

U.S. unemployment claims fall to a still-high 900,000

By Christopher Rugaber
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits fell slightly last week to 900,000, still a historically high level that points to ongoing job cuts in a raging pandemic.

The Labor Department's report Thursday underscored that President Joe Biden has inherited an economy that faltered this winter as virus cases spiked, cold weather restricted dining and federal rescue aid expired. The government said 5.1 million Americans are continuing to receive state jobless benefits, down from 5.2 million in the previous week. That suggests that while some of the unemployed are finding jobs, others are likely using up their state benefits and transitioning to separate extended-benefit programs.

More than 10 million people are receiving aid from those extended programs, which now offer up to 50 weeks of benefits, or from a new program that provides benefits to

contractors and the self-employed. All told, nearly 16 million people were on unemployment in the week that ended Jan. 2, the latest period for which data is available.

"Unemployment claims continue to show a job market unable to progress further as long as COVID-19 remains in the driver's seat," said Daniel Zhao, senior economist at Glassdoor. "While the vaccine offers a light at the end of the tunnel, we're still far away from a complete reopening of the economy that could drive rehiring and stem further layoffs."

New viral infections have begun to slow after months of relentless increases, though they remain high and are averaging about 200,000 a day. The number of deaths in the United States from the pandemic that erupted 10 months ago has surpassed 400,000.

Economists say one factor that has likely increased jobless claims in the past two weeks is a government financial aid package that was signed into law in late December. Among other things, it

provided a \$300-a-week federal unemployment benefit on top of regular state jobless aid. The new benefit, which runs through mid-March, may be encouraging more Americans to apply for aid.

Once vaccines become more widely distributed, economists expect growth to accelerate in the second half of the year as Americans unleash pent-up demand for travel, dining out and visiting movie theaters and concert halls. Such spending should, in theory, boost hiring and start to regain the nearly 10 million jobs lost to the pandemic.

But for now, the economy is losing ground. Retail sales have fallen for three straight months. Restrictions on restaurants, bars and some stores, along with a reluctance of most Americans to shop, travel and eat out, have led to sharp spending cutbacks. Revenue at restaurants and bars plunged 21% in 2020.

The loss of so many jobs has meant hardship for millions of American households. In December, employers cut 140,000 positions, the first loss

since April and the sixth straight month in which

hiring has weakened. The unemployment rate

remained stuck at a still-high 6.7%.

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Judge says Amazon won't have to restore Parler web service

Amazon won't be forced to immediately restore web service to Parler after a federal judge ruled Thursday against a plea to reinstate the fast-growing social media app favored by followers of former President Donald Trump.

U.S. District Judge Barbara Rothstein in Seattle said she wasn't dismissing Parler's "substantive underlying claims" against Amazon, but said it had fallen short in demonstrating the need for an injunction forcing it back online.

Amazon kicked Parler off its web-hosting service on Jan. 11. In court filings, it said the suspension was a "last resort" to block Parler from harboring violent plans to disrupt the presidential transition.

The Seattle tech giant said Parler had shown an "unwillingness and inability" to remove a slew of dangerous posts that called for the rape, torture and assassination of politicians, tech executives and many others.

The social media app, a magnet for the far right, sued to get back online, arguing that Amazon had breached its contract and abused its market power. It said Trump was likely on the brink of joining the platform, following a wave of his followers who flocked to the app after Twitter and Facebook expelled Trump after the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol.

Parler CEO John Matze asserted in a court filing that Parler's abrupt shutdown was motivated at least partly by "a desire to deny President Trump a platform on any large social-media service." Matze said Trump had contemplated joining the network as early as October under a pseudonym. The Trump administration last week declined to comment on whether he had planned to join.

Amazon denied its move to pull the plug on Parler had anything to do with political animus.

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Learn the real legacy of Johnny Appleseed



Steve Boehme
Let's Grow
Special to Chillicothe Gazette

John Chapman is one of the most misrepresented and misunderstood figures in American history. Otherwise known as "Johnny Appleseed," Chapman could be described as a successful real estate speculator with a good understanding of how to increase your wealth through compound interest.

He was a religious zealot, a wild-eyed Swedenborgian missionary with the flinty toughness of Daniel Boone and the gentleness of a Hindu. Oh, and by the way, he planted millions of apple trees from seed (but not by scattering them on the ground as shown in countless illustrations). His biggest contribution to life on the American frontier was to insure a renewable supply of hard cider and "applejack," the favorite liquors of the expanding American population

of his time.

Later reinvented as the cartoonish "Johnny Appleseed," John Chapman was a pioneer who made a huge impact on America's frontier, particularly in Ohio. With the canny shrewdness of a real estate developer, staying just ahead of the westward migration, he started a chain of nurseries reaching from western Pennsylvania through central Ohio and into Indiana. Chapman planted his nurseries near remote settlements on the most-traveled westward routes. When he died in 1845, his estate included 22 properties totaling more than 1200 acres of prime waterfront real estate.

To discourage speculation and encourage stability, land grant deeds in the Northwest Territory required homesteaders to plant orchards on their claims. Young apple trees were essential supplies for any settler headed for the frontier, and John Chapman offered 2- and 3-year-old saplings for about six cents each. He had a sixth sense for where the next wave of development would be, and by the time the demand was there he had a well-located nursery

in full production, run by a local manager.

Grafted apple trees with edible fruit were already available in Ohio, but Chapman grew his from seed. Apples don't sprout "true to type" from seed, so fruit from Chapman's trees was mostly bitter, useful only for making hard cider, which could be distilled into applejack. Safer, tastier and much easier to make than wine or grain liquors, apple cider was the alcoholic drink of choice on the American frontier. In fact, there was little else to drink. In rural areas, cider replaced wine, beer, coffee, tea and even water.

In addition to apples, Chapman introduced many medicinal herbs to Ohio, and also stinking fennel. This annoying weed was once believed to prevent malaria; today it's commonly called "Johnnyweed" by Ohioans.

Johnny Appleseed's legacy became a target during Prohibition, when Carrie Nation's axe was used to chop down apple trees along with saloons. Because of their popularity and for religious reasons, hard cider and applejack enjoyed

some immunity from the early prohibitionists, but by 1900 they were attacked along with wine, beer and grain spirits. Johnny's legend was reinvented, his image sanitized for political correctness.

In his excellent book *The Botany of Desire*, author Michael Pollan explores the Johnny Appleseed legend in detail. He concludes that John Chapman was "the American Dionysus." Where Dionysus brought civilization the gift of wine, Chapman offered easier access to the pleasures of alcohol. Pollan views both Dionysus and Chapman as bridges between nature and culture, harnessing the magic of fermentation to create social change.

The take-home message for gardeners is that apple trees grown from seed will not produce the same fruit as the original apple. Only grafting will produce dependable offspring with the qualities of the parent apple tree.

Steve Boehme is a landscape designer/installer specializing in landscape makeovers. For more information call GoodSeed Farm Landscapes at 937-587-7021.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

2021 dog license deadline has been extended to June 30

ROSS COUNTY – Ross County Auditor Tom Spetnagel, Jr. has announced that the deadline for purchasing 2021 dog licenses without penalty has been extended from Jan. 31 to June 30.

Dog Licenses will be available for purchase at the following locations through Feb. 15: Garman Feed & Supply in South Salem, Frankfort Hardware in Frankfort, Central Center Hardware in Chillicothe, North Fork Animal Clinic on Anderson Station Road and Paint Valley Hardware & Supply in Bainbridge.

Dog tags are also available year-round at the county auditor's office, the dog warden and Ross County Humane Society on Lick Run Road and at North Fork Animal Clinic.

Licenses can also be obtained through the mail by sending a description of the dog including age, sex, color and breed along with a check and a self-addressed stamped envelope to County

Auditor Thomas M. Spetnagel, Jr. Ross County Courthouse, 2 N. Paint Street, Suite G, Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601. Through Feb. 15 the registration fee is \$10 for each dog license and \$50 for a kennel license.

Applications can be downloaded from the county auditor's website at www.co.ross.oh.us/auditor. Tags are also available for purchase online via credit card for an additional \$2 per tag due to a transaction fee.

Property tax bills on the way, notice of the extended due date

ROSS COUNTY – Ross County Treasurer Steve Neal, Jr. announced that the first half property tax bills are being mailed this week and taxpayers should start to see them in their mailboxes.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state was behind in getting the tax rates to the county.

Because of the delay in getting the bills out, Neal has extended the tax due

date to Feb. 26. If there are any questions, the treasurer's office would be happy to answer them for you.

Taxpayers who receive a separate manufactured home statement should expect to receive their bill about a week later.

Manufactured home tax payments are due March 1.

We encourage taxpayers to utilize our drop boxes and online payment options as opposed to coming into the office to help keep everyone safe. If it is necessary to come into the office, masks are required and we ask that you follow all the social distancing guidelines. There are masks available at the door of the courthouse as well as hand sanitizer to be used upon entry.

There are many programs that the treasurer's office offers to make it easier on taxpayers to pay their taxes. The blue insert included with the bill describes the programs and how to sign up for them.

Information on the programs and di-

rections for how to sign up are also located on the treasurer's website.

The treasurer's office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday except for holidays. The office will also be open until 6 p.m. the final week of the real estate tax collection, Feb. 22-26.

The treasurer's office is in the Ross County Courthouse. There is also a night drop slot available in the front door of the treasurer's office as well as a drive-up drop box located in the service center parking lot, 475 Western Ave.

All payments deposited before midnight on the due date will be considered timely.

E-check or credit card payments made through the treasurer's website before midnight will also be on time.

For more information, contact the office of Treasurer Steve Neal, Jr. by phone at 740-702-3080, email at treasurer@rosscountyohio.gov, or visit the treasurer's website at www.rosscountyoio.gov/treasurer.

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COMMUNITY

Dear Abby: Nurse fears consequences

Dear Abby: I have been a nurse for 10 years and love taking care of my patients. I have worked at a midsize hospital for 2 1/2 years.



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

Since I started working here, we have been assigned six or seven patients at a time, although I was told when I was hired they were going to hire enough nurses to have a 4-to-1 ratio. It not only hasn't happened, but the administration keeps piling on paperwork for the nurses to complete.

I have anxiety, and this is about to cause me to break. I love my job, and I don't want to leave. I just wish they would be more considerate of their nurses instead of making them feel like I do right now, which is wanting to find something else.

Should I say something to my charge nurse about how I'm feeling? I'm afraid if I do, I'll be pushed out of this job. Adding to my anxiety is that my daughter now works at the same facility, and I'm afraid I say anything they will punish her. Please offer

me your advice. — Anxious R.N. in Alabama

Dear Anxious R.N.: Because you feel the stress is becoming too much, I do think you should address it with your charge nurse. It's the truth. Because the pandemic has increased the workload on all medical caregivers, you are far from alone in feeling overwhelmed.

When you speak up, do not couch it in terms of the fact that your employers have not followed through on their promises. Do it strictly in terms of the effect it is having on you. I doubt you will be fired, because experienced nurses are in such high demand right now. However, if you are let go and your daughter is questioned about it, all she should say is that the workload and the stress became too much for you. Speaking your truth should be no reflection on her.

Dear Abby: New neighbors moved into my apartment building about a month ago. I don't mind that sometimes I hear their kids. I don't mind that sometimes I hear the adults. But! Their alarm clock wakes me up every morning at 6 a.m. It's loud, and I'm guessing it's up against the adjoining wall.

Normally, I sleep until 8. I work from home, and I'm usually up until 1 a.m. or so. I'm a night owl, and I simply can't go to sleep any earlier.

It's impossible to sleep through their alarm. It has been weeks. I am afraid if I complain they will call me a racist since I am white, and they are black. But it's not a race thing; it's a sleep thing. What should I do? — Sleepless in Baltimore

Dear Sleepless: Write a polite note to the new neighbors and introduce yourself. Explain the problem you are experiencing and ask if they can help you by either moving their alarm clock to a different part of their bedroom or adjusting the ring to make it softer. (It could be as simple as placing their clock on a soft surface like a towel.) If they are unwilling to cooperate, as a last resort try earplugs and talk to the building manager about the noise problem.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, California 90069.

OhioHealth Berger Hospital begins vaccinating people 80+

CIRCLEVILLE — OhioHealth announced that it began providing COVID-19 vaccines to patients who are 80 years of age and older on Tuesday, Jan. 19 in accordance with guidance from Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health.

The first vaccinations started Jan. 19 at OhioHealth Primary Care. Walk-in appointments will not be accepted. Only those individuals who have scheduled a vaccination through MyChart or the vaccine hotline will be vaccinated.

How to schedule:
For patients who have a medical record in the last three years at OhioHealth, vaccinations can be self-scheduled through OhioHealth

MyChart, which is available on the OhioHealth website or via smartphone app.

Patients will be notified through MyChart when they are able to schedule. Patients are encouraged to check their MyChart account now to ensure their contact information is up to date. MyChart is the easiest and fastest way to schedule an appointment.

For all others or those that are unable to schedule online:

Those in the eligible age groups can call our scheduling hotline to book their vaccination appointments. The hotline can be reached at (614) 533-6999 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vaccinations will be given following the schedule below, current

as of Jan. 15, 2021:

Week of Jan. 19 — Patients 80 years of age and older

Week of Jan. 25 — Patients 75 years of age and older; those with severe congenital or developmental disorders

Week of Feb. 1 — Patients 70 years of age and older

Week of Feb. 8 — Patients 65 years of age and older

Appointments slots are filling fast. If no appointments are available when scheduling opens, patients are encouraged to regularly check MyChart. Appointments will be added as additional vaccine arrives.

For more information about scheduling a COVID-19 vaccine at OhioHealth, visit www.ohiohealth.com/covid-vaccine.

Researchers want your owl sightings

BY STEVEN COLLINS
Circleville Herald Senior Reporter

CIRCLEVILLE — Have you seen an owl? A professor from Ohio Dominican University would like to know about it.

Dr. Blake Mathys, an Associate Professor of Environmental Science, is looking to document the owl population during the winter in Ohio. He's looking for people to notify him across the state.

"I want to hear about every owl that somebody sees," Mathys said. "The main hope is to get a better idea of how many of these more-rare owls are spending

time here in Ohio. Since they're so good at hiding and difficult to locate, I think we're missing them and this is a better way to document these owls in Ohio."

The project is specifically looking for three threatened or species of concerned owls, including the northern saw-whet owl, the long-eared owl and the barn owl. Owls can be reported by visiting <https://www.ohiodominican.edu/OwlProject>.

"We're going to be looking all winter," he said.

Mathys said you don't have to be an owl expert in order to help them identify the owls. "If they know what

species they're looking at, great, but I can figure it out from a description or especially if they have a picture of one," he said.

Mathys said that due to their nature, owls can appear anywhere and to keep an eye out. "They can show up anywhere, so even if you don't live next to a nature preserve, there is still a chance the owls are around if people go out and look," he said.

Mathys said the reports are purely for research purposes. "All reports will be kept completely confidential," he said. "So no location will become famous for owls."

CHS grads can apply for scholarships

CIRCLEVILLE — The Circleville City School Foundation is seeking applicants for the 2021-2022 "Make a Difference" scholarship.

The scholarship is open to all graduates of Circleville High School who are continuing their education in any area of learning, in a

two or four-year degree or a certification in a skilled area.

This is a non-renewable scholarship that must be used during the year of application. Applications can be printed from the CCSF website, which is circlevillecityschool-foundation.org.

Deadline for applica-

tions is March 4, 2021. This is the 10th year the foundation has offered this scholarship, which is valued at up to \$2,000. Last year, six former CHS graduates received "Make a Difference" scholarships. The Foundation Board thanks its donors for making this possible.

Ashville's Welsh makes APSU's Dean's List

CLARKSVILLE, Tennessee — Austin Peay State University is proud to recognize Stephen Welsh from

Ashville, Ohio, as one of over 2,000 students named to the Dean's List for academic achievement during the

Fall 2020 semester. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or greater.

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DEADLINE JANUARY 31ST

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COMMUNITY

Radcliff sworn in



STEVEN COLLINS/THE CIRCLEVILLE HERALD
Dodie Radcliff, Circleville's newly-appointed treasurer, is sworn in by City Law Director Gary Kenworthy at his law office on North Court Street this week.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Editor's note: According to ORC 121.22 (f), every public body, by rule, shall establish a reasonable method whereby any person may determine the time and place of all regularly scheduled meetings and the time, place, and purpose of all special meetings. A public body shall not hold a special meeting unless it gives at least twenty-four hours' advance notice to the news media that have requested notification, except in the event of an emergency requiring immediate official action. In the event of an emergency, the member or members calling the meeting shall notify the news media that

have requested notification immediately of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

Saturday, Jan. 30
• Circleville City Council Committee of the Whole work session, 8 a.m., second floor of the Plaster Center, Ohio Christian University, 1360 Lancaster Pike, Circleville.

Monday, Feb. 1
• Circleville Township Trustees meeting, 7 p.m., township house, 2665 North Court Street, Circleville.
• Jackson Township Board of Trustees meeting, 7 p.m., Community Center in Fox.
• Monroe Township Trustees regular meeting,

7:30 p.m., township house in Five Points.

• Teays Valley Board of Education special meeting, 5:30 p.m., freshman building, room 117.

• Pickaway Township Trustees meeting, 8 a.m., Pickaway Township House, 6166 Zane Trail Road.

• Walnut Township Trustees meeting, 7 p.m., township house, 10617 Winchester Road, Ashville.

• Muhlenberg Township Trustees monthly meeting, 7 p.m., Muhlenberg Township House, 16661 Main Street, Darbyville.
• Circleville City Council Tree Commission meeting, 9 a.m., teleconference meeting.

Tuesday, Feb. 2
• Circleville City Council meeting, 7 p.m., WebEx.
Wednesday, Feb. 3
• Pickaway County Veterans' Commission meeting, 6 p.m., via video conference. To receive information on participating, please call the office at 740-474-3650.
Thursday, Feb. 4
• Scioto Township Trustees meeting, 7 p.m. Scioto Township Service Center, 6752 state Route 762, Commercial Point.
• Southern Ohio Council of Governments (SOCOG) board meeting, 9 a.m., via electronic communication. For an invitation to participate and more information, call 740-775-5030 ext: 103.

Westfall Middle School Honor Roll

Westfall Middle School Honor Roll for the second nine weeks. * Denotes All A's.

Grade 6
Audra Anderson*, Carly Atwood, Brendan Biegler*, Alexis Bond, Malia Brownfield, Colton Brungarth, Jillian Butcher, Ian Camden, Lydia Colahan*, Ruchelle Colahan*, Kaylee Curtis, Carson Deskins*, Trevor Drone, Emory Dumm, Ellie Heath*, Adrina Hicks, Alexis Holland,

Kaden Mercurio, Kyleigh Mercurio*, Sara Moats*, Ryan Moss, Gavin Packer, Lillian Patterson, Anthony Paudicz, Andrew Pluta, Mason Reisinger, Brooklyn Riffle, Emma Roberts, Reese Rogers, Blayze Scott, Rayne Seymour, Joni Snyder*, Haley Spangler*, Brady Speakman, Jaron Towler, Gabriel Watkins, Belle Williams, Brock Williams
Grade 7
Mason Barnes*,

Steven Bingham, Drew Brown*, Grace Bryant, Hope Bryant, Victoria Bryant*, Dalton Bush*, Ashton Carpenter*, Sierra Chalk*, Hallie Cox, Lily Danielsson, Jaiden Dean, Olivia Dick, George (Quinn) Eberly, Landon Fish, Cahli Garrett, Alden Grooms, Carson Hanning, Morgan Kearney, Kathryn Lockhart, Keiara Maynard*, Ethan Medford*, Adrian Moehl*, James Moore*, Waylon Moore, Suttan Neff, Jae-

lyn Pounds*, Levi Powers, Madison Riddick*, Zachary Scott, Arcadia Seymour, Lane Shaffer*, Justine Shaw, Wyatt Slatzer, Stefany Tejan*, Kaelynn Walls, Addison Wenthur*, Sean Williams*, William (Joey) Wright, Layla Yoe, Joshua Young*

Grade 8
Grace Artis, Lauren Barnes, Abigail Bretthauer, Jesse Browning, Jazmyne Carrillo, Brianna Carter, Aubrey Clark*, Brysen Curtis, Samuel

Daum, Gavin Deskins, Amelia Fisher, Trent Gardner, Gavin Hall*, Ryan Haney*, Gabriella Henry, Carter Henson, Bradley McKeever, Logan McNeal, Charles (Wesley) Moats, Marianna Packer*, Audrey Pancake, Isabella Patete, Jadyne Patete*, Reese Paudicz*, Izabella Picklesimer, Haden Rigby, Andrew Roberts, Matthew Roberts, Mitchell Ruff*, Alexis Saint, Addisyn Siders, Nathaniel Smith*, Joseph Smoot,

Anna Snyder, Tristan Sprague*, Madalyn Staley, Alexis Steinbrook, Isaac Stevens, Isabel Stevens, Noah Stonerock, Aubree Thomas*, Evan Thomas, Isabelle Thomas*, Jared Thomas*, Karli Thornton*, Jaden Towler, Joshua Trapp, Alexa Vanhorne, Savannah Vulamore*, Adam Webster, Paige Weiss*, Cadence Wesley, Brody Williams, Nathan Wolfe, Tara Wolfe*, Peyton Yates, Yater Yates*

EMRICK

Continued from page A1

"I've had an enjoyable career here working for Dwight and Robert B. Radcliff," Emrick told *The Circleville Herald* in that interview.

Emrick shared his love of talking with people and being an investigator.

"Sometimes I talk too much," Emrick said, with a laugh. "I've enjoyed talking to people and helping people. It's not all about arresting people. We have a very troubled society today. Law enforcement people do have to have compassion, as well as protecting people."

Emrick shared with *The Herald* that he enjoyed hunting and being with his grandchildren.

"I like going deer hunting, we're just at the end of the season now," he said. "I enjoy being with my grandkids on the weekend, my wife and I have them quite a bit. This past summer, I bought a pellet grill and I got into cooking on the weekends. It's pretty easy to learn how to do it because there are a lot of experts on Facebook or YouTube telling you how to do it. You just have to pull it up."

Emrick's career is filled with awards and accommodations. Some of the awards include: 1978 Buckeye State Sheriff's Association Commendation Award, 1994 Law Enforcement Excellence Award by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1996-1997 Ohio Auto Theft Investigator of the Year, 2001 VFW Post #331 Circleville Officer of the Year, 2008 The Buckeye State Sheriff's Association for Outstanding Performance of Duty, 2012 Central Ohio Crime Stoppers Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and The 32nd Degree Masons Valley of Columbus and Pickaway County Scottish Rite Association Community Service Award.

Emrick served under three sheriffs, Dwight Radcliff, Robert Radcliff and Matthew Hafez.

Emrick was remembered by his friends and coworkers this week following his death.

Robert Radcliff said Emrick was family, "like a brother or uncle," and his history dates back to his time as a child living at the Sheriff's Office on West Franklin Street.

"I was 15 years old when he came to the Sheriff's

Office and I was honored to not only have him as an employee, but as a friend," Radcliff said. "As far as an employee, there's nobody that had more dedication than Rex Emrick. He didn't like to take vacation or time off; he wanted to be on the job."

Radcliff said Emrick was someone that if you needed something investigated, you wanted him on the case.

"You wanted him on the case because he was a natural and he knew how to talk to people," he said. "People were willing to tell him things they wouldn't tell anyone else. This county has lost a great public servant and a detective that cannot be replaced."

Radcliff spoke about Emrick's dedication to his friends and community.

"If you needed something, he would be there," he said. "There's no doubt in my mind that Rex would have taken a bullet for me and everyone else at the Sheriff's Office. That's the person that he was."

Radcliff said Emrick was so dedicated to the job, he went out a second-floor window with a suspect and recently fought with a younger guy while in the field.

"He never stopped being who he was," Radcliff said.

Dale Parrish, who recently retired from the Sheriff's Office after his own 40-plus-year career, said it was hard to put into words how much of a loss Emrick's death was.

"Back when we first started, we literally grew up together," he said. "Rex and I shared an interest in investigations and we vacationed together. I knew him in many aspects. He was more than a coworker; he was like a brother."

Parrish too recalled the case in which Emrick went out the second-story window.

"It was the case where there was a fire at the old prosecutor's office, which is the parking lot next to the old jail now," he said. "[The suspect] thought he knew the evidence in his pending case would be there, so he set it on fire to get his evidence destroyed. He had this whole elaborate plan to destroy the evidence, do a burglary in Tarlton and then take off and change his name.

It never quite got that far. We were waiting on him."

Parrish said that was the dedication to the job, to see it through.

"We worked many cases over the years and we always tracked them down 100 percent, and it was never finished until the case was over," he said. "We were taught by Sheriff [Dwight Radcliff] that when we got on a case, we saw it through to the end."

Parrish said Emrick has helped so many people over the years, it's hard to recall them all.

"There's little doubt that he'll always be remembered for it," he said.

Jim Bingham met Emrick at the Sheriff's Office when he was a dispatcher. One of the things that stood out to him was Emrick's spelling ability, or lack thereof.

"He was one of those guys that we hit it off right away in the beginning and became pretty good friends, we were both young and single and went to places together," he said.

"I was working as a dispatcher training Rex, back in the days when everything was pencil and paper and typewriter, and he struggled with it spelling certain words.

We even had spelling tests so he could learn. I bought him a dictionary for him to look up the spelling of the words and he asked me how he could do that if he didn't know how to spell them. I thought that was funny."

Bingman, who is in Florida right now, said he's still in shock over Emrick's death.

"I recall my last day in uniform and we took a picture together, that was a month ago," he said.

Bingman worked the roads at the same time as Emrick and, echoing the thoughts of Radcliff and Parrish, said he was someone who never met a stranger.

"He had a gift with talking to people, whether they were in crisis or needed help," he said.

"Everyone opened up to him. He knew a little bit about everything. You could talk about farming, cars and I even remember when he bought a boat and went to to Deercreek and waterskiing. He enjoyed life and could get into anything and have a good time or make a good time out of it.

You could go any direction in this county and find people that knew Rex," he said. "Nobody said anything bad about him because he's one of those guys that everyone liked."

EMAIL: COLLINS@CIRCLEVILLEHERALD.COM

GRAIN PRICES



Circleville Grain Prices from Cargill

Cash corn	\$5.4700
Cash beans	\$13.7000
Cash wheat	\$6.4300

Brothers Love Asphalt

The girls at The Old Home Place are giving the store a thorough cleaning this month. And they noticed that some places are not as dirty as usual, especially the windows. They attributed a lot of this to new asphalt on the parking lot. There is much less grit for the wind to pick up and deposit on the porch and blow in through the doors. If there is any snow this winter, the parking lot should be much easier to clean, too.

Dave the baker and his family is headed to Florida for a winter break. They will spend most of their time in Sarasota in the Pinecraze area where tons of Amish and Mennonites spend the winter. Aunts Fannie and Margie live in Sarasota and they will spend a little time doing a few small projects for them.

There is a pretty good crew in the bakery but taking 3 away for a week changes things a little. If anything is a little wrong in the bakery next week we'll just do the normal thing and blame the people that are gone.

See you soon!

Directions

12 miles west of Chillicothe on 35 to the 1st Frankfort exit (CR87) the right 0.1 mile.
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 5:30pm; Saturday: 8:30am - 4:00pm (740) 998-4303

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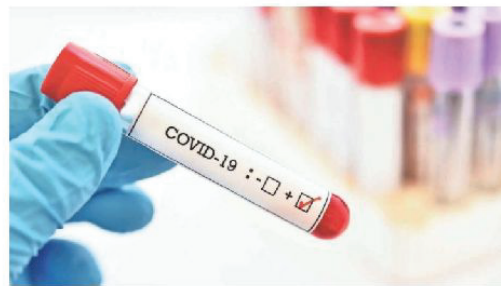
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Laboratories have ramped up to process more than 2 million COVID-19 tests each day. GETTY IMAGES

Testing

Continued from Page 1A

Public health labs largely are not equipped to detect new coronavirus variants such as ones first identified in the United Kingdom and South Africa. And there's debate among testing experts on whether wider use of cheaper but less sensitive rapid tests would be the smartest path out of the pandemic.

Biden issued a flurry of executive orders Thursday, from mask mandates on federal property to reopening schools and accelerating vaccine shipments. Fixing the nation's disparate testing system "will be the most challenging" of all, said Marcus Plescia, chief medical officer of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

Former Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Tom Frieden said Biden's testing initiative fits with his broader, science-based plan to curb a pandemic that's killed more than 415,000 people in the USA.

"This is a really challenging pandemic to deal with," said Frieden, president and CEO of Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of Vital Strategies. "Important as executive orders are, they are only the start of a major effort."

Calling a national testing strategy the "cornerstone to reducing the spread of COVID," Biden's plan calls for more rapid antigen tests, supplies, lab capacity and genomic sequencing to keep better track of hot spots and new variants.

There are also tidbits for consumers. One executive order requires federal agencies to clarify insurers' obligation to cover testing, even for people who have no symptoms. For those without health insurance, testing will be free, the order says.

Just as important as a national testing plan is the president's call for better data reporting and a willingness to level with the American public, Frieden said.

"President Biden has been very clear: We're in it together," he said. "It's going to get worse before it gets better. These are all hard truths and important facts that need to be shared and lived. And they have been ignored for a year."

The plan calls for federal agencies to use the wartime Defense Production Act to fix persistent shortages of testing and vaccine supplies, as well as protective equipment such as gowns, gloves and N95 masks.

When labs run out of critical supplies such as chemical reagents, plastic tips or swabs, it delays or prevents a lab's ability to complete a test, said Patrick Godbey, president of the College of American Pathologists.

Godbey said labs finish tests within hours when all supplies are on hand. When labs can't get supplies, some must ship samples to other labs to test,

which delays results two days or more.

"I still can't do all the tests I'd like to do," said Godbey, laboratory director of Southeast Georgia Regional Medical Center in Brunswick. "If we can't get the reagents necessary, we measure turnaround time in days."

When testing demand surged this summer in Sun Belt states, labs in communities hard hit by COVID-19 routinely took one week or longer to complete results. Supply shortages snarled results at small and large labs alike.

Biden's plan calls for federal agencies to use the Defense Production Act or other "appropriate authorities" to accelerate manufacturing of a dozen types of supplies: N95 masks, gowns, gloves, test swabs, reagents, plastic pipette tips, testing machines, swabs, needles and syringes, rapid test kits and material for rapid antigen tests. The federal government can use the act to compel private companies to make critical supplies for national defense or national emergencies.

Biden calls for wider use of rapid tests to complement lab testing in settings such as schools.

Molecular PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests processed at labs remain the gold standard of accurate testing, but they are more expensive and results can take days to process. Rapid antigen tests can be performed outside labs and deliver results in 15 minutes.

Under the Trump administration, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services purchased rapid testing machines for use in nursing homes. HHS bought 150 million Abbott BinaxNow portable, rapid tests tests for states, nursing homes, the Indian Health Service and historically Black colleges and universities.

The Biden plan will establish a CDC support team to "fund rapid test acquisition and distribution for priority populations, work to spur development and manufacturing of at-home tests and work to ensure that tests are widely available."

The rapid tests are typically less sensitive than lab tests, which means they might not detect the virus in some cases.

"I worry about inaccurate testing," Godbey said. "Bad tests are worse than no tests at all."

Michael Mina, a Harvard epidemiologist who has advocated for rapid antigen tests, said such testing can be quickly deployed. If the Biden administration authorizes the purchase and widespread use of these tests, they can be shipped directly to Americans homes, and "we can start seeing cases plummet."

"If we can do that, we can start to see cases come down dramatically across the country within weeks in a way that vaccines could never do in these first 100 days," Mina said.

Contributing: Karen Weintraub

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State: Columbus vaccine provider mishandles, spoils 890 doses

Randy Ludlow Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

An investigation of a Columbus vaccine provider is underway after nearly 900 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were wasted by failing to properly monitor their storage temperatures.

The Ohio Department of Health announced Wednesday it has suspended SpecialtyRx as a vaccine provider while seeking an investigation by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, which confirmed an investigation has been started.

SpecialtyRx's Columbus branch was given 1,500 doses of Moderna vaccine to administer shots to residents in eight long-term care facilities late last year, health officials said. The facilities were located in Cuyahoga, Lucas, Portage and Sandusky counties.

After administering first doses, the company had 890 doses remaining and sought to transfer them to another vaccine provider, but discovered "they had failed to appropriately monitor temperatures in their refrigerator and freezer."

Noting the health department requires virus vaccine providers to check and record minimum and maximum storage temperatures each day, health officials said it was ultimately determined 890 doses were not viable and



Rose Baker gives second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to Julie Baker at Ohio State University East on Jan. 5. BARBARA J. PERENC/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

could not be used.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the Moderna vaccine can be safely stored in a refrigerator at between 36 and 46 degrees for up to 30

days.

The long-term care centers that received first doses from SpecialtyRx will need to arrange for second doses from another provider, likely local health de-

partments, officials said.

The first-shot doses given to long-term care residents were properly refrigerated and there is no concern they have been spoiled, said Department of Health spokeswoman Melanie Amato.

The facilities identified as being handled by SpecialtyRx are:

- Aristocrat Berea Healthcare and Rehabilitation;
- Candlewood Healthcare and Rehabilitation, East Cleveland;
- Cityview Healthcare and Rehabilitation, Cleveland;
- Suburban Healthcare and Rehabilitation, North Randall;
- Astoria Place of Waterville;
- Kent Healthcare and Rehabilitation;
- Astoria Place of Clyde and
- Braeview Manor, Euclid.

The Ohio Department of Health has halted the shipment of further vaccine doses to the company.

A message seeking comment was left Wednesday with SpecialtyRx officials. The company's headquarters are located in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey.

Pharmacy board spokesman Cameron McNamee said the board could not comment on an open investigation.

rludlow@dispatch.com
@RandyLudlow

Vaccine

Continued from Page 1A

have died of COVID-19.

Dr. Octavio Ramilo, chief of infectious diseases at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, is another advocate for younger children's vaccinations for the pandemic virus.

"Should younger kids be vaccinated for COVID-19? The answer is clearly a strong yes. How young and how we need to go about it is debatable."

He isn't surprised that some laypeople might think otherwise.

"At the beginning of the pandemic, there was just optimistic perspective that the kids do not get infected," Ramilo said. "Initial perceptions are wrong. Children do get infected. They do have a lot of virus. They can transmit the disease. And some of the younger kids get



Katelyn Evans, 16, is the first local teenager to take part in the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center clinical trial of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, Oct. 14, 2020. Participants receive either the immunization or a placebo. CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

very sick."

In addition, Ramilo said, scientists need to understand why children are less likely to get sick from the novel cor-

onavirus.

"Younger babies tend to get sicker with respiratory viruses. That's why this is scientifically challenging," he said. "We have to understand how the immune system in children is unique with this virus."

Dr. Paul Spearman, director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Cincinnati Children's, where he directs various vaccine trials for adults and children, also agreed that younger children should be vaccinated.

He said it's not just about their physical health.

"School attendance is really important for our school-age children, and getting back to normal social activities is really important for all children," Spearman said. "We think vaccines will help this occur more quickly and safely."

Like the other doctors, Spearman noted that an indirect effect of vaccinating children is that it will help halt the

pandemic's spread.

"Children who are infected are often asymptomatic and can spread virus to others," Spearman reminded. "We don't know exactly how much vaccination will prevent this spread, but it is likely to knock it down significantly."

Before trials would begin on the younger children, Frenck said, a dosing study would be done, "to see if we do need to decrease dosage." Kids 12 and older are given the same dosage as adults in the COVID-19 vaccine trials.

"Once we have those data, then, for additional children, we will use the dose that has the best combination of high immune response and low level of side effects," Frenck said.

He said he thinks a COVID-19 vaccination could be available to the greater population of U.S. adolescents by fall, but added, "that's a guess."

For younger kids, Frenck said, "I think it will be a year or more."

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Ohio absentee ballots failure prompts changes

Rick Rouan

Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose is pushing new rules for absentee ballot vendors after a Northeast Ohio company that flew a Trump 2020 flag over its headquarters couldn't keep up with production of ballots last year.

Several counties cut ties with Cleveland-based Midwest Direct last fall when it failed to deliver thousands of absentee ballots on time during a general election that drew historic levels of voting by mail because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The company had contracts with about 16 of Ohio's 88 counties. Nine of them fired the company.

Midwest Direct also received national attention for flying a Trump 2020 campaign flag over its headquarters as the former president criticized voting by mail. The company eventually removed the flag.

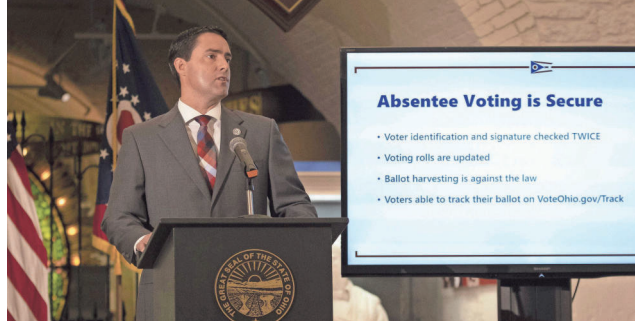
Now LaRose is proposing that local boards of elections first get approval from his office before contracting for absentee ballot processing and get assurances in writing from vendors that they have the resources to handle the contract.

They also have to consider "any action, appearance of impropriety, or political bias that the choice of vendor might impute on the board," according to a draft of changes to the Ohio Election Official Manual.

LaRose's proposal also include a timeline of approvals for ballots leading up to the election among other changes.

LaRose was not available for an interview, but a spokeswoman for his office confirmed that the changes were a response to Midwest Direct.

"Last year's failure of Midwest Direct to meet expectations and allow serious delays in the distribution of thousands of absentee ballots was unacceptable," LaRose's spokeswoman Maggie Sheehan wrote in an



Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, pictured in the Ohio Statehouse in August 2020, is proposing new rules for local boards of elections to contract with vendors for absentee ballot processing.

ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

email. "We can't allow any mail vendor to overpromise and underdeliver again. Changes to the Election Official Manual provide greater guidance to our county boards of elections as they determine their contractors for future elections. Our absentee voting system is one of the best in the nation, and we're going to keep it that way."

Midwest Direct did not respond to a request for comment.

Local election officials have not raised any red flags about the proposed changes, said Aaron Ockerman, executive director of the Ohio Association of Election Off-

cials.

Vendors should be required to adhere to the same "bipartisan chain of custody" that boards of elections follow, said Jen Miller, executive director of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Miller said Midwest Direct flying a Trump flag while the president questioned voting by mail led some voters to question whether that was the reason their ballots were delayed.

"Voters deserve to feel completely secure in this process," she said.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Family Dollar reopening

COSHOCTON - The Family Dollar store of Coshocton at 144 S. Second St. will have a grand reopening on Feb. 6 following recent renovations.

The renovated store will also offer Dollar Tree merchandise, an expanded selection of food, beauty and essentials, household products, and seasonal items.

A store of the size in Coshocton typically employs six to 10 associates. Interested applicants can apply online at FamilyDollar.com/careers or by visiting the store location. Family Dollar also recently opened a new store in Conesville.

West Lafayette Council to hold special meeting

WEST LAFAYETTE - West Lafayette Village Council will meet in special session at 6:15 p.m. Feb. 3 in council chambers, 115 E. Railroad St. The purpose is to hire a new village solicitor.

The zoning and building codes committee will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 2 and the finance committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8. The next regular council meeting is at 7 p.m. Feb. 8.

COTC offering accelerated courses

NEWARK - Central Ohio Technical College is offering accelerated courses during its spring semester, going from 15 weeks to eight weeks for completion.

All courses will be taught remotely and can count

toward an associate's degree at COTC or transfer to any public college or university in the state of Ohio. Second-term courses begin on March 8. COTC's free application for admission is due March 1 and the last day to register for classes is March 8.

Second term courses offered include Composition I, Intro to Statistics, Critical Thinking, Intro to Psychology, Intro to Sociology, Cultural Diversity and Small Group Communications.

Locals achieve at CU

CEDARVILLE - Fred Doberstein of Newcomerstown was named to the fall semester honor's list at Cedarville University. Mia Getz of Millersburg and Kailee Harris of Coshocton were named to the dean's list.

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Genesis Family Doctors in Coshocton

Genesis HealthCare System is pleased to announce the opening of Genesis Coshocton Family Practice. Brenda Lozowski, D.O., David Lozowski, D.O., and Brandon Hill, M.D., are accepting new patients and are excited to provide quality healthcare to the Coshocton community.

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Brenda Lozowski, D.O.



David Lozowski, D.O.



Brandon Hill, M.D.

CIC board discusses interaction with schools, businesses

By TODD HELBERG

thelberg@crescent-news.com

The Defiance County Community Improvement Corporation's (CIC) efforts to interact with schools on manufacturing topics will continue in 2021.

The CIC board, which relies on a combination of private and public money to promote economic development in Defiance County, held its monthly meeting Thursday and focused its public session on workforce topics.

The CIC's workforce development manager, Carla Hinkle, informed the board that she hopes to bring county school officials and leaders of eight to

10 local businesses together in April through a Defiance County Workforce Business Education Advisory Committee that would meet quarterly.

"I'm working on putting that together with the first meeting in April," she said. "... it is going to include businesses and school reps. I would like to have at the meetings a rep from each school, so that invitations will be going out to them as soon as a date is decided upon."

"This forum is more to try to close the gap between the schools and the manufacturers that are out there," said CIC Executive Director Erika Willitzer.

"I think it's a good thing for us to do on a quarterly basis to interact with the superintendents or

guidance counselors on what we think is important and what they think is important," said Bryan Keller, a CIC board member and chief executive officer for Keller Logistics Group in Defiance.

"... moving forward I would like to do some sort of Zoom calls into the classrooms with some businesses also," explained Hinkle.

On other topics, she said she is continuing to work "with local Northwest State graduates with video and editing for approved employers to do some sort of platform to get to the schools on skilled trades. My hope is to get it there in April."

Hinkle also informed the board she is meeting with officials from the Dream Center, which will be

holding another automotive technician class in February.

Too, she said she is working on the possibility of convening another manufacturing camp in June for students and noted that Sabre Industries, Hicksville, is planning an open house on March 16 for high school students graduating this year. They will take a tour and learn about welding.

In other business, the board:

- approved the December financial report. The CIC board carried over \$16,000 from 2020 which may go into the organization's cash reserve fund, according to treasurer Tyson Stuckey. However, he noted that 2020 has not been closed out yet.

- received an update from Willitzer about the expansion of two community reinvestment areas in Defiance, one of which now includes the 1918 school building in downtown Defiance. These allow tax breaks on new investment and are an economic development incentive.

- were informed by Willitzer that the CIC's website address has changed from defecon.com to defiancecountycic.com.

- discussed the CIC board's upcoming annual meeting. A couple different options were presented, but the event may be held virtually, perhaps with an economist as guest speaker.

- passed a motion allowing direct deposit for the CIC office's payroll checks.



Photo courtesy of Darrell Handy

Moose donation

Randy Wright (left), vice president of the Friends of Independence Dam, accepts a donation check from Darrell Handy, a Defiance Moose Lodge member, for \$4,200. The money will be used to purchase three bench swings for Independence Dam State Park.

Defiance County grand jury indicts 12

A Defiance County grand jury has returned indictments against 12 persons, according to Prosecutor Morris Murray's office.

The list included a Defiance man for possessing large amounts of methamphetamine for sale.

Esiquiel Ramirez, 36, 07640 Ohio 15, was indicted on two counts of aggravated trafficking in drugs, second- and fourth-degree felonies; two counts of aggravated trafficking in drugs, second- and fifth-degree felonies; and one count of operating a vehicle with a hidden compartment used to transport a controlled substance, a fourth-degree felony.

Also indicted as a co-defendant was Katelyn Pittsley, 29, 412 Douglas St., on a charge of tampering with evidence, a third-degree felony.

Authorities allege that on Jan. 5, 2021, during a traffic stop on Defiance's Hopkins Street, Ramirez was found in possession of fentanyl and 42 grams of methamphetamine intended for sale.

The indictment also alleges that during the stop, Ramirez was found to be operating a vehi-

cle with a hidden compartment, which was used to facilitate the unlawful concealment or transportation of a controlled substance.

The charge against Pittsley alleges that in the days following Ramirez's arrest she destroyed evidence related to his offenses.

Also indicted were:

- Mark Banks, 40, 578 Defiance Crossing, for domestic violence, a third-degree felony. He allegedly caused, or attempted to cause, physical harm to a family or household member on Dec. 13, having been twice convicted of domestic violence previously.

- Lisa Burger, 47, Bryan, for failure to appear as required by recognizance, a fourth-degree felony. The charge alleges that on Dec. 17 she failed to appear for a hearing in Defiance County Common Pleas Court after having been released on a personal-recognizance bond.

- Jimmy Grubb, 50, Hicksville, for attempted

tampering with evidence, a fourth-degree felony; and aggravated possession of drugs, a fifth-degree felony. He allegedly possessed methamphetamine on July 1 and attempted to impair its value or availability as evidence in the matter.

- Shane Harmon, 43, Holgate, for domestic violence, a fourth-degree felony. He allegedly caused, or attempted to cause, physical harm to a family or household member on Jan. 7, having been previously convicted of domestic violence.

- Andrew McCoy, 42, 1104 Ayersville Ave., for failure to appear as required by recognizance, a fourth-degree felony. The charge alleges that on Sept. 3 he failed to appear for a hearing in Defiance County Common Pleas Court after having been released on a personal-recognizance bond.

- Eathon Miller, 22, 05356 Fuller Road, for improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, a fourth-degree felony. The indictment alleges that on Jan. 9 he

transported a loaded firearm in such a manner that the firearm was accessible to him without leaving the vehicle.

- Tomas Walters, 25, 1492 Terrawenda Drive, for attempted tampering with evidence, a fourth-degree felony. The indictment alleges that on Dec. 16 he was found in possession of a vile of liquid which he intended to use to avoid testing positive during a drug screen conducted by his probation officer in Defiance.

- Billy Downs, 45, Edgerton, for aggravated possession of drugs (methamphetamine), a fifth-degree felony.

- Anthony Parcher, 29, Hicksville, for theft, a fifth-degree felony. He allegedly stole merchandise valued between \$1,000 and \$7,500 from a business on Defiance's North Clinton Street.

- Ashley Ramirez, 34, 05821 Moser Road, for aggravated possession of drugs (methamphetamine), a fifth-degree felony.

Latta to lead Republicans on committee

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. 5th District Rep. Bob Latta of Bowling Green has been selected to lead Republicans on the Communications and Technology Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee for the 117th Congress.

"It is an honor to be able to continue to serve as Republican leader on the Communications and Technology Subcommittee ...," said Latta. "New and emerging technologies continue to revolutionize the way we live, work, and learn; it is critically important to ensure our laws are keeping pace with the advancements that are changing the ways we communicate with each other. We must also focus on making sure Americans who live in rural communities, like many who live in Ohio's 5th Congressional District in northwest and west central Ohio, are not left behind as participation in our 21st century economy relies more and more on internet access. Over the next two years, I look forward to advancing access to high-speed broadband and closing the digital divide, ensuring our communications networks are safe and secure, freeing up spectrum for 5G expanding the rollout of our 5G infrastructure, and maintaining global leadership to bring innovative technologies to market."

Latta served as the Republican leader for the C&T Subcommittee in the 116th Congress, where he led efforts to stop illegal

robocalls, close the digital divide, invest in broadband infrastructure, increase security, expand 5G and more.

In the 115th Congress, Latta was the chairman of the Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee, where he worked to accelerate legislation focused on autonomous vehicles, advancing new technologies, and more. Latta also served as vice chairman of the C&T Subcommittee in the 114th Congress.

He has served as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee since 2010.

The C&T Subcommittee's jurisdiction includes electronic communications; technology generally; emergency and public safety communications; cybersecurity; privacy and data security; the Federal Communications Commission, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, the Office of Emergency Communications in the Department of Homeland Security; and all aspects of the above-referenced jurisdiction related to the Department of Homeland Security.

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KISSNER'S
Restaurant

DAILY SPECIALS

Mon., January 25
SCALLOPED POTATOES
& HAM
Lunch
BOURBON SIRLOIN
Dinner

Tues., January 26
CREAMED CHIP BEEF
OVER BISCUITS
Lunch
FRIED CHICKEN
Dinner

Wed., January 27
GOULASH
Lunch
LAKE PERCH, SHRIMP TRIO
Dinner

Thurs., January 28
COUNTRY STEAK
& DRESSING
Lunch
3 TACOS FOR \$3
Dinner

Fri., January 29
TUNA CASSEROLE
OR TUNA MELT W/ SOUP
Lunch
FISH & CHIPS, WALLEYE,
FROG LEGS
Dinner

Sat., January 30
BISCUITS & GRAVY
Lunch
PRIME RIB
Dinner

Breakfast Special
2 EGGS &
SMOKED SAUSAGE

419-782-1116
Fifth & Clinton, Defiance

Thank You
for all of the cards and well wishes!

A hundred years has gone by.
Sometimes you laugh,
Sometimes you cry.
The sun shines, but fades away.
Nothing is ever here to stay.
I want to thank you
with all my heart,
But I don't know where to start.
This is what I'm trying to say.
Boy, you really made my day!

Orla Junior Friend

NwOESC board reorganizes for new year

ARCHBOLD — The Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board held its organizational and regular meeting on Jan. 26.

Nona Rupp was elected president, while Ron Crawford was elected vice president. Monthly meetings were scheduled for the fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., with the exception of June 24, July 20, Nov. 16 and Dec. 21.

The board approved the appointment of the superintendent, director of special education and the director of curriculum, instruction and professional development as purchasing agents for 2021 with the limit of \$15,000 for the superintendent per purchase, and \$7,500 for the others. Purchase requests in excess of the superintendent's limit will require board approval.

Approved was a motion to grant the treasurer/chief financial officer, Homer Hendricks, authority to pay bills; process payrolls; invest board funds and make all necessary cash advancements to grants during 2021; and serve as the designee for each NwOESC governing board meeting effective Jan. 1 to comply with the requirements of the Ohio Public Records Law.

The board approved a motion to allow

superintendent Kerri Weir to participate in federal, state or other funded grants, contracts or agreements as they become available; hire employees during 2021 contingent upon board approval; accept resignations which have been submitted by employees; approve bus drivers and van drivers; and set the fees to individuals requesting copies of the schedule of meetings, agenda, or notice of individual meetings.

Jill Gilliland was approved as the compliance officer (female representative) and Steve Hastings was approved as compliance officer (male representative). Gilliland and Josh Clark were named Title IX coordinators.

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Harley Flory, who passed away at the age of 92 in late December. Flory served as the first president of the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center upon the merger of the Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams county offices in 1997.

The superintendent shared about vaccination planning in process for school personnel. Gov. Mike DeWine has made a commitment to prioritize the vaccination of Ohio's most vulnerable populations and

to ensure that K-12 schools are able to safely provide in-person or hybrid education by March 1. As part of this commitment, phase 1B of Ohio's COVID-19 vaccination plan includes eligibility for employees in K-12 schools and for people with a qualifying congenital, early-onset or inherited condition.

Locally selected partners will assist educational entities with administering vaccines to interested school populations. Schools are expected to be notified soon regarding the tentative schedule for their vaccinations in coordination with partners, along with further information. More details will be passed along to area educational entities as it is made available, as well as shared with NwOESC staff and active consortium substitutes as the vaccination roll out evolves.

In personnel matters, the board approved contracts for Kathy Soards, Jill Kovnesky, Crystal Blevins, Pamela Menz, Page Warner, Marta Chavez Arreola, Barbara Florez, Mara Gongora, Maria Hernandez and Betty Pacheco.

In other business, the board:

- approved agreements with Learn21 and the Ohio Attorney General's office.
- approved student teachers, interns and

volunteers.

• approved a resolution expressing public purpose for educational service center activities.

• appointed Brian Baker as OSBA legislative liaison; and Christine Smallman as OSBA student achievement liaison.

• appointed Homer Hendricks, Ron Crawford, Jim George and Ross Stambaugh to the audit/finance committee; Weir, Hendricks, Chad Rex, Brian Baker, Smallman, and Deborah Gerken to the building and grounds committee; and Weir, Hendricks, Diane Wyse, Lori Weber and Nona Rupp to the policy committee.

• okayed a resolution to extend suspending board policy related to public participation at board meetings, and authorizing continuation of remote meetings.

• approved resolution to authorize extension of paid sick leave or other available leave as applicable for pandemic-related reasons.

• approved 2021 membership dues to Ohio School Board Association including subscriptions to OSBA Briefcase and School Management News.

• approved participation in the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund Consultant Service Contract pursuant to R.C. Section 3313.171.

Ohio funeral directors seek access to vaccine

COLUMBUS — This week, the Ohio Funeral Directors Association (OFDA) strongly urged Gov. Mike DeWine and leaders in his administration to ensure Ohio's funeral directors and their employees to be given immediate access to the COVID-19 vaccine. The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) and CDC's Advisory Council on Immunization Practices (ACIP) both recommended that death care workers be placed into phase 1A for vaccine allocation.

According to an Oct. 2, 2020, publication by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), "morticians, funeral home workers, and other death care professionals involved in handling bodies" were to be included in the highest-priority phase 1A population of high-risk health workers, along with health care clinicians and staff and first responders.

The following statement can be attributed to OFDA executive director Melissa Sullivan:

"We appreciate and acknowledge the leadership of Gov. Mike DeWine and his administration in dealing with this devastating pandemic. We recognize that physicians, nurses, long-term care residents and staff deserve first priority in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. However, whether retrieving those who died

as a result of the coronavirus from our hospitals and nursing homes, these men and women in the death care industry are also on the front line of this pandemic. They are putting themselves in harm's way daily.

"Although some protection is provided through PPE, exposure continues as they prepare bodies for disposition, console surviving family members, and greet those attending services.

ODH Chief Medical Director Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff is quoted regarding the "tsunami of cases" anticipated in the near future. If death care workers are unable to safely care for and carry out the disposition of decedents, where do families turn for these vital services? Bodies will be left at hospitals or placed into refrigerators as occurred in New York at the outset of the pandemic and which is now taking place in Southern California and Texas.

Ohio death care workers are total approximately 3,600 persons. Some have received vaccine via cross-over roles and a significant number are 65+ in age, so the potential class of workers may be less than 3,000. This small workforce is critical to public health, offering a vital service to communities and families.

The ODH indicates "vaccines are being directed to where they can save the most lives," a responsible decision, but one must consider those that are essential for caring for others, both living and dead.

As recommended by fed-

eral agencies, because of their exposure and to protect the limited number of death care workers, placement in phase 1A or 1B is essential.

"It is vital to get Ohio's limited number of funeral professionals vaccinated," said Gary Burr, Krill Funeral Home. Krill served as president of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association in 2020.

"There are less than 3,000 licensed individuals in the state to care for 'normal' annual number of deaths in Ohio, around 105,000-110,000," added Burr. "Add in the additional deaths from the pandemic and you can see where funeral services professionals need additional protection. If a community's funeral home has a COVID-19 outbreak, who will take care of the dead? We had funeral homes serving two and three times the average families per month in November and December."

Williams County

West Unity man enters plea to robbery charge

BRYAN — A Williams County man has entered a plea here in Williams County Common Pleas Court on an amended robbery charge.

Cody Foster, West Unity, pleaded guilty to robbery, a second-degree felony; and having weapons while under disability, a third-degree felony.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and his bond was continued. Sentencing was scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Feb. 18.

The indictment alleges that on Aug. 9 he possessed a "deadly weapon" while attempting to commit theft at a West Unity residence. He also allegedly stole a firearm, which he is prohibited from possessing due to a previous conviction as a juvenile for an offense which would be considered a felony as an adult.

The robbery charge was amended from aggravated robbery, a first-degree felony, while a charge of grand theft, a third-degree felony, will be dismissed at sentencing as part of the plea negotiations between Williams County Prosecutor Katie Zartman's office and Foster's attorney, Aaron Cook of Bryan.

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MARCS grants awarded locally

COLUMBUS — State Fire Marshal Kevin Reardon has announced the complete list of awardees for the 2021 MARCS (Multi-Agency Radio Communications Systems) grant, which includes 373 fire departments in 65 counties throughout Ohio.

The MARCS radio system allows first responders to seamlessly communicate, not only with each other, but with other agencies responding to an incident (i.e. fire departments from neighboring areas, law enforcement, etc.).

Northwest Ohio recipients include: Defiance, \$1,800; Hicksville, \$1,680; Jewell, \$2,160; Sherwood, \$2,520; Farmer, \$3,360; Highland Township, \$1,800; Noble Township, \$2,280; South Richland, \$3,600; Tiffin Township, \$3,360; Delaware Township, \$2,760; Antwerp, \$3,360; Grover Hill, \$3,240; Oakwood, \$3,480; Payne, \$3,360; Auglaize Township, \$3,000; Crane Township/Cecil, \$2,760; Fort Jennings, \$10,000; Kalida, \$3,060; Miller City, \$10,000; Alvordton-Millcreek, Township, \$29,015; Bryan, \$11,350; Edgerton, \$41,436; Florence Township, \$26,439; Montpelier, \$8,535; Pioneer, \$50,000; Springfield Township/Stryker, \$18,790; Brady Township, \$24,892;

Madison Township/Kunkle, \$45,771; and Northwest, \$30,840.

"There's no greater honor for someone in my position than to play a part in keeping Ohio's first responders safe while protecting their communities," said Reardon. "Having 373 more departments upgrade to this state-of-the-art system will drastically improve emergency response and enhance the level of safety for responders and citizens, alike."

MARCS radios are sophisticated systems, and the cost can be significant. In order to make more radios possible for local fire departments, the State Fire Marshal's (SFM) office has begun decreasing the amount of user fees awarded. This year, SFM received more than \$9 million in requests for the \$3 million in total available funding.

Priority funding went to departments applying as part of a regional or county-wide effort, and departments that showed they are prepared to immediately begin using the MARCS radios upon award receipt.

Letters detailing each department's award will be sent to applicants in the coming weeks.

Semi catches fire along U.S. 24 in Napoleon

NAPOLEON — A semi tractor/trailer sustained heavy fire damage Friday afternoon on U.S. 24 near here.

At 4:02 p.m., the Napoleon Fire Department was called to eastbound lanes of U.S. 24 near County Road 17 for a report of a semi cab on fire. Scanner traffic noted that the driver was able to exit the vehicle.

The cab of the semi, owned by Bella Transport LLC, Livonia, Mich., sustained heavy damage. The fire department reported that the fire also had burned a large area of grass along the highway.

The Henry County Sheriff's Office handled the incident. The name of the driver was not available at press time.

OBITUARIES

LAWRENCE 'LARRY' EUGENE GREEN, JR.

Mr. Lawrence "Larry" Eugene Green, Jr., age 57, passed away Saturday, January 16, 2021 at Forsyth Medical Center. He was born December 2, 1963 in Delaware, Ohio to Lawrence Eugene Green, Sr. and Clara Boyer Green.

Larry was employed with Micro Focus and owned The UPS Store in Mt. Airy. He was a member of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in State Road and was a world traveler and fun-loving guy.

Larry was a loving husband and a wonderful father.

In addition to his parents, Larry is survived by his wife, Michelle H. Green of the home; sons, Luiz Walker of Mt. Airy and Neil Green of Mt. Airy; daughter, Alexandria Green and her husband Steven Peck of State Road; sisters, Carolyn Ringley and her husband Rick of Delaware, OH and Nancy Calvin and her

husband Tim of Delaware, OH and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be conducted Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 3 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church with Rev. Dylan Cook officiating. The family will receive friends 1 hour prior to the service at the church. Inurnment will follow in the church cemetery. A memorial service will be held in Delaware, OH at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, PO Box 130, State Road, NC 28676.

The family would like to thank the staff of Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital ICU and the staff of Forsyth Medical Center ICU for their wonderful care.

Online condolences may be made to www.elkinfuneralservice.com. Services entrusted to Elkin Funeral Service.

MARJORIE J. RUTHERFORD

DELAWARE — Marjorie J. Rutherford, 98, of Delaware, passed away with her son at her side, at Willow Brook Christian Village, Saturday, January 16, 2021. She was born on July 19, 1922 in Delaware to the late Conner and Gladys (James) Lambert.

Marjorie was a graduate of Willis High School of Delaware. She enjoyed life. Her love for family was always a strong part of her. She was very active in many groups, bridge clubs, and bowling leagues. She enjoyed all sports; girls' basketball, basketball, baseball, and football. She was on several boards including Delaware City Women's Home, Sarah Moore Nursing Home. She was active in William Street United Methodist Church. She was a volunteer at Grady Memorial Hospital for 51 years. Marjorie and her husband John loved to spend their free time traveling home and abroad.

She married John R.



Rutherford, after 68 years, he preceded her in death February 5, 2017. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Mary Lambert Harris and Vivian Lambert Sherburne.

Survivors include one son, James (Sheila) Rutherford of Marengo; one daughter, Mary Jane Sprague of Magnetic Springs; four grandchildren, Kenny Sprague, John Sprague, Brandon Warner, and Courtney Britton; twelve great-grandchildren; and many other family and friends.

Services to honor Marjorie's life will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Willow Brook Christian Village, 100 Willow Brook Way S, Delaware, OH 43015 or to Capital City Hospice, 2800 Corporate Exchange Dr., Suite #170, Columbus, OH 43231.

To leave a condolence or to share a memory, please visit www.robinsonfuneralhomeinc.com.

JONATHAN SPAULDING

Jonathan Spaulding, age 41, passed away unexpectedly January 2, 2021. He was born July 27, 1979 to Robert J. Spaulding Sr. and Effie L. Spaulding.

He is preceded in death by his father Robert J. Spaulding Sr. as well as his maternal and paternal grandparents.

He is survived by his mother Effie Spaulding.



ing, sister Patricia Spaulding, brothers Robert J. Spaulding Jr. (Holly), Troy Spaulding, close nieces Dallah Spaulding and Danielle Williamson and lifelong friend Chrissy Brown, as well as many more aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Services to be held at a later date.

DWIGHT C. THOMPSON

Dwight C. Thompson, 95, passed away peacefully at Grady Memorial, Delaware, Ohio, after several weeks of failing health, on January 20, 2021.

Dwight was born on the family farm to Donald J. and Travis (Hayes) Thompson, the second of 4 children. He lived his entire life on Jerome Road.

A 1944 graduate of Watkins High School, he was drafted at the end of his senior year. He served in Germany under the command of General George Patton. He was a proud United States Army Veteran of World War II.

While raising his 4 children, he started his career farming and building houses with his dad and brothers. He was a skilled builder, later working for Huey Long Builders in Delaware, Ohio for many years, then working as a self-employed contractor, remodeling and building throughout Union and Delaware Counties.

Dwight was preceded



in death by his parents; his sister, Helen Scott; brother, Van; his sons, Curtis and Dwight E. (Bub); his sisters-in-law, Bertha Thompson and Ruth Ann Baker; and his brother-in-law, Carl Baker.

He is survived by his loyal and devoted wife of 65 years, Beulah (Bea) Baker Thompson; his brother, Carlton (Janet); son, Richard Thompson; daughter, Travis J. Vandran; daughters-in-law, Marcia and Jeanne Thompson; grandchildren, Craig Thompson, Chad (Becca) Thompson, Kelley Walsh, Dwight Robert (Ashley) Thompson and Kristi Thompson; and his great-grandchildren, Chase, Cara, Nora, Graham and Griffin.

Private burial services will be held at Jerome Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ohio Health Hospice. Underwood Funeral Home in Marysville is assisting the family. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.underwoodfuneralhome.com.

Ohio jobless claims rise again amidst pandemic uncertainty

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The number of Ohioans filing initial claims for unemployment compensation during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic jumped last week, according to state data released Thursday.

The latest figures show Ohioans filed 42,975 initial jobless claims for the week ending Jan. 16, a 15% increase over the previous week, the Department of Job and Family Services said. Ohioans also filed

265,467 claims for continued unemployment, slightly down from previous weeks.

The 7-day rolling average of daily new cases in Ohio did not increase over the past two weeks, going from 7,438 new cases per day on Jan. 6 to 6,113 new cases per day on Jan. 20, according to an Associated Press analysis of data provided by The COVID Tracking Project.

The 7-day rolling average of daily deaths in Ohio has risen over the past two weeks from 73 deaths per day on Jan. 6 to 75 deaths per day on Jan. 20, the data showed.

More than 450,000 Ohioans — or about 4% of the state's population — have received at least one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines since mid-December.

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DELAWARE COUNTY NOTEBOOK

Community Library news

Starting Feb. 1, join Community Library in Sunbury in bringing Candy Land to life through its "Unwrap a Sweet Read" Winter Reading Club.

Preschoolers through Teens can register online or in person at Community Library and read throughout February to earn prizes.

Adults will also have

the opportunity to complete activities for a chance to win prizes during Community Library's coinciding Library Lover's Month. Stop by Community Library during the month of February for a little fun for the whole family.

For more information, call 740-965-3901 or visit www.yourcl.org.

Bible Drive for Africa

The fourth annual Bible Drive for Africa is underway.

Donate unused Bibles and Christian books to LovePackages.org. Schedule a drop-off time by contacting Rita at SelleGrider@WowWay.com.

Food pantry open

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Eastside Mission Church in Delaware is hosting a community food pantry from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. All are welcome.

Email local news items to delnews@aimmediamidwest.com.

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Vikings outlast Pioneers in battle of state's top-ranked teams

By Ben Stroup

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Noel Frye and defending state champ Taryn Martin picked up back-to-back pins to help the Olen tangy Orange girls wrestling team close the gap to 12 points with two matches to go, but visiting and top-ranked Miami East won the next match via a pin of its own to cement a 54-30 win Thursday night in Lewis Center.

With the Pioneers trailing 42-18, Frye (160) and Martin (170)

— seniors who were honored with classmates Emily Duval, Sara Borton and Casey Homorody before the match — went to work. Both picked up first-period pins to slice the deficit to 42-30.

That's as close as things would get, though, as the Vikings' Anika Paton (189) pinned Talia Mitchell to all but seal the deal.

Miami East started the match with pins by Lilly Bruggerman (101), Belle Lewis (106),

Olivia Shore (111) and Elle Demmitt (116) to go up 24-0.

Orange answered with pins by Ayla Castin (121) and Josie Nickoloff (126), but the Vikings won the next three weight classes to take their commanding lead into the final handful of matches.

The showdown featured two of the best teams in the state. Miami East, ranked 22nd nationally, won the inaugural Ohio Girls Wrestling State Championship last season

and entered with a 2-0 record in dual meets and a pair of tournament championships. Orange, meanwhile — the defending state runner-up — suffered its first loss after entering the contest a perfect 5-0.

Miami East 60, Delaware Hayes 27

A day before traveling to Lewis Center to take on the Pioneers, the Vikings swung by Delaware to take their shot at the Pacers ... and did so successfully.

Hayes battled, getting strong showings from Rebekah Blair (126), Lauren English (137) and Carmen Pape (170), but it wasn't enough to upset the state's top team.

Blair doubled up Miami East's Anna Rowley 14-7, English pinned her opponent in 2:41 and Pape forced Kylie Haught to the mat in 2:39, closing what as an early 15-6 deficit to just three, 24-21 with seven matches to go.

Of those seven, though, the Vikings won six to smooth out the scoring summary.

BOYS WRESTLING

Olen tangy Liberty was sharp in Thursday's OCC dual against visiting Hilliard Davidson, rolling to a 51-24 win.

Patriot product producers included Dylan Russo (pin at 220), Luke Reidel (pin at 195), Jayce Fitzpatrick (pin at 170), Gabe Pence (won 8-2 at 152), Mark Ceddia (won 9-1 at 145), Hunter Ford (won 17-1 at 138) and Adam Gintert (won 4-0 at 132).

Also: Delaware Hayes 63, Canal Winchester 12; Dublin Jerome 36, Olen tangy 24.

Star

From page 1

veteran Mick Brockett was put in charge of the application. He did several trainings and questionnaires as part of the process.

"The questions focus on what we have done in the past and what we plan to do to recognize military families in our school," Brockett said. "We have always done a special Veterans Day assembly, where we recognize and honor family members of students who were in the military. The trainings helped me to understand the issues

facing military families and the impact deployments can have on children."

Brockett added it's a subject he easily understood and was glad Vice Principal Suzanne Williams put him in charge of the project.

"I have been serving in the Army Reserves for 30 years, so naturally she thought this might be something that I would be interested in," Brockett said. "Having been deployed twice myself, I understand the issues my wife and children went through while I was deployed."

Brockett added he hopes the school helps families like his in the

future.

"This designation means a lot to me as a veteran, husband, and father of a military family," he said. "My wife, Michele, would often not tell me the issues her and my children dealt with while I was deployed. She didn't want to worry me. Now that I know some of the physical and emotional issues family members deal with during deployments, I think I can use our experiences to help other families who might be feeling the same way."

Glenn Battisill can be reached at 740-413-0903 or on Twitter @BattisillWG.

Brady's parents survived COVID-19

By Fred Goodall
AP Sports Writer

TAMPA, Fla. — Tom Brady says his parents are doing well after recovering from COVID-19 early this season and will be among family in the stands to root for him and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in next week's Super Bowl.

"They're doing great, so I think that's the best part about all of it is

they came through it," Brady said Thursday after the NFL champions held their first full-scale practice in preparation for the NFL title game against the Kansas City Chiefs.

"There are a lot of things that happen in your life. Like all of us, as you get older there's more that you take on,"

added the 43-year-old quarterback who won six Super Bowls with the New England Patriots before signing with Tampa Bay as a free agent last winter.



Brady

"I still obviously love going out there and competing. But on the other side of that, there's a lot of family things that are very important to me."

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Cleveland Cavaliers' Collin Sexton, right, drives past Detroit Pistons' Josh Jackson in the first half Wednesday in Cleveland.

Surprising Cavs climbing back into NBA contention

By Tom Withers
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — LeBron James could be considered something of a history buff on the Cavaliers. After all, he's responsible for making — and altering — the franchise for more than a decade.

So after scorching his former team on Monday night with a 46-point, tour-de-force performance he said was fueled by seeing a member of Cleveland's front office overreact to one of his few missed shots, the Lakers superstar admitted keeping an eye on the Cavs.

He's impressed. "You can tell that team is improving," James said.

No doubt, the Cavs, who were left in shambles when James bolted as a free agent three seasons ago, are ahead of schedule.

Led by All-Star-in-the-making guard Collin

Sexton, center Andre Drummond, and boasting unexpected depth and defense under coach J.B. Bickerstaff, the Cavs are 9-9 and currently holding a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference as they prepare to visit the New York Knicks on Friday.

And while Cleveland's record is surprising, it's notable the Cavs have made the jump despite myriad injuries, including one to All-Star forward Kevin Love, who has played 46 minutes all season.

Bickerstaff has the Cavs playing a loose, aggressive and relentless style of ball that allows them to stay with more talented teams and helped them beat comparable ones.

"Just a scrappy team, like to get after it," said guard Darius Garland, who turned 21 on Tuesday. "And we base ourselves this year on that. Just being active on

both ends of the floor. Starting defensively, just have to get into guys, be physical, on and off the ball. So that's our identity this year."

Last week, the Cavs opened eyes around the league with back-to-back wins over the Brooklyn Nets. Granted, Brooklyn is still blending its 'Big 3, and Kevin Durant missed the second game as part of his post-surgery maintenance. But the Cavs showed off their resiliency and toughness in taking down one of the East's elites.

"Our main goal is to beat up teams as much as possible, to wear them down," Drummond said after Cleveland's 122-107 win on Wednesday over Detroit. "Cavalier basketball."

After winning just 19 games and being excluded from the NBA's Orlando bubble last season, the Cavs are climbing.

In Sexton, the Cavs have a future star.

A first-round draft pick in 2018, Sexton is a blur with the ball in his hands. And while his speed can sometimes get him into trouble, the 22-year-old is more than a handful for any team to stop as he's become defensive objective No. 1 for any opponent.

Sexton's averaging 25.2 points per game and he single-handedly took down the Nets last week, scoring 42 points — 20 in overtime — in a double-OT win. After poor shooting nights (combined 9 of 27) in consecutive losses to Boston and Los Angeles, Sexton bounced back against the Pistons with 29 points, five rebounds and five assists.

Bickerstaff was impressed with how Sexton adjusted to different looks the Pistons showed him.

"I thought he read the game the right way," said Bickerstaff, who took over last season after John Beilein stepped down.

9th ANNUAL GAS OIL COUNTRY STORE SODA ADVERTISING SATURDAY, NOV.28TH, 2020 9:30A.M.

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SELLING GAS & OIL, COUNTRY STORE SIGNS, 1940'S ART DECO PORCELAIN DRUGSTORE SODA FOUNTAIN, RARE WIEDEMANN NEWPORT, KY BREWERY TERRACOTTA 3D LOGO BUILDING MEDALLION, GAS PUMPS, NEONS & MORE.

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IN THE COURTS:

EAST LIVERPOOL MUNICIPAL

EAST LIVERPOOL — In East Liverpool Municipal Court, Nicholas J. Ohanlon, Crestview Drive, was fined \$1,350 and given 120 days jail for driving under a 12-point suspension (two counts), resisting arrest (three counts) and a probation violation.

Bobbie JoAnn Wilson, Sixth Avenue, was fined \$350 and given 60 days in jail (40 suspended) for theft.

Zachery K. Humphreys, Adams Road, Rogers, was fined \$150 and given 40 days in jail for possession of drug abuse instruments.

Robert L. Butcher, Y&O Road, Wellsville, had his 20-day suspended jail sentence imposed for a probation violation.

Whitney Osborn, of Newell, W.Va., was fined \$350 and given a 60-day suspended jail sentence for petty theft.

Tamika M. Thornton, Smithfield Street, was fined \$250 and given 50 hours community service and a 180-day suspended jail sentence for endangering children.

Bary J. Keyes, Riverview Street, was fined \$350 and given 30 hours community service and a 30-day suspended jail sentence for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Preston L. English, of Industry, Pa., was sentenced to 10 days in jail for a probation violation.

Aaron N. Francis, Lisbon Street, was set for trial Feb. 11 on a menacing charge.

Jerry M. Mellott, East Eighth Street, was set for trial March 18 on an assault charge.

Matthew J. Rothschuh, of Garretttsville, was set Jan. 28 for a status hearing and Feb. 3 for a trial on domestic violence and obstructing official business charges.

David J. Jackson, Jackson Street, was set Jan. 28 for a status hearing and Feb. 3 for a jury trial on an assault charge.

Marcus J. Beebout, Moore Street, had his probable cause hearing for probation violation continued to Jan. 21.

A pretrial was set March 11 for Philip K. Funk, of Akron, on driving under suspension, lanes of travel and possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

Melissa M. Blake, Quay Road, Negley, was set Feb. 25 for a status hearing and March 3 on a jury trial on a criminal trespass charge.

Willie L. Curry, of Youngstown, was set for a disposition hearing Feb. 11 on theft and criminal damaging charges.

POLICE LOG:

East Liverpool

— A Wilbert Avenue woman reported that a known male tried to get in her apartment window shortly before 1:40 a.m. Tuesday and throw a flower pot, breaking the window glass when she refused. He is on the CMHA trespass list.

— Police investigated a possible domestic at 3:08 a.m. Tuesday in the 1200 block of Sunnyside Street.

— A Maine Boulevard woman cut her forearm with a steak knife sometime after midnight Monday during a dispute. Her husband and his daughter left the residence when the female was subjected to East Liverpool City Hospital for treatment.

— A subject in the 300 block of East 8th Street reported at 7:06 p.m. Saturday that he had left three named individuals stay at his home for a few days and noticed a DeWalt drill and pair of Jordan shoes missing when they left.

— Dewey W. Bunnell was arrested at 6:22 a.m. Saturday at Heights Manor Apartments on a charge of domestic violence, after alleging grabbing the mother of his child by the throat and slamming her.

St. Clair Township

— Brady Slager was arrested at 2:33 pm. Monday in Wal-Mart on a charge of theft, after failing to scan and pay for 69 items totaling \$464.75 between Sept. 24 and Dec. 12 at the self-checkout register. He had been employed at the store.

— Officers were dispatched at 12:26 a.m. Saturday in the area of Wal-Mart for subjects by JCPenny's with flashlights, going through a large trash bin.

— Nicholas Ohanlon was arrested at 10:28 a.m. Friday on a charge of resisting arrest, after police responded to the 46000 block of Wyoming Avenue to serve him with a warrant and he refused to comply with handcuffing.

— During routine patrol, an officer noticed a vehicle in front swerving excessively on the road and pulled him over. The subject was recovering from symptoms of COVID-19, which was confirmed by LEADS. He was found not to be in need of medical attention, but his sister came to drive him.

— A complainant reported at 7:51 pm. Friday that her debit card was taken and used at Busy Beaver to make fraudulent purchases.

— David Haight was cited at 8:40 a.m. Friday in the first block of East Liverpool Road on a charge of driving under suspension and fictitious plates, after a routine traffic stop.

Highway Patrol

— Nicholas M. Ciolli, 18, New Waterford, was cited with failure to yield after his vehicle struck a vehicle driven by Marjorie R. Kamper, 82, Columbiana, after he failed to yield at a stop sign at the intersection of Columbiana-Lisbon Road and state Route 164 in Fairfield Township at 1:50 p.m. Wednesday. Ciolli sustained a possible injury and Kamper was not injured.

— Duncan Hildebrand, 23, Rogers, was cited with failure to control after he drove off the road and struck an embankment off Sprucevale Road in Middleton Township at 2:22 p.m. Wednesday.

County Sheriff

— Deputies checked at a Waterford Road, Unity Township, home at 4:40 a.m. Wednesday after receiving a 911 hang up call from there. The resident was fine and said he did not call 911.

— A deputy and two Minerva police responded to a home on Bayard Road after the residents in one apartment complained loud music was being played in another apartment at 11:24 p.m. Wednesday. No one was found to be home at the apartment where the music was reportedly being played and when they entered the apartment where the person lived who called police, officers could hear nothing.

Nearly 70K chickens perish in fire at Pennsylvania farm

SHARTLESVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Nearly 70,000 chickens perished early Thursday as fire swept through several buildings at a Pennsylvania farm.

Firefighters were faced with flames and thick smoke when they arrived at A&L Farms in Berks County.

A fire official told WFMY-TV two buildings were burned to the ground and an egg house sustained partial damage. Firefighters needed to bring in tankers to fight the blaze because a small pond on the property was clogged with slushy ice and could not be used to pump water on the flames.

This was the third fire at the farm in recent years. A fire in 2019 claimed the lives of more than 37,000 chickens and a fire in 2015 destroyed an empty barn.

A fire marshal was expected to investigate the cause of the latest blaze.

IN THE COURTS:

COLUMBIANA COUNTY MUNICIPAL

LISBON — Jonathan P. Cuning, 29, Somer Street, Leetonia, was bound over to the grand jury on an abduction charge for allegedly holding a 29-year-old woman in his home for three days against her will in December. She reported he had abused her if she attempted to escape.

He refused to feed her and threatened both she and her small child if the woman did not provide him with sexual favors. His bond is \$150,000 cash or surety. Cuning was fined \$180 for unrelated charges of driving under suspension, failure to control and a seat belt violation.

— Homer C. Comes Jr., 41, State Court 154, Lisbon, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over to the grand jury on charges of fleeing and eluding a police officer, a third-degree felony, and obstructing official business, a fifth-degree felony, on Dec. 6. Games allegedly was in the driver's seat of a blue Jeep in the driveway, when deputies attempted to serve a warrant on him at the home. When he was told to exit the vehicle, he allegedly put the vehicle into reverse, accelerated backwards and took off on state Route 154 nearly striking an eastbound vehicle near the driveway and another vehicle on Middle Beaver Road before he reportedly stopped on Lusk Lock Road and fled on foot.

— Onice Lee Sorigman, 20, Black Road, Lisbon, was bound over to the grand jury on charges of failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer, a third-degree felony; marked lanes, OVI second offense and driving under FRA suspension. She waived her right to a preliminary hearing.

Sorigman fled a traffic stop on state Route 154 in Elkrum Township on Nov. 28, driving at speeds over 90 mph for about 11 miles before the highway patrol ended the pursuit. Additionally, a Feb. 2 probation violation hearing was set for prior convictions of OVI first offense and speeding. She was assigned to appear in drug court on Feb. 2 on charges of complicity to commit theft, theft, obstructing official business and contributing to the untruthfulness or delinquency of a child for allegedly attempting to steal a bicycle off the porch of Jessica Arnold on Wood Street in East Palestine and then running from police on Aug. 26, as well as providing a lookout for a child, her cousin, to steal change out of an unlocked vehicle.

A Feb. 18 preliminary hearing and pretrial was set for Matthew Robert Waldron, 22, state Route 45, Lisbon, charged with a fourth-degree felony improper handling of firearms in a motor vehicle and cited with possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, speeding and a seat belt violation. Waldron allegedly had a 9-millimeter Beretta handgun, loaded with 15 rounds, in the center console during a traffic stop by the highway patrol on Wednesday.

A March 18 pretrial was set for Joseph J. Childs, 45, Davenport, Iowa, cited with OVI first offense, prohibited U-turn and failure to display a valid sticker.

Charles R. Macmillan, 46, Conkle Road, Salem, was fined \$625, credited with three days for a driver's intervention course, had his license suspended for a year and required 30 hours community service for speeding and physical control amended from OVI first offense.

A Jan. 28 pretrial was set for Graig A. Bartlett II, 33, Purinton Avenue, East Liverpool, charged with domestic violence for allegedly causing harm to Amber M. Moody on Wednesday.

Derek R. Westover, 34, Fairmont Road, Elkton, was credited with 13 days served, sentenced to an additional 17 days in jail and fined \$200 for failure to comply for fleeing from

the Sunoco gas station parking lot at the intersection of state Routes 7 and 14, driving recklessly into oncoming traffic on Jan. 31, 2020.

A March 9 pretrial was set for Stacey A. Shaw, 47, Goshen Road, Salem, charged with theft for allegedly scanning the cheaper items in the cart in plain view of the expensive items with the help of her daughter at Walmart in Salem on Sunday. The alleged stolen items totaled \$217.

Michael C. Corbin, 63, East Seventh Street, Salem, was fined \$250, credited with two days served in jail and required 20 hours community service for disorderly conduct amended from theft for failing to scan \$189 in merchandise at the Salem Walmart on Oct. 25.

A March 9 pretrial was set for Bobbi Jo Ann Wilson, 21, South Meadowbrook Circle, East Liverpool, cited with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and failure to control. Wilson allegedly asked to borrow her father's car, a 2001 Buick LaSabe, on Jan. 8 and was told to bring it back that night, but still had not returned it as of Jan. 13. The failure to

control citation was for an accident on Oct. 5.

A March 4 pretrial was set for Joshua D. Vishak, 46, Y-Camp Road, Lisbon, cited with obstructing official business for reportedly running back into the home and holding the door shut when deputies went to a home on East Liverpool Road, Lisbon, with a warrant to claim on Jan. 14.

Shane M. Bagley, 42, Buckeye Avenue, Salem, was fined \$150 for disorderly conduct for refusing to go into the ambulance and causing a disturbance, yelling he was going to get blown up and police were going to kill him, before fighting with police on July 22. A resisting arrest citation was dismissed.

Jessica Lynn Price, Austintown, was credited with two days in jail, sentenced to an additional 13 days in jail, fined \$300 and required 40 hours community service for theft and misuse of credit cards. On March 18, Price stole a wallet off the ground in Dollar General in Lisbon and used the credit card inside to make two purchases.

Two counts of building maintenance violations against Vogue Properties

Inc. were dismissed by agreement. The allegedly violations had involved property at 121 North Market Street in Lisbon.

A March 16 pretrial was set for Susan Jenkins, 38, Wilbert Avenue, East Liverpool, cited with driving under suspension and traffic control devices.

Jonathan R. Gandee, 26, Cobblesstone Avenue, Alliance, was fined \$150 for speeding.

Blake A. Marcum, 18, Austintown, was fined \$150 for speeding.

Ronny Black, 62, Williams Place, Alliance, was fined \$100 for driving under suspension.

Nicholas Allen Winegard-Crosby, 21, Need Road, East Palestine, was fined \$100 for speeding.

Franklin L. Dennison, 42, South Mahoning Avenue, Alliance, was fined \$55 for speeding.

John R. Baublitz, 40, Fairfield Avenue, Columbiana, was fined \$50 for driving under suspension.

James L. Norton, 51, West Union, W.Va., was fined \$50 for driving under suspension.

COLUMBIANA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS

LISBON — In Common Pleas Court, Lee T. Knight, 25, West State Street, Salem, pleaded guilty to burglary, a second-degree felony. He faces up to eight years in prison and a \$15,000 fine. The charge was for breaking into the home of Kathy Laughlin and Michael Bevan on state Route 164, Lisbon, on Aug. 27, 2018. Sentencing is set for March 26.

New Cases

Altercare of Alliance Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care, Inc., vs. Ben A. Walter, executor of the estate of Robert Byron Walter, et al., \$35,654 plus interest sought for alleged breach of contract.

Farmers National Bank vs. William J. Williams, et al., foreclosure sought for property on Madison Drive, East Liverpool.

Mary and Jeffrey Kreider, East Liverpool, vs. Deborah McKinnon, East Liverpool, et al., excess of \$25,000 and medical payment compensation sought for alleged injuries from a traffic crash on St. Clair Avenue

on March 13, 2019.

Kevin Smith, Hammondsville, vs. Robin Smith, Irondale, divorce sought.

Amanda Lynn Davis, East Liverpool, vs. Logan Nathaniel Davis, Salem, divorce sought.

Docket Entries

Dustin Beadnell, Salineville, vs. Whitni Beadnell, Carrollton, divorce granted.

Heidi J. Pecorelli, Wellsville, and Gary P. Pecorelli, East Liverpool, dissolution granted.

Michael A. Nicosia, Boardman, and Melissa L. Nicosia, Boardman, dissolution granted.

Farmers National Bank of Emlenton vs. Allen Dale Potts II, defendant ordered to pay plaintiff \$11,468 plus costs and interest on count one and \$1,672 plus costs and interest on count two.

M.E.S.O. Inc. vs. Thru Manufacturing, LLC, previous judgment canceled, case reactivated.

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East Liverpool's Anthony DeMarco bowls against United on Thursday at Walnut Lanes. (Photo by Jimmy Joe Savage)



East Liverpool's Delaney Riggall rolls against United on Thursday at Walnut Lanes. (Photo by Jimmy Joe Savage)

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An evidentiary hearing, where counsel for the parties to the cases may present evidence and cross examine witnesses, will commence on March 4, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., by Webex. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, viewing the Commission's web page at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>, or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826, 20-585-EL-AIR, et al.

Public comments can be provided in writing on the Commission's website at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/help-center/file-a-complaint>, by electronic mail to ContactThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov, or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Written comments should reference the case numbers for this matter.

BOWLING

Potter teams frame wins

From Staff Reports

EAST LIVERPOOL — East Liverpool's girls and boys bowling teams are both into the double-digit wins column with victories over United on Thursday at Walnut Lanes.

The Potter girls won 1,926-1,658 to move to 10-5 on the season. For East Liverpool, Dorothy Molter had a 184 high game and a

339 series. Madyson McGaffic added a 171 high game and a 331 series.

For United, Dorothy Herold had a 182 high game and a 310 series. Jessica Walton had a 144 high game and a 271 series.

East Liverpool's boys were 2,662-2,103 winners and move to 12-3. For the Potters, Nathan Kelly had a 244 high game and a

464 series. Paxton Grimes had a 232 high game and a 447 series, while Anthony DeMarco bowled a 214 high game and a 427 series.

For United, Austin Sarchet had a 212 high game and a 365 series. Garrett Bailey added a 195 high game and a 324 series.

The Potters' next match is Monday against Garaway at Boulevard Lanes in Dover.

Steelers

FROM PAGE B1

facing perhaps its most turbulent offseason in terms of roster turnover because of the cap. Rooney isn't ready to blow it up.

"We're not going to sit here and say 'We're three years away,'" Rooney said. "We're just going to look at it that way."

Rooney pointed to a defense that finished third in the league in yards and points allowed as good enough to keep the Steelers in the thick of a hyper-competitive AFC.

That unit figures to stay largely intact in 2021 and if Roethlisberger gets some help, Rooney is confident Pittsburgh doesn't need to start over, be it on the field or the sideline.

While coach Mike Tomlin is entering the final year of his contract, Rooney stressed Tomlin will remain on the job indefinitely.

"I'll just say I feel comfortable in saying he'll be our coach into the future," Rooney said, adding he didn't blame Tomlin for the

loss to the Browns.

"In terms of the job he did, we didn't finish the way we'd like. The playoff game, it's hard to analyze ... just turning the ball over, you're not going to win many games. I don't see how you attribute that to coaching preparation."

Longtime general manager Kevin Colbert's deal expires after the 2021 draft. Colbert has mulled retirement in the past and though Rooney and Colbert have spoken about Colbert's status, things remain fluid. The intent of the franchise, however, remains the same as it has been for the past five decades: Super Bowl or bust.

"Every year you learn things you want to fix," Rooney said. "Our mindset is that we're going to do the things we need to do to try and get better next year. ... Our mindset hasn't changed."

Cavs

FROM PAGE B1

bined 9 of 27) in consecutive losses to Boston and Los Angeles, Sexton bounced back against the Pistons with 29 points, five rebounds and five assists.

Bickerstaff was impressed with how Sexton adjusted to different looks the Pistons showed him.

"I thought he read the game the right way," said Bickerstaff, who took over last season after John Beilein stepped down. "I thought he recognized how they're playing them in the pick and roll and where he could get his shot from. And I also thought he played with great patience."

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Teens tutor peers online

By CEDAR ATTANASIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS/
REPORT FOR AMERICA

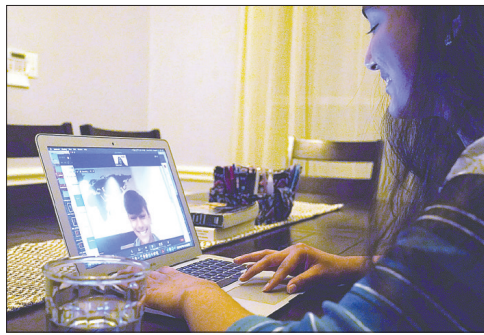
SANTA FE, N.M. — When her suburban Dallas high school was forced to move online last spring because of the coronavirus pandemic, Charvi Goyal realized that the schoolmates she'd been informally tutoring between classes would still need extra help but wouldn't necessarily be able to get it. So she took her tutoring online, as well.

Goyal, a 17-year-old high school junior from Plano, roped in three classmates to create TutorScope, a free tutoring service run by high schoolers for other kids, including younger ones. What started with a handful of instructors helping friends' siblings in their hometown has blossomed into a group of 22 tutors from Texas, Arizona and Ohio that has helped more than 300 students from as far away as South Korea.

"I could foresee that schools were going to go virtual. And with that there were a couple of problems because the interactions between students and students, and students and teachers would be weakened," Goyal said.

TutorScope provides the one-on-one support that teachers have traditionally given while roving the aisles of their classrooms but now often can't because of the time and technology constraints posed by online schooling.

On a night near the end of the fall semester, tutor Avi Bagchi worked with 7-year-old twins Monika and Massey Newman on a reading comprehension lesson



LM OTERO / The Associated Press

CHARVI GOYAL, 17, leads an online math tutoring session with a junior high student in Plano, Texas. Goyal is part of a group of high school students that put together their own volunteer online tutoring service to help K-12 students during the pandemic.

about discerning between fact and opinion. During their half-hour video chat, the 16-hour-old Plano West Senior High School student provided the children from nearby Corinth with examples — it's a fact that the pen is red but an opinion if one doesn't like it — and reined them in when they got off topic a bit: Can't it be a fact that someone holds an opinion?

"I love candy. That's a fact ...," said Massey, "... because it's true," he and his sister said in unison.

Their mother, social worker Sarah Newman, said the twins' TutorScope sessions have been really helpful and have freed up her and her 17-year-old son to focus on their own work.

"With these tutors, I real-

ize they have time," she said. "I think they are very patient with these younger kids, which I do not even have as a mother. I have patience in other things, (but) I don't have patience in the teaching."

Newman discovered TutorScope a few weeks into the fall semester on Nextdoor, a neighborhood-based social media app, and signed up her twins for sessions, which can be up to an hour each week per subject.

"At the time I was even looking for tutoring for them, like private tutoring, and every spot that I hit was too costly for those two kids. I'm like, I can't afford it," Newman said.

TutorScope isn't the first nonprofit to offer online tutoring and is just one of

the workarounds people have come up with to educate kids during the pandemic, from a teacher in Nigeria who grades homework from around the world to a so-called sidewalk school in Mexico that offers online instruction to children, including some stuck at the border awaiting decisions on U.S. asylum requests.

What makes the TutorScope effort unique is the bond between the teenage volunteers and the peers they're helping.

"We kind of want to keep the whole 'for students by students' thing really prominent since it provides a sort of solidarity. Because everyone is going through the same thing, you know that your tutor is also having the same struggles learning right now that you are," Goyal said.

Pandora-Gilboa honor rolls

PANDORA — Pandora-Gilboa Local Schools has announced the honor rolls for its second nine weeks. Students named to the All A, All A/B and Merit honor rolls include:

Fifth grade
All A: Annabelle Benton, Josiah Butte, Mackinley Gerten, Maelee Miller, Allison Suter

All A/B: Lydia Berger, Elizabeth Burkholder, Eli Hilty, Iyla Huizenga, Logan Lehman, Kaylee Luginbill, Ty Meyer, Graycee Moen, Brennan Niese, Claire Osting, Gavin Schwab, Aubrey Sunderhouse, Ryann Thaman, Paxton Verhoff, Avery Wentz

Merit: McKenna Deken, Ashley Draper, Gabriel Karhoff, Lila Salazar, Chevy Wolfe

Sixth grade
All A: Samuel Amstutz, Trent Benroth, Grady Gerding, Ryan Hohenbrink, William Schulte, Micah Wise

All A/B: Brady Deleruyelle, Caleb Doty, Breydon Ferguson, Conner Gerten, Hannah Hoffman, Elizabeth Kneueven, Gavin Lee, Laura Parkins, Brooke Ramey, Lindy Schutz, Kenedye Scoles, William Sprunger

Merit: Maddox, Grady Kempf, Evelyn Moyers, Alex Rutschilling

Seventh grade
All A: Carter Berger, Kyra Hixon, Savannah Kneueven, Natalie Long, Ethan Suter, Camden Verhoff

All A/B: Levi Amstutz, Samuel Brannon, Hailey Deleruyelle, Allison Dysert, Jacob Geren, Ava Huffman, Ty Huffman, Corrin Luginbill, Addison Luttrifing, Chase Meyer, Keelin Miller, Logan Morman, Kaden Mullins, Gavin Schulte, Claire Stall, Laila Wentz

Merit: Tanner Bott, Breann Fischer, Nolan Leatherman, Landen Moore, Emma Muniz, Alyssa Tucker

Eighth grade
All A: Abigail Butte, Alexys Hermiller, Izik Hilty, Zachary Hohenbrink, Matthew Maag, Andrew Miller, Lauren Teders, Alexis Wentz, Ciel

Wise
All A/B: Devin Draper, Blake Duling, Paige Ferguson, Austin Gander, Logan Karhoff, Austin Maag, Tyler Pugh, Madison Rutschilling, Kaden Smith, Makayla Suter, Derrick Teders, Nathan Walter
Merit: Anna Aversch, Braden Gerding, Anna Kempf, Brianna Root, Isabelle Vanmeter

Freshmen
All A: Chloe Beckman, Ben Brannon, Aidan Harris, Colin Harris, Eliana Hixon, Raegan Krohn, Anna Parkins, Isaac Stall, Andrew Suter, Avery Traxler, Macy Wilson

All A/B: Perla Enriquez-Reyes, Owen Huffman, Madison Kinsinger, Tanner Liechty, Aiden Miller, Chey Wolfe, Kamira Norton, Chase Otto, Owen Teders

Sophomores
All A: Emily Butte, Emma Gerding, Derek Maag, Weston Macke, Autumn Schulte, Olivia Shanefelt, Elam Suter, Aliyah Wise

All A/B: Audra Basinger, Tyson Boggs, EmmeMac Cherry, Skylar Diller, Dylan Fenbert, Kayla Fuquay, Garret Hashbarger, Aubrey Kinsinger, Garrett Schumacher

Juniors
All A: Victoria Duling, Hailey Dysert, Lacie Fenstermaker, Taelor Miller, Lillie Nofzinger, Mikayla Simons, Seth Tadana, Nicholas Walker

All A/B: Meara Bolitho, Mallory Deken, Grant Farthing, Breckin Grothouse, Eli Huffman, Jaden Kohli, Brayden Kreiling, Makenzie Luttrifing, Korbin Morman, Lena Salazar, Taryn Scott, Erin Shertell, Bella Sibold, Jada Steinmeyer

Seniors
All A: Alexis Augsburger, Echo Boggs, Madison Hovest, Reid Liechty, Caitlyn Maag, Alexandra Neuschwander, Evelyn Russell, Silas Schmenk, Blake Steiner, Jacob Suter, Michelle Velasquez

A/B: Gavin Biery, Samuel Burkholder, Emma Frink, Trevor Gerten, Makayla Kinsinger, Andrew Meyer, Bryan

Hardin Northern honor rolls

DOLA — Hardin Northern High School has released the honor roll for its second nine weeks.

Students on the All A Honor Roll include:

• Seventh grade: Eli Castle, Riley Newton, Luke Price, Brady Robey, Alaina Thomas

• Eighth grade: Preston Grappy, Mason Stewart, Justin Thiel, Ramzie Whitaker

• Freshmen: Cooper Thomas
• Sophomores: Eleanor Curtis, Katherine Good, Emma Martin,

Wesley Newton, Zachary Spearman, Zeb Wilson

• Juniors: Georgia Grindell, Jodi Herrod-Gonzalez, Nevin Robson
• Seniors: Lucas Wilson

Students on the All A & B Honor Roll:

• Seventh grade: Ava Gardner, Alexander Gatchell, Noah McCoy, Isabelle Morrison, Joseph Purdy-Craig, Mariann Woodruff

• Eighth grade: Dylan Bacon, Caleb Emerine, Andrew Sutton, Heidi Trachsel, Alexander Wilson

• Freshmen: Emmah Boose, Paeghton Cook, Carter Curtis, Kiersten Horn, Jenna Legge, Landon Wetherill
• Sophomores: Cadence Coy, Clayton Earlywine, Alyssa Heldman, Kylee Legge, Lauren Lenhart, Lara Price, Isabella Wilson

• Juniors: Jacob Diller, Brenna Flowers, Kennedy Hall, Cadence Lamb, Layla Perkins

• Seniors: Colby Garmon, Madison Grappy, Jennica Herrod-Gonzalez, Cierra Simon, Haylie Spearman, Owen Wetherill, David Whitaker

Leipsic Middle, High School honor rolls

LEIPSIC — Leipsic middle and high schools have released their honor rolls for the second quarter.

Students earning a 4.0 GPA and above include:

Seniors: Marcus Amador, Grant Bryan, Kaleb Gillespie, Luis Navarro, Skye Proctor, Ella Rigel, Terry Schroeder, Jaden Siefker, Madeline Walther

Juniors: Grace Douglas, Peyton Heitmeyer, Victoria Niese

Sophomores: Seth Apple, Landen Erickson, Abigail Haselmann, Adam Lammers, Paul Maag, Jeremy Reynolds, Hannah Schroeder, Sydney Schroeder, Luke Spoons

Freshmen: Gavin Bryan, Samantha Hazeltin, Kaytlyn Schroeder, Jacob Walther

Students on the All A Honor Roll:

Eighth grade: Morgan Apple, Grace Bryan, Tim Eding, Alexandria Reynolds

Seventh grade: Brevin Brandt, Kater Newell, Olivia Tussing, Mia Valdez

Sixth grade: Lindsay Frankart, Maddox Knoll, Colin Niese, Avery Paris, Alexis Vo

Students earning a 3.5 to 3.995 GPA include:

Seniors: Jay Evers, Caitlen Flick, Alexander Gerdeman, Juan Gutierrez, Lorena Lehmann, Jillian Lutz, Jacob Maag, Mitchell Maag, Aliyah Pardo, Antonio Paso-Tero, Crystal Roman, Yalini Velasquez

Juniors: Mason Brandt, Brayden Casteel, Catherine Essinger, Sidney Fausey, Jocelyn Hermiller, Alexandra Kirkendall,

Blake Liffick, Christiana Lojewski, Caylee Revuelta, Madelyn Schindley, Kady Schroeder, Tyler Schroeder, Mireya Venancio, Lola Wensink

Sophomores: Alaina Brown, Isaiah Camareno, Camron Dulle, Caleb Ellerbrock, Taylor Hardy, Marisa Hermiller, Kendra Niese, Madyson Rodriguez, Preston Schneider, Ashley Schroeder, Ashly Veazquez

Freshmen: Alexander Amador, Ava Henry, Leann Kirkendall, Konner Mickens, Ryan Recker, Diego Reichelderfer, Quin Schroeder, Trent Siefker

Students on the A-B Honor Roll include:

Eighth grade: Nevaeh Altman, Serenity Arrizola, Tavis Bejarano, Daisy Cano Perez, Brooklyn Cunningham, Jady Cupp, Lyzaya Dillingham-Berg, Skylar Fausey, Jesus Guerrero, Reid Hiegel, Tyler Lammers, Reagan Niese, Thomas Offenbacher, Desrene Orduno, Alexis Reichelderfer, Ava Schroeder, Sierra Steingass, Ashlynn Stuber, Brittney Velazquez, Tyler Walther

Seventh grade: Karmyn Brough, Randy Fackler, Colin Foreman, Carly Garcia, Johnny Gonzales, Zachar Lammers, Audri Langhals, Andy Ortiz-Toto, Destiny Paniagua, Abriana Pizano, Ella Roberts, Ava Shoreder, Shea Lane, Jayla Shuredis, Jackson Spitalne, Ava Tappin

Sixth grade: Myles Camareno, John Dewar, Eban Hardy, Emma Mangas, Elecia Paniagua, Leonardo Parker, Kadin

Schroeder, Jaelyn Siefer, Daniel Vasquez Chamale, Olivia Wagner, Marquis Williams

Students earning a 3.0 to 3.495 GPA include:

Seniors: Reece Dulle, Kina Hemenway, Greg Larson, McKenna Nunez, Tyler Sickmiller, Lorenzo Walther, Catalina Zuniga

Juniors: Madison Barrere, Shea Beckert, Glendy Cano Perez, Mya Chavez, Roman DeLaRosa, Samantha Lenhart, Hannah Mangas, Courtney Schroeder, Yvette Valencia, Jasmine Warren

Sophomores: Anaya Baney, Kasey Brough, Bonnie Cuevas, Jennifer Gonzalez, Whitney Langhals, Kyrsten Martinez, Madison Navarro, Emanuel Ortiz Tolo, Skylar Revuelta, Zoey Schroeder, Serenity Siefer, Jeremy Tavares, Miqueas Vicente, Ulisses Zuniga

Freshmen: Olivia Amador, Mariyah Brown, Aaliyah Diaz, Abby Ellerbrock, Brooklyn Foreman, Elyse Goodwin, Riley Kneueven, Jessica Martinez, Jazmine Owens, Madysyn Revuelta, Isabelle Rosebrock, Jacob Scheckelhoff

Students on the B Honor Roll include:

Eighth grade: Jordan Lanciere, Jayden Morrow

Seventh grade: Carter Benton, Emily Cuevas, Brooklyn Flores, Cruz Garcia, Gavin Hunter, Brody Lammers, Brayden Petaway, Paige Wagner

Sixth grade: Tyson Beckman, Lucas Frankart, River Puente

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled a public hearing in Case Nos. 20-585-EL-AIR, 20-586-EL-ATA, and 20-587-EL-AAM, in the Matter of Ohio Power Company for an Increase in Electric Distribution Rates, for Tariff Approval, and for Approval to Change Accounting Methods. AEP Ohio seeks a rate increase, including miscellaneous charges, that would generate approximately \$36.2 million of additional revenue, or an increase of 2.96 percent over current total base distribution revenue. For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatts per month, AEP Ohio seeks an increase of 1.80 percent on the total bill for the Ohio Power Company rate zone and an increase of 1.81 percent on the total bill for the Columbus Southern Power Company rate zone. After its review of AEP Ohio's records and application, the staff of the Commission recommends a decrease of 2.92 percent on the total bill for a 20-585-EL-AIR, et al. -5 residential customer using 1,000 kilowatts per month for the Ohio Power Company and the Columbus Southern Power Company rate zones.

A public hearing is scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The public hearing will be held on Monday, February 8, 2021, commencing at 6:00 p.m. via Webex.

Interested persons who are not a party to these cases and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on February 5, 2021, at <https://puc.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-585-EL-AIR-et-al-ph> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. If individuals wish to supplement their testimony with an exhibit for the Commission's consideration, a copy of the document, along with a reference to Case Nos. 20-585-EL-AIR, 20-586-EL-ATA, and 20-587-EL-AAM, must be provided to the Commission by February 5, 2021, if possible, but no later than February 16, 2021, by electronic mail to contactThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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Columbus police chief forced out

Mayor has lost confidence in chief's ability to bring reform

By ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS and FARNOUGH AMIRI
ASSOCIATED PRESS
REPORT FOR AMERICA

COLUMBUS — The police chief of Ohio's capital and largest city was forced out Thursday after the mayor who hired him said he'd lost confidence in the chief's ability to make needed changes to the department, weeks after the police killing of Andre Hill.

The removal of Police Chief Thomas Quinlan by Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther comes amid a larger community debate over the shootings of several Black children and men by police and heavy-handed police tactics during last year's protests over police brutality and racial injustice.

"It became clear to me

that Chief Quinlan could not successfully implement the reform and change I expect and that the community demands," Ginther said in a statement. "Columbus residents have lost faith in him and in Division's ability to change on its own."

Quinlan, who is white, is a 30-year department veteran who was selected for the top job by Ginther in December 2019. He was chosen over Perry Tarrant, a former assistant police chief in Seattle, who is Black. At the time, Ginther said Quinlan must address racism within the department's ranks, including further diversifying the department.

Ginther, a Democrat, said a new national search will be conducted for the next chief. Quinlan said Thursday he had hoped to stay in the position but respected the

decision. He said he accomplished a lot as chief.

"We implemented dozens of reforms geared toward accountability, transparency, and strengthening public trust," Quinlan said. "Someone else will now carry those priorities forward, and I will help and support them in any way I can."

In late December, Columbus officer Adam Coy was fired after shooting Hill three days before Christmas as Hill walked out of a garage holding a cellphone. Anger over the killing grew as bodycam video showed that multiple responding officers failed to help Hill as he lay moaning on a garage floor.

Quinlan has said the 47-year-old Hill would be alive if not for officers' inaction, and promised an investigation of all involved.

"We can't effectively police if we don't have the trust and the partnerships that we need to move forward, so we cannot tolerate any type of individual officer bringing discredit upon the division, or policing as a profession," Quinlan said in an



Quinlan

Cont from FINDLAY, A1

them as of early Wednesday. They include Councilman Jim Slough, R-4, seeking a fourth term, and councilmen Tom Shindledecker and Jeff Wobser, both R-at-large. Both would be seeking the fifth term. Beth Warnecke, a Republican, who is currently in her first term rep-

resenting Findlay's 3rd Ward, has also signed out petitions.

City Treasurer Susan Hite has also signed out petitions for reelection. Hite, who was first appointed treasurer in 2011 and later elected, would be seeking her third full four-year term.

While the board of elections

maintains a record of individuals requesting petitions, potential candidates are not required to sign it. That means there may be more residents circulating candidate petitions than listed.

The board of elections will meet at 9 a.m. Feb. 9 to certify candidate or issue petitions for the primary

ballot.

For more information on seeking any of these elected positions, contact the elections board at 419-422-3245 or online at hancockcountyohelections.gov, under "candidate."

Grant: 419-427-8412
denisegrant@thecourier.com

Cont from CURFEW, A1

During his Thursday press conference, DeWine explained that the state had met its goal of seeing fewer than 3,500 hospitalizations for seven days. If hospitalizations keep falling, the curfew will be trimmed until it's gone.

Vaccinations began last week for Ohioans 80 and older and began this week for state residents 75 and older. The first week of February begins vaccinations for those 70 and above, and people 65 and older can begin the second week of February.

Next week was also supposed to be the launch of vaccinating school employ-

ees, including teachers, bus drivers, and anyone else who comes into contact with school kids, although DeWine said Cincinnati was allowed to begin Thursday.

The governor's office has released a list of the counties where school districts will get shots next week. The list includes 11 of Ohio's 88 counties, but Hancock was not included. Every other school district will learn Friday when it will be vaccinated, DeWine said.

DeWine said he has been deluged with messages from school districts asking why they can't go first.

"I can't vaccinate every educator in Ohio in one week," he said.

Cont from HEALTH, A1

Baroudi said Thursday that the county's numbers are getting better, "but we're not in a good place."

He said he's "encouraged" that the numbers are improving — and, he said, thanks are due to the public for complying with safety measures like masking and distancing. Baroudi added that the fact that the holidays are over may be helping.

But the virus is still out there, and people must continue to keep up safety measures like wearing masks and staying away from crowds. "This is important," he said.

Baroudi said the newer, more contagious strains of

the virus are something to watch — but he said what we need to do is be "worrying about the virus, period," not just those strains.

Hancock County remained red on the state's color-coded public health advisory system related to the pandemic, in information released Thursday by the Ohio Department of Health. All of the surrounding counties are also red.

Hancock County met two of the state's seven indicators that determine the color level: new cases per capita and noncongregate cases.

With 253 cases over the past two weeks and a county population of 75,783, Hancock County had 333.85 cases per 100,000 people. This is three times the Cen-

ters for Disease Control and Prevention's definition of high incidence, but it is also lower than it has been in the past.

And 94.44% of Hancock County's cases in the past week were noncongregate, meaning not in a setting like a nursing home where many people live together.

The incidence figures for surrounding counties are: Allen County, 571.56 cases per 100,000 people; Hardin County, 650.41; Henry County, 540.62; Putnam County, 519.77; Seneca County, 514.70; Wood County, 419.53; and Wyandot County, 339.89.

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Cont from BETTER, A1

cold, but better than being in an office."

He laughed. "To each their own."

Even on a day like today?

"Yep, just cold weather. It's not as bad as rain, Shuey said. Rain is the worst. It clings to the clothes."

"Snow you can brush off."

Optimum weather, Shuey said, is sunshine and 70 degrees. He and his colleagues will not be seeing many sunny, 70-degree days as they labor for months replacing 1980s vintage gas lines in the southwest Findlay neighborhood.

They put in 11-hour workdays, starting at 7 a.m. and ending about 6 p.m. To fend

off the cold in the marathon workdays, they wear layers.

"I've got three hoodies on right now," Shuey said.

But even a tough, outdoors guy would need more, surely.

Longjohns, too?

"O-oh, heck ye-eah."

Wilin: 419-427-8413
louwilin@thecourier.com

Cont from SMALL, A1

opened last fall on South Main Street. Baker's Café relocated from Sandusky Street to South Main Street.

"These were all projects that were going on or started during COVID and trying to find a way through, providing with resources to do so," Sheaffer said.

City and county revolving loan funds were extended to various small businesses. In addition, 32 federal CARES Act grants of \$5,000 each

were awarded to small businesses last year.

"We worked with quite a few small businesses with (the) revolving loan fund," Sheaffer said. "We assisted them here in the office, doing that with (Hancock Regional Planning Commission)."

Small retail stores and restaurants that had little or no e-commerce platform benefited from Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development's status as a satellite office of the Small

Business Development Center at Rhodes State College. Rhodes State last fall received grant money, which then was used to help small Findlay businesses develop a more robust online presence, whether in web design or allowing a business's customers to order products or services online.

"We were very happy to work with Rhodes State in doing that," Sheaffer said.

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Correction

Meijer has been designated through the Ohio Department of Health as the local partner for administering COVID-19 vaccines for school personnel in Hancock County. The agency tapped to administer the vaccines was incorrectly reported in Wednesday's edition of The Courier.

Lottery

Results from Thursday

Ohio Pick 3

Day: 0-5-3

Night: 8-3-6

Pick 4

Day: 8-3-5-4

Night: 1-6-4-6

Pick 5

Day: 9-4-2-9-0

Night: 7-3-8-3-1

Rolling Cash 5

3-8-22-28-34

The Courier

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Obituaries

Richard L. Wolford

Richard L. Wolford, 84, of Dellroy, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021.

He was born Nov. 8, 1936 in Canton, Ohio, a son of the late Harold and Clemance (Kesling) Wolford Eber.

Richard resided in Dellroy for 31 years, previously Massillon. He retired from The Timken Company in 1995 after 31 years of service, where he was a millwright in the Bearing Plant. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Morges and Fraternal order of Eagles #2170. Richard honorably served in the U.S. Army for 36 years during the Korean Conflict and also during Desert Storm.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother and sister, Jim Wolford and "Jeri" Fitch.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth A. Wolford, with whom he celebrated their 61st Wedding Anniversary on June 6; four daughters and one son, Jane (Duane) Danner, Christina (Steve) Hardwick, Mary (Adam) Zaleski, Elizabeth (Jim) Wolford, and William (Pamela) Wolford; 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial for immediate family members only was held Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021, at 11 a.m. in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Morges with Fr. Jonas Shell as Celebrant.

Interment took place in St. Mary's Church Cemetery.

Due to COVID-19 there was no visitation at this time, but a Memorial Service for family and friends will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to: www.gordonfuneralhomes.com



Submitted

Naomi F. Bellville

Naomi F. Bellville, 91, of Carrollton, Ohio, passed away at home Friday, Jan. 22, 2021.

She was born March 31, 1929 in Germano, Ohio, to Ernest Alexander and Nannie Laura (Polen) Johnson.

Naomi married Earl Ray Bellville on Aug. 8, 1952 and he passed away Nov. 14, 2000.

Earl and Naomi enjoyed traveling. Naomi was a hostess for Welcome Wagon for many years. She was a member of the Believers Fellowship Church in Carrollton where she was an active Prayer Warrior. She was active in both T.O.P.P.'s and K.O.P.P.'s club. Naomi loved to work on puzzles and playing cards at the Senior Center. Her hobbies were taking care of her cat, Cuddles and Nascar.

She is survived by two daughters, Fay (Wayne) Baughman and Aletis Bellville, both of Carrollton; two grandchildren, Heather (Pete) Matoszkia and Brad (Cynthia) Baughman; three great grandchildren, Tyler and Braydon Baughman and Wyatt Matoszkia; and her sister, Doris Trushel.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Earl; one brother and two sisters.

Calling hours were Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021, at the Allmon Dugger Cotton Funeral from 10-12 p.m. with the funeral following at noon. Burial took place in the Germano Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the church.

Patsy J. Breckenridge

Patsy June Breckenridge, 78, passed away Jan. 22, 2021.

She was born to the late Wayne and Ruth Roof on June 28, 1942 in Dellroy, Ohio and was a 1960 graduate of Carrollton High School.

She married Larry Breckenridge on April 12, 1964. They moved from Carrollton to North Canton, Ohio, and she would reside there her entire life. Patsy was a working mother of two. She worked at Citizen Savings Bank, Redicon Corp., and Bluegrass Irrigation and Lighting, all in the greater Canton area.

Patsy loved watching sports. Kids to pros, young and old, boy and girls, it did not matter. She enjoyed it all. Her greatest passions were her kids and grandkids and their pursuits. There was never a practice, game or event that she would not attend. She always came with a smile, a word of support, a bottle of Gatorade and a bag of candy.

Surviving is her husband, Larry; children, Michael (Laurel) Breckenridge of Wooster and Renee Mayle of North Canton; grandchildren, Cameron, Connor and Kylie; and brother, Jerry (Donna) Roof of North Canton.

Due to the current pandemic and for the safety of others, there will be a private service to take place at the convenience of the family.

The family wishes to express our gratitude to the doctors and nurses in the critical care unit at Aultman Hospital. Their personal and compassionate care to Patsy and her family was truly appreciated.



Submitted

East Township trustees distribute PPE to residents

By Georgette Huff

Trustees Brett Oyer and Dustin Lucas distributed personal protective supplies to East Township residents at the township hall located at the intersection of CR 25 and CR 18, on Saturday, Dec. 19.

Each resident who attended the event received a box of 50 disposable face masks and two pump bottles of hand sanitizer. The supplies were purchased using approximately half of the \$53,000 in CARES Act funds the township received.

Oyer and Lucas explained the remainder of the township's funds was distributed to Young Producers 4-H club, Seven



Georgette Huff

Trustees Brett Oyer, left, and Dustin Lucas hold some of the items provided to East Township residents.

Ranges Boy Scout Camp, Greenbriar Church, Carrollton Village Schools bus garage, Carroll County Meals on Wheels, the

Golden Age Retreat, the sheriff's department and the Augusta, Fox Township and Hanover fire departments which serve the township.

Malvern Education Association is offering \$1,000 scholarship

The Malvern Education Association is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a Malvern High School alumni who will be a junior/senior in college majoring in the field of education for the 2021-2022 school year.

Interested individuals should visit the Brown Local School website at www.brownlocalschools.com for an application or contact the high school office at 330-863-1355. Applications are due May 3.

Monroe Township provides PPE to township residents

By Nancy Schaar

Monroe Township trustees distributed personal protective supplies to township residents on Saturday, January 23.

"We prepared 200 packages, but we only gave out 50 on Saturday," said Trustee Brian McIntire. The packages contained face masks, hand sanitizer, a thermometer and gloves that had been purchased with the township's COVID funds.

While the trustees were disappointed with the turnout, McIntire noted that with the temperature hovering at 18 degrees, some residents may have been deterred by the cold weather. "We are planning on doing another one (distribu-



Nancy Schaar

Although it was 18 degrees, 50 Monroe Township residents braved the cold to receive a bag of personal protective equipment from township trustees to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19. From left to right are trustee Brian McIntire, resident Brian McIntosh, trustee Tom Jones and trustee Raymond Dingler.

tion) in about a month when the weather is a bit better," he said

The distribution date will be posted in the newspaper and on the FPS website.

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Community Roundup: SCYPG honors young professionals making a difference

Young professionals group presents annual awards

FREMONT - The Sandusky County Young Professionals Group (SCYPG) hosted the third annual Sandusky County Young Professionals Awards Ceremony on Jan. 14 via Zoom.

Professionals between the ages of 21 and 45 were recognized in several categories. An outstanding business or organization is also honored as the best next generation place to work.

The 2020 Award Winners and Finalists include:

Best Next Generation Workplace Award: This award was presented by Bre Farrar. Winner of the 2020 awards: Century Die Company.

Tim Myers accepted the award for Century Die Company. Finalists included: Freeman Company, Sando Industries, Fremont Country Club, Fremont Rec Center, Campfire Sandusky County, Motion Controls Robotics, Inc., Sandusky County Public Health, Russell Real Estate Services and Braised in Balance.

Love Sandusky County Volunteer Award: This award was presented by Dave Thornbury, 2019 award winner, to Brad Krotzer, Gibsonburg Volunteer Fire Department.

The Love Sandusky County Volunteer Award Finalists include: Jason Sabier, Jason Hawkins and Kerri Pollock.

Young Leader of the Year Award: This award was presented by Tory Thompson, 2019 award winner, to Rachel Wynkoop, Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County.

The Young Leader of the Year Award finalists include: Jasmine Lewis, GLCAP; Chari Mullen, City of Fremont; Staci Ernsberger, Get Hosed Apparel; Whitney Lockwood, NOMS; Tim Freeman, Tim's Bar & Grill; Jordan Mackey, Fremont Rec Center; Cody Bischoff, Fremont Rec Center; and Dudley Singer, S&S CPA.

Young Professional of the Year Award: This award was presented by Amanda Sears, 2019 award winner, to Jeremy Bowling, Transformation Network.

The Young Professional of the Year Award finalists include: Ashley Savin, Last at Bat Tournaments; Kristie Bilger, Downtown Fremont, Inc.; Cody Bis-



Rachel Wynkoop, director of the Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County, won the Young Leader of the Year Award. SUBMITTED



Tim Myers accepted the Best Next Generation Workplace Award for Century Die Company. SHERI TRUSTY/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

choff, Fremont Rec Center; Eliot Parker, Parkmont Wealth; Chris Teague, Teague Technologies; SheAnna Garner, Russell Real Estate Services; Jenny Freeh, UIS Insurance & Investments; and Tyler Kneeskern, Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County.

The 2020 SCYPG Board of Directors voted to approve the 2021 officers and directors. The 2021 SCYPG Board of Directors include: Rachel Wynkoop, president; Amanda Sears, vice president; Andrea Gibson, past president; Jenny Freeh, secretary/treasurer; and members-at-large Rob Roth, Megan Craun, Jasmine Lewis, Jeremy Bowling and Jessica Ginty.

Trisha Foos was also recognized by the board as outgoing board member and secretary/treasurer of the SCYPG.

Humane society holds annual meeting

PORT CLINTON - The Humane Society of Ottawa County recently held its annual meeting. Four incumbent members were re-elected to another two-year term: Lara Bischoff, Diane Hopkins, Marty Mortus, and Sue Stradeja.

The board welcomed new member Sarah La Marca. Officers elected for the 2021 year are Marty Mortus, president; Sue Stradeja, vice president; Mary Anne

Koebel, treasurer, and Sarah La Marca, secretary.

Shelter manager Lesa Heredia reported the activity for the shelter in 2020. A total of 150 animals were brought into the shelter — 124 cats and 26 dogs. A total of 156 animals were adopted out of the shelter; one bird, 110 cats, 41 dogs and four reptiles. A total of 97 animals were spayed and neutered; 87 cats and 10 dogs.

The Humane Society was able to begin some T.N.R. (Trap/Neuter/Return) projects in Port Clinton, Oak Harbor, Williston, Martin and Marblehead. These efforts are to reduce the feral and stray cat populations in neighborhoods. A total of 19 cats were trapped and vetted, then released back into their colonies. Sixteen (16) cats were placed in barns after being trapped and vetted. Ten cats were able to be adopted into loving homes. The Humane Society looks forward to expanding these efforts in 2021.

Anyone interested in adopting an animal from the Humane Society of Ottawa County can visit the website HSOCPets.org to see animals that are up for adoption. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the shelter office is open by appointment only. Contact 419-734-5191 to make an appointment, or for more information.

IN BRIEF

Clyde council to discuss Community Reinvestment Area

CLYDE - City Council will hold a work session at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the second floor conference room, 222 N. Main St., to discuss a Community Reinvestment Area. For information call 419-547-6898.

Ohio Trust group to meet on Zoom

TIFFIN - The regular meeting of the North Central Ohio Trust will be 2 p.m. Wednesday via Zoom. For more information contact Kim Fisher at kfisher@ncosc.org.

Alzheimer's Association to host virtual community forum

Ottawa County residents are invited to take part in a Virtual Community Forum on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The hourlong forum provides an opportunity for residents of all ages to come together to ask questions about the disease, share personal experiences, learn about resources and discover volunteer opportunities to support families affected by the disease.

The meeting will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, virtually on Zoom. Register by calling 800-272-3900.

Hosting a community discussion about Alzheimer's disease care and support programs and services in northwest Ohio counties is so timely and important, said Pam Myers, program director for the Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter.

"Community Forums are hosted by the Alzheimer's Association in communities across the country, where families are invited to come together with Association staff and volunteers to mobilize our community in the fight against Alzheimer's disease."

Community forums hosted by the Association bring together families affected by the disease with staff and volunteers to open conversation in an effort to bolster resources, programs and services to support families in their communities.

Working together with local volunteers, the Alzheimer's Association can ensure families have the resources needed to face the many challenges associated with the disease.

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IN BRIEF

Hospital auxiliary accepting scholarship applications

FREMONT - ProMedica Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will offer scholarships for 2021-2022 to Sandusky County area high school seniors and college students who are pursuing an education in a health-related field.

Applications may be obtained through area high school guidance counselors or at promedica.org/Memorial. Completed applications should be sent to ProMedica Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, 715 S. Taft Ave., Fremont 43420, or emailed to rachel.mccoy@promedica.org by March 31.

Past applicants may reapply. The scholarship awards will be announced in April followed by a scholarship winner recognition event in May.

Clyde meetings canceled due to pandemic

CLYDE - The City of Clyde canceled its commission and board meetings slated for February due to the surge in the COVID-19.

That includes: Recreation Board on Feb. 1, Planning Commission on Feb. 4, the Landscape and Tree Commission on Feb. 9 and Clyde Fair Board on Feb. 11. Meetings for those boards and commission are slated to resume in March.

Bradner Legion to hold Wings night

BRADNER - The Bradner American Legion "Wing" night will be 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday. Dine - in or carry-out. Call in orders if possible at 419-288-3634. Social distancing will be implemented. The meal includes 8 wings, tater-tots and homemade coleslaw for \$9.

Gibsonburg council to meet Feb. 7

GIBSONBURG - Gibsonburg Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 7 in the council chamber at town hall, 526 N. Webster St.

Only the mayor, council and administrative staff will be permitted to attend. The meeting will be broadcast via Facebook Live on the Gibsonburg page at 6 p.m. For more information email m.glotzbeck@gibsonburg.org.

Libraries offer parking lot bingo

ELMORE - February is a busy month at the Harris-Elmore and Genoa libraries. The library will host parking lot bingo in February in Elmore and Genoa. Bingo will be at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 4 at the Genoa quarry (behind the Big Dipper) and 6 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Elmore Historical Society (facing the barn). Carpool with members and play through the radio. Bingo cards and markers will be provided. This is a free event. For information call 419-862-2482 and 419-855-3380.

Community Roundup: GLCAP provides \$1.3M in COVID-19 relief in 2020

FREMONT - Great Lakes Community Action Partnership (GLCAP) completed 2020 by helping 987 northwest Ohio households with COVID-19-related financial assistance.

In late October, GLCAP received \$1.3 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act stimulus funding to provide mortgage, rent, water and utility, and food assistance to Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wood County residents who were financially impacted by COVID-19. Funding was provided to GLCAP in late October. Staff moved rapidly, reaching out to households in need and helping people through the application process before the end-of-the-year application deadline.

"We credit our frontline staff with providing so much assistance in such a short amount of time," GLCAP President/CEO Ruthann House said.

GLCAP has since received a second round of CARES Act funding in the amount of \$1 million to continue helping households in the four-county region throughout 2021.

"We anticipate the financial effects of the pandemic to be ongoing and encourage anyone who needs assistance to reach out," House said.

COVID Relief assistance is available for households that are at or below 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines (e.g. \$52,400 annual income/household of four) and need assistance. Residents may be eligible for assistance if they have missed or fallen behind on rent, mortgage or water/sewer payments for reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Reasons may include lost wages due to business closures, reduced work hours, household quarantines, and other hardships.

Those who need help may visit glcap.org/covidrelief or call GLCAP at 1-800-775-9767.

More information on other GLCAP programs is available at glcap.org.

Woodmore-Penta FFA members achieve top degrees

ELMORE - This year the Woodmore-Penta FFA Chapter has three State FFA Degree recipients and one American Degree Recipient.



Draeger

This year's recipient of the American Degree is Megan Draeger. She has an Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) in job placement working at Benches Greenhouse from 2016 to the present day. She also has a small floral business on the side. Lastly, she raises Market Goats and Market Chickens which she shows and sells at the Sandusky County Fair.

As the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization, the American FFA Degree shows a member's dedication to his or her chapter and state FFA association.

The State FFA Degree is the highest award an FFA member can receive within their years in the agricultural education program, at the state level.

This year's recipients are:
• Shannon Benner with an SAE in Breeding and selling her own Boer Goats on her family farm. As well as raising, showing and selling Market Lambs at the Ottawa County Fair.

• Macy Perry with an SAE in Breeding New Zealand Rabbits and selling the offspring as market rabbits. As well as working for a local landscaping business called Harman's Landscaping which serves the Elmore and Woodville Communities.

• Cameron Overmyer, his SAE is raising, showing and selling Market Goats at the Ottawa County Fair and working for Gary Schumaker where he mows grass, paints diesel engines and gas pipes, and makes deliveries.

Some of the requirements are receiving the State FFA Degree, being an active member the past three years, have graduated from high school, earn at least \$10,000 and productively invested \$7,500 in an SAE and 50 hours of community service.

Port Clinton Board of Education honors Jack Nitz



Nitz

PORT CLINTON - Many in Port Clinton know Jack Nitz, a teacher, coach, dean of students, principal and director of student services at Port Clinton City School District.

His career took place over 40 years until his retirement last June. Because of his dedication to the students and staff of the Port Clinton City Schools, the Board of Education honored his career by naming the Port Clinton High School Media Center, "The Jack Nitz Academic Center" or "The J.A.C."

In a surprise ceremony, a small group of school officials surprised Nitz with the help of his family on Jan. 21.

The plaque outside of the newly named center reads, "Ask Jack!" That phrase became embedded in many of the conversations that have taken place at PCHS over the years.

For more pictures and a video of the presentation visit www.pccsd.net or facebook.com/portclintoncschools.

LEGAL NOTICE

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A public hearing is scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The public hearing will be held on Monday, February 8, 2021, commencing at 6:00 p.m. via Webex.

Interested persons who are not a party to these cases and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on February 5, 2021, at <https://puc.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-585-EL-AIR-et-al-ph> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. If individuals wish to supplement their testimony with an exhibit for the Commission's consideration, a copy of the document, along with a reference to Case Nos. 20-585-EL-AIR, 20-586-EL-ATA, and 20-587-EL-AAM, must be provided to the Commission by February 5, 2021, if possible, but no later than February 16, 2021, by electronic mail to contactThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Interested individuals who merely wish to attend the hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering the access code 179 414 7650. The public hearing will also be live streamed for viewing at www.youtube.com/user/PUCOhio. Additional information is available by contacting the Commission's Consumer Call Center at 1-800-686-7826.

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GALION AREA NOTEBOOK

Viewing the Night Sky set for Jan. 23

Join members of the Crawford Park District Astronomy Club for Viewing the Night Sky at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23 at Lowe-Volk Park, located at 2401 Ohio 598, Crestline, three miles north of U.S. 30. For information or to register, contact the Crawford Park District office at 419-683-9000. Go to crawfordparkdistrict.org for information about classes the park district offers.

Pro-Life Walk set for Jan. 23

Crawford County Right to Life will hold its annual pro-life walk at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23 in Bucyrus. The walk will begin at the Crawford County Courthouse, 112 E. Mansfield Street, Bucyrus.

Avita COVID-19 vaccine clinics

Avita Health System is offering COVID-19 vaccine clinics for people age 80. Vaccine clinics are offered at Avita hospital locations in Galion, Bucyrus, and Ontario. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 419-468-0800 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Requests will not be accepted from those who do not meet the minimum age requirement. Walk-in appointments are not available.

Galion City Council meeting Jan. 26

Galion City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom teleconference and be shown on The City of Galion Facebook page.

Humane Society bingo Jan. 27

The Humane Society Serving Crawford County will host its weekly Wednesday night bingo game on Jan. 27. The games will be played at The Pickwick Place, 1875 N. Sandusky Ave., Bucyrus. Doors open at 4 p.m. Games begin at 6:30 p.m. All social distancing and mask guidelines will be enforced. For information, go to Humane Society Serving Crawford County on Facebook, or www.crawfordhumane.com. The phone number is 419-562-9149.

Book Club meets Jan. 26

The Crawford Park District Book Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at the Lowe-Volk Park Nature Center, 2401 Ohio 598, Crestline. For information, call the Crawford Park District office at 419-683-9000. Go to crawfordparkdistrict.org for information about classes the park district offers.

Drive-thru food pantry Jan. 27

Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio will offer a drive-thru food pantry on Wednesday, Jan. 27 on the Galion City Schools campus, 470 Portland Way North. The pantry will be open from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Vehicles should line up in the parking lot at Galion Middle School. Second Harvest will be distributing boxes of assorted shelf-stable food and produce. For information, go to secondharvestfoodbank.org.

ADAMH Board meets Jan. 28

The Crawford-Marion ADAMH Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 28. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom teleconference and will be streamed live on the Crawford-Marion ADAMH Facebook page. For information, go to www.mcadamh.com.

Galion City Schools BOE meets Feb. 16

The Galion City Schools Board of Education will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16 in the Galion Middle School Computer Lab.

District Records Commission meets

The Galion City Schools District Records Commission will meet at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16 in the Galion Middle School Computer Lab.

Northmor Local Schools BOE meets

The Northmor Local Schools Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16 in the board office, 5247 County Road 29, Galion.

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OBITUARIES

CARL J. FENDRICK

Carl Fendrick is home! He is reunited with our Heavenly Father and his bride, Marjorie. Hall-lujah!



Carl was born December 6, 1924, in Ashland, Ohio, to Carl and Mary Fendrick. He was the oldest of three boys. Brothers are James and Jack.

Carl passed away January 15, 2021, in Baytown, Texas, at the age of 96, following a brief illness. He is survived by daughters Betsy Poovey and husband Teddy of Garland, Texas, and Christine "Scotty" Mad-dox of Dayton, Texas. Also surviving are Grandsons Michael Fendrick and Travis Paul and wife Jessica and Granddaughter Abigail McAlister and husband Brady. Additionally, he leaves six Great Grandchildren and four Great Great Grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 72 years,

Marjorie, his parents, brother Jim, son Stephen, and Grandson Jarred.

Carl was a proud WWII and Korea Marine Veteran and continued his bond with Marine brothers through service in his Marine Corps League, Color Guard and Toys for Tots. An avid hunter and fisherman, he often shared those passions in various places around the country with Stephen and Scotty.

He and Marjorie traveled extensively in years past and lived in many states. He loved the mountains as well as the ocean and left a legacy with his photos from around the world.

Carl was proud and honored to be a member of the Masonic Temple, as a 32nd degree Mason for over 60 years. He was a devoted member of the Episcopal Church for over 70 years. He served on the Vestry, was a member of several

mission trip teams to Central America, and made scores of new friends serving Meals on Wheels.

He laughed often and loved to tell stories. Teaching his Great Granddaughter about birds and fish was a favorite. He enjoyed card games with his friends and could tear up a pool table. Gemology was a passion for many years, as was football at his alma mater The Ohio State University.

Carl loved his family. He loved life. He loved the Lord and knew of the splendor to come. Rest easy, Dad. You are so loved and will be missed immensely.

Services are being planned for a later date when we are able to gather safely.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the American Heart Association, St. Jude Children's Hospital, or a non-profit involved with Alzheimer's research.

GALION POLICE REPORTS

Staff Report

galnews@aimmediamidwest.com

Jan. 19

Police arrested a male suspect on suspicion of failing to comply with the order or signal of a police officer following a traffic stop in the 300 block of South East Street. The traffic stop was executed following a report of a suspicious vehicle in that area. The arrest was made following a pursuit. Officers also issued a traffic citation to the male suspect.

Police were asked to assist Crawford County Children Services with the removal of juveniles from a residence on Libby Lane. The juveniles were taken into custody without incident.

Police were called to a residence in the 300 block of Mansfield Street to check a bag that had been left on the porch. Officers found nothing suspicious.

Police issued a citation to a motorist for driving with an expired license in the vicinity of South and Parson streets.

Police responded to a report of a suspicious person in the vicinity of Charles and East streets. Officers discovered that the male subject had an argument with his girlfriend and was walking home.

Police issued a warning to a motorist along South Street for a stop sign violation.

Jan. 20

Police issued a verbal warning to a motorist in the vicinity of North East and Primrose streets for not having a working passenger-side headlight.

Police investigated a report of a reckless driver in the vicinity of Harding Way West and Clymer Avenue. The driver told officers she was eating while driving.

Police issued a verbal

warning to a motorist in the vicinity of North Pierce Street and Harding Way East for not having his vehicle's license plate properly displayed.

Police issued a verbal warning to a motorist in the 800 block of Charles Street for a stop sign violation.

Police investigated a report of a civil dispute in the 800 block of Charles Street. Officers were told two men were arguing. They were separated. No arrests were made.

Police issued a verbal warning to a motorist in the 700 block of Charles Street for a turn signal violation.

Police responded to a report of a domestic dispute in the 800 block of Carter Drive. Officers were told that a male involved in the dispute cut himself with a knife following an argument. Officers took information for a report. No arrests were made.

NAMI offering Family to Family Classes

Submitted

MARION — The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Marion and Crawford Counties (NAMI-MCC) is holding a new series of free Family to Family Classes beginning Thursday, Jan. 21, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. for eight weeks through March 11. These classes are open to people living in Crawford and

Marion counties. Classes are taught by NAMI trained volunteers to help people understand and be more supportive of family members living with mental illness and services available. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, classes will be limited to eight people, in person, wearing masks and following social distancing guidelines during the training sessions to be

held at Marion-Crawford Prevention Programs Office, (near the Palace Theater), 151 Campbell Street, Marion.

For information and to register, email Adrienne Geary, Program and Outreach Coordinator, at namimarcrawford@aimmediamidwest.com or galnews@aimmediamidwest.com. In the subject line, write Family to Family Classes. Please include your name and phone number.

Carle's Specials
for the Week of January 25, 2021

USDA Choice & Prime Beef	
English Roast.....	\$4.69/lb.
Flat Iron Steaks.....	\$5.29/lb.
Minute Steaks.....	\$5.99/lb.
Premium Pork	
Pork Cutlets (pkins & Breaded).....	\$3.79/lb.
Loin End Boneless Pork Roast.....	\$3.49/lb.
Sheridan Pork Chops.....	\$4.99/lb.
Miller's Naturally Raised Fresh Amish Chicken	
Boneless Thighs.....	\$3.89/lb.
From the Deli	
Erdich Virginia Ham.....	\$5.29/lb.
Carle's Sausage Salad.....	\$5.29/lb.
Guggenberg Baby Swiss.....	\$6.99/lb.

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OBITUARIES

NATHAN DANIEL ROSTON

Nathan Daniel Roston, age 39, of Lewis Center, passed away on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at his home after a courageous two-year battle with brain cancer.

Nathan was born on January 23, 1981, in Galion, Ohio, to Daniel K. Roston and Danita L. (Tallentire) Holbrook. He was a 1999 graduate of Galion High School. While in high school, Nathan worked at Geyer's Market in Galion where he met his wife Jennifer Richardson. Nathan graduated from The Ohio State University, Class of 2006, obtaining his Bachelor's Degree in Geography. While in college, Nathan began working at Sam's Club and accomplished his goal of becoming a General Manager of his own Club in 2018. He worked for Sam's Club for 18 years. Since 2008, he and his wife, Jennifer, have also owned Delaware Pet Grooming in Delaware, Ohio.

Known to many as "Nate the Great," he was rarely seen without a

smile on his face and shared that joy with everyone in which he came in contact. Nathan loved making people laugh and even joked

through his suffering and hardships. He will also be remembered for his unending willingness to help others. If he knew of a need and had the ability to help, you could always count on Nate to be there. Nathan's passions were, above all, being a husband and father. He married Jennifer Richardson on August 26, 2006, and they have two children, Lucas and Jemma.

Nathan found God at an early age and maintained his relationship with God throughout his life. Nathan always found a place to serve the Lord. He was most recently a member of the Sunbury Christian Church Men's Bible Study. Nate loved building and fixing things, The Ohio State Buckeyes, food (large quantities and the spicier the better), golf-



ing, and playing Pokemon Go with his son, family, and friends. Nathan also enjoyed playing basketball and played during his high school career.

His love for basketball and bringing people together, prompted him to revive and organize the Galion Alumni Basketball Tournament in 2014.

Nathan will be deeply missed by his loving wife Jennifer; children, Lucas and Jemma; parents, Daniel Roston and Danita (Terry) Holbrook; siblings, Ryan Roston, Tennille (Jeffrey) Goodrich, Olivia Roston, Katie Holbrook, and Jessica (Michael) Gannon; grandfather, Jerry Tallentire; in-laws, Steve and Cheryl Richardson; brother-in-law Justin (Terra) Richardson; nephews, Logan Roston, Dyllen Roston, Sawyer Goodrich, Brody Richardson; nieces, Alena Roston, Lilianna Gannon, and Gabby Richardson; as well as numerous

aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Nathan is preceded in death by his grandparents, Russell C. Roston, Susie L. "Toni" (Patten) Roston, and Carol T. (Stevens) Tallentire.

Due to the pandemic, the family will honor Nathan's life with a private ceremony on January 23, 2021, his 40th birthday, with Pastor Paul Walter officiating at the Gracepoint Church in Galion. The family will be planning a larger public celebration of life for Nathan to include all those who wish to attend in the summer of 2021.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made online to the family on its GoFundMe titled "Rallying For the Rostons" or to the Neuro-Oncology Research Fund (Fund #309757) at the OSU James Cancer Hospital. Gifts can be made online at go.osu.edu/NathanRoston or by check mailed to The James at P.O. Box 183112, Columbus, OH 43218-3112.

GEARY

Jean A. Geary, 74, of Galion, passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at Avita Galion Hospital. Arrangements are in care of the Richardson Davis Chapel of Snyder Funeral Homes in Galion.

KLEINKNECHT

Judith E. Kleinknecht of Galion passed away Thursday evening, January 28, 2021, at Mill Creek Nursing Home at the age of 76.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at Galion Alliance Church, 430 Portland Way North, Galion. The funeral service conducted by Pastor Rick Maddox will immediately follow at 12 p.m.

In adhering to the governor's mandate, all guests are required to wear a face covering and maintain appropriate social distancing.

Memorial contributions may be made to Galion Alliance Church Building Fund.

The Ontario Home of Wapner Funeral Directors is honored to serve the family.

NEUMANN

On Thursday, January 28, 2021, "The Cat," James "Jim" Michael Neumann, 69, of Crestline, used the last of his nine lives at the OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shunk Museum in Crestline, in care of the funeral home.

Those wishing to share a memory of Jim or send condolences to the Neumann family may do so by visiting www.mashf.com.

The Schneider-Gompf Funeral Home, 223 W. Main Street, Crestline, is honored to serve the family of James "Jim" Michael Neumann.

SCHWAM

Joanne Patricia Schwam, 86, of Ontario and a former Galion resident, passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at Crystal Care Center in Mansfield.

Arrangements are in care of the Richardson Davis Chapel of Snyder Funeral Homes in Galion.

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Public comments can be provided in writing on the Commission's website at <https://puc.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/help-center/file-a-complaint>, by electronic mail to contactThePUCO@puc.ohio.gov, or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Written comments should reference the case numbers for this matter.

GALION POLICE REPORTS

Staff Report

galnews@aimmediamidwest.com

Jan. 26

Police investigated a report of suspicious persons on the back porch of a residence in the 500 block of John Street. The caller informed officers that two males were

on the porch and left.

Police investigated a case of alleged fraud that was reported by a resident in the 300 block of Wildflower Drive. The individual told officers



that someone filed an unemployment claim using their identity. Police are investigating a case of alleged sexual abuse

that was reported by officials from Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Police issued a citation to a motorist in the 600 block of Harding Way East for driving under suspension-license forfeiture.

Jan. 27

Police transported an intoxicated male to his residence at the request of his family.

Police arrested a male in the 100 block of Arlington Avenue on suspicion of disorderly conduct. The male was intoxicated and causing a disturbance at the location on Arlington Avenue.

Police investigated a report of a suspicious person in the 300 block of Third Avenue. The caller advised that an unknown male subject was in their car and then went to the neighbor's house where he entered their vehicle. The caller said he fled the scene on foot when he realized he had been observed.

9th ANNUAL GAS OIL COUNTRY STORE SODA ADVERTISING

SATURDAY, FEB. 6TH, 2021
9:00A.M.

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TERMS: CASH, GOOD CHECK W/ PROPER ID

NOTE: VISIT WWW.AUCTIONZIP.COM ID #4988 FOR COMPLETE AD

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Pork Loin Roast	\$3.99/lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Loin Roast	\$2.99/lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Loin Roast	\$2.99/lb.

Miller's Naturally Raised Fresh Amish Chicken

Leg and Thigh	\$2.29/lb.
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From the Deli

Eichberg Virginia Ham	\$5.19/lb.
Carle's Potato Salad	\$3.29/lb.
Tracy's Sausage & Bites Cheese	\$6.99/lb.

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Orders

From page 1

a complete understanding of their predecessors' actions on vaccine distribution. And they face a litany of complaints from states that say they are not getting enough vaccine even as they are being asked to vaccinate more categories of people.

The U.S. mask order for travel implemented by Biden applies to airports and planes, ships, intercity buses, trains and public transportation. Travelers from abroad must furnish a negative COVID-19 test before departing for the U.S. and must quarantine upon arrival. Biden has already mandated masks on federal property.

Although airlines, Amtrak and other transport providers now require masks, Biden's order makes it a federal mandate, leaving

little wiggle room for passengers tempted to argue about their rights. It marks a sharp break with the culture of President Donald Trump's administration, under which masks were optional, and Trump made a point of going maskless and hosting big gatherings of like-minded supporters. Science has shown that masks, properly worn, cut down on coronavirus transmission.

Biden is seeking to expand testing and vaccine availability, with the goal of 100 million shots in his first 100 days in office. But some independent experts say his administration should strive for two or three times that number. Even with the slow pace of vaccinations, the U.S. is already closing in on 1 million shots a day.

"It's a disappointingly low bar," said Dr. Leana Wen, a public health expert and emergency physician.

Asked about that at

the White House on Thursday, Biden told a reporter: "When I announced it, you all said it's not possible. Come on, give me a break, man."

The Democratic president has directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to begin setting up vaccination centers, aiming to have 100 up and running in a month. He's ordering the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to begin a program to make vaccines available through local pharmacies starting next month, building on a plan devised by the Trump administration. And he's launching an effort to train more people to administer shots.

Biden has set a goal of having most K-8 schools reopen in his first 100 days, and he's ordering the departments of Education and Health and Human Services to provide clear guidance

for reopening them safely. States would also be able to tap FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund to help get schools back open.

Getting schools and child care going will help ease the drag on the U.S. economy, making it easier for parents to return to their jobs and for restaurants to find lunch-time customers. But administration officials stressed that reopening schools safely depends on increased testing.

Biden is giving government agencies a green light to use the Cold War-era Defense Production Act to direct manufacturing. It allows the government to direct private industry to produce supplies needed in times of national emergency. In this case it could be anything from swabs, to masks, to certain chemicals.

"We do not have nearly enough testing capacity in this country," said White House

coronavirus coordinator Jeff Zients. "We need (more) money in order to really ramp up testing, which is so important to reopen schools and businesses."

This means that efforts to boost the economy could hinge on how quickly lawmakers act on the \$1.9 trillion package proposed by Biden, which includes separate planks such as \$1,400 in direct payments to most working people, a \$15 minimum wage and aid to state and local governments that some Republican lawmakers see as unnecessary for addressing the public health emergency.

The Biden plan estimates that a national vaccination strategy with expanded testing requires \$160 billion, and he wants an additional \$170 billion to aid the reopening of schools and universities. The proposal also calls for major investment in scientific research to

track new variants of the virus.

As part of his strategy, Biden ordered establishment of a Health Equity Task Force to ensure that minority and underserved communities are not left out of the government's response. Blacks, Latinos and Native Americans have borne a heavy burden of death and disease from the virus. Surveys have shown vaccine hesitancy is high among African Americans, a problem the administration plans to address through an education campaign.

But Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, the top White House health adviser on minority communities, said she's not convinced that race is a factor in vaccination reluctance. Disparities seem to have more to do with risky jobs and other life circumstances.

"It's not inherent to race," she said. "It's from the exposures."

Update

From page 1

hospitalizations, 9 deaths)

90-99 — 18 cases (5 hospitalizations, 3 deaths)

100-109 — 1 case (1 hospitalization)

For more data and information on the cases in Meigs County visit <https://www.meigs-health.com/covid-19/>.

Meigs County remained "Red" on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System after meeting two of the seven indicators on Thursday.

Mason County

DHHR reported 1,432 total cases (since March) for Mason County in the 10 a.m. update on Thursday morning, 27 more than Wednesday. Of those, 1,398 are confirmed cases and 34 are probable cases. DHHR

has reported 26 deaths in Mason County.

According to DHHR, the age ranges for the 1,432 COVID-19 cases DHHR is reporting in Mason County are as follows:

0-9 — 30 cases (plus 1 probable case)

10-19 — 116 cases (plus 3 probable case)

20-29 — 249 cases (plus 5 probable cases, 4 new confirmed cases)

30-39 — 194 cases (plus 8 probable case, 7 new confirmed cases)

40-49 — 202 cases (plus 7 probable cases, 8 new confirmed cases)

50-59 — 222 cases (plus 2 probable cases, 3 deaths, 2 new confirmed cases)

60-69 — 185 cases (plus 5 probable case (1 new), 4 deaths)

70+ — 200 cases (plus 3 probable cases, 19 deaths, 5 new confirmed cases)

On Thursday, Mason County was "orange" on

the West Virginia County Alert System map. Mason County's latest infection rate was 45.26 on Thursday with a 5.20 percent positivity rate. Surrounding counties are orange.

Ohio

The Ohio Department of Health reported a 24-hour change of 7,271 new cases on Thursday (21-day average of 7,111). There were 109 new deaths (21-day average of 74), 306 new hospitalizations (21-day average of 285) and 35 new ICU admissions (21-day average of 28) reported in the previous 24 hours, according to Thursday's update.

West Virginia

As of the 10 a.m. update on Thursday, DHHR is reporting a total of 112,617 cases with 1,849 deaths. There was an increase of 940 cases from Wednesday and 14 new deaths.

DHHR reports a total of 1,801,381 lab test have been completed, with a 5.52 cumulative percent positivity rate. The daily positivity rate in the state was 5.25 percent. There are 25,373 currently active cases in the state.

DHHR reported on Friday that 137,068 first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to residents of West Virginia. So far, 32,122 people have been fully vaccinated.

Kayla (Hawthorne) Dunham and Sarah Hawley contributed to this story.
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LEGALS

Legals

On June 1, 2020 Vandalia Media Partners 2, LLC filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission for the renewal of Radio Station WJEH (AM). The renewal application was filed on June 1, 2020. The station's current renewal expired on October 1, 2020. WJEH operates on frequency 990 kHz. The application can be viewed on the Federal Communications Commission's website. 1/15/21, 1/22/21

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Dr. Mostafa Kurdi

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Pleasant Valley Hospital is pleased to welcome pulmonologist and sleep medicine specialist Mostafa Kurdi, MD, FCCP, to its medical staff.

Dr. Kurdi is a highly specialized, board-certified, and fellowship-trained pulmonologist who has managed all aspects of pulmonary and sleep medicine for more than 17 years. He earned four board certifications with the American Board of Internal Medicine including Internal Medicine, Sleep Medicine, Pulmonology, and Critical Care. Dr. Kurdi holds certifications in advanced cardiac life support and basic life support.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Kurdi to the Pleasant Valley medical community," states Jeff Noblin, FACHE, CEO. "Dr. Kurdi is an exceptionally trained and very experienced pulmonologist who is coming to us from Weston, WV. He will be a great asset to those in the Ohio Valley region who are experiencing pulmonary or sleep medicine issues. In addition, we are pleased Dr. Kurdi is bringing his expertise in dealing with COVID-19 and other respiratory-related illnesses."

Dr. Kurdi earned his medical doctorate at the Damascus University Medical School in Damascus, Syria and completed his internal medicine residency program at Wayne State University Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Oakland, Michigan. Dr. Kurdi completed his fellowship training in pulmonology at Columbia University Harlem Hospital in New York, New York. He competed his fellowship training in critical care at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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For more information or to schedule your appointment with Mostafa Kurdi, MD, FCCP, please call 304.675.5010.

2520 Valley Drive | Point Pleasant, WV 25550 | 304.675.5010 | pvalley.org

LEGAL NOTICE

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A public hearing is scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The public hearing will be held on Monday, February 8, 2021, commencing at 6:00 p.m. via Webex.

Interested persons who are not a party to these cases and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on February 5, 2021, at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-585-EL-AIR-et-al-ph> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. If individuals wish to supplement their testimony with an exhibit for the Commission's consideration, a copy of the document, along with a reference to Case Nos. 20-585-EL-AIR, 20-586-EL-ATA, and 20-587-EL-AAM, must be provided to the Commission by February 5, 2021, if possible, but no later than February 16, 2021, by electronic mail to ThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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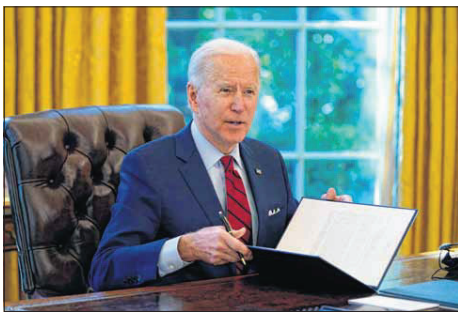
Biden opens sign-up window for uninsured in time of COVID-19

By Ricardo
Alonso-Zaldivar
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Thursday ordered government health insurance markets to reopen for a special sign-up window, offering uninsured Americans a haven as the spread of COVID-19 remains dangerously high and vaccines aren't yet widely available.

Biden signed an executive order directing the HealthCare.gov insurance markets to take new applications for subsidized benefits, something Donald Trump's administration had refused to do. He also instructed his administration to consider reversing other Trump health care policies, including curbs on abortion counseling and the imposition of work requirements for low-income people getting Medicaid.

"There's nothing new that we're doing here other than restoring the Affordable Care Act and restoring Medicaid to the way it was before Trump



President Joe Biden signs a series of executive orders on health care, in the Oval Office of the White House Thursday in Washington.

became president," Biden said as he signed the directives in the Oval Office. He declared he was reversing "my predecessor's attack on women's health."

The actions were only the first steps by Biden, who has promised to build out former President Barack Obama's health care law to achieve a goal of coverage for all. While Biden rejects the idea of a government-run

system that Sen. Bernie Sanders has pushed for in his "Medicare for All" proposal, his more centrist approach will require congressional buy-in. But opposition to "Obamacare" runs deep among Republicans.

The most concrete short-term impact of Biden's orders will come from reopening HealthCare.gov insurance markets as coverage has shrunk in the economic

turmoil of the coronavirus pandemic. That's an executive action and no legislation is required.

The new "special enrollment period" will begin Feb. 15 and run through May 15, the White House said. It will be coupled with a promotional campaign and a call for states that run their own insurance markets to match the federal sign-up opportunity.

The Biden administra-

tion has ample resources for marketing, said Karen Pollitz, a health insurance expert with the non-partisan Kaiser Family Foundation. The foundation estimates that the Trump administration left unsent about \$1.2 billion in user fees collected from insurers to help pay for running the marketplaces.

"The reason it wasn't spent is the Trump administration spent its time in office cutting services that support consumer enrollment," Pollitz said. "All the while the user fee revenue was coming in, (but) they were not allowed to spend it on anything other than marketplace operations."

Created under the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, the marketplaces offer taxpayer-subsidized coverage regardless of a person's medical history or preexisting conditions, including COVID-19.

Biden also ordered the immediate reversal of a federal policy that bars taxpayer funding for international health

care nonprofits that promote or provide abortions. Known as the Mexico City Policy, it can be switched on or off depending on whether Democrats or Republicans control the White House. Abortion rights supporters call it the "global gag rule."

Other directives Biden issued could take months to carry out.

He instructed the Department of Health and Human Services to consider rescinding Trump regulations that bar federally funded family planning clinics from referring women for abortions.

HHS will also reexamine a Trump administration policy that allows states to impose work requirements as a condition for low-income people to get Medicaid health insurance. Work requirements have been blocked by federal courts, which found that they led to thousands of people losing coverage and violated Medicaid's legal charge to provide medical services. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear the issue.

Update

From page 1

40-49 — 299 cases (5 hospitalizations)

50-59 — 295 cases (2 new cases, 1 new hospitalization, 11 total hospitalizations, 1 death)

60-69 — 249 cases (2 new cases, 23 hospitalizations, 3 deaths)

70-79 — 173 cases (1 new hospitalizations, 31 total hospitalizations, 1 new death, 10 total deaths)

80-plus — 137 cases (1 new case, 2 new hospitalizations, 35 total hospitalizations, 3 new deaths, 17 total deaths)

Gallia County is currently "Orange" on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System map after meeting two of the seven indicators on Thursday.

Meigs County

The Meigs County Health Department reported eight additional confirmed cases and 37 probable cases of COVID-19 on Thursday.

There are 114 active cases, and 1,209 total cases, (1,096 confirmed, 113 probable) since April, according to the update. There have been a total of 23 deaths, 1,072 recovered

cases, and 60 hospitalizations since April.

Age ranges for the 1,209 Meigs County cases, as of Wednesday, are as follows:

0-9 — 45 cases

10-19 — 111 cases (2 new cases)

20-29 — 175 cases (3 new cases, 1 hospitalization)

30-39 — 154 cases (3 hospitalizations)

40-49 — 178 cases (8 new cases, 3 hospitalizations)

50-59 — 174 cases (4 new cases, 3 hospitalizations)

60-69 — 169 cases (8 new cases, 16 hospitalizations, 3 deaths)

70-79 — 127 cases (10 new cases, 2 new hospitalizations, 20 hospitalizations, 8 deaths)

80-89 — 51 cases (6 new cases, 8 hospitalizations, 9 deaths)

90-99 — 23 cases (3 new cases, 5 hospitalizations, 3 deaths)

100-109 — 2 cases (1 new case, 1 hospitalization)

To date, the Meigs County Health Department has vaccinated 500 individuals, with 63 of those vaccinated this week.

For more data and information on the cases

in Meigs County visit <https://www.meigs-health.com/covid-19/>.

Meigs County remained "Red" on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System after meeting two of the seven indicators on Thursday.

Mason County

DHHR reported 1,519 total cases (since March) for Mason County in the 10 a.m. update on Thursday morning, 10 more than Wednesday. Of those, 1,477 are confirmed cases and 42 are probable cases. DHHR has reported 31 deaths in Mason County.

As mentioned previously in this article, DHHR reported an additional death in Mason County associated with COVID-19. This death is a female in the 80-89 year age range.

According to DHHR, the age ranges for the 1,509 COVID-19 cases DHHR is reporting in Mason County are as follows:

0-9 — 32 cases (plus 1 probable case)

10-19 — 127 cases (plus 3 probable case, 2 new confirmed cases)

20-29 — 263 cases (plus 7 probable cases, 2 new confirmed cases)

30-39 — 210 cases (plus 10 probable case)

40-49 — 214 cases (plus 8 probable case, 1 new confirmed case)

50-59 — 228 cases (plus 2 probable cases, 3 deaths, 1 new confirmed case)

60-69 — 200 cases (plus 6 probable case (1 new), 4 deaths)

70-79 — 203 cases (plus 5 probable cases (1 new), 23 deaths, 2 new confirmed cases)

On Thursday, Mason County was "orange" on the West Virginia County Alert System map. Mason County's latest infection rate was 39.33 on Thursday with a 7.21 percent positivity rate. Surrounding counties are orange.

Ohio

The Ohio Department of Health reported a 24-hour change of 5,432 new cases on Thursday (21-day average of 6,221). There were 75 new deaths (21-day average of 74), 256 new hospitalizations (21-day average of 253) and 23 new ICU admissions (21-day average of 26) reported in the previous 24 hours, according to Thursday's update.

West Virginia

As of the 10 a.m. update on Thursday, DHHR is reporting a total of 117,562 cases with 1,983 deaths. There was an increase of 787 cases from Wednesday

and 30 new deaths. DHHR reports a total of 1,882,860 lab test have been completed, with a 5.60 cumulative percent positivity rate. The daily positivity rate in the state was 4.82 percent. There are 23,140 currently active cases in the state.

DHHR reported on Monday that 175,317 first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to residents of West Virginia. So far, 51,741 people have been fully vaccinated.

Kayla (Hawthorne) Dunham, Sarah Hawley and Beth Sergeant contributed to this story.

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Crash

From page 1

suffered minor injuries.

The report lists Clagg was wearing a seat belt as was the four-year-old, however, in reference to the child, troopers noted on the report, "due to age, a booster seat required." The report lists Bates and the six-year-old as reportedly not wearing seat belts at the time of the crash.

The roadway was closed for approximately four hours as a result of the crash which remains under investigation.

Assisting at the scene were Gallia County EMS, Gallipolis Fire Department, Stapleton Towing, McCoy Moore Funeral Home, Gallia County Coroner, Gallia County Sheriff's Office, HealthNet.

Information provided by the Gallipolis Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

9th ANNUAL GAS OIL COUNTRY STORE SODA ADVERTISING

SATURDAY, NOV.28TH, 2020
9:30A.M.

Location: 3760 WHEAT RIDGE RD.
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WEST UNION

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FOUNTAIN, RARE WIEDEMANN
NEWPORT, KY BREWERY
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MEDALLION, GAS PUMPS, NEONS
& MORE.

TERMS: CASH, GOOD CHECK W/
PROPER ID

NOTE: VISIT WWW.AUCTIONZIP.COM
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Firing the first shots

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
cards are also asked to bring them.

A completed pre-vaccination form is also requested to help keep the line moving. The forms are available online at www.browncountyhealth.org or in paper form at the Brown County Health Department at 826 Mt. Orab Pike in Georgetown. Forms are also available in this newspaper on page 7.

Distribution of the vaccine began in Ohio on January 19 by order of Governor Mike DeWine.

In addition to local health departments, vaccines for Ohioans 80 years of age and older will be administered by physicians, hospitals, federally qualified health centers, in-home health service providers, and some retail pharmacies.

In Brown County, vaccines are anticipated to be available through HealthSource of Ohio, the Little Clinic at Kroger and at CVS pharmacy in Georgetown.

"Per an agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services, COVID-19 vaccines will eventually be available at all CVS Pharmacy locations throughout the country subject to product availability and prioritization of populations, which will be determined by states," said CVS Corporate Communications Director Joe Goode.

The minute that program is turned on, we'll be ready to go. In the meantime, some states are making vaccines available to a limited number of retailers, including pharmacies and grocers, in advance of the broader rollout," he added.

Regarding vaccine availability at Kroger's Little Clinic in Mt. Orab, Kroger Spokesperson Erin Rolles said, "Kroger is working

with state and local health departments to secure vaccines. As we currently have a very limited amount of vaccine available, we will follow the state's phased approach. We encourage our customers to visit www.kroger.com/ohio-covidvaccine or to call our COVID-19 vaccine helpline at 866-211-5320 for the latest information on vaccine availability in their area."

Rolles said that all COVID-19 vaccines will require an appointment via www.kroger.com/ohio-covidvaccine or 866-211-5320 once vaccines are available.

HealthSource of Ohio Vice President of Marketing and Development said "Because of the limited supply, HealthSource will do vaccines by appointment only—no walk-up vaccines will be given."

The dates have not yet been determined in Brown County but for those in the 1B Category interested in making an appointment, they can call (937) 444-8009 to leave their information. A member of the HealthSource Vaccination Team will reach out to them to complete the registration and scheduling process.

According to data from the U.S. Census Department, there are 1247 people in Brown County that are aged 80 and above.

The Ohio Department of Health is expected to open vaccinations to those 75 years of age and older beginning Monday, January 25. The following week, vaccinations will be available to those 65 years of age and older.

The week of January 25 will also include vaccinations for Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early onset medical disorders. During the week of February 1, vaccinations are

planned to be available for personnel in Ohio schools.

Additional information about vaccinations can be found at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

The latest county COVID numbers show Brown County in red status.

461 new cases in the past two weeks have been reported in the county, for a per capita rate of 1061.43, the third highest in the state.

There have been 3097 cases documented locally since March, with 788 of those coming in November and 1246 in December. So far, 533 cases have been reported in January. If the number of daily cases in January continue at the current pace, there will be just over 900 cases in Brown County this month.

Of those 3097 cases reported so far, 2899 have recovered, with 170 currently ill at home and eight in the hospital. 20 deaths have been reported in Brown County since March.

Cumulative cases in local school districts include nine staff cases from the Brown County Educational Service Center, 33 students and 13 staff members at Eastern, 41 students and 28 staff members in Fayetteville, 29 students and 10 staff members in Georgetown, 12 students and 17 staff members in Ripley, 15 students and two staff members at Southern Hills and 57 students and 36 staff members at Western Brown.

In local long term care facilities, cumulative numbers are 10 residents and five staff members at Close to Home, 36 residents and 22 staff members at Locust Ridge, 15 residents and 26 staff members at Ohio Valley Manor, 82 residents and 61 staff members at the Ohio Veterans Home and 48 residents and 30 staff members at Villa Georgetown.

Statewide, 831,066 cases have been reported since March, with 43,351 hospitalizations, 6371 ICU admissions and 10,281 deaths.

Four sentenced

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Adult Probation Department.

Misty Cooley
On October 21, 2020, an One Count indictment was filed against Misty Cooley, on Case No. 2020-2228. The indictment charged Count 1, Possession of Cocaine, a felony of the 5th degree. On January 15, 2021, Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Count 1, before Brown Common Pleas Judge, Scott T. Gusweiler.

On that same date, Judge Gusweiler sentenced Ms. Cooley, to 2 years of community control sanctions.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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COVID-19 Vaccinations Now Available

COVID-19 Vaccinations are now available by appointment at ACRMC



Week of January 19
- Age 80 and Older.



Week of January 25
- Age 75 and Older.
- Those with severe congenital, developmental, and early onset medical disorders.



Week of February 1
- Age 70 and Older.
- Employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid learning.



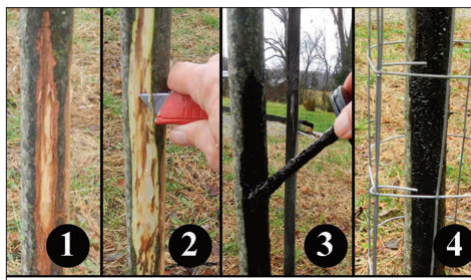
Week of February 8
- Age 65 and Older.

Please call 937-386-3015 to be added to the ACRMC COVID-19 Vaccination Waitlist.

A member of the ACRMC staff will contact you with the day and time of your drive-thru appointment. Individuals who are not currently eligible may still call this number to be added to the waitlist for their eligible time.

For more information, please visit acrmc.com

Treating buck rubs



Right now we're seeing quite a few young trees damaged by deer. Deer feed on tender new growth all year round, but the worst deer damage occurs during the deer rut season in fall and early winter. Young trees are helpless victims of the courtship ritual between bucks and does.

Bucks show off during rut season by scraping their racks against the bark of young trees and spraying a musky scent that attracts does. They particularly like trees standing out in the open, which they can watch from a nearby hiding place where they wait unobserved for does attracted to their handiwork. Young bucks victimize saplings with trunks between an inch and two inches thick, older bucks with bigger racks can attack trees as big as four inches in diameter.

For years we've recommended spraying the trunks of young trees with Liquid Fence, because the awful smell of this product disrupts the courtship process. Human urine has the same deterrent effect (just a hint for outdoor types) and so do some other deer repellent products. Monthly treatment during the rut season definitely helps. We've also had great success by sur-

rounding tree trunks with wire fencing.

All these approaches have one thing in common: most people start doing them AFTER their trees are damaged. Better late than never, but now we have another challenge: how do we treat damaged tree trunks and does.



save the tree? The inner bark of trees is their pipeline for water and nutrients between the roots and leaves. Torn and shredded bark can't transmit water up the tree. In extreme cases the damage is so severe the tree won't survive. A rule of thumb is that if the inner bark is scraped off more than halfway around the trunk, it won't heal soon enough for the tree to ever grow normally.

Here's how to treat buck rubs, step by step. First, use a really sharp box knife to trim away any torn bark. Pay particular attention around the edges of the wound; you want to see a thin stripe of green cambium (the inner bark layer that transmits water) all around the wound and, especially at the top and bot-

tom. Once the wound is carefully cleaned, healing can begin. Eventually the bark will grow over and close the gash.

In the meantime you have to protect the exposed flesh of the tree from insects and decay. The best way is to apply a thick coat of tree wound paint, a black sticky goo that keeps weather and bugs out. Tree wound paint is available in a brush-top jar or aerosol spray. This paint will wear off, so you should repaint the area at least once a year until it's healed.

Next, do what would have prevented the problem in the first place. Wrap a short section (18-24 inches off the roll) of wire fencing around the trunk, twisting the ends of the wire around to hold it in place. Deer may try to rub, and may bend the protective fencing, but they quickly become discouraged and move on. You should protect any tree with a trunk less than four inches thick at eye level. Steve Boehme is a landscape designer/installer specializing in outdoor living spaces. "Let's Grow" is published weekly; column archives are online at www.goodseedfarm.com. For more information call GoodSeed Farm Landscapes at (937) 587-7021.

When risk tolerance is tested by the market

When you begin investing, you'll generally assess your comfort with risk, as your investment choices will be guided at least partially by your risk tolerance. But once you actually experience the ups and downs of the market, this tolerance could be tested.

Risk tolerance may appear less bothersome in the abstract but seem quite different in reality. For example, you might initially think you wouldn't be fazed by short-term market downturns, no matter how severe. However, when the financial markets really decline, as happened when the COVID-19 pandemic struck last March, you might find yourself being more concerned than you thought you would be.

Before you change your investment strategy, it's important to understand the potential tradeoffs. By limiting your downside risk by investing less aggressively, you may also limit your upside potential. You might need to change your strategy in other ways, such as saving more or working longer. That said, the trade-off involved in reducing your downside risk may be worth taking, if it helps you cope better with wild market swings, as the best strategy may be one you can stick with through the inevitable ups and downs of the markets.

Because market fluctua-



When the market had regained all the lost ground and reached a new record high. During the midst of what appears to be a real threat to your investment portfolio, it can be difficult to anticipate a more favorable environment. Yet, while past performance can't guarantee future results, every historical market decline has been followed by a recovery.

Understand that the Dow isn't your portfolio. When the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the other major market indexes such as the S&P 500 fall precipitously (or shoot up), it makes headlines. But the Dow and the S&P 500 only track the performance of large U.S. companies – and while their performance may be an indication of the

U.S. economy, they aren't going to track the results of your portfolio, which should ideally include a personalized mix of large-company stocks, small-company stocks, international stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments.

Keep your emotions out of your investment moves. The market will fluctuate constantly – but you should always try keep your emotions in check. Excess exuberance when the market rises, or extreme despondency when the market falls, can lead you to make poor decisions. Specifically, we may buy when we feel good (when the markets are up) and sell when we feel badly (when markets are down). Your heart and your emotions may drive your financial goals – creating a comfortable retirement, sending your kids to college or leaving a legacy for your family – but when you invest for these goals, you should use your head.

Your risk tolerance is a key part of your investment strategy. But by taking the steps described above, you can gain a broader understanding of how risk fits into your overall picture – and a better understanding of yourself as an investor.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Chronic disease management classes

Beginning February 16th, the Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AA7) will be offering the popular Chronic Disease Self-Management Program through a telephone conference call. The format will allow the AA7 to connect and support class participants while learning valuable tools to manage their chronic disease. The telephone conference classes will be facilitated by AA7 staff through a toll-free call-in number. Classes will be held weekly on Tuesdays beginning February 16th through March 23rd from 10:30 am until 11:30 am.

Participants in the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program will gain

needed support in addition to a number of other benefits including:

- Learning practical ways to deal with pain, fatigue and depression
- Discovering ways to be more physically active
- Learning how to eat healthier
- Learning better ways to talk with your physician and family about your health
- Setting personal goals
- Finding ways to relax and deal with stress

Those who are interested must pre-register for the class by February 2nd. Once registered, participants will receive a free Chronic Disease Self-Management kit in the mail and

the conference call information prior to the start of the class. Contents in the kit will be used for the weekly calls. Participation in the weekly telephone conference calls is required to receive the kit at no cost.

Residents age 60 and older in Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton counties are eligible to register at no cost. To register for one of the classes, please call the AA7 at 1-800-582-7277 and ask for Hannah at extension 247, or e-mail info@aaa7.org. In order to receive the materials in the mail in time for the start of the class, registration deadline is February 2nd.

Super Crossword

TECH BUZZ

ACROSS	1 TV ET from Melmac	4 Puncturing tool	7 Restrained like Rover	15 "To a..."	19 Road gunk	20 Zodiac beast	21 Course taker, e.g.	22 Actress Carter	23 Start of a riddle	26 Singer Fitzgerald	27 Grove sight	28 Certain boxing stat	29 Mile, bigwig	30 Pale-looking	31 Riddle, part 2	32 Kimer of film	40 Alley — lion's foot	42 Fellow's wig	43 Actor Estevez	45 Seg's headgag	47 Look up to	51 Riddle, part 3	55 Lync-wining	56 Globes	57 "henry"	58 "Take this"	59 Brainstorm	61 Parsley bit	64 Riddle, part 4	67 Key Thompson	70 Native Kiwi	71 Fluctuated greatly	72 Riddle, part 5	75 Odor	77 French port in Brittany	78 Outing ruler	79 Afflicted	80 Poses	84 Initiated self	85 Riddle, part 6	90 TV talker	DOWN	1 Element	2 Statistic	3 Abbr. for one	4 Ascend a rock face	5 Axis vs. Allies event	6 Singer Tina	7 Copycat	8 Bill blocker	9 Eros, to the Romans	10 Young girls	11 Hang-up	12 Be logically connected	13 Letters after "had a farm"	14 Actor	15 Aché for Nicole — Parker	16 Hair removal brand	17 Riddle's answer	18 Del sandwiches, for short	19 Groove pale	20 Oct. follower	21 O'Hare single-part process	22 Anatomical approx.	23 Slicer	24 Potter's place	25 Auklet unit	26 Mars, to the Greeks	27 Move around in confusion	28 Oz lion player	29 Bert	30 Spout off	31 Axis vs. Allies event	32 Singer Tina	33 Copycat	34 Bill blocker	35 Eros, to the Romans	36 Young girls	37 Hang-up	38 Be logically connected	39 Letters after "had a farm"	40 Actor	41 Aché for Nicole — Parker	42 Hair removal brand	43 Riddle's answer	44 Del sandwiches, for short	45 Groove pale	46 Oct. follower	47 O'Hare single-part process	48 Anatomical approx.	49 Slicer	50 Potter's place	51 Auklet unit	52 Mars, to the Greeks	53 Move around in confusion	54 Oz lion player	55 Bert	56 Spout off	57 Axis vs. Allies event	58 Singer Tina	59 Copycat	60 Bill blocker	61 Eros, to the Romans	62 Young girls	63 Hang-up	64 Be logically connected	65 Letters after "had a farm"	66 Actor	67 Aché for Nicole — Parker
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91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126

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Summary: Proof of Pub -Ohio Power Company Submits Its Proof of Publication for the referenced cases (Part 2 of 8) electronically filed by Mr. Steven T Nourse on behalf of Ohio Power Company