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Photo By Traci Little

AUDREY BOWMAN was crowned the 2026 Bellville Fair Queen. Her court includes first runner-up Marin Ocheltree and second runner-up McKenley Knuckles. See more photos of the Bellville Street Fair beginning on Page 10.

Film screening offered through OGTTM

The Renaissance Theater will host a free screening of *The Silence of the Lambs* as part of Ohio Goes to the Movies (OGTTM), a signature event of America 250-Ohio.

The showing will be held at the theater on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 7 pm. Tickets are free but reservations are required at rentickets.org or by contacting the theater at 419-522-2726.

A signature event of America 250-Ohio, Ohio Goes to the Movies runs from mid-February through October 2026, offering approximately 250 days of screenings in cities and towns across the state.

The celebration showcases Ohioans — including actors, directors, writers and composers — as well as Ohio locations and topics represented on screen. Films range from Hollywood blockbusters and independent films to rare archival footage and contemporary works, highlighting the many ways Ohio has contributed to American filmmaking.

The Silence of the Lambs has connections to the Buckeye State and includes the fictional town of Belvedere, OH. The film used the real-world Bellaire Bridge in Bellaire, OH, as a visual backdrop when FBI trainee Clarice Starling travels into town. Actor Ted Levine, whose performance as Jame Gumb, also known as "Buffalo Bill," became one of the film's most memorable roles, was born in Bellaire.

Pop artist Michael Albert brings hands-on creativity to Eastern Elementary

Photos and Article By Traci Little

LEXINGTON — Cereal boxes became more than breakfast packaging last Thursday at Eastern Elementary School.

They became letters, flags, colorful patterns, characters and pieces of art as American pop artist Michael Albert spent Sept. 17 sharing his unconventional approach to creativity with fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students at the Lexington Local Schools building.

Albert, a New York-based artist known for transforming cereal boxes and other everyday packaging into elaborate collages, visited Eastern as part of a trip through Ohio. Throughout the day, students had the opportunity to learn about his artistic journey and then create collages of their own.

"I just love kind of looking closely at the boxes, identifying things that are interesting to me, cutting them out and then gluing the pieces together and making art," Albert told students.

The visit gave students a chance to see firsthand that art does not always begin with traditional supplies — and that becoming an artist does not always follow a traditional path.

Albert told students he grew up on Long Island, New York, and enjoyed art as a child, but never imagined it would become such a significant part of his life. In fact, he didn't even take art as an elective in high school.

His artistic interests began taking shape while he was a college student studying business. During a backpacking trip through Europe, Albert began keeping a travel journal at his mother's suggestion. Soon, sketches began appearing alongside his writing.

Albert described that period as the true beginning of his art.

While visiting Switzerland, he sat near a waterfall to draw the scenery with colored pencils. After most of his pencils accidentally fell into the water, he completed the picture using only blue, green, brown and black. He returned the next day with a new set of pencils and drew the same scene again using all of the colors.

Looking back, Albert said the experience taught him something about the creative process — artists can take one idea and explore it in different ways.

(Continued on Page 30)



ARTIST MICHAEL ALBERT has used these scissors for over 35 years.

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Richland County will celebrate Dolly Parton Day

Richland County will recognize September 25, as Dolly Parton Day in honor of Dolly Parton's longstanding commitment to children, early literacy and giving communities the opportunity to help young readers thrive.

Richland County Commissioners Daryl Banks, Cliff Mears and Tony Vero, along with Richland Public Health Health Commissioner Dr. Julie Chaya, will participate in a proclamation ceremony at 9:30 am Thursday, Sept. 24, in the Commissioner's Board Room at the Richland County Administrative Building.

The proclamation recognizes Dolly Parton's contributions to children and literacy through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which provides enrolled children from birth through age five with a high-quality, age-appropriate book delivered to their home each month at no cost to their families.

Richland Public Health serves as the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Local Program Partner for Richland County, overseeing the local program and providing the primary funding needed to keep books coming to local children. Continued community support is essential to maintaining and strengthening the program in Richland County.

"Early literacy is about so much more than learning to read," said Dr. Julie Chaya, Health Commissioner of Richland Public Health. "A child's early experiences with books, language and reading help support healthy development, school readiness, family connections and lifelong well-being. Giving a child access to books is an investment in that child's future."

The cost of providing a book through the program is just \$2.60 per month per child, or approximately \$31 to sponsor one child for an entire year.

"Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference," Chaya said. "A gift of \$31 can help provide a child with a new book every month for an entire year. We welcome any and all donations from individuals, families, businesses, organizations and community partners who want to help make sure Richland County children continue to have this opportunity."

Richland County residents can help celebrate Dolly Parton Day by participating in the statewide 9 Two 5 initiative on Sept. 25. The initiative encourages Ohioans to donate \$9.25 to support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

To direct a donation specifically to the Richland County Imagination Library, visit ohioimaginationlibrary.org and select "Richland County" from the drop-down menu.

Local residents will also have another opportunity to support the program through the Mickey's Convenience Store Round Up effort. Customers who round up their purchases at Mickey's locations on Sept. 25, will receive 500 bonus points on their account, while their spare change helps support the Richland County Imagination Library.

Donations may also be made in person at Richland Public Health or the Buckeye Imagination Museum.

"Richland County has a wonderful opportunity to come together around something that benefits our youngest residents," Dr. Chaya said. "Whether someone gives \$9.25, \$31, or whatever amount they are able to contribute, those dollars help put books into the hands of children right here in our community. We are grateful for every person who chooses to support early literacy."

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is available to eligible children in Richland County from birth through age five. Families can register their children at no cost through the program.

For more information about the Richland County Imagination Library, to donate or to register a child, visit ohioimaginationlibrary.org or call 419-774-4761.



ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL'S CCP American Politics visited the Richland County Board of Elections to celebrate Constitution Day and see how the board is preparing for the upcoming mid-term election. Director Matt Finfgeld and Deputy Director Jane Zimmerman gave a tour of the facility, showed how they test and prepare the machines and introduced students to their first (simulated) voting experience. Student Will Wang even received his personalized sample ballot for November's election so he can do his homework about candidates and issues as a first time voter.

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*Serving Ontario, Lexington, Madison, Bellville and Butler Communities in
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News Briefs

Free registration is open for Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Richland County Foundation (RCF). Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits they care about through a single website.

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

Richland County-based nonprofits must register each year. Leading up to the event, an online toolkit, education, mass media and social media coverage are provided.

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

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.

All prices are by donation and all proceeds are distributed throughout the community and to other local ministries.

Mechanics Bank will host a block party to celebrate the Ashland community on Thursday, Oct. 1 from 4:30-7:30 pm, at the Ashland office, 1040 George Rd., Ashland. Tom's Kitchen Table will perform and there will be giveaways, tethered balloon rides, a kids zone and food trucks.

Those attending are encouraged to bring a chair. The rain date is set for Oct. 6.

The City of Ontario will host a city-wide trick-or-treat night on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5-6:30 pm

The Richland County Board of Elections, 1495 W. Longview Ave., Suite 101, Mansfield, is in need of poll workers. Those 17 and older can call 419-774-5530 for more information. Pay includes training and a minimum of \$145 for working election day.

A recycling trailer will be in the parking lot at Ontario United Methodist Church, 3540 Park Avenue West, Sept. 26 and 27. Acceptable items include steel and aluminum cans, crushed milk jugs, detergent bottles, plastic bottles with number 1 or 2 on the bottom, broken down cardboard, all papers included with the newspaper but no other magazines or paper. Please remove caps from bottles and rinse all containers well.

Mansfield 1st Presbyterian Church, 399 S. Trimble Rd., Mansfield, will host a rummage sale on Friday, Oct. 9, from 9 am to 4 pm; and Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 am to noon.

The sale will include a selection of clothing for children and adults, shoes, books, toys, housewares, furniture and more. Proceeds are used for local missions.

For information call the church office at 419-756-7066.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist of Bellville, 25 Church St., Bellville, will welcome LaVonne Limpus on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 10:30 am. The subject will be "The Courage to Thrive During Difficult Times." For information visit www.allsoulsuuohio.org.

Families, couples and singles are invited to join the Johnny Appleseed Squares to experience two free square dance lessons at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 525 W. Cook Rd., Mansfield, from 7-9 pm on Sept. 24 and Oct. 1.

Both events are open to the public. For information call Don Karger at 419-545-6564. Beverages and snacks are available at no charge, while they last.

The Washington Township Fire Department will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 7-11 am at the new station, 222 Vanderbilt Rd. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee, milk and orange juice. Admission is by donation. Proceeds raised will continue assisting the community and the department. All are welcome. For information call 419-756-8330.

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 Sept. 21, with ham being served. Ken Huber, saxophonist, will perform.

The group will also meet Oct. 7, at 11 am at Outback Steakhouse in Ontario.

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

City of Mansfield Mayor Jodie A. Perry has announced that city-wide trick-or-treat is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5-7 pm.

Residents who wish to participate are asked to turn on their porch lights. Young children will be out walking throughout the community. Please use extra caution when driving.

First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue W., Mansfield, will host a Heritage Organ Concert on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 4 pm.

State Route 546, at the structure between the Bellville-Johnsville Road split, closed Wednesday, Sept. 23 for bridge deck repairs.

The detour route will be SR 546 to U.S. 42 north, in the village of Lexington, to SR 97 east to the village of Bellville to SR 13 south to SR 546 and reverse.

The estimated completion is Wednesday, Oct. 7.

The City of Ontario October meeting schedule includes Oct. 7, 6:16 pm, caucus and 7 pm, council; Oct. 14, 1 pm, civil service commission and 4 pm, planning commission; and Oct. 21, 6:15 pm, caucus and 7 pm, council.

Meetings are held at the city building 555 Stumbo Rd., Ontario.

The South Main Street entrance ramp to State Route 13 north will close Friday, Sept. 25 for pavement repairs. Estimated reopening is Sunday, Sept. 27. This is a delayed start due to weather.

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Miss Ohio Scholarship Program to hold second annual 5K Run/Walk

By Traci Little

MANSFIELD — Runners and walkers will have an opportunity to lace up their shoes for a good cause Sept. 26 as the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program hosts its second annual Miss Ohio 5K Run/Walk at Mansfield Cemetery.

Day-of registration and check-in will begin at 8 am. Runners will take off at 9 am, followed by walkers at 9:15 am. Participants should enter the race through the back gate of Mansfield Cemetery off South Main Street.

The event is part of the organization's year-round fundraising efforts to support the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program and help keep the longstanding program connected to Mansfield and Richland County.

Although Miss Ohio Week will not return until June 2027, fundraising continues throughout the year to support scholarships, operating expenses and Miss Ohio's trip to compete in the Miss America Pageant.

The Miss Ohio Scholarship Program is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides young women with opportunities to earn scholarship assistance toward their educational goals.

Beyond financial awards, the program seeks to encourage volunteerism while providing contestants with experiences designed to help them develop as role models and representatives of their communities. The organization's board and supporting staff serve on a volunteer basis.

Organizers are also seeking support from area businesses for the 5K. Sponsorship opportunities include monetary donations to help cover event expenses as well as gift cards that can be used for door prizes.

Proceeds and support generated through fundraising efforts help the organization continue providing scholarships to contestants while covering costs associated with operating the program and sending Miss Ohio to the Miss America Pageant.

Now in its second year, the 5K provides another opportunity to bring the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program into the community outside of the annual Miss Ohio Week festivities while giving area residents a chance to support its scholarship mission.

Businesses or individuals interested in supporting the event may contact Miss Ohio Advisor, Producer and 5K co-chair Terri Herlihy-Clark at terri@missohio.org. Donations to the Miss Ohio Scholarship Organization are tax deductible.



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
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Bible Study Mondays 2 pm

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Obituary Listings for Wappner Funeral Directors

Rhonda Lee Breit, September 13
Shawn Paula Laser, September 13
Michael Allen Burchett, September 16
Stephen "Steve" M. Patton, September 16
Dixie Lee Bates, September 17

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Safelite partners with Foster Love to donate skateboards to RCCS

Local technicians at Safelite Auto Glass in Mansfield have assembled and donated 10 skateboards to Richland County Children Services (RCCS) to benefit local youth navigating the foster care system.

Safelite Out, the charitable arm of Safelite, has partnered with Foster Love to deliver skateboards to children in foster care, continuing a long-standing collaboration that has already provided 720 skateboards nationwide.

The initiative is part of Safelite's multi-year partnership with Foster Love, which focuses on safety, stability, and a sense of belonging for children in foster care.

The skateboards donated by Foster Love, were assembled by Safelite Auto Glass Tech

Trevor Dickerson. The skateboards also come with new helmets and stickers.



SAFELITE AUTO GLASS store manager Phillip Starkey and technicians Devon Winter and Trevor Dickerson display the skateboards and helmets donated to Richland County Children Services in partnership with Foster Love.

The community engagement team from Richland County Children Services (RCCS) officially accepted the donation and picked up the skateboards from the Mansfield business on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

RCCS extends a special thank you to Safelite Auto Glass Store Manager Phillip Starkey, technicians Trevor Dickerson and Devon Winter for their dedicated work putting together the skateboards.

Their care and kindness directly impact the lives and well-being of the youth in the agency's care.

"We are incredibly grateful to Phillip, Trevor, Devon and the entire Safelite team and Foster Love for this generous donation," said Brigitte Coles, Richland County Children Services, Community Engagement Supervisor.

"These skateboards provide our youth with a fun, active outlet and a sense of personal ownership during what can often be a challenging and transitional time in their lives. Community partnerships like this truly make a meaningful difference."

The 10 skateboards and helmets will be distributed directly to youth in foster care throughout Richland County.

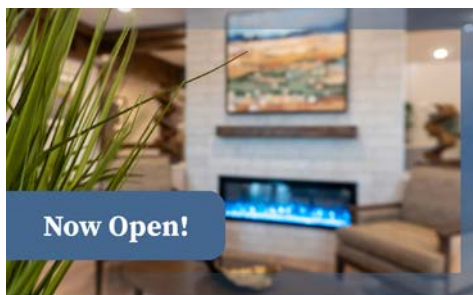
Mansfield Chamber Music Players to perform October 11

The Mansfield Chamber Music Players will present the Thirtieth Annual Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Concert on Sunday, Oct. 11 at 4 pm in Riedl Hall at The Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus. Music will be performed by a violin, oboe, piano trio, a string quintet, a woodwind sextet and a wind-string nonet.

These concerts were organized by Carol Bernhardt in memory of her late husband, Donald Bernhardt who was concertmaster of the Mansfield Symphony and the Ashland Orchestra, as well as an avid chamber music player. Since the first concert in 1997, the Mansfield Chamber Music Players have performed over 115 different pieces on these concerts.

Performing this year will be: violin, John McLaughlin Williams, Michael Sieberg and Steve Domka; viola, Jim Froelich; cello, Robert Rashid; bass, David Lenigan; flute, Carol Oberholtzer; oboe, Carol Bernhardt; clarinet, Pamela Ellis; French horn, Keely Krumweide; bassoon, Jane Price; and piano, Susan Gregg.

The concert is free and open to the public and is provided by the Donald Bernhardt Memorial Chamber Music Fund at Chase Bank in cooperation with The Ohio State University - Mansfield Campus.



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Board of Education accepts donation from Lexington PTO

The Lexington Board of Education met Wednesday, Sept. 16,

The treasurer presented the monthly financial report for August and the board approved permanent appropriations for fiscal year 2027 at the fund level.

A donation of \$4,001 was accepted from the Lexington PTO to be allocated based on student enrollment to Eastern (\$1,813), Central (\$1,103) and Western (\$1,085).

Payment was approved for mentoring teachers during the 2026-'27 school year. This included Jodi McChesney, Central, I.S., mentoring Rachel Smith \$250; Holly Robinson, Western, music, mentoring Steve Domka, \$350; Domenic Cole, Eastern, music, mentoring, Steve Domka, \$350; and Nicole Martin, Eastern, I.S., mentoring Jaimie Chambers, \$350.

Erica Bauer was hired as an ELL Tutor for the current school

year. Sandy Weber will retire as an Eastern Elementary fifth grade teacher, effective Jan. 1, 2027.

Resignations were accepted from Kaitlyn Swartzmiller, junior high student council advisor; and Rebecca Bigley, student council advisor and prom committee advisor.

The board approved Rebecca Bigley as student council co-advisor and prom committee co-advisor for the current school year; Sonja Clever, student council co-advisor & prom committee co-advisor for the current school year; and Beth Wells, co-advisor, junior high student council for the current school year.

Heather Kershner - Substitute Educational Aide (Renhill)

Marantha McKinney was hired as a substitute wduational aide, Lorraine Yarger, was hired as a transportation 4-hour driver. Other hirings for the

2026-'27 school year included food service substitutes Timothy Green, Bridget Radford, Rebecca Rush, Kimberly Miller, Lori Ujvari and Marsha Hopton.

Cynthia Patrick resigned from the transportation department and Joe Thornton resigned as head softball coach

Kaylyn Risner was approved as the girls varsity basketball coach. Elementary volunteers approved for the 2026-'27 school year are Elise Weyrauch, Tracie Borden, Linda Volz, Christina Syroid, Eliana Sorrenti, Whitney Creech, Rachel Hoptry, Alicia Thauvette, Gretchen Boerner, Nicole Patton, Jessica Eberhart, Kristine Nichols, Bailee Huston, Megan Cassidy, Sarah Brandyberry, Mark Campbell, Deanna Payne, Sarah Strohminger, Whitney Smith, Philip Smith, Jenna Schroeder, Ashley Harwell, Hilary McCollister, Jena Thompson and Stephen Richter.

The substitute lists were approved as provided by MOESC, dated Sept. 16-Oct. 16. An updated transportation handbook was also approved.

In Lieu of Transportation was approved for Lexington students attending Discovery School and Gilead Christian.

The board rescinded and adopted board policies before adjourning.

Richland SWCD to host workshop

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (Richland SWCD) will host a conservation creation workshop on Oct. 13, from 6-7:30 pm at Gorman Nature Center, 2295 Lexington Ave., Mansfield.

All are invited to attend the workshop. Participants will be making a lantern using recycled jars, tissue paper, pressed flowers and seasonal stickers.

Karen Pryor, Education and Outreach Manager at Richland County Park District will introduce attendees to live animals and speak about nocturnal critters and the things that go bump in the night.

All materials for the workshop will be provided by Richland SWCD free of charge due to money raised through Richland Gives sponsored by the Richland County Foundation.

The workshop is limited to 25 participants. Reservations may be made at <https://richlandswcd.net/event/conservation-creations-arts-crafts-workshop/> For more information on this workshop and future events, please visit <https://richlandswcd.net/events/> or call 419-774-8986.

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Lifestyle Inspiration



Why Walking Deserves a Place in Your Daily Routine

By Kelley Kovacs, LMT
Comfrey Corner

With modern life becoming increasingly busy, many people believe that staying healthy requires intense workouts or costly gym memberships. Yet one of the most effective and accessible activities is something most of us already do: walking.

Walking regularly offers several physical benefits. It helps keep the heart active, strengthens the legs and supports balance and flexibility.

Unlike strenuous exercise, it is gentle on the body and can be adjusted to suit different ages and fitness levels.

Beginners can start slowly and increase their distance as they become more comfortable.

The benefits of walking are not only physical. A peaceful walk can reduce everyday stress and provide a welcome break from phones, computers and other distractions.

Spending time outdoors may also improve mood and create an opportunity to appreciate nature.

Walking with someone else can make the activity more enjoyable while allowing time for meaningful conversation.

Adding more steps to the day does not have to be difficult. A person might walk to a nearby store, park farther from an entrance, use the stairs, or take a short stroll during a work break. Even ten minutes of movement is a positive beginning.

Setting a regular time and choosing an interesting route can help turn walking into a lasting habit.

Walkers should also take sensible precautions. Comfortable footwear can prevent discomfort, while bright clothing improves visibility near roads. In warm weather, carrying water and avoiding the hottest part of the day are wise choices.

Walking is a simple and free way to add more movement to daily life. It supports physical health while offering a peaceful break from a busy routine. Becoming healthier does not always require a major change. Sometimes, it begins with a short walk and the choice to take another step tomorrow.

Day Trippin' With Damon

Scioto Park, Dublin, OH

The sculpture "Leatherlips" is a monument to Shateyaronyah, a Native American leader. He was a leader of the Wyandot tribe and was known as "Leatherlips" by settlers because when his word was given, it could be trusted — his words were as strong as leather. He met his end after signing a deal with white settlers.



Board accepts donations for Rams Care Closet

The Madison Local School District held its regular meeting on Sept. 14, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.

The Ram Pride Award was presented to Mary Frey, math teacher at Madison Middle School; and Marcinda Stoltenberg, cook at Madison Primary School.

Sean Conway, Madison Comprehensive High School Principal and Doug Rickert, Madison Comprehensive High School Athletic Director, gave presentations.

Donations for the Rams Care Closet were accepted from Dale and Kathy Danheiser, hygiene items, household items, clothes, shoes and school supplies, valued at \$100; Brian and Shannon Demeter, hygiene items, household items, clothes, shoes and school supplies; Michelle Applegate, six bags of new and gently used clothes, valued at \$150; Kroger, Ashland Road, grocery bags for the monthly produce distribution; and Dollar Tree, Lexington Avenue, wash cloths.

Shirley Carver donated various school supplies, valued at \$75, to be distributed between the four buildings.

Treasurer Bradd Stevens' monthly financial report was approved as were the student activity budgets for fiscal year 2027, a requisition for Title I Services at Mansfield Christian and Foundations for Living, in the amount of \$129,121.36; and a resolution for sale of board-owned real property and personal property.

Victor Skoog was approved as the head eighth grade boys' basketball coach.

A supplemental contract was amended due to staff leave during a portion of the assignment. This was for the seventh grade cheer advisor (first half) for Lynn Gross (58%) and Teri Foley-Kanz (42%). Detention monitors approved include Denise Thompson, Valerie Barnhart, Lisa Hall, Janice Stupka, Stephanie Conway and Elizabeth Sims.

Substitute teachers hired on an "on call" basis, as needed for the 2026-'27 school year include Shelby (Fife) Bachmann, Karlie Barnhart, Susan Barr, Gretchen Bobst (long-term sub high school math),

Makayla Boucher, Erica Branham, David Brown, Scott Carrier, Ricky Chambers, Beth Conn, Lily Dowler, Payton Eichelberger, Ezri Farley, Cassidy Gamble, Dana Hallock, Elizabeth Harris, David Hurd, Adam Jackson, Kiarra Johnson, Susan Lory, Robyn Minnear, Taylor Morgan, Andrea Niswander, Alexis Osborne, Gaven Remy, Sydney Shasky, Dana Shenberger, Victor Skoog, Timothy Smith, Caitlyn Sneed, Ivy Stewart, McKenna Stoffer, Gage Weaver, Lyndsay Williams, Karlie Wilson, Michael Wolf, Daniel Wood and Amy Zender.

Resignations were accepted from Brittney Mason, special ed. paraprofessional; and Vicky Buckley, middle school cafeteria.

Hirings included Tessa Slone, MECLC assistant teacher; Cheyenne Sumler Morgan, paraprofessional, Madison Primary; Karen Stimens, bus driver - route 22; Chelsey Norris, bus aide am/pm; Tayler Salser, bus aide preschool; Tiffany Zellner, Middle School Cafeteria; Kaylea Cole, MECLC assistant teacher; and Marisa Manlet, MECLC assistant teacher.

Substitute employees hired on an "on call" basis, as needed, for the 2026-'27 school year include Shelly Adams, cafeteria; Holly Beidelschies, special ed. paraprofessional; Aubrie Bennett, special ed. paraprofessional; Vicky Buckley, cafeteria, custodial; Tina Clark, custodial; Allie Moysi, special ed. paraprofessional; Chelsey Norris, administrative assistant, special ed. and bus paraprofessional; and Austin Robinson, custodial.

An unpaid leave of absence was approved for Partena Tesca, bus driver - route 22, effective July 19 to Sept. 22, 2026.

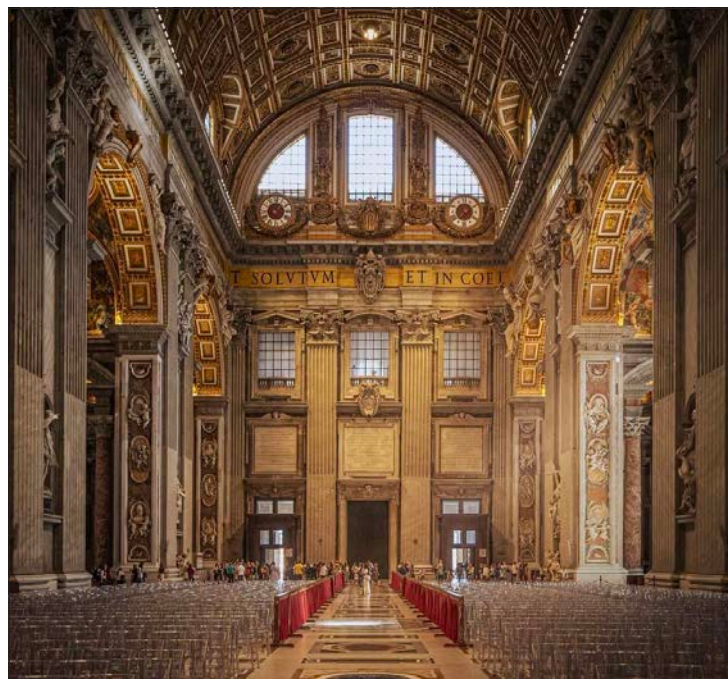
In-lieu of transportation was approved for the 2026-'27 school year for Ryan Byus, Jackson Easterline and Eli Shopbell.

The board approved the TurboCert Service Agreement with Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. The board also approved the locally developed Administrator Performance Evaluation Rubric to replace the OPES 2.0 Rubric. The locally developed rubric is aligned to the Ohio Standards for Principals and has been approved by the Ohio State Board of Education.

A staffing agreement between Madison Local Schools, Mansfield Christian Schools and Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 was reached. The board approved the Aug. 10, 2026 contract amendments and service rate adjustments between Madison Local School District and EJ Therapy.

The 2026-'27 MECLC Family Handbook was approved.

The next regular board of education meeting will be held at 6 pm on Oct. 14, in the Madison Middle School Auditoria.



Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome, Italy
Photo By Mark Shutt

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A campaign poster for Cliff Mears, Richland County Commissioner. The background is a scenic view of a farm with a red barn and silos at sunset. An American flag is visible in the bottom right corner. The text "RE-ELECT" is at the top, followed by "Cliff Mears" in large letters, "RICHLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONER" below it, and "NOVEMBER 3RD" in a red box. At the bottom, it says "EXPERIENCE • LEADERSHIP • RESULTS" and "Paid for by Citizens to Retain Cliff Mears." A small Republican elephant logo is in the bottom left corner.

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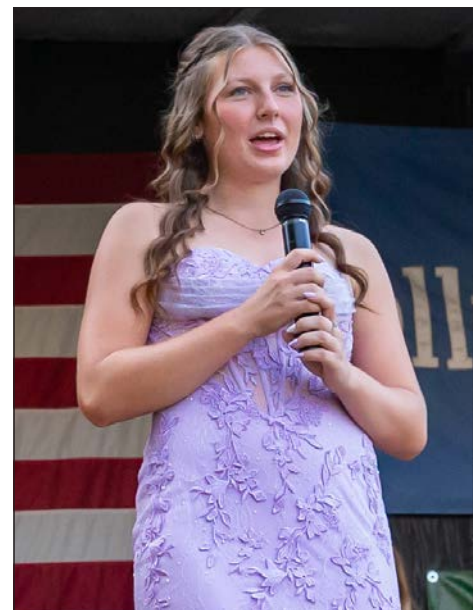


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Local investment group acquires Downtown Mansfield hotel

MANSFIELD — A local investment group led by Mansfield entrepreneur Jay Goyal and hotelier Snehal Patel has completed the purchase of the Quality Inn & Suites at 116 Park Avenue West, officially launching a nearly \$10 million effort to transform the longtime downtown hotel into the Hearth & Forge Hotel, an Ascend Collection Hotel.

The acquisition marks a major milestone in a project aimed at bringing new life to one of downtown Mansfield's most prominent properties and creating a high-quality, full-service hotel and gathering place in the heart of the community.

"This is an exciting day for downtown Mansfield," Goyal said. "For a long time, we've talked about what this property could be again. Today, we get to start making that vision real. We have an incredible building, an irreplaceable downtown location, tremendous community support and a group of local investors who believe deeply in Mansfield and its future. We can't wait to get to work."

The hotel will continue operating as the Quality Inn & Suites Downtown Mansfield while renovations are underway, allowing it to continue serving visitors, businesses and community events throughout much of the construction period.

Over the coming months, the property will undergo a comprehensive transformation touching virtually every part of the hotel, including its guest rooms and suites, lobby and common areas, exterior, conference and meeting facilities, banquet and event spaces, indoor pool, restaurant and bar, and other guest amenities.

When the renovation is complete, the property will be relaunched as the Hearth & Forge Hotel, an upscale boutique hotel affiliated with Choice Hotels' Ascend Hotel Collection. The Hearth & Forge will be the Mansfield area's only full-service upscale boutique hotel, combining distinctive accommodations with a restaurant and bar, meeting and event facilities, and amenities designed to serve both hotel guests and the local community. A grand opening is targeted for summer 2027.

"Our goal isn't simply to renovate a hotel. We want to create a destination," Patel said. "We want guests coming to Mansfield to have a hotel that feels special and reflects the character of this community, while also creating a place local residents want to use for weddings, meetings, celebrations, dinner, drinks and events. This property has tremendous potential, and we're excited to bring it back to life."

A critical partner in making the acquisition possible has been Park National Bank, which stepped forward to provide financing for the project.

"We approached a number of financial institutions about this project, and Park National Bank really stepped up," Goyal said. "They understood that this wasn't just about financing a hotel. They saw what this project could mean for downtown Mansfield and for the broader community. Chris Hiner, Barb Miller and Scott Heiman believed in the project, worked through the challenges with us and helped find a way to make it happen. I want everyone in the community to know that this project would not be happening without Park National Bank's support."

Goyal added, "We owe Park National and especially Chris, Barb and Scott a tremendous debt of gratitude — in addition to a fairly substantial mound of actual debt."

The project has also received significant support from both the City of Mansfield and the State of Ohio. Mansfield City Council unanimously approved a 12-year, 75-percent property tax abatement for the redevelopment earlier this year. The project was subsequently selected by the Ohio Department of Development for a highly competitive \$528,220 Transformational Mixed-Use Development tax credit.

"We would not be at this point without the tremendous support we have received from Park National Bank, the City of Mansfield, the State of Ohio and so many people throughout the community," Goyal said. "There has been a real recognition that having a vibrant, full-service hotel downtown matters — to the Renaissance, to local employers, to tourism, to weddings and conferences, to our restaurants and small businesses, and to the continued momentum we are seeing throughout downtown Mansfield."

The investment group behind the project is comprised largely of local families and business leaders, including Mark and Beth Delaney, David and Leslie Eichinger, the Gorman Family, Rich and Gayle Gorman Green, Chuck Hahn, John and Maura Siegenthaler, Rick

and Carol Taylor, Goyal and Patel.

"For us, the fact that this is a locally driven project matters," Goyal said. "These are people who live here, work here, have built businesses here and care about what Mansfield looks like ten and twenty years from now. We all see the same opportunity: to take an important property that has fallen short of its potential and turn it into something the entire community can be proud of."

The project builds on the history of a property that has served as downtown Mansfield's full-service hotel for more than four decades. Originally opened as a Holiday Inn, the hotel occupies a highly visible location adjacent to the Renaissance Theatre and within walking distance of restaurants, shops, offices, attractions and other downtown destinations.

Plans call for reducing the hotel's room count while creating larger rooms and suites and significantly upgrading the overall guest experience. The redeveloped property is envisioned not only as a hotel, but as a community gathering place — a modern-day "living room" for Mansfield that connects visitors with downtown and gives residents another reason to spend time in the city center.

Design, engineering and pre-construction work are already underway, with construction activity expected to ramp up in the coming months.

The transformation comes amid a period of significant reinvestment in downtown Mansfield, including new housing, redevelopment of historic buildings, improvements to public spaces and continued growth in the city's arts, entertainment and dining offerings.

"We think something special is happening in downtown Mansfield," Goyal said. "There are a lot of people investing, taking risks and believing in this community. The Hearth & Forge is one more piece of that momentum. A year from now, we want people to walk through these doors and be amazed by what this building has become — and proud that it happened here in Mansfield."

The Hearth & Forge Hotel is targeting a grand opening in summer 2027.

News Briefs in Education

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) students have been named to the summer 2026 president's list. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 and above for the reporting term are named to the president's list.

On the list are DeJa Johnson and Jakya Vereen of Lexington; Reece Neuenschwander, Kallie Funk and Jessica Young of the Madison area; and Robert Broyles, Maxine Jordan and Caden Armstrong of Mansfield.

SNHU students named to the dean's list are Micah Gillum of the Madison area and David Barr of Lexington.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the dean's list. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring and summer.

RRLC will host chicken dinner

The Richland Rural Life Center, 969 E. Crall Rd., Mansfield, will host its annual chicken dinner Saturday, Oct. 3, from 4–6 pm.

The dinner includes chicken slow cooked over an open pit, buttered parsley potatoes or Au gratin potatoes, old fashioned slaw salad or applesauce, dinner roll, beverage and a scoop of homemade vanilla ice cream.

Cost is \$14 for adults \$14 for (half chicken); and \$7 for seniors and children 10 and under) (quarter chicken). Carry-out meals will be available and an extra chicken half is \$7. Homemade ice cream quarts available for \$5.

The Richland Rural Life Center is a non-profit organization that supports 4-H and Boy/Cub Scout Troops. Proceeds from dinners and events help maintain the RRLC land and facilities.

•Pop artist brings hands-on creativity to Eastern

(Continued from Front Page)

His work continued to evolve from drawings and pen-and-ink pieces to wax-oil drawings and eventually collage.

After college, Albert entered the food business and founded Sir Real, a fruit juice and natural foods brand. His artistic and business worlds began to intersect as he created characters for his product labels, including a "Sir Real Lemon Man" for his lemonade.

Eventually, he began experimenting with discarded materials, stickers, photographs and packaging. Then came the cereal boxes.

Albert's signature style eventually became what he calls "Cerealism," using cereal boxes and other discarded consumer packaging as his artistic medium. His work combines elements of Pop Art with a recycling philosophy, transforming familiar packaging that might otherwise be thrown away into intricate collages.

Albert told students he considers that the beginning of his pop art — art inspired by objects and images found in everyday life. He began cutting apart the fronts of cereal boxes and rearranging the colorful pieces into new compositions.

The idea took hold quickly.

"I started cutting up cereal boxes like crazy," Albert told students, explaining that he cut up approximately 700 cereal boxes during a three-year period.

That technique eventually became one of the hallmarks of his work.

During Thursday's presentation, he showed students examples ranging from name collages and colorful abstracts to flags, city skylines, famous characters and works built around words and quotations.

Some of his creations are far more ambitious. One collage contains the entire Gettysburg Address and took five months to complete. Another represents the first 777 digits of pi and took four years. He has also created a map of the United States using words cut from packaging, spelling out every state along with many capitals and well-known cities.

Albert encouraged Eastern students to develop their own ideas rather than simply copying his. In the age of artificial intelligence, he is proud to create this type of work that can't be replicated!

They could spell their names using letters cut from packages, create an American or Ohio flag, build a rainbow, flower, tree or skyline, or simply combine colors and shapes into an abstract design.

He also encouraged them to incorporate their initials somewhere in their artwork — even hiding them among the other pieces for viewers to discover.

Albert has spent years taking that message of creativity on the road.

His 2008 artist autobiography, *An Artist's America*, helped lead to invitations from schools, libraries and museums. Since then, his traveling pop art enrichment program and hands-on collage workshops have reached audiences across the country.

Albert told Eastern students he has now presented his program in 48 states, with Alaska and Hawaii remaining on his list. He hopes to add Alaska next summer. More than 1,000 schools, libraries, museums, art festivals and special events have hosted it.

Thursday's visit to Lexington came together while Albert was planning other appearances in Ohio. He had been at an elementary school in Brunswick the previous day and was scheduled to visit Pickerington High School the following day.

Albert reached out to Eastern about spending the day at the school while traveling through the state. Teachers then worked to make the experience available to students throughout the building, preparing cardboard and asking students to collect cereal boxes and other packaging for the workshops.

By the time Albert arrived Thursday, a large collection of colorful boxes was waiting to be transformed.

As the workshops got underway, a buzz of excitement filled the room. Students eagerly sifted through piles of cereal boxes and colorful packaging, searching for just the right letters, images and shapes. Soon, tables were covered with scraps of cardboard as students cut, arranged and rearranged pieces, visibly excited to be creating something of their own with their hands.

Some carefully spelled out their names. Others pieced together flags, characters, patterns and abstract designs. Around them, classmates compared ideas and searched through the colorful assortment for the perfect piece to complete their creations.

Albert moved among the students as they worked, offering encouragement and ideas while giving them the freedom to make each art piece their own.

He offered plenty of possibilities for what those ordinary pieces of cardboard could become, along with one simple piece of advice:

"No gluing until you know what you're doing."

By the end of the workshop, cereal boxes that might otherwise have landed in a recycling bin had become something personal — artwork imagined, assembled and created by the students themselves.

And as students proudly held up their finished pieces, another message Albert shared seemed to capture the spirit of the day: "You are what you create."





MARY PIERCE HAAS, a longtime Lexington Local Schools art teacher and president of the Ohio Art Education Association, poses with pop artist Michael Albert during his Sept. 17 visit to Eastern Elementary School. Albert worked with fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students throughout the day, introducing them to his unique approach to collage art.



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Community steps out to fight Alzheimer's Disease

Photos and Article By Traci Little

MANSFIELD — Hundreds of walkers came together last Saturday morning at Mansfield Speedway with a shared purpose — to remember loved ones, support families and help move the fight against Alzheimer's disease forward.

The North Central Ohio Walk to End Alzheimer's was held Sept. 19, bringing families, friends, caregivers and community supporters together for the annual Alzheimer's Association fundraiser.

Festivities began at 9 am, followed by the opening ceremony and walk. Participants carried the event's signature Promise Garden flowers, with each color representing a personal connection to Alzheimer's or other dementia.

The annual walk raises funds to support Alzheimer's care and support services, as well as research toward new treatments and ultimately a cure.

For many who participated Saturday, however, the morning was about an opportunity to honor those they have lost, stand beside those currently facing the disease and remind families they are not walking the journey alone.





Photos By Traci Little

Ohio Army National Guard brings teamwork and leadership activities to Madison students

Photos and Article By Traci Little

Madison Comprehensive High School Career Tech students stepped outside the classroom Friday morning for a hands-on lesson in teamwork, leadership and communication.

Members of the Ohio Army National Guard visited the school from 9–11 am Sept. 18, giving students an opportunity to participate in a variety of interactive activities and challenges.

The visit continued a tradition of National Guard members working with Madison students through activities designed to encourage teamwork, problem-solving and communication. Students worked together to complete challenges while interacting directly with Guard members and learning more about their experiences.

The activities give students a chance to put leadership and communication skills into practice in a setting outside their normal classroom routine.

The morning also provided students an opportunity to talk with Guard members and learn more about the Ohio Army National Guard, including career opportunities, education benefits and the different paths available through military service.

The visit brought plenty of energy to the school as students competed, worked together and encouraged their classmates throughout the morning.





Photos By Traci Little

Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

MADISON VS MANSFIELD SENIOR VOLLEYBALL · SEPT. 17
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS ONTARIO FRESHMAN/JV FOOTBALL · SEPT. 14
PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Annual pig roast brings MCS community together for fall tradition

Photos and Article By Traci Little

MANSFIELD — The smell of roasting pork and the sounds of soccer filled the Mansfield Christian School campus Saturday as students, families, alumni and friends gathered for one of the school's longstanding traditions.

Mansfield Christian held its annual pig roast Sept. 19, combining an evening of food and fellowship with Flames soccer at Comstock Field.

The community celebration has become a familiar fall tradition at Mansfield Christian, bringing generations of Flames together while giving fans an opportunity to support the school's soccer program.

The evening also gave the home crowd plenty to cheer about on the field. Mansfield Christian's varsity boys defeated Highland 6-4 in a high-scoring matchup.

The Lady Flames followed with a dominant performance of their own, shutting out the Fighting Scots 9-0.

The Lady Flames' defense kept Highland off the scoreboard while the offense continued a season-long trend of decisive victories. Mansfield Christian has now won four matches by four goals or more this season.

The two victories completed a varsity sweep for Mansfield Christian during an evening centered on soccer, fellowship and the school's annual Pig Roast.



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights



Photos By Traci Little



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

CLEAR FORK VS RIVER VALLEY VOLLEYBALL · SEPT. 15
RIVER VALLEY WINS 3-0 · PHOTOS BY JEFF HOFFER



Tribune-Courier Sports Highlights

Area schools wrap-up week five on the football field

By Kris Leiter

They say time flies when you are having fun and some local football teams are definitely enjoying their season thus far. It's a wrap on week five — high school football season's "halftime."

Starting next week, things will really heat up as the OHSAA computer polls will kick in and get exciting! Some teams we might not expect may emerge and surprise us all!

The Galion Tigers (2-3, 0-2 MOAC, eighth place) hosted the Ontario Warriors (5-0, 2-0 MOAC, tied for first place) at Heise Park last Friday night.

Coach Aaron Eckard had the Warriors firing on all cylinders as they dismantled the Tigers 46-28 in fine fashion! Ontario may have had redemption in the pregame notes because last year, the Tigers shut-out the Warriors in Ontario 7-0, in a tightly played defensive battle.

In week four, Ontario junior running back Max Ciroli had the heat on high against Clear Fork with a major 57-yard touchdown! Last week in Galion, the fire was even hotter as he toppled his accolades from the previous week, contributing to Ontario's explosive offense against the Tigers.

Ciroli notched three trips to the gridiron with runs of 2, 5 and 22 yards to score 18 of the Warriors 49 points.

Tug of war was the name of this game as during the first quarter both teams notched the scoreboard, leaving Galion leading 14-7.

Moving into the second quarter, the Warriors defense held Galion scoreless with a 15-0 tally. Gavin Miller was busy crossing the end zone for his six points, along with a good PAT and Cardae Brown contributed for another reception for the blue and yellow.

The halftime horn would have the Warriors on top, 22-14.

The third quarter would reflect the first, only except Ontario would flip it with a 14-7 score in their favor.

Ciroli notched his second trip to the end zone and at the end of three quarters, the Warriors held the lead of 36-21.

With Galion trailing by 15 entering quarter number four, would the Warriors keep the distance or would Galion close the gap?

Soon the Tigers struck with a touchdown and the lead was narrowed 36-28 with Galion closing in.

It was time for the Warriors to seal the deal, and that they did! Ciroli brought the heat again with his third trip to the end zone. Jaxon Craze split the uprights from 21 yards for the field goal, holding the Tigers with another scoreless quarter of 15-0! At the final horn, the Warriors would ring in the final digits, 49-28!

As the conference is heating up, the win puts Ontario in a 3-way battle at 2-0 in the MOAC conference, tied for first place with Marion Harding and Shelby.

As for next week, the Warriors will battle another MOAC foe, the Marion Pleasant Spartans, on the road. Pleasant recently fell to a shut-out by Clear Fork (4-1 overall, 1-1 MOAC), 42-0.

The Spartans are currently 2-3, but those are the records that can go either way. Can the Warriors add number six to their winning record?

Also last Friday, the Lucas Cubs (3-2, 1-1 N10) hosted the Tiffin Calvert Senecas (0-5, 0-2 N10, tenth place)..

The Cubs notched another victory over the visiting Tiffin Calvert Senecas, 34-14.

This new match-up was the first game the teams have ever played against one another, resulting from the Cubs joining the N10 this year.

With the win, Lucas puts themselves over the .500 mark overall at 3-2. They are holding their own with a 1-1 record in the N10 and currently on a two-week winning streak.

Coming up in week 6, Lucas will head out on the road to challenge the Colonel Crawford Eagles (2-3, 1-2 N10, sixth place) at 7 pm on Friday. The Eagles just recently lost to Carey 16-0 (3-2, 2-0 N10, third place). With similar records, anything can happen!



Christian Estep



Anna Will

Photos By Jenna Wolford

THE GALION CROSS COUNTRY FESTIVAL was held at Ammans Park in Gaion on Saturday, Sept. 19. The Lexington boys dominated the Orange Division high school race taking first place as a team and the top three spots: Will Hooper with 16:31.76, John Bartone with 16:38.28 and Christian Estep with 16:40.22. For the girls, Lex's Gabi Twedt took third with 19:20 and Shelby's Anna Will took sixth with 20:01. Lexington's Jenna Halfhill (20:15.33) and Evalynn Adkins (20:15.87) took eighth and ninth. The Lex girls took second behind Watkins Glen and Shelby took home fourth. In the Blue Division, the Mansfield Christian High School boys took fifth and the girls placed sixth.

Board announces polling location changes for primary

Jane Zimmermann, Deputy Director The Richland County Board of Elections, has announced changes to voting locations for the upcoming general election on Nov. 3, and all future elections.

Bloomington Township Hall, Butler Township Hall, Franklin Township Fire Station and Shiloh Senior Center will no longer serve as polling locations.

Buckeye Community Center, 79 Noble Rd., W., Shiloh will be the new location for those who previously voted at Bloomington Township Hall, Butler Township Hall and Shiloh Senior Center.

Shenandoah Christian Church, 5642 St. Rt. 13 N., Shiloh, will be the new location for those who previously voted at Franklin Township Fire Station.

Voters in these precincts will receive notification by mail regarding their new polling location name and address. The board does not anticipate any further revisions unless an emergency arises.

Key dates for the Nov. 3 general election include:

Monday Oct. 5: Deadline to register to vote or update information. The board office will be open until 9 pm.

Tuesday, Oct. 6: Early In-Person Voting begins at 1495 W. Longview Ave., Mansfield, lower-level. Absentee ballots will begin to be mailed to voters who requested one.

Tuesday, Oct. 27: by 8:30 pm - Absentee Ballot Request Deadline. Request form must be received in our office at this time.

Sunday, Nov. 1: Early in-person voting ends at 5 pm.

Tuesday, Nov. 3: Election day polls will be open from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, By 7:30 pm: Ballots must be received in the board of elections office. Mail-in ballots should be submitted as early as possible.

For additional information regarding these polling place changes contact the Richland County Board of Elections at 419-774-5530.



AS PART OF THE "STARTS WITH HELLO "INITIATIVE, members of the Warrior Leadership Council spread positivity throughout Ontario High School by filling the sidewalks with chalk messages of encouragement.



THIS WEEK, MRS. SPENCER'S preschool class at Ontario learned all about apples. Students learned the different parts of an apple and did an apple tasting and enjoyed apple snacks (applejacks, apple cider, apples and apple donuts). Students voted the donuts as their favorite treat.

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE OF SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND NO LONGER NEEDED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES

Under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.41, the Board of Education of the Madison Local School District, Richland County, Ohio, will conduct a public auction to be held online only starting on October 24, 2026 and ending on November 3, 2026 by RES Auction Services, LLC (www.res.bid) for the purpose of offering for sale certain real property which is identified approximately 10.28 acres of real property situated on Reed Road and State Route 430 in Madison Township, State of Ohio, commonly known as the Mifflin Elementary Property, identified by the records of the County of Richland as Permanent Parcels 021-17-106-03-000, 021-17-106-04-000, 021-17-500-02-000, 021-17-500-03-000, 021-17-500-18-000, and 021-17-500-55-000. The terms of sale are cash and shall require a non-refundable deposit in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the highest bid from the highest bidder as security for faithful performance should the bid be accepted by the Board, balance in full payable at closing. The real property shall be sold in "AS IS," "WHERE IS," and "WITH ALL FAULTS" condition and title shall be conveyed by deed or other instrument of conveyance approved by the Board of Education. The successful bidder is responsible for making all inspections, with prior notice to and approval of the Treasurer, prior to said auction. The sale of the real property to the successful bidder shall not be final until accepted by resolution of the Board. The Board will consider and either accept or reject the highest bidder on November 4, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all informalities. The full conditions of the sale are set forth in the Board's Resolution of September 14, 2026 which can be accessed on the District's webpage. Additional information, bidding instructions, and online registration requirements may be obtained from RES Auction Services, LLC at www.res.bid.

Bradd Stevens, Treasurer
Board of Education of the
Madison Local School District
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 9-24, 10-1 '26) 63L

NOTICE OF SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND NO LONGER NEEDED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES

The Board of Education of the Madison Local School District, Richland County, Ohio, has declared certain personal property located at and associated with the former Mifflin Elementary School property to be no longer needed for school district purposes and authorized its sale at public auction. Pursuant to action of the Board of

Education, an online-only public auction of such personal property will be conducted by RES Auction Services, LLC (www.res.bid), beginning October 24, 2026, and ending November 3, 2026. The auction may include furniture, equipment, cafeteria equipment, maintenance equipment, supplies, and other miscellaneous personal property owned by the Board of Education and located in the former Mifflin Elementary School property, except for any items withdrawn from sale or retained by the District. The auction shall be absolute, and all items offered for sale shall be sold to the highest bidder, subject to the terms and conditions established by RES Auction Services, LLC and the Board of Education. All property shall be sold **AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS**, and without representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied. The Board of Education expressly disclaims all warranties, including without limitation warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Prospective bidders are responsible for conducting such inspections and investigations as they deem necessary prior to bidding. Payment shall be made in accordance with the terms and conditions established by RES Auction Services, LLC and provided to registered bidders. Purchasers shall be responsible for removing purchased items within the time period specified by the auctioneer and shall bear all costs associated with removal and transportation. Additional information regarding registration, bidding procedures, inspection opportunities, payment requirements, item descriptions, pickup dates, and auction terms may be obtained from RES Auction Services, LLC at www.res.bid.

Bradd Stevens, Treasurer
Board of Education of the
Madison Local School District
Mansfield, Ohio
(T-C 9-24, 10-1 '26) 66L

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 September 16, 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. 26-16 – A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FIVE YEAR UPDATE OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO.

Abbey Beaver
Asst. Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 9-24, 10-1 '26) 19L

2012 FORD F-350 4X4 TRUCK FOR SALE

The Trustees of Springfield Township, Richland County, Ohio will accept sealed bids until 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026 at the Trustee's office located at 3700 Park Avenue West, On-

tario, Ohio 44906. At that time, they will be publicly opened and read by the Fiscal Officer. Minimum accepted bid will be \$3,000.00 (Three Thousand dollars).

Bids must be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked "2012 Ford F-350 Truck." Each bid must contain the full name, address & telephone number of the person or company placing the bid. Questions may be directed to Assistant Chief Anthony Shelton at (419) 529-5512 ext. 202 or by email Ashelton@springfieldwprc.org. Sold "AS IS."

Kirstin Gray
Springfield Township Fire Department
Ontario, OH
(T-C 9-17, 24 '26) 23L

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before Council of the City of Ontario, during the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at the Ontario Municipal Building, 555 Stumbo Road, upon a proposal to update the City of Ontario Zoning Code, Part Eleven, Planning and Zoning, Title Five, Zoning Ordinance.

Planning Commission recommended this update.

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

Abbey Beaver
Asst. Clerk of Council
Ontario, Ohio
(T-C 9-24 '26) 19L



ONTARIO SENIORS painted their parking spots and for many it became a family event. The money raised for the spots supports the CamStrong Foundation, which provides funding for Ontario students in need for spots.



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**First Federal
Bank of Ohio**

THE RIGHT LOAN. THE RIGHT BANK.

LISA ANDERSON

Branch Manager/Loan Officer, NMLS 618735
landerson@firstfederalbankofohio.bank

1728 W. Fourth Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44906

Phone: 419-529-4687
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