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08.13.26



Photos By Traci Little

THE RICHLAND COUNTY FAIR kicked-off with an opening ceremony on Sunday, Aug. 9. Richland County Agriculture Society President Christy Keith accepted a Proclamation from Tina Ludwig from the office of Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber in recognition of the fair, society members and fair volunteers and their work to keep the fair going. (Right photo) Richland County Commissioners Cliff Mears, Tony Vero and Darrell Banks stand with 2025 Fair King and Queen Trent Rodman and Gracie Rodman. State Representative Marilyn John was also in attendance. The 176th Richland County Fair will run through Saturday, Aug. 15, and highlights include the rodeo on Wednesday evening, the tractor pull on Thursday, Motocross on Friday and the demolition derby on Saturday. See the full schedule at richlandcountyfair.com. See more photos on Page 6 and watch for our Richland County Fair Special Issue next week.

MCS expands career preparation with new business academy

Mansfield Christian School (MCS) is expanding its investment in students and the local community through the launch of a new business academy, the addition of classroom space, and continued progress toward a new high school campus.

The school recently launched the Academy of Business through the Mansfield Christian Career Academy Program, also known as MCCAP. This new academy will help students explore business careers while developing practical skills, connecting with local leaders, and building a better understanding of how their abilities can be used to serve others and honor Christ.

The Academy of Business joins MCS's existing career academy programs in health professions, STEM, and ministry and missions. All four academies were designed to prepare students for life after graduation and respond to the needs of the local job market by helping students develop the skills that employers value most.

MCS recently added a fourth modular classroom unit to provide additional space for students and staff. At the same time, the school continues to move forward with a capital campaign that will sup-

port three major construction phases. The full project is expected to cost approximately \$30 million and includes a new high school for grades nine through twelve, the school's first auditorium, and a new high school gymnasium.

The planned auditorium will provide dedicated space for chapel and worship, fine arts performances, school events and assemblies, and community gatherings.

The new high school has been designed with the support of local design and engineering partners, and the required permits have been submitted. Construction is set to begin in 2027.

The school has received approximately \$8 million in donations and pledges toward the campaign. Its current goal is to raise \$12 million to begin the new high school phase.

The new facilities will allow Mansfield Christian School to serve more families, expand student opportunities, and create spaces that can also support the broader community.

Those interested in learning more about MCCAP or supporting the capital campaign can visit <https://mcsflames.org/>.

MACC
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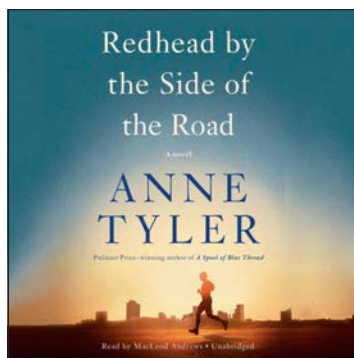
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LOST IN A BOOK Nonprofits can apply for women's fund grant



A Book Review
By Amanda Belczak



Redhead by the Side of the Road by Anne Tyler has very little plot, but the inner thoughts of the man are written so well, it made me love it.

He is an IT guy who follows a rigid schedule. One day is for moping floors, another day is for laundry and each morning starts with a run. He also follows traffic laws to the letter.

Even with his girlfriend he doesn't like it when the schedule is disrupted.

But one day a teenager shows up at his door thinking he is the boy's real father. At the same time, his girlfriend is about to be evicted. He is faced with having to shake up his routine for others. This book was funny and easy. It was sort of like the male version of *The Maid*, with a misunderstood main character who is far more charming than expected.

My rating: ★★★★★

Follow my blog at amanda-belczak.com

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation is accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations for programs that support women and girls.

Applications are available at <https://www.richlandcounty-foundation.org/nonprofit-organizations/grant-opportunities/>.

The deadline for submitting an online application is Sept. 1. Programs must occur between Dec. 1, 2026, and Aug. 31, 2027.

If you have questions about the process or guidelines, please contact RCF Community Investment Officer Bobby Rhea at brhea@rcfoundation.org or call 419-525-3020 to assure a program complies with the focus and guidelines.

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation

formed in 1996 to promote philanthropy among women and to provide funding for programs to empower women and girls.



CHILDREN at the First English Lutheran Church Early Learning Center play with a toddler magnetic LED STEM Center funded by a Women's Fund grant.

Registration open for retirees lunch

The North Central Ohio Industrial Museum will host its fifth annual retirees lunch on Friday, Aug. 28, honoring the industrial excellence in north central Ohio past and present.

The event is free to the first 200 (max) manufacturing retirees in north central Ohio.

There will be a program and lunch by Port-A-Cook from 11am to noon. From noon to 1 pm, there will be tours in the Ohio State Reformatory lower east diagonal and the NCO Industrial Museum.

The event dress is casual attire. To register visit https://www.nco-im.org/get_calendar_details.cfm?calendarid=1

Police seeking public assistance identifying persons of interest

The Mansfield Division of Police is asking for the public's assistance in identifying and locating four individuals who are wanted for questioning in connection with the homicide investigation of Leondra Messner, which occurred on May 20, 2026, in the 700 block of W. Third St., in Mansfield.

Detectives believe these individuals may have information that is critical to the ongoing investigation.

At this time, investigators are seeking to speak with them regarding the incident and encourage anyone who recognizes them or knows their whereabouts to come forward.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Sergeant Kingsborough at 419-755-9729.

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News Briefs

The 2026 ODOT District 3 Community Day will be held Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10 am to 1 pm at ODOT District 3, 906 Clark Ave., Ashland. The day will include a touch-a-truck event and will feature a variety of businesses and agencies.

★

The City of Ontario's 2026 Concerts in the Park continues to be held at the band shell in Marshall Park at 6 pm. The last remaining concert is scheduled for Aug. 25 with the Red Ball Jets. This event is free to attend. Lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged.

★

State Route 13, just north of State Route 96, closed Monday, Aug. 10 for a culvert replacement. The detour route is SR 13 north to SR 96 west to SR 61 north to SR 603 south to SR 13 and reverse. Estimated completion is Friday, Aug. 14.

★

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 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.

★

The City of Ontario will host a caucus meeting Wednesday, Aug. 19, at 6:15 pm and council meeting at 7 pm, at 555 Stumbo Rd.

★

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.

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

★

Trinity Grace Fellowship, 1592 Grace St., Mansfield, will hold its annual rummage sale Sept. 30 through Oct. 3.

The sale will be open 4-7 pm on Sept. 30, 9 am to 7 pm on Oct. 1, 9 am to 2 pm on Oct. 2 and 9 am to noon on Oct. 3. The kitchen will be open 4-7 pm on Sept. 30 and from 10 am to sale closing time the remaining days.

★

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Aug. 29 and 30. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

★

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome Gregory Ashbrook II on Sunday, Aug. 16, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "Community: It takes a village." For information visit www.allsoulsuohio.org.

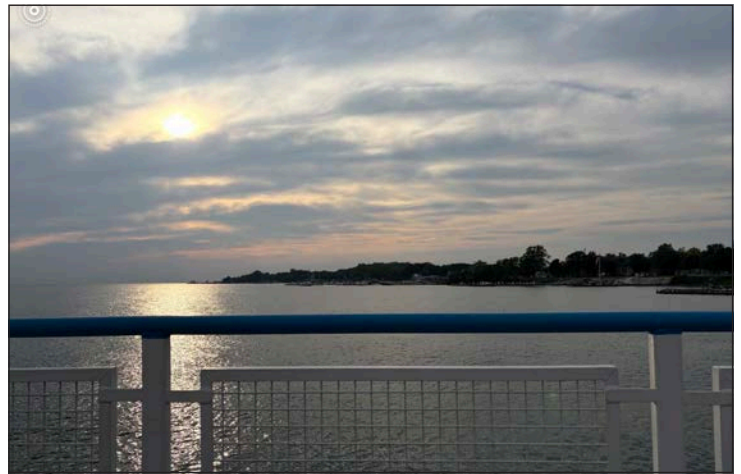


Photo by Damon Callis

Day Trippin' With Damon – Kelleys Island and the boat ride to get there offer beautiful views and landmarks. The Glacial Grooves are the most popular natural destination on the island. The grooves are the largest and best accessible example of this geological phenomenon anywhere in the world. They are located at the intersection of Division Street and Titus Road. A paved parking lot provides easy access. The grooves are visible from the parking lot or from a winding series of steps and footbridges that loop around their upper rim. The glacial grooves are 400 feet long, 35 feet wide and up to 15 feet deep. They were created by the slow movement of the massive glacier that created the Great Lakes and Lake Erie Islands.

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RPS invites community to become a "Hope Giver"

Richland Pregnancy Services is inviting members of the community to discover how they can make a difference in the lives of women and men facing an unplanned pregnancy through Hope Giver, a special volunteer recruitment event taking place Thursday, Sept. 10.

The event will offer two opportunities to attend: 10-11 am or 6-7 pm at Richland Pregnancy Services, 1560 W. 4th St., Mansfield.

Hope Giver is designed to give community members an inside

look at the ministry of Richland Pregnancy Services and the many ways volunteers can become involved. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet RPS staff and current volunteers, learn about available volunteer roles, ask questions in a casual setting, and discover how their unique gifts and abilities could be used to serve others.

"Volunteers are an essential part of what makes our ministry possible," said Amy Kahl, Executive Director of Richland Pregnancy Services. "There are so many different ways to serve, and you don't have to know exactly where you fit before you come. We want people to come, learn about the ministry, meet our team, and discover where God may be asking them to serve."

Volunteer opportunities at Richland Pregnancy Services include Client advocates, mentor moms and mentor dads, nurses, ultrasound assistant, boutique assistants, safety team members and other behind-the-scenes roles.

Training is provided for all positions, including ultrasound, and volunteers can serve according to their availability and abilities.

Both timeslots will include information, conversation, coffee and refreshments, and a special gift for each participant.

Community members are encouraged to attend whichever session best fits their schedule. There is no obligation to commit to volunteering by attending.

"Sometimes we think volunteering requires having a lot of time or a particular skill," Kahl said. "But every person has something valuable to offer. Our desire is that the Hope Giver event will help people see that there is a place for them at Richland Pregnancy Services."

To learn more or RSVP, contact RPS Volunteer Coordinator Sydney Strain at 419-522-8863, ext. 202, or sydney@richlandpregnancy.com.

Richland Pregnancy Services is a Christ-centered ministry serving women and men in our community through free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, mentoring, education and support.

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

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Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Richard Samuel Linger, July 29

Roger Paul Mowry, July 30

Martha Jean Klupp-Dickey, July 31

Gary Richard Huss, Aug. 1

Betty Jane Lozier, Aug. 1

Vicki Howell, Aug. 2

Daniel Joseph Kohlrrieser, Aug. 2

Kimberly Sue McKinney, Aug. 2

Mark Garvin Herbert, Aug. 7

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Richland County Foundation funds education with \$367,505 in grants

The Richland County Foundation Board of Trustees approved \$367,505 in grants during its August meeting. A large portion of the grants were for educational purposes.

The board approved \$83,000 in education grants for K-12 teachers in public or private Richland County Schools to encourage them to develop new programs for their classrooms. Funding was provided from the unrestricted grant budget as well as field of interest funds. Education grants are selected by a committee made up of board members and people from the community for creative and innovative supplemental programs not covered by school funding.

The board approved 15 career technical education scholarships. This year's total so far is \$105,100 for 62 scholarships. The scholarship committee implemented a rolling deadline for CTE scholarships to meet various enrollment deadlines.

Discovery School welcomes new interim head of school Kevin Clark

Discovery School has announced the appointment of Kevin Clark as interim head of school for the 2026-'27 school year.

Clark brings more than two decades of experience leading independent schools. He has served as head of school at four Montessori schools, most recently at Lexington Montessori School in Lexington, Massachusetts. He began his new role at Discovery School on July 13.

"We are excited to welcome Kevin to Discovery School," said Jay Goyal, chair of the Discovery School Board of Trustees. "Kevin brings extensive experience leading child-centered independent schools, along with a thoughtful and collaborative approach to leadership. His background aligns well with Discovery's emphasis on hands-on learning, curiosity, creativity, and the development of the whole child. We believe he will provide strong leadership while helping the school build upon its many strengths."

Clark said he is looking forward to becoming part of the Discovery community.

"I am honored by the opportunity to join Discovery School," Clark said. "I look forward to listening, learning, and getting to know the students, families, faculty, and staff who make this community so special. I am excited to help build on Discovery's strong foundation and support a successful year ahead."

As interim head of school, Clark will work closely with Discovery's faculty, staff, families and board of trustees to support students, strengthen school operations and advance the school's educational mission.



The Board of Trustees approved grants from donor-advised funds to meet emerging needs at 4 Leaf Rover, Anchor Health, Avon Theatre Film Center, Blessings in a Backpack, Boy Scouts of America Buckeye Council, Catalyst Life Services, Crossroads Church, Discovery School, Domestic Violence Shelter, First Congregational Church, Friendly House Association, Greenwich Point Conservancy, Humane Society of Richland County, Make a Wish Foundation (Ohio/Kentucky), Mansfield Art Center, Mansfield Police Department, Mt. Sinai Baptist Food Pantry, North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Richland Academy of the Arts, Richland County Dog Warden, Richland County Habitat for Humanity, Richland County Sheriff's Office, Renaissance Performing Arts, SoundWaters Marine Education Center, St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Inc., St. Jude's Research Hospital, United Way of Richland County, Visual Bucket List Foundation, Wayfinder Ohio, Inc. and YMCA of North Central Ohio.

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.

Richland Gives registration open

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.

Shawshank Hustle returns Saturday

The Ohio State Reformatory will host the 12th Annual Shawshank Hustle 7K this Saturday, Aug. 15. This 4.6-mile journey takes participants around Manfield and highlights the filming locations for the movie *The Shawshank Redemption*.

The race begins and ends at the Ohio State Reformatory. For information visit <https://shawshanktrail.com/events/shawshank-hustle>

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Richland County Fair 2026



Photos By Traci Little



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Local DAR chapter to host American Revolution traveling exhibit

The Jared Mansfield Chapter DAR has announced the opening of the American Revolution Experience at the Samuel D. Isaly Library of the Ohio Genealogical Society, 611 St. Rt. 97 West, Bellville, on Tuesday, Aug. 18.

The pop-up exhibition includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks that use storytelling, illustration, technology and artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of our nation.

Created through a collaboration between the American Battlefield Trust and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the exhibit is also made possible by matching funds from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program battlefield interpretation grants.

The exhibit will run from August 18–28, at the Samuel D. Isaly Library of the Ohio Genealogical Society in Bellville. The exhibit is available Tuesday–Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm and Saturday, Aug. 22 from 10 am to 4 pm. Special programming will be available at 2 pm each day, including talks about colonial clothing, beginning genealogy and Richland County History.

On Friday, Aug. 21, at 2 pm, a colonial militia re-enactor will educate on all aspects of life in New England during the Revolution.

The Mansfield/Richland County Library main branch, 43 W. Third St., Mansfield, will receive the exhibit on Aug. 29 and run through Sept. 5.

Special guest, George Washington, will be in the community room at the main branch on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 2 pm for his presentation about the Miracle of the Crossing of Delaware. On Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 6:30 pm, participants will learn about colonial clothing.

The American Revolution Experience launched online in its first digital-only iteration during the summer of 2022 to rapid acclaim and received a Bronze Award in the Education, Art, & Culture division of the second annual Anthem Awards, an initiative of the Webby Awards celebrating purpose and mission-driven work. It was also a finalist in the "People's Choice" category of the Webbys themselves.

The traveling exhibit includes 12 panels highlighting thematic connections between profiled individuals and three interactive kiosks that connect to the full digital biographies, provide documentary context on the Revolutionary War and offer information on how to visit the places tied to these individuals today. Both online and on-site, the American Revolution Experience features custom illustrations by South Carolina-based artist Dale Watson. The exhibit also draws from documents and objects in DAR's collection, as well as the Trust's industry leading digital interpretation resources.

"Independence may have been declared in Philadelphia by the Declaration's 56 signers, but it was hard-won on the battlefields we protect by the thousands of Patriot soldiers from whom today's Daughters trace descent," said Trust President David Duncan. "Together, our organizations bear witness to the fact that we are not so far removed from those impactful events, that there are meaningful ways to bridge those 250 years."

The Samuel D. Isaly Library of the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) and the Mansfield/Richland County Library Main branch are among the scores of libraries, historical societies and museums that will host the American Revolution Experience through 2027, introducing visitors to a cast of historical characters with diverse experiences throughout the conflict and the places they visited on their journey. Individual DAR chapters across the nation, including Jared Mansfield Chapter DAR, have partnered with institutions in their communities to offer venues for the exhibit, booking its current complement of copies to capacity.

The American Revolution Experience invites visitors to consider the choice faced by members of the revolutionary generation as tensions mounted in the 1770s: Would these ordinary citizens risk their lives and livelihoods in pursuit of liberty? Or would they remain loyal subjects of the British crown, coming into conflict with neighbors and family? The exhibit surfaces diverse viewpoints and experiences, touching on the journeys — both literal and figurative — of Patriots and Loyalists, men and women, Black and Native populations and even international allies. Rather than focusing only on generals and famous statesmen, it introduces audiences to drummer boys, military mapmakers and other ordinary people who were impacted by global events



Virgin River Narrows, Zion National Park
Photo By Mark Shutt



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Ontario to conduct sanitary sewer smoke testing

The City of Ontario Utilities Department, in partnership with K.E. McCartney, will conduct citywide sanitary sewer smoke testing from August into September.

The schedule will be: areas 1 and 2, July 27–Aug. 7; areas 3 and 4, Aug. 3–14; areas 5 and 6, Aug. 10–21; areas 7, 8 and 9, Aug 17–28; and areas 10, 11 and 12, Aug. 24–Sept 4.

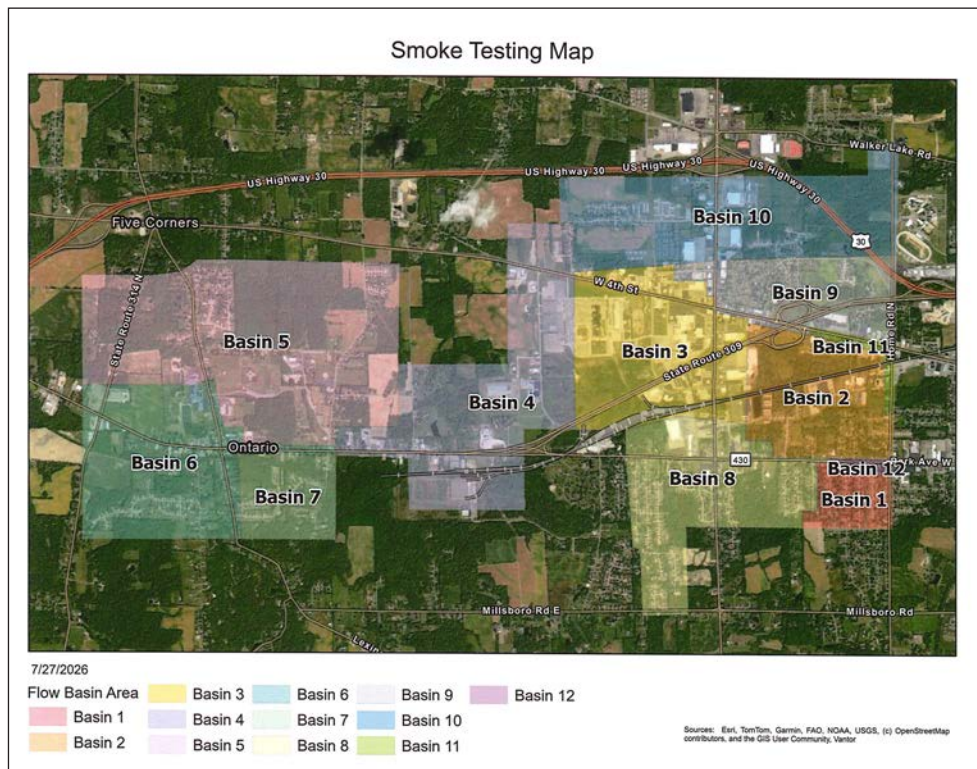
Testing will be performed by introducing smoke into the sanitary sewer system from the City’s main sewer line. The smoke is non-toxic and harmless to people, pets, food and property. Smoke may appear from roof vents, downspouts, building foundations or manhole covers.

If a home is properly connected to the sanitary sewer, smoke is unlikely to enter a house.

To reduce the chance of smoke entering a home, please run water through all floor drains and sinks to ensure each trap contains water.

If smoke enters a home, open the windows until it clears. Although the smoke is harmless, it may temporarily irritate nasal passages. If irritation occurs, leave the premises until the smoke has cleared.

If smoke is inside a house or another building contact Service Safety Director Michael Morton at 419-529-2495 or mmorton@ontarioohio.org.



Gatlinburg, TN • Photo By Ben Vore

Donors needed to help American Red Cross

The American Red Cross continues to urge donors of all blood types to act now and make an appointment to give blood or platelets. Just three additional donors at every blood drive could help further stabilize the blood supply and ensure patients continue receiving lifesaving care.

The blood supply remains under severe pressure, just as many communities transition to back-to-school schedules and people enjoy final summer plans.

When fewer donors are available to give, the impact on available lifesaving blood products can be significant — especially when the blood supply is already facing a four-year summer low.

Book an appointment to give blood now by using the Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a thank-you, all who come to give Aug. 1–31, will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card by email. For details visit RedCrossBlood.org/August.



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Revive Coffee Bar
1201 Mill Rd, Bellville
revivecoffeebar.com

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The Green Bean House
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Photos By Jeff Hoffer



The Green Bean House opens its doors in downtown Bellville

By Traci Little

Years of dreaming, searching and planning came together Tuesday morning as Mindy and Jeremy Sansom welcomed the Bellville community through the doors of The Green Bean House for the first time.

The new downtown coffeehouse celebrated its grand opening Aug. 11 with a ribbon-cutting at 230 Main St., marking the realization of a long-time dream for the Sansom family.

But for the Sansoms, The Green Bean House was never meant to be simply a place to grab a cup of coffee. They envisioned a welcoming space where friends, families and neighbors could slow down, connect and feel at home.

(Continued on Page 11)



Join Us for the 2026 Lexington Blueberry Festival

Presented By OhioHealth

THURSDAY, AUG 20	FRIDAY, AUG 21	SATURDAY, AUG 22	SUNDAY, AUG 23
24th Annual Festival Begins	24th Annual Festival Continues	24th Annual Festival Continues	24th Annual Festival Continues
4:00 PM Rides, Vendors, & Food Open	4:00 PM Rides, Vendors, & Food Open	10:00 AM Grass Volleyball Tournament	11:30 AM Community Church Service
5:00 PM Elaina Arthur Performs	4:30 PM Car & Bike Show Registration Begins	12:00 PM Rides, Vendors, & Food Open	12:00 PM Rides, Vendors & Food Open
6:30 PM Miss Blueberry Pageant Crownings	4:30 PM Sarah Goff Performs	1:00 PM Park National Bank Coin Drop	1:00 PM Michael Rose Performs
8:45 PM Blue Lights & Bubble Parade	6:00 PM Car & Bike Show	1:30 PM Blueberry Bash Games	2:00 PM Sunday Funday Parade
9:15 PM Meet The Teams	6:00 PM Home Run Derby	2:30 PM Big Wheel Race	3:00 PM Visiting Royalty Introductions
9:30 PM SEVENTY80 Band Performs	6:30 PM Anything Blue Band Performs	3:00 PM Ohio Valley Dinosaur	3:00 PM Queen City Stunt Circus
	8:00 PM Car & Bike Show Awards	6:00 PM Queen City Stunt Circus	4:30 PM RECESS Band Performs
	9:15 PM Kaitlyn Schmit Performs	6:30 PM Jevan Cole Band Performs	4:30 PM Queen City Stunt Circus
		8:00 PM Queen City Stunt Circus	6:00 PM 24th Annual Festival Closes
		8:45 PM SORELLE Performs	Thank You To Everyone!
		10:00 PM The Berry Big Boom	
		Fireworks Spectacular Presented by CNG	

Four Days of Fun!

- Delicious Blueberry Treats
- Live Entertainment
- Carnival Rides & Games
- Arts, Crafts & Shopping
- Family Fun for All Ages!

♥ Celebrating community, tradition, and the sweet taste of summer. ♥

Downtown Lexington, Ohio

lexblueberryfest.com

[/lexblueberryfest](https://www.facebook.com/lexblueberryfest)

Free community clothing swap will be held in Bellville on Saturday

The Community Call to Action Team at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church invites the public to a Free Community Clothing

Swap on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 1–4 pm at 25 Church St., Bellville.

This community event is open to everyone and offers an opportunity to refresh wardrobes while helping reduce textile waste and support neighbors.

There is no cost to participate — simply come, browse and take what you can use.

The Community Call to Action Team welcomes donations of clean, gently used clothing throughout the event. Community members are invited to bring donations at any time between 1 and 4 pm on the day of the clothing swap.

The clothing swap is free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome. For additional information visit www.allsoulsuuhio.org or follow on social media for updates.



Photo By Jeff Hoffer

•The Green Bean House opens its doors in downtown Bellville

(Continued from Page 10)

The couple had spent years considering different locations and properties before finding the right place to bring that vision to life in Bellville.

Even the name carries a special family connection. “GB” represents two of the Sansoms’ children, Gage and Bryn, while adding “House” created the initials “GBH” and brought their oldest daughter, Halen, into the name as well.

Living up to its slogan, “Valley Grounded, Hometown Grown,” the coffeehouse offers coffee, tea, smoothies, pastries and specialty drinks while also highlighting products from local artisans, authors, bakers and other small businesses. Locally roasted coffee, honey, maple syrup, flowers and cards are among the items featured throughout the shop.

The new space includes indoor seating and a covered patio, giving customers room to sit and stay awhile. The Sansoms also plan to host live music and community events for all ages, and the venue will be available for Sunday rentals for parties, small groups and special gatherings.

Mindy, who previously founded the Clear Fork Christian Pre-school & Learning Center in Butler, is a first-grade teacher at Bellville Elementary. Jeremy works in human resources for Global Energy Partners.

As The Green Bean House begins its next chapter, the Sansoms hope it becomes a place woven into the everyday life of Bellville — somewhere neighbors meet for coffee, families gather and local businesses and creators are supported.

For the Sansoms, opening the doors marks the end of a yearslong journey — and the beginning of what they hope will become a gathering place for the Bellville community for years to come.



5/26 EZ

**\$3.00
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(Ages 7 years+)



TRC3

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OFF**

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(3–6 years)



TRC2

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alz.org/walk

2026 Walk To End Alzheimer's NCO/Mansfield

SAVE THE DATE - NEW LOCATION at the Mansfield Speedway Saturday September 19



Mansfield Speedway: 400 Crall Rd E, Mansfield

Event Details : Check in 9:00 am | Ceremony 10 am / Walk at 10:20 am

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

ONTARIO VS CLEAR FORK GOLF · AUG. 4 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MANSFIELD SENIOR VS CRESTVIEW SOCCER SCRIMMAGE · AUG. 6
3-3 TIE · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



LOOKING BACK • THIS WEEK IN TRIBUNE-COURIER HISTORY



Aug. 13, 1992

"SO MUCH FOR THE STOP SIGN, I'm outta here!" Megan Gallagher seems to be ignoring one of the fundamental traffic signs as she rides thru the course set up at Stingel Elementary School for this year's edition of Ontario Safety Town. The pre-school youngster and her classmates will be graduating this Friday morning and a group picture will be appearing in next week's T-C.

Marc Stumbo



Aug. 14, 1980

THE MALCOLM SHEEHE FAMILY of Millsboro West Rd. exhibits some of the more than 70 trophies they have won in frog jumping contests here and at other cities since they began this hobby in 1973. The Sheehes captured first and third places in the annual Valley City Frog Jump and Steak Fry Sunday, Aug. 10, in Medina County. Shown here are (front) Gail Sheehee, Kevin, 13, and Tammy 15, (back) Malcolm and Dwayne Sheehee, 16.



Aug. 19, 2004

AT THE FAIR — Keith Markley, Richland County Emergency Management Director and former Madison fire chief, manned the Homeland Security Booth at the Richland County Fair with Jan Snavelly and Charlotte McFarland.

George Billman



Aug. 16, 2007

JUNIOR FAIR — Auctioneer Jim Rogers of Ontario performs the junior fair feeder auction as calf exhibitor Amy Neutzling of Ontario participates. The auction, which was held Aug. 11, brought over \$200,000.

Linda Fulmer

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CLASSIFIEDS

Huge Family Yard Sale
600 Portland Way S., Galion
Saturday, Aug. 22
9 am to 6 pm

VINTAGE TOYS: Lionel Train Set (not working), vintage dolls in excellent condition, doll carriage, working Wind-up bears and dogs from occupied Japan; **VINTAGE FURNITURE & LAMPS:** half moon table, small decorative ironing board, children's toy high chair, Tiffany reproduction lamp, working console w/ records included; **VINTAGE DRESSES & HATS:** dresses in like-new condition, hats in excellent condition w/original boxes (some from Anne's Hat Shop, Galion); Christmas tree, lights and outdoor and indoor decorations; **RECORD ALBUMS & 45s:** mainly 60s & 70s albums \$15/ 45s \$2.50; **LIGHTLY USED TO NEW CLOTHING:** shoes, women's, men's sports coats & shirts; and small medium and large Hostas.

*Additional parking available
on side streets
Cash and Zelle accepted*

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 August 5, 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. 26-12 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE- SAFETY DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR PLANNING, DESIGN, AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-13 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE- SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS AND AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE CITY OF ONTARIO ROCK ROAD LIFT STATION PHASE 1 FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-14 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT STUDY FOR THE LEXINGTON SPRINGMILL ROAD AND WALKER LAKE ROAD INTERSECTION AND

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-15 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE- SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS AND AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 CITY OF ONTARIO PAVING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 8-13, 20 '26) 52L

HEAP assistance available for Ohio residents

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

Until Sept. 30, income-eligible Ohioans can receive assistance in paying their electric bill, purchasing an air conditioner or fan, or making repairs to their central air conditioning unit through the Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program (HEAP).

The Summer Crisis Program assists low-income households and those that have a disconnection notice, have been shut off, are trying to establish new service on their electric bill, require air conditioning, or those with a household member age 60 or older and/or a household member with a documented medical condition.

Qualifying medical conditions can include lung disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, asthma and other health conditions. To qualify for assistance, Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a family of up to seven members, and 60 percent of the State Median Income for a family of eight or more members.

To apply, clients are required to schedule an appointment with your local Community Action Commission. They need to bring copies of their most recent energy bills, a list of all household members and proof of income for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member, proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members, proof of disability (if applicable) and physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health. For information call 419-524-4144.

Ohioans reminded to contact 811 before digging to avoid utility lines

Columbia Gas of Ohio is reminding homeowners and contractors across the state to contact 811 before beginning any digging project.

Contacting 811 at least two full working days before digging allows utility professionals to mark the approximate location of underground lines. This free service helps prevent damage to critical infrastructure and reduces the risk of injuries, service disruptions and costly repairs.

"Contacting 811 is not only quick and easy — it's the law and it protects people and property," said Columbia Gas of Ohio President and Chief Operating Officer Bob Heidorn. "Even a small project can lead to serious consequences if underground lines are damaged. A little planning goes a long way."

Common projects like installing fences, planting trees or building decks all require a locate request.

Because erosion and prior construction can affect line depth, underground utilities may be closer to the surface than expected.

By calling 811 or visiting the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS), residents are connected to the state's one-call system, which coordinates with utility companies to mark lines using color-coded paint or flags.

Before starting any project, customers should contact 811 at least two full working days in advance, not including the day of notification. This allows crews time to confirm that all utility lines have been marked and to review the location of markings before digging begins. Never assume utility lines are deeper than expected or located where work has occurred previously.

Anyone who damages a natural gas line or suspects a gas leak should stop work immediately, leave the area and call 911 from a safe location.

For more information or to submit a locate request visit OUPS.org or ColumbiaGasOhio.com.

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