experience in the banking industry and holds a bachelor's degree from Taylor University.

She has earned credentials of Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Enterprise Risk Professional, Certification in Risk Management Assurance, and Accredited ACH Professional.

Mechanics Bank is a full-service, independent community bank with ten convenient locations.



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News Briefs

Hanley Road, just west of U.S. 42, north of the village of Lexington, will close Monday, July 27 for 30 days for a culvert replacement.

The detour route will be west on Hanley Road to U.S. 42 south to Plymouth Street/Lexington Springmill Road north to Hanley Road and reverse. The estimated completion is Wednesday, Aug. 26.

★

The Ohio National Guard will host a historic public muster to commemorate both the 238th birthday of the Ohio National Guard and the 250th birthday of the United States. The public is invited to attend the muster from 9 am to 1 pm, on Saturday, July 25, at the Ohio Statehouse, 1 Capitol Square, Columbus.

Attendees can meet current Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and see military vehicles, state-of-the-art equipment, aircraft flyovers, and historical displays with living historian reenactors. The 2026 muster is patterned after muster events held at the Statehouse in the mid-20th century, which were high-profile public exhibitions that included hands-on demonstrations and old-meets-new equipment displays and vehicles.

Tracing their roots back to the 17th century, traditional musters were public events that connected community members with their local military units.

★

A special meeting of the Ontario Board of Education will be held in the Ontario High School Library, 467 Shelby-Ontario Rd., Ontario, on Monday, July 27, at 6 pm. The meeting will be held to discuss the development of tax policy with Rockmill Financial.

★

The City of Ontario's 2026 Concerts in the Park will be held at the band shell in Marshall Park at 6 pm. Concerts are scheduled for Aug. 11, Soul Town; and Aug. 25, Red Ball Jets. This event is free to attend. Lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged.

★

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 Aug. 19, and will include chicken. Joshua Dorae will speak about veteran support dogs.

The group will also meet for lunch Aug. 5, at 11 am at Hong Kong Buffet on Lexington-Springmill Rd., in Ontario.

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

★

The Madison Ram Marching Band Alumni Football Game will be held Friday, Aug. 28, at the Madison Comprehensive High School and Stadium, 600 Esley Ln., Mansfield.

Practices are held Monday, Aug. 24, from 2:30-4:30 pm and Thursday, Aug. 27, from 6-8 pm, in the high school band room.

Musicians should report to the band room at 5 pm on the night of the event. The game begins at 7 pm. To sign-up visit <https://forms.gle/Ez93fK7YLoXQvVsk6>. Sign ups close on Friday, July 24.

For information email kfanning@mlsd.net or Imann@mlsd.net for the band and mpoland@mlsd.net for Ramettes.

★

Mechanics Bank will host Live@Lunch performances in the downtown Mansfield courtyard, 2 S. Main St., all summer long, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Food trucks will also be available.

Upcoming performers and food trucks include July 24, Tom's Kitchen Table, Panchos Tacos; Aug. 7, EKG, Grunt Grub & Cowgirl Creamery; Aug. 21, Jevan Cole, On the Rise BBQ; Sept. 11, SHaK, The Back Porch Food Co.; and Sept. 18, Tom's Kitchen Table, Cub Country. The courtyard is open every Friday over lunch.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Brian Moore on Sunday, July 26, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Living The Elusive Paradox." For information visit www.allsoulsuuohio.org.

★

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 am to 12 pm or until supplies run out.

This comes with a 30 lb. box of non-perishable food 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. The minimum income begins at \$1,995 per month for a one-person 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 28.

★

Richland Public Health in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic, OhioHealth and Third Street Family Health Services will present the annual Free Community Health Day on Friday, July 31, from 9 am to 2 pm in the RPH parking lot, 555 Lexington Ave., Mansfield.

Free/low cost health services will be offered.

An Ontario Community Garage Sale will be held Saturday, July 25, in Ontario Middle School's parking lot.

Vendors will sell gently used items and those not interested in selling can donate the day of the sale.

The sale will be held from 10 am to 3 pm. Spaces are limited.

This event is sponsored and hosted by students studying Spanish who will be traveling to Spain in the summer of 2027. All registration fees help support Ontario High School students' trip to Spain.

Those who wish to donate items can bring them the day of the event from 6:30-9 am.

★

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

★

To submit a news brief item send an email with information to news@tribune-courier.com.

Richland County Fair August 8-15, 2026

GRANDSTAND EVENTS:

Sunday: Harness Racing, 5:30 pm

Monday: Harness Racing, 5:30 pm

Tuesday: Wiener Dog Racing, 7 pm

(First Place \$500) Registration: richlandcountyfair.com

Wednesday: Rodeo, 7 pm • \$10 Reserved Seats

Thursday: Hardin County Tractor Pullers 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

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richlandcountyfair.com

NECIC to host community visioning session for partnership

The North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Inc. (NECIC) will host a community visioning session in partnership with Heritage Ohio, Inc. on Tuesday, July 28 at 6 pm at the United Steelworkers Hall, 376 W. Longview Ave., Mansfield.

The public is invited to attend and share input on the future of Mansfield's North End, with a focus on strengthening neighborhood revitalization efforts and identifying opportunities for continued growth and investment.

The session is part of an upcoming visit from Heritage Ohio's Downtown Assessment Resource Team, also known as D.A.R.T. The visit is designed to help communities explore next steps for revitalization and introduce the key building blocks of a successful long term revitalization effort: organization, promotion, design, and economic vitality.

NECIC reached out to Heritage Ohio as part of its ongoing work to support revitalization in the North End, especially near the corner of Springmill Street and Bowman Street, where NECIC has been focusing recent revitalization efforts.

Since joining the organization in early 2025, NECIC President & CEO Matthew Benko-Scruggs has placed a strong focus on revitalization near the corner of Springmill Street and Bowman Street.

This work has included the organization's move back into the neighborhood, continued investment in the area, and community centered efforts such as the Springmill Spring Cleanup event.

During the Community Visioning Session, residents, business owners, stakeholders, and other community members will have the opportunity to learn more about Heritage Ohio, the revitalization process, and ways they can help shape the future of the North End.

"We want this process to be rooted in the voices of the people who live, work, and invest in the North End," said Benko-Scruggs.

"This session is an opportunity for the community to share ideas and help guide what revitalization can look like in our neighborhood."

Heritage Ohio, Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization that supports the development, redevelopment, and improvement of downtowns and neighborhood districts throughout Ohio through technical assistance, training, networking, and advocacy.

Community members are encouraged to attend and take part in the conversation.

For more information, contact Director of Community Organizing Emily Schwan at 419-522-1611, ext. 109 or Emily@necic-ohio.org

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@stjohnsmansfield.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

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Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Tina Louise Polkinghorn, July 12

Robin R Helbig, July 14

Barbara Jo Wise, July 14

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Shenandoah Christian Church celebrates 150th anniversary

Shenandoah Christian Church, 5642 St. Rt. 13 N., Shiloh, had a memorable week-end celebrating its 150th year.

Established on Feb. 24, 1876, the church building has been added to many times, but the original building remains at the heart.

The date of July 19 was chosen for the 150th celebration and worship service to commemorate circuit rider preacher Jacob Lowe's first visit to Shenandoah in 1870. It was the third Sunday in July.

To begin the celebration, on Saturday, "Praise in the Pavilion" and the BBQ dinner were moved indoors due to weather conditions. A gospel concert performance was given by the brother and sister duo from Bellville, Trae and Whitney.

Sunday's events drew a large crowd. Ringing of the bells began the service with ringing from both the Union Meeting House Bell on display and the bell in the bell tower.

The bell still in use today was put in place when the original structure was built. At that time there were no telephones, so it was equipped with a toller and when anyone died in the community, the bell rang for every year that person had lived.

The bell would ring out each Sunday morning to announce to the folks of Shenandoah that the church meeting was about to begin.

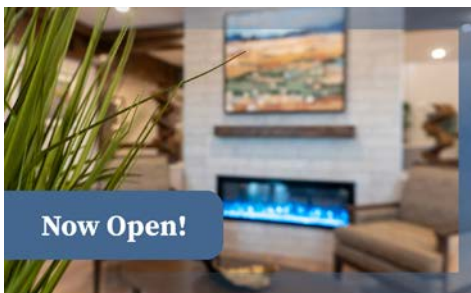
Special guests were State Representative Marilyn John, Richland County Commissioner Tony Vero and Tina from the auditor's office. They delivered Proclamations congratulating the church on 150 years.

Two past ministers were also present, Andrew Wells and Tom McFadden. Tom McFadden gave the morning message.

Church members portrayed charter members from 1876.

The current pastor is Bob Ball. Services are Sundays at 10:30 am.

For more information about the church and its services and events visit <https://www.facebook.com/shenandoahchristian-church/>.



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Sweeting Orchards: A place where family traditions continue to grow

Photos and Article By Traci Little

WILLARD — On a warm summer afternoon, the orchard comes alive as families pick juicy peaches, wander through blooming flower fields and gather over bowls of real fruit ice cream.

Sweeting Orchards has grown into a destination where families unplug from busy schedules, reconnect with one another and experience the simple joy of spending time together outdoors.

For the Sweeting family, moments like these are exactly what they dreamed of creating. That vision, however, began generations ago.

The Sweeting family's farming roots in Ohio stretch back to at least 1850, according to historical census records. More than 170 years later, those same values of faith, hard work, stewardship and family continue to shape everything they do.

Dean Sweeting became a partner in the family farm with his father, John "Jack" Sweeting, in 1977 when he was just 17 years old. At the time, the family farm focused on traditional crops including corn, soybeans, hay, wheat and cattle.

After marrying his high school sweetheart, Jane Davies, in 1979, the couple raised two sons, John and Jeff, while continuing the family's agricultural tradition.

When Dean and his brother, Don, assumed leadership of the farm following their father's retirement in 1996, the operation continued to flourish. After Don pursued a successful auctioneering career, Dean remained focused on expanding the family's farming legacy.

That expansion took a major step forward in 2004 when Dean planted the family's first peach orchard in North Fairfield.

After earning a degree in business and accounting from Ohio Northern University, John returned home and officially joined the family business in 2012.

By then, the orchard had already doubled from its original six acres of peach trees. As the operation continued to grow, the family planted a new orchard at its current location near Willard on April 20, 2013 — completing the massive planting project in just a day and a half.

Since then, Sweeting Orchards has continued to diversify.

Blackberries were added in 2015, producing their first crop two years later. Raspberries followed in 2021, along with u-pick flowers, while a beautiful new barn has become another centerpiece of the property. Over the years, the Sweeting family has grown more than 35 different crops, from Anaheim peppers to zinnias. The orchard also offers Steve's Bees 100% Raw Honey, produced by bees believed

to help pollinate the orchard's blackberry plants, highlighting the important partnership between local beekeepers and agriculture.

Today, John and his wife, Valarie, continue carrying that tradition alongside their children Ella, Ryan and Alex. Jeff and his wife are raising daughters Alexis, Addison and Ava, who also enjoy helping around the farm, while Dean continues sharing decades of farming knowledge with the next generation.

Despite all of the additions, the family's mission has remained unchanged.

"We want Sweeting Orchards to be more than a place where people buy fruit," the family said. "We want it to be a place where families create lasting memories."

That vision has endured through both joyful seasons and difficult ones. A few years ago, a tornado swept through the area, damaging homes and toppling several massive white oak trees on the Sweeting property. Rather than allowing the loss to go to waste, the family repurposed the beautiful white oak into handcrafted countertops, staircase steps and doorway trim that now add warmth and character throughout the orchard — a lasting reminder that even after life's storms, something beautiful can grow.

That philosophy inspired the addition of real fruit ice cream, u-pick flowers and seasonal events designed to encourage guests to slow down and enjoy time together.

Unlike many roadside produce stands, Sweeting Orchards invites visitors to wander through wide-open spaces, pick their own fruit, stroll through flower fields and simply enjoy being outdoors.

One family from the Cleveland area has made that experience part of its annual tradition.

Each summer, they pack a picnic lunch, spread out a blanket beneath the trees, pick peaches together and spend the day enjoying the orchard.

Stories like that remind the Sweetings why they farm.

Of course, producing quality fruit comes with challenges many visitors never see.

Winter temperatures below 10 degrees below zero can threaten the following year's peach crop because the buds that will produce next summer's peaches are already forming.

Even after surviving the winter, another difficult task remains. When the trees are heavily loaded, the family intentionally removes nearly half of the peaches by hand. Although it seems counterintuitive, thinning allows the remaining fruit to grow larger, sweeter and healthier.

(Continued on Page 7)



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•Sweeting Orchards: A place where family traditions continue to grow

(Continued from Page 6)

"It's one of the most important jobs we do each season," they said. Looking back, Dean, John and the rest of the Sweeting family are especially grateful for the customers who believed in them from the beginning.

When the orchard first opened for peach picking in 2009, Valarie and Jane sold just eight bushels of peaches.

They celebrated every sale.

Before long, however, Dean and John found themselves directing traffic as vehicles lined up all the way to the road. Today, during peak peach season, the parking lot regularly fills with families eager to experience another summer tradition.

That first day, they said, taught them never to take a single customer for granted.

Today, they remain just as thankful for every visitor who walks through the orchard gates.

When guests leave Sweeting Orchards, the family hopes they take home much more than fresh peaches or beautiful flowers.

They hope children leave with dirt on their shoes, parents feeling refreshed after slowing down, grandparents cherishing moments shared over ice cream with their grandchildren, and every family taking home memories that last long after the harvest season ends.

For the Sweeting family, farming has always been about growing traditions, strengthening relationships and creating a place where families can return year after year to make new memories together.



Provided Photo



Students invited to OSU STEM Camp

Students with a curiosity for science and a passion for discovery are invited The Ohio State University Mansfield Campus, Great Lakes Exploration STEM Camp.

Taking place July 27-31 from 9 am to 2:30 pm, in Riedl Hall, this immersive camp is open to incoming sixth, seventh and eighth grade students eager to explore the wonders of the Great Lakes.

Guided by Ohio State students and professors in biology, engineering, math and ecology, participants will engage in hands-on activities and develop critical STEM skills as they investigate the challenges, and environmental importance of the Great Lakes.

With the theme "Explore the planet. Discover your future," the camp encourages young learners to think like scientists, engineers and innovators, while fostering a deeper understanding of one of our region's most vital natural resources.

Cost is \$100 per camper which includes meals and snacks.

The camp is limited to 48 students. For more information email smith.15229@osu.edu or register at https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5zKhm9ff6eMECRE.

Lexington to move forward with tax levy

The Lexington Board of Education met Wednesday, July 15.

Resignations were accepted from Janelle Wyant, Eastern Elementary sixth grade ELA teacher; Bret Simmermacher, Eastern Elementary Intervention Specialist; Meredith Cotterill, preschool director; and Don Calhoun, transportation, 4-hour route and 2-hour bus aide.

A resolution was passed to proceed with the proposition of an income tax. The board also approved the substitute lists as provided by MOESC, dated June 18-Aug. 14, 2026.



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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

How Ya Brewin'?
Mobile Coffee Trailer
Bellville | 419-210-3737

**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

**The Pickwick Place
Cafe and Market**
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Avenue, Bucyrus

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revivecoffeebar.com

Marando's Cafe
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Madison completes hirings ahead of new school year

Madison Local School District held its regular meeting on July 15, in the Madison Middle School Auditorium.

Presentations were given by Mike Yost, transportation supervisor; and John Neron, operations supervisor.

A donation of \$225 in Visa Gift cards came from American Income Life Insurance Company to be split between Madison Primary School and Madison Intermediate School.

The June 2026 Financial report and 2026 Annual Board report were approved.

A donation of \$4,470.24 was given by the Class of 2026 to remodel the press box.

Petty cash custodians were approved with amounts set. Each transaction can only total \$50 for the 2026-'27 school year. Custodians are Sean Conway, high school, \$200; Jacob Grove, career tech, \$100; Sonja Pluck, adult education, \$100; Melissa Wigton, intermediate, \$50; Jessica Shaffner, primary, \$100; Jennifer Eckenwiler, preschool, \$50; Lindi Hoflinger, MECLC, \$100; and Carolyn Montgomery, board office, \$100.

On June 17, the board passed a resolution declaring the necessity, for the purpose of current expenses, to renew two tax levies in excess of the ten-mill limitation in the combined amount of 14.40 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, for five years.

The county auditor for Richland County certified to the board that the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the renewal levy, assuming the taxable value of the school district remains constant, is \$4,781,270, based on the current total taxable value of the school district of \$508,931,570.

For each \$100,000 of the "county auditor's market value," \$504 will be generated. The board declared that the amount of taxes that would be raised within the ten-mill limitation would be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the school district.

The board will proceed with the submission of the renewal levy to all of the electors of the school district at the rate of 14.40 mills for each \$1 of taxable value for five years, for the purpose of current expenses. This will be on the ballot Nov. 3.

Resignations came from Michael Marshall, high school math; John Bruyere, middle school science; Laura Parsons, third grade ELA/social studies; Katherine Darnell, library/media specialist; Danielle Walton, intermediate art; Brendan Argo, sixth grade math; and John O'Bryant, high school social studies.

Hirings for the 2026-'27 school year include Emma Charlton, third grade ELA/social studies; Lilly Newton, seventh/eighth grade science; Lila Wolfe, 5-12 instrumental/general music; Patricia Thomas, library/media specialist; Saylor VanAuker, art teacher - intermediate; Lorri Workman, seventh grade math; Reese Knowles, seventh grade ELA including advanced ELA and gifted intervention specialist.

Supplemental positions for the 2026-'27 school year include Chad Reynolds, head boys' tennis coach; Matt Wade, head swimming/diving coach; Preston See, head varsity track coach; and Tim Niswander, head varsity softball coach.

Pupil activity positions for the next school year include Branden Collins, assistant varsity girls' basketball ½ contract; Tyler Albright, assistant varsity girls' basketball ½ contract (making full contract); and Victor Skoog, equipment manager.

Madison Adult Career Center hirings for the 2026-'27 school year include Jennifer Taylor, student advocate; Valarie Davis, career services coordinator; Sally Travis, evening coordinator; Marie Williams, CNA/CNA coordinator/medical assisting/BLS/Heartsaver First Aide/CPR; Melinda Williams, cosmetology program coordinator & lead instructor; Kim Mincieli, cosmetology; Laurie Dean, cosmetology; Deb Scheurer, cosmetology; Samantha Garrison, cosmetology and nail technician; Mariah Burggraf, nail technician; Cody Holmes, precision machining/CNC technology; Douglas Wilson, Precision Machining/CNC technology, customized machining trainer and basic welding and cutting; Daniel Meadows, basic welding and cutting; Robert Dingus, industrial maintenance technology and Basic welding and cutting; Diana Hoffman, CNA/MedPass/Medication Aide/BLS/Heartsaver First Aid/CPR; Nicole Williams, CNA/BLS/Heartsaver First Aid/CPR; Wendy Poland, CNA Substitute/CNA Clinical Assistant; James "JD" Utt, Phlebotomy/EKG/MedPass/Medical Assisting Technologies; Cassandra Jarvis, Medical Assisting Technologies; Tim Stahle, phlebotomy; Antoinette "Toni" Shaum, phlebotomy and Phlebotomy/Medical Assisting Technologies Externship coordinator; Joe Currati, industrial maintenance technology & customized trainer; Tim Dean, Industrial Maintenance Technology & ABC Electrical apprenticeship; Jason Phelps, Industrial Maintenance Technology & ABC Electrical apprenticeship; James Crider, Industrial Maintenance Technology; Mike Wagner, Welding Technology & Customized Welding trainer; Dalas Roberts, Welding Technology; Cierra Spitler, Dental Assisting; Mike Montry, Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/BLS; Andrea Gerich, Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/BLS; and Holly North, Certipoint Testing administrator.

Riley Thomas resigned as the MECLC lead teacher.

2026-'27 hirings also included Partena Tesca, bus route 22; Kelly Swank, bus route 11; Brittney Mason, MECLC compliance coordinator; Austin Robinson, temporary summer help; Abigail Melton, MECLC lead teacher; and Katelyn Carter, MECLC assistant teacher.

Crystal McMillen was appointed Adult Education Financial Aid coordinator.

The board approved the Educational/Special Services Contract and Employment Services Contract between the Tri-County Educational Service Center and Madison Local Schools for the 2026-'27 school year.

A payment of \$582.68 was approved for Chad Metzger for providing College Credit Plus instruction remotely during the 2nd semester of the 2025-'26 school year to students from South Central Local Schools, at no cost to the Madison Local School District Board of Education. A \$270.53 payment was also made to Metzger for providing College Credit Plus instruction remotely during the 2nd semester of the 2025-'26 school year to students from Clear Fork Valley Local Schools, at no cost to the Madison Board of Education.

(Continued on Page 10)



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ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Ontario BOE prepares for students' return to school

The Ontario Board of Education met July 14 for its organizational and regular meetings.

Tina Crim was hired as a middle school principal effective with the 2026-'27 school year. Jordain Jones was hired as a Stingel Intervention Specialist and Emily Clevenger was hired as a seventh grade science teacher.

Sally Carsner was hired as an intervention specialist in the Intermediate Cross Categorical Room.

The board approved a three year agreement with OAPSE and a three year agreement for salaries for the administrative staff personnel contract years 2026-'27, 2027-'28, and 2028-'29 at 3%, 2% and 2% respectively.

Megan Hefner resigned as a Stingel Intervention Specialist. Zach Wurm, OHS custodian, was hired for the 2026-'27 and 2027-'28 school years.

2026-'27 extracurricular/supplemental contracts went to:
Boys Golf: Eric Wellman, head varsity, \$4,675; Alex Hertensteiner, varsity assistant, \$2,561

Boys Soccer: Stephen Armstrong, head varsity, \$7,542; Jared McPeck, varsity assistant, \$3,912; Neil Chitwood, freshman, \$3,912; Michael Ralph, volunteer, \$0

Cheerleader Advisors: Kristi McClintock and Tracy Byrd, JV (two sharing one stipend) \$891.50 each; Kristi McClintock, freshman, \$1,783; Brandi Loveland, OMS, \$1,783

Cross Country: Becca Gregg, varsity assistant, \$3,401; Karen Kaufman, OMS (50%), \$1,532.50

Flag Director: Amanda Smith, \$1,783
Football: Aaron Eckert, head varsity, \$10,057; Ted Mutti, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Ryan Ball, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Ryan Oliver, varsity assistant, \$5,531; Carlos Smith and Ron Skelton, freshman, three sharing two stipends, \$3,402.

Six sharing four stipends are Kyle Ward, eighth grade, \$3,117; Jonny King, seventh/eighth grade, \$3,117; Tyler Coley, seventh grade, \$3,117; Carter Keinath, seventh grade, \$3,117.

Football volunteers are Chris Harris, Alan Miller, Bryan Geist, Mark Genders and Kevin Click

Girls Soccer: Larry Atkinson, head varsity, \$7,542; Stacy Seif, varsity assistant, \$4,081; Addison Sandru, freshman, \$3,401; Greg Atkinson, volunteer, \$0

Girls Tennis: Todd Friend, Head, Volunteer- \$0 Mike Schwartz - Asst. Coach - \$2,228

Golden Girls Director: Morgan Eckert, \$1,871

Golf: Scott Kreger, head varsity, \$4,675

Majorettes: Callie Mullins, \$1,173

Summer Strength Coordinator: Jonny King, \$2,766

Ticket Manager: Deb Eddleblute, \$1,615

Volleyball: Morgan Grosco, seventh grade, \$2,674

Fall Activity Coordinator: Pete Brophy, OHS, three sharing one stipend, \$1,701; Brady Fletcher, OHS, three sharing one stipend, \$1,237; Jamee Burke, OHS, three sharing one stipend, \$1,701

A nursing service contract was approved for Matt Wentz for the 2026-'27 school year, eight hours per day, 179 days, at an hourly rate of \$39.79.

The board approved the employment of certificated substitute teacher Jeffrey Harmison for the 2026-'27 school year for Stingel,

OMS and OHS.

The middle school handbook was approved for the upcoming school year and three extended days were approved for Heath Sager and Doug Basham for the 2026-'27 school year at their daily per diem rate for lab preparation. Ten extended days were approved for Amy Nagel at her daily per diem rate.

Salary notices were approved for the classified and administrative staff personnel.

Continuing contracts were revised for for classified staff personnel due to the change in the OAPSE agreement. Employees effected include Courtney Stauffer, Kim Bell, Lauren Kehl, Mike Kehl, Cassie Amick, Kayla Cain, Jessica Lambert, Steve Perry, Julia Robbins, Craig Crawford, Jackie Gerhart and Brandy Vail.

The board approved change funds in the amount of \$5,650.00 for the 2026-'27 school year.

Samantha Lee was hired as summer help for facility and transportation maintenance at a rate of \$13 hourly.

Andrea Sneeringer, Marcia Baer Scholarship, donated \$20,000 for school sports. Each program will receive \$5,000: girls volleyball, girls softball, girls basketball and the swim team.

Superintendent Keith Strickler discussed the Social Media Benchmark Report.

The board entered into an executive session to prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees compensation and other terms and conditions of employment.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 11.

Richland County Fair grandstand events included with admission

The Richland County Fair returns Aug. 8-15. Once again, grandstand events will be included with admission to the fair. Cost is \$10 for adults with children 48" and under free. Membership tickets (seven admissions) are available for \$40

Senior Citizens Day will be Monday, Aug. 10, with \$5 admission for seniors.

The Mid-Ohio Band will perform Monday at the Nature Park at 7 pm,

Among the many events and activities will be the second annual wiener dog race with a grand prize of \$500.

The race will be held Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 7 pm and this race is open to local dogs and their owners.

A total of 40 canines will be allowed to participate and all must be pre-registered prior to July 25. To register visit <https://richlandcountyfair.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Weiner-Dog-Race-Registration.pdf>

Also on Tuesday is kids day with \$10 ride wristbands from noon to 4 pm.

The 33rd Annual Pie Auction is scheduled for Wednesday in the Arts & Crafts Building. Judging begins at 2:30 pm and the sale will begin at 5 pm.

Another highlight of the week will be the rodeo on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 7 pm. Grandstand seating is free with admission to the fair and special reserved seating is available for \$10.

Armed Forces Day will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13. Admission is free with military ID to all veterans and active duty.

The Hardin County Tractor Pullers County Tractor Pull is scheduled for Thursday at 7 pm, followed by Motocross on Friday at 7 pm.

The demolition derby is Saturday, beginning at 5 pm.

Derby classes include V8 Stock Class, FWD Windshield Class, Compact/Midsize Car - Light Weld, FullSize Car - No Protector and MiniVan & MiniTruck.

Grandstand seating is free with reserved seats for \$10 and back gate entrance for \$20.

Rides open at noon Sunday-Saturday with single tickets or ride wristbands available.

For more information and for a full schedule visit richlandcountyfair.com.

•Madison completes hirings

(Continued from Page 9)

The Title I Nonpublic School Program Pooling Contract between North Central Ohio Educational Service Center, Madison Local Schools, and Mansfield St. Peter's School was approved.

The amended confidential classified employee salary schedule will include the Adult Education Financial Aid Coordinator position.

The Community Reinvestment Area Compensation Agreement between Newman Technology, Inc., the City of Mansfield and the Board of Education of the Madison Local School District was also given approval.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Aug. 12, at 6 pm in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

University Hospitals named official sports medicine partner of Ashland University Athletics

University Hospitals has been named the official sports medicine partner for Ashland University Athletics, providing comprehensive medical coverage and specialized care for Eagle student-athletes. The new partnership focuses on health, performance and injury prevention through care from the same nationally recognized sports medicine program trusted by professional, collegiate and youth athletes throughout Northeast Ohio.

The partnership expands UH's longstanding commitment to caring for athletes at every level of competition. As the official health-care provider for the Cleveland Browns and trusted sports medicine partner for more than 50 colleges, high schools and youth organizations across Northeast Ohio, University Hospitals delivers expert care from the sidelines to the operating room.

"Our goal is to help every athlete perform at their highest level while practicing medicine with our feet in the grass, ensuring they receive the best possible care when injuries occur," said James Voos, MD, Chair, UH Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Jack and Mary Herrick Distinguished Chair in Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine and Head Team Physician for the Cleveland Browns. "We are excited to partner with Ashland University to provide student-athletes with immediate access to nationally recognized sports medicine experts and comprehensive support designed to keep them healthy throughout their athletic careers."

"University Hospitals is recognized nationally for its excellence in sports medicine, and we are proud to partner with an organization that shares our commitment to student success," said Dr. Jon Parrish Peede, president of Ashland University. "This partnership provides our student-athletes with access to outstanding medical expertise and reinforces our commitment to their health, safety and well-being. We are pleased to welcome University Hospitals as a trusted partner in supporting the continued success of our Eagle student-athletes."

Under the partnership, Ashland University student-athletes will have access to a dedicated team of UH sports medicine specialists, including fellowship-trained orthopedic sports medicine surgeon Grant Nelson, MD, and Joseph McShannic, MD, who specializes in sports and emergency medicine, along with seven athletic trainers dedicated specifically to Ashland athletics. Drs. McShannic and Nelson have full-time practices serving the entire Ashland County community out of UH Samaritan Medical Center.

"UH Samaritan is the Hometown Team, and in partnering with Ashland University, we will be able to provide care for the athletes locally to keep them at their highest performance and health," said Sylvia Radziszewski, President and Chief Operating Officer, UH Samaritan Medical Center.

University Hospitals' multidisciplinary Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute brings together orthopedic surgeons, primary care sports medicine physicians, athletic trainers, physical therapists, nutrition specialists, concussion experts, sports cardiology providers and a Level I trauma team to deliver coordinated, evidence-based care for athletes of all ages and abilities.

News Briefs in Education

Kendall Nolen, of Mansfield, is among more than 3,500 students graduating from Mississippi State University in spring 2026.

Nolen received the Bachelor of Arts Summa Cum Laude from MSU's College of Arts and Sciences.

She was also named to the Mississippi State University spring 2026 President's List.

Students on the president's list achieved a 3.80 or better GPA, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of coursework.

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Richland Gives registration will open to nonprofits on August 1

Registration for Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Richland County Foundation (RCF), opens August 1. It is free, however, Richland County based nonprofits must register each year.

Thanks to the generosity of RCF donors, \$80,000 in incentives will be awarded as grants to participating organizations, beyond what they raise from online donations.

Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits they care about through a single giving website. The Foundation hosts the day to build capacity, grow philanthropy and make the community stronger.

Each organization will have an individualized web page to promote their cause. The success of the event will depend on our collective enthusiasm and implementation.

Leading up to the event, an online toolkit, education, mass media and social media coverage are provided to make it easier for nonprofit organizations to participate.

The Richland Gives donation period is from Monday, Nov. 16 at 7 am through Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 7 pm.

For more details or to donate go to richlandgives.org.

The Richland County Foundation, a not-for-profit 501c3, was established in 1945 as a way for individuals to pool and invest their gifts for the long-term good of Richland County and its residents.

The Foundation helps people in Richland County give back to their community by investing their gifts wisely so that grants can be made to improve the quality of life for all the county's citizens. Working together with donors, the Foundation meets important needs today and plans for a strong future.

Mount Gilead will host chemical container, agricultural tire recycling

Recycle chemical containers and agricultural tires for free at the Agricultural Recycling Day on Sat., Aug. 1. The event will run from 8 am to 12 pm at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, 195 S. Main Street, Mount Gilead.

This joint effort offers local farmers and commercial applicators a single, convenient location to clean out their shops, recycle plastic containers, and safely dispose of old agricultural tires at no cost. No pre-registration is required to participate.

The agricultural container collection is part of the national Ag Container Recycling Council program, which has successfully recycled more than 236 million pounds of agricultural plastic since 1992. To be accepted, containers must be made of rigid high-density polyethylene (HDPE) up to 55 gallons (resin #2 or 7) in size and have previously held crop protection or agricultural products. All jugs must be triple-rinsed (or pressure-rinsed), completely dry, and free of residue inside and out. Caps and booklet labels must be removed and discarded prior to drop-off. Consumer, home, or garden pesticide containers are excluded.

Simultaneously, agricultural tires of any size will be accepted. All tires must be off the rim and reasonably free of mud, water, and heavy debris to be accepted for recycling.

This event is made possible through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ag Container Recycling Council and hosted by Delaware, Knox, Marion and Morrow Solid Water District, Morrow County Farm Bureau, Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District and OSU Extension - Morrow County.



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Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Area athletes busy in summer traveling leagues

By Kris Leiter

Now that summer is in full swing you might be asking, "What are the high school athletes doing this time of year?"

It's quite different from when I was in high school.

When I was a teenager, our summers consisted of swimming at the local pool a few days a week, spending time with grandparents or taking vacations.

Ohio Laser 16U ladies

The familiar names of Brokaw, Clapper, Perry, Shrader, Thrush and Wamsley have been busy this summer.

Caliyah Clapper, Izzy Wamsley and Allie Shrader were part of the Madison Lady Rams state finalist softball team this past spring. They were monumental in representing the Madison community and blazing a trail to OHSAA State finals under longtime legendary coach Tim Niswander.

Ali Brokaw, Mya Perry and Hailly Thrush were members of the Clear Fork Lady Colts this past spring manned by head coach Adam Brokaw.

From high school opponents in the spring to summertime teammates, these girls are now playing together on the Ohio Lasers Green 16U girls tournament traveling team. They are led by head coach Chris Clapper, whose daughter is sophomore pitching phenom Caliyah Clapper.

I wondered what it takes to assemble an amazing talented travel tournament team.

"I originally got into traveling teams when my daughter was very young. I was told that she was good enough to play travel ball, so we took her to a tryout in Lexington at the youth fields," said Clapper.

"We show up to this tryout, and I didn't know anyone. A friend of mine that I grew up with was the coach of the team, Darren Miller."

"It was a very young, like 8U, travel team, and he got the field in Lexington for the tryout for his travel team. We were really good friends growing up. We had known each other for 15 years, but hadn't seen each other for awhile."

"I didn't even know he was going to be there, but eventually we started coaching together. Then when he passed away, I did everything I could to keep the team together."

Clapper, who has coached eight years, continued, "Playing on

a travel team helps the girls because they are playing four extra months a year. Others get done with high school softball and they don't pick up a ball again until next season."

I was invited to interview teammate Allie Shrader and see her practice in her home batting cage. This wasn't just any cage, but was integrated into their 30x40 building. The batting net can be tucked away for convenience and easily accessible.

"Allie's been playing since she was in the fifth grade," said her father Kevin Shrader. "She actually started in t-ball."

"She was a little bit better than an average player, so that's when we started looking into travel ball. It can be a pretty substantial cost to get into travel ball. It's anywhere from a thousand to up to two thousand."

The Shader's look at their travel trips as a vacation.

"We watch some good softball."

Allie's younger sister tried travel ball and decided it just wasn't for her. She started throwing shotput and discus and placed first place in the Ohio Cardinal Conference in the eighth grade this year."

Although travel ball may make some opportunities for college recruiting, there are limitations set on when athletes can be contacted. "Since she's only a sophomore, DI schools can't start to recruit until Sept. 1 going into junior year."

"DII and DIII can start face-to-face contact in June."

Travel teams have a lot of expenses — multiple sets of uniforms, food and gas. So how do families pay for these necessities.

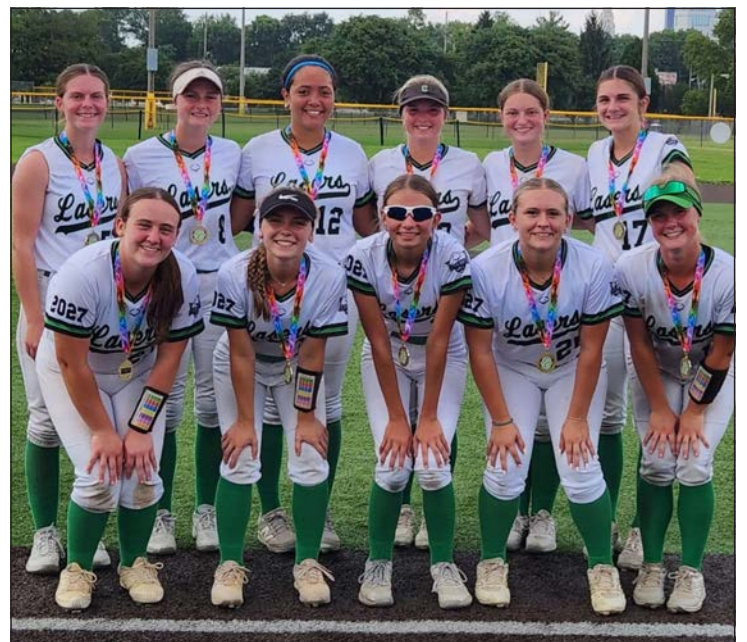
"We sold Indians and Cavs tickets," said Coach Clapper. "A coach can decide to do a team fundraiser and raise money for the team, and that can knock down some of the costs."

Even though a majority of the teammates are from Richland County, there are a few that are from farther away.

"It's about relationships. This is our first year with Laser Green," said Clapper. "We were on a different team before that, and we were getting ready to make a change."

"When I took over this team, I wanted to keep teammates together. We have three girls from Madison who Caliyah plays with and I coached last year. We also have three girls from Clear Fork that I coached. We also hold tryouts for other teammates."

In part two of this series, we will see how technology can make a huge difference for travel teams and how player profiles can aid in pursuing college opportunities.



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 15, 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. 26-09 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2027, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-10 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RICHLAND COUNTY ENGINEER'S ROAD SALT PROGRAM FOR THE AWARD OF ROAD SALT NEEDED DURING 2026 AND 2027 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-17 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A FARMLAND LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ONTARIO AS LESSOR AND GARRETT NIGH AS LESSEE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-18 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING REVISED RULES FOR THE USE OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO SENIOR CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-19 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND CHARTER NEXT GENERATION, INC., ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-20 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A SEWER EXTENSION EASEMENT GIFT AGREEMENT WITH 20 LEXINGTON-SPRINGMILL INVESTMENTS, LTD. AND 55 LEXINGTON-SPRINGMILL INVESTMENTS, LTD. AS OWNERS AND THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-21 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A REAL ESTATE GIFT AGREEMENT WITH 65 HOME ROAD INVESTMENTS, LTD. AS GRANTOR AND THE CITY OF ONTARIO AS GRANTEE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 7-23,30 '26) 66L

LEGAL NOTICE

The Madison Local School District is seeking bids for a paving project at the Madison Early Childhood Learning Center, located at 1035 Grace Street Mansfield, Ohio 44905.

In providing a bid, it is expected that

"best practices" will be used in the performance of the work. The bid is to include all labor and materials to complete the projects.

Each bid must include the following:

1. Front Parking Lot

- Asphalt Tear Out:
 1. Excavate all deteriorated asphalt from the front parking lot (approx. 33,000 sq. ft.)
 2. Haul off site
 3. Fine grade and compact the stone base as needed

• Paving:

1. Install one layer of 301 base asphalt, rolled and compacted to a depth of 2.5 inches (est. 460 ton)
2. Install one layer of #448 type 1 asphalt rolled and compacted to a depth of 1.5 inches (est. 220 ton)
3. Layout and restripe parking lot, per Director updated layout plan

2. Rear Playground

• Crack Fill Repair Prep:

1. Mill out approx. 775 ft. of cracks at 2 inches in depth
2. Haul off site
3. Clean the milled areas

• Paving:

1. Apply a layer of #448-1 asphalt totaling 2 inches of thickness to the cleaned area

It is the contractor's responsibility to verify all existing conditions, utilities and any other items that may interfere with the completion of the work described above.

Any questions regarding the project can be directed to Lindi Holfinger, MECLC Director at 419-589-7851 or lholfinger@madisonrams.net.

Bids should be submitted sealed via postal mail or in person delivery, no later than July 24, 2026 to the Madison Local Board of Education; attention Bradd Stevens - Treasurer at 1379 Grace Street Mansfield, Ohio 44905.

Bradd Stevens, Treasurer
Madison Local Schools Board of Education
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 7-16, '23 '26) 58L

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Flying Horse Farms to host annual Campfire Fundraiser

Flying Horse Farms (FHF), Ohio's medical specialty camp for kids with serious illnesses and their families invites the community to its annual Campfire event, taking place on Friday, Oct. 2.

Campfire is an immersive experience dedicated to raising funds that make it possible for kids to discover the freedom of just being kids, always at no cost to families.

Community members and businesses are invited to purchase tickets or become event sponsors for an evening of inspiring stories, connection, and joy found only at camp.

The Bonfire Circle Ticket includes access to the VIP Reception and costs \$1,000. General admission is \$250.

Every dollar raised through the annual Campfire event supports unforgettable and medically safe experiences for kids at no cost to families. The impact generated at Campfire will spark hope that lasts long after the evening ends.

To purchase tickets or learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit flyinghorsefarms.org/events/campfire.

Campfire is presented by Abercrombie & Fitch Co. and the Cardinal Health Foundation and other supporters, with delicious bites from Cameron Mitchell Premier Events.

Flying Horse Farms is located at 5260 State Route 95, Mt. Gilead. For information call 419-751-7077.

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