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February 23, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Tanowa Troupe
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing – 11th Floor
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: <u>Case Nos. 20-209-GA-GCR, 20-309-GA-UEX, 20-409-GA-PIP</u>

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code Rule 4901:1-14-08(C), attached please find the newspaper notices, date of publication, and affidavit from the newspaper publishers verifying publication of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corp.'s legal notice in the above-mentioned cases. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, thank you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ N. Trevor Alexander

N. Trevor Alexander

Newspaper	**Publication Date**
Akron Beacon Journal	February 17, 2021
Ashtabula Star Beacon	February 17, 2021
Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune	February 17, 2021
Bucyrus Telegraph Forum	February 17, 2021
Cambridge Daily Jeffersonian	February 21, 2021
Canton Repository	February 20, 2021
Chagrin Valley Times	February 18, 2021
Columbus Dispatch	February 17, 2021
Coshocton Tribune	February 17, 2021
Elyria Chronicle Telegram	February 17, 2021
Free Press Standard	February 19, 2021
Geauga County Maple Leaf	February 18, 2021
Harrison News Herald	February 20, 2021
Holmes County Hub	February 20, 2021
Lancaster Eagle Gazette	February 17, 2021
Lisbon Morning Journal	February 17, 2021
Logan Daily News	February 18, 2021
Marietta Times	February 17, 2021
Marion Star	February 17, 2021
Medina County Gazette	February 17, 2021
New Philadelphia Times Reporter	February 20, 2021
Ravenna Record Courier	February 20, 2021
Upper Sandusky Daily Chief Union	February 20, 2021
Warren Tribune Chronicle	February 17, 2021
Willoughby News Herald	February 17, 2021
Wooster Daily Record	February 20, 2021

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Affidavit Proof of Publication

I, Joshua Park, do herby attest that the Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP Legal Notices did appear in the following newspaper(s) as ordered:

Akron Beacon Journal	02-17-21
Ashtabula Star Beacon	02-17-21
Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune	02-17-21
Bucyrus Telegraph Forum	02-17-21
Cambridge Daily Jeffersonian	02-21-21
Canton Repository	02-20-21
Columbus Dispatch	02-17-21
Coshocton Tribune	02-17-21
Elyria Chronicle Telegram	02-17-21
Lancaster Eagle Gazette	02-17-21
Lisbon Morning Journal	02-17-21
Logan Daily News	02-18-21
Marietta Times	02-17-21
Marion Star	02-17-21
Medina County Gazette	02-17-21
New Philadelphia Times Reporter	02-20-21
Ravenna Record Courier	02-20-21
Upper Sandusky Daily Chief Union	02-20-21
Warren Tribune Chronicle	02-17-21
Willoughby News Herald	02-17-21
Wooster Daily Record	02-20-21
Harrison News Herald	02-20-21
Free Press Standard	02-19-21
Chagrin Valley Times	02-18-21
Geauga County Maple Leaf	02-18-21
Holmes County Hub	02-20-21

Joshua Park
Joshua Park

2/23/21
Date

State of Ohio
County of Franklin

On this day, the 23 day of February 2021 before me, Chana Powell, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared Joshua Park, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name was subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF OHIO

CHANA L POWELL
Notary Public
State of Ohio
My Comm. Expires
November 25, 2025

Chana L Powell
Notary Public

Schools

Continued from Page 1A

schools that received early access to COVID-19 vaccinations for staff need to reopen in at least a hybrid fashion by March 1.

James said he watched the news conference, noting the governor "doubled down" on comments from Friday.

James said he would come back to the board Monday with "suggestions on how we can move forward."

On Feb. 8, James' administrative team laid out the plan to offer in-person learning five days a week for kindergarten through second grade and for students with significant disabilities by March 15, and for everyone else by March 22.

James, along with nearly every other superintendent in the state, signed a document in January that pledged the district would reopen by March 1 if teachers and other school staff received early access to the vaccine.

But James told the board at that time that he believed, based on conversations with the governor's office, that that deadline was flexible.

That's not the case, DeWine said Tuesday, and he knew of no message otherwise.

"It certainly did not come from me," DeWine said. "I have no knowledge it came from anybody else in our administration. No one in our administration would have had the authority to say that."

Conflicting timelines

Akron's administrators, school board and the teachers union have been in alignment about the plan to reopen, which, as it stands, gives staff enough time to receive both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and build immunity before being required to return to in-person school.

The document James signed, however, says districts signing the form pledge to reopen by March 1 regardless of how the vaccine rollout goes.

"For your adult school staff to be prioritized to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, you are required to return to an in-person or hybrid learning model by March 1, 2021," the form read. "The certification below certifies your commitment to do so, acknowledging that complete vaccine administration may not be completed by March 1, 2021, and regardless of vaccine uptake by your staff."

Akron schools staff received the first dose of the vaccine in two batches, with one group receiving their shot on Feb. 6 and the others Feb. 12 and 13.

That means the second group will receive its second shot March 5 and 6.

If the district attempts to move up the timeline for reopening and has to force teachers to go back without being fully vaccinated, it could set up a showdown between the administration and the teachers union.

Akron Education Association President Pat Shipe did not immediately respond to a phone call Tuesday seeking comment.

Hybrid option

A small number of teachers volunteered to work with students in-person one or two days a week in the district's Remote Plus program, which started Feb. 1, without having yet received the vaccine.

In a statement Friday, James said he hoped that program, which offers in-person supports for about 2,000 students, would satisfy the governor's requirement for at least a hybrid option.

But DeWine reiterated Tuesday that a hybrid model needs to offer every student the opportunity to come back to school in-person, even if it's just for a few days a week.

DeWine did not lay out the possible consequence for Akron or any other district not hitting the deadline. Akron already has given the first dose of the vaccine to all 3,000 staff members who wanted it, and DeWine said he would not withhold the second dose.

Akron has conveyed its plan for the March 15-March 22 reopening to families, who have to let the district know by Feb. 19 if they are choosing in-person or remote learning for the fourth quarter.

March 22 is the first day of the fourth quarter, which means the reopening plan is perfectly aligned to the change in grading periods, district leaders have said. With some students changing teachers for the last quarter, it will be easier to do at the break between the grading periods.

While Akron was a focus on Friday and again Tuesday, DeWine said Cleveland City Schools, a high school in Cincinnati and the Youngstown City School District also had reopening plans, or in some cases, a lack of a plan, that put them out of compliance with the agreement. Columbus City Schools may be as well, he said when asked and provided details of the district's plan.

Contact education reporter Jennifer Pignolet at jpignolet@thebeaconjournal.com, at 330-996-3216 or on Twitter @JenPignolet.

By the numbers

Here is Tuesday's Ohio Department of Health coronavirus report for the region:

Ohio: 943,291 reported cases (2,026 new), 48,739 hospitalizations (104 new), 16,453 deaths (59 new). The 21-day average is 3,351 for new cases, 165 for hospitalizations and 267 for deaths.

Summit: Level 3 with 38,838 cases (150 new), 3,325 hospitalizations (108 new), 898 deaths (revised downward by two).

Stark: Level 3 with 28,508 cases (74 new), 1,629 hospitalizations (five new), 802 deaths (seven new).

Portage: Level 3 with 10,583 cases (51 new), 580 hospitalizations (three new), 150 deaths (unchanged).

Medina: Level 3 with 12,954 cases (49 new), 613 hospitalizations (one new), 213 deaths (one new).

Wayne: Level 3 with 7,717 cases (18 new), 368 hospitalizations (one new), 206 deaths (one new).

Note: Level 1 (yellow) = active spread; Level 2 (orange) = increased spread; Level 3 (red) = very high exposure and spread; Level 4 (purple) = severe exposure and spread. Levels are updated on Thursdays. All numbers are cumulative unless noted. New cases and deaths were just reported in the past day and could be many days older.

Deaths

Continued from Page 1A

are preliminary with death certificates taking months to process; she said Summit County appeared to be reporting the real-time information faster than other mysteriously lagging counties.

This week, Amato told the Cincinnati Enquirer that the larger problem of the more than 4,000 missing deaths was due to "human error."

The department's Bureau of Infectious Diseases and Bureau of Vital Statistics completed the death reconciliation process for the period of October to December 2020, a department spokeswoman confirmed. That resulted in 4,275 mistakenly excluded deaths added to the state's toll on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

"The team is continuing the deep review of the data which will result in some additional fluctuations in the numbers," spokeswoman Arundi Venkayya said in an email.

An analysis of that data shows that 90% of the 4,484 total new deaths reported since Wednesday died in November and December 2020.

The two months were already the deadliest for Ohio during the pandemic, and the death toll both combined nearly doubled after the state's correction: from 1,574 to 2,884 in November and 2,859 to 5,591 in December.

The data lag attributed to a single state health department employee had a more significant impact on some counties, where residents were led to believe that fewer people were dying during the worst surge in the virus' yearlong stay in Ohio.

The Beacon Journal looked at the number of deaths occurring before Jan. 18 as reported by the state health departments on that day and a month later on Feb. 15. While it can take days for even real-time information to reach the state, the difference in the death counts gives some indication of how far behind the reporting was by county.

Summit County, for example, reported 115 fewer cumulative deaths in January than it did for that same time period a month later. That's 14% of all Summit County deaths known to the state.

Only 13 of Ohio's 88 counties had a lower percent of backlog deaths.

Other regional counties had relatively low percentages of backlogged deaths compared to cumulative deaths reported this week: Wayne (15%), Medina (16%) and Portage (22%).

The backlog accounted for 47% of cumulative deaths in Stark County.

Catching up Hamilton County's 50% backlog and Franklin County's 39% backlog moved Summit County below them on total number of COVID-19 deaths. Summit County, which is fourth in population, is again fourth in cumulative COVID-9 deaths.

In some counties, especially in the rural center of Ohio as well as Ashland and Geauga in the northeast, saw backlogs swell their death counts by 56-80%.

Cincinnati Enquirer reporter Jackie Borchardt contributed to this article. Reach reporter Doug Livingston at dlivingston@thebeaconjournal.com or 330-996-3792.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

Snow

Continued from Page 1A

the Akron area that lowered the amount of snow falling from the sky and matted down what had already fallen.

Erie and Lucas counties had the most snow on the ground with some 18 inches blanketing the landscape.

It will be a cold start to Wednesday as the National Weather Service says "cold arctic air will move in" with temperatures beginning the day in the single digits with subzero wind chills.

Wednesday will be the relative calm before the next storm with some peeks of sun and temperatures making it into the chilly 20s. After Thursday's wintry weather that is expected to extend into Friday morning, a calm weekend weatherwise is on tap, with partly sunny skies and temperatures reaching the freezing mark by Sunday.

Rain is in the forecast for Monday with temperatures in the mid-30s.

Craig Webb, who actually enjoys Ohio's manic weather, can be reached at cwebb@thebeaconjournal.com.

Greg Linehan of Solon and his daughter, Lyla, 2, prepare to slide down the sledding hill on Monday where Linehan went sledding as a child on East Aurora Road in Twinsburg.
KAREN SCHIELY, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

POLICE REPORTS

ASHTABULA

· A theft was reported in the 500 block of West 46th Street at 7 p.m. Friday.

· A protection order violation was reported in the 2600 block of Arlington Avenue at 7:41 p.m. Friday.

· A man was arrested for breaking into cars parked in the 5700 block of Main Avenue at 7:44 a.m. Saturday.

· Criminal damaging was reported in the 2400 block of Lake Avenue at 10:52 a.m. Saturday.

· A stolen vehicle was reported in the 800 block of West 52nd Street at 11:35 a.m. Saturday. One felony arrest was made.

· Petty theft was reported in the 1600 block of West Prospect Road at 11:57 a.m. Saturday.

· A disabled vehicle was reported in the 600 block of West Prospect Road at 4:16 p.m. Saturday. A citation was issued.

· Breaking and entering was reported in the 900 block of West 52nd Street at 4:33 p.m. Saturday.

· A traffic stop in the 5500 block of Jefferson Avenue at 5:50 a.m. Sunday resulted in the driver fleeing the vehicle. The vehicle was impounded. The driver was not found.

· A traffic stop on West 52nd Street at 6:44 a.m. Sunday resulted in a citation for driving under suspension, and a passenger arrested on several warrants. The vehicle was towed.

· A juvenile was arrested for domestic violence in the 900 block of Bunker Hill Road at 6:59 a.m. Sunday.

· A juvenile was arrested for a second time for domestic violence and felonious assault in the 900 block of Bunker Hill Road at 7:11 a.m. Sunday.

· Menacing was reported in the 1200 block of Walnut Boulevard at 10:59 a.m. Sunday.

· A caller reported damage to his vehicle in the 2900 block of Larson Lane at 2:12 p.m. Sunday.

· An unwanted person and criminal damaging were reported in the 2900 block of Larson Lane at 4:46 p.m. Sunday. One arrest was made.

· A child custody issue was reported in the 100 block of Riverside Drive at 10:32 p.m. Sunday.

· Operating a vehicle while intoxicated was reported in the 5300 block of Madison Avenue at 1:14 a.m. Monday.

· A jail problem was reported at the Justice Center at 1:21 a.m. Monday.

· A theft was reported in the 5700 block of Woodman Avenue at 9:26 a.m. Monday.

· Fraud and passing bad checks were reported in the 2900 block of MFG Place at 9:51 a.m. Monday.

· A subject was taken into custody on a felony warrant in the 1500 block of Harbor Avenue at 12:07 p.m. Monday.

CONNEAUT

· A disturbance was reported in the 600 block of Days Boulevard at 12:29 a.m. on Feb. 15.

· Domestic violence was reported in the 200 block of West Street at 2:40 a.m. on Feb. 15.

· An unwanted subject was reported on Days Boulevard at 7:19 a.m. on Feb. 15.

· A civil matter was reported in the 100 block of Hayward Avenue at 9:39 a.m. on Feb. 15.

· A neighbor dispute was reported in the 200 block of West Main Road at 1:44 p.m. on Feb. 15.

· A reckless driver was reported on Interstate 90 at 3:14 p.m. on Feb. 15.

· Harassment was reported in the 700 block of Wrights Avenue at 3:37 p.m. on Feb. 15.

· Theft was reported in the 700 block of Route 7 at 8:35 p.m. on Feb. 15.

THE STAR BEACON OBITUARY DEPARTMENT CAN BE CONTACTED AT: PHONE: (440) 998-0727 E-MAIL: OBITS@STARBEACON.COM

LEGAL NOTICE

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Melvin T. Jennings, Jr

ASHTABULA — Melvin (Sonny) Todd Jennings Jr. passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 11, 2021. He was born in Rocky River, Ohio on April 27, 1935 to Melvin Sr. and Dorothy (Peaco) Jennings. He married Patricia Johnson on June 9, 1954 and they just celebrated their 66th anniversary last June.

He was the beloved father of four children, twin daughters, Kimberly (Bill) Little, of Denver, NC. and Valarie (Scott) Harrington of Austinburg, OH; a son, Mike (Crystal) Jennings Sr. of Gastonia, NC; and a daughter Vicki Walker of Akron, OH. Nine grandchildren; William, Matthew, Jeffrey and Brennen Little; Scott Jr., Rachael (Harrington) Daubenspeck, and Steven Harrington; Michael Jr. and Tiffany (Jennings) Seay; three great-grandchildren, Finley, Kenna and Warren. He also has two foster girls, Martha (Russ) Sekki and Ruth (Ernie) Christo, eight foster grandchildren and ten foster great-grandchildren. He also had two sisters, Barbara Carpenter and Gloria Routley, and several nieces and nephews.

Melvin worked at The Ashtabula Bow Socket until they closed their doors. He then worked at True Temper, Pinney Dock, Triad, Webb Mfg. and was a sub custodian for the Buckeye Local Schools.

He enjoyed his family, camping, Western movies and meeting and talking with people he came in contact with.

Melvin will be remembered as a loving Husband, Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather who so enjoyed spending time with family.

He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

A small family service was held January 14, 2021.

The Ashtabula Home of Fleming & Billman Funeral Directors and Crematory, 526 W. Prospect Rd Ashtabula is honored to serve the Melvin Jennings, Jr family. Guest book, light a card and obituary at fleming-billman.com

Fleming & Billman Funeral Directors, Inc.

Dorothy Adella Kuhn

ASHTABULA — Dorothy Adella Kuhn, 96, passed away Sunday, February 14, 2021 at the Country Club Retirement Center. She was born on August 20, 1924 in Ashtabula the daughter of William and Jennie (Honkenen) LaRue. Dorothy graduated from Ashtabula Harbor High School Class of 1942. On May 18, 1946 Dorothy married the love of her life, Norman Kuhn.

Dorothy had various jobs over her lifetime including C.L. Carl, Nappi's Grocery Store and Specialty Meats. She also enjoyed volunteer work at the local elementary schools when her children and grandchildren were young. Dorothy also volunteered at Washington Elementary School, Mother of Sorrows School and Thomas Jefferson Elementary School for the Ohio READS program. She was also a founding member of the "Harbor Girls."

She is survived by her daughter, Patti (Larry) Anderson; grandchildren, Michael (Dawne) Anderson and Michelle (Brett) Lewis; great-grandchildren, Brennen, Bryson, Brayden, Jordan and Haley.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Jennie; beloved husband, Norman; and a brother Paul LaRue.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 11:00AM at Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church, 1464 W. 6th St., Ashtabula with Fr. Raymond Thomas, officiating, where friends and family may gather from 10AM until time of services at 11AM. Private burial at St. Joseph Cemetery.

If desired, contributions in her memory may be made to the Our Lady of Peace Parish or Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Ducro Services and Crematory, 4524 Elm Ave., Ashtabula is handling arrangements. www.ducro.com

EST. 1853 DUCRO SERVICES, INC.

DEATH NOTICES

Grace Mateja

Grace Mateja, 93, died 2/13/21. Preceded by husband, William Mateja and son, Bruce Mateja. Survived by sons, William (Amy) Mateja,Jr. and Ronald (June) Mateja.

One of Jehovah's Witnesses, Grace loved her family and gardening. No services held.

www.ducro.com

Terry A. Myers

HARTSGROVE TWP. — Terry A. Myers, 66, passed away Sunday, February 14, 2021, born on April 27, 1954. Private services will be held by the family. Services entrusted to Paine Funeral Home, Orwell, OH.

Condolences at painefuneralhome.com

Paine Funeral Home, Inc. Established 1882 Orwell, Ohio

Alice Marie Harper

ASHTABULA — Alice Marie Harper (92) of Ashtabula passed on Feb. 5, 2021 at ACMC. Private family services were held with burial to take place in St. Joseph Cemetery. Guerriero Funeral Home handled funeral arrangements.

SERVICE ANNOUNCED

Ronald C. Boles

ASHTABULA — Ronald Coleman "Winky" Boles, 77, died Thursday, February 11, 2021.

Visitation is 10-11AM Saturday, February 20, 2021 with funeral at 11AM at Ducro Funeral Services, 4524 Elm Ave. Ashtabula. Burial in Greenlawn Memory Gardens

www.ducro.com

Mark Brace

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP — Mark Brace, age 40 of Harpersfield, passed away Sunday, February 14, 2021 at home with family by his side, after a courageous battle with Stage 4 Colorectal Cancer.

He was born December 5, 1980 in Madison, the son of Robert and Denise (Anderson) Brace. Mark was a 1999 graduate of Geneva High School and went on to study business and Japanese at Mount Union University. A member of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, he played linebacker for the Purple Raiders, winning 3 National Championships.

After graduating from Mount Union in 2003, he took a position in sales at Konica Minolta. From there he went on to sales positions at Thomson Reuters and most recently Parametric Technology Corporation. Mark was an active member of Geneva First United Methodist Church. He always enjoyed a good party but more than anything he loved the time spent with his family. He was passionate about youth athletics and loved coaching his children in their sporting activities. He could often be found under the Friday night lights helping out on the sidelines. Mark had the ability to always make people feel good about themselves and often served as a motivational speaker for young people in Geneva.

Marks large personality and passion for life was extraordinary and he lived every moment to the fullest.

He is survived by his wife, Livia (Debevc) Brace; children, Cora, Max, and Veda; his parents, Robert and Denise; siblings, Teri (Brian) Melchert, Cathi (Bryan) Badik, Susan (Patrick) Pullen; parents-in-law, Mark and Kathleen (Korver) Debevc; sisters-in-law, Annah (John) Haeseler, Andrea Debevc; nieces and nephews, Victoria, Dustin and Dylan Melchert, Brandon and Connor Badik, Catherine, Elizabeth and Anne Pullen, John, Ella and Owen Haeseler; and many aunts and uncles. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Meara Sue Brace; grandparents, Mark and Eunice Brace, W.L. and Dorothy Anderson and Bettie Anderson.

Friends and Family will be received from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 21, 2021 at the Behm Family Funeral Home, 175 S. Broadway in Geneva. Guests are required to follow current pandemic guidelines, wear masks and practice social distancing. A Private Family Service at the Geneva First United Methodist Church will take place by invitation only at 1pm on Monday, February 22, 2021. Pastor Randy May will officiate the service. Marks Funeral Service will be Livestreamed through the Behm Funeral Home Facebook Page, facebook.com/Behm-Service for those unable to attend. Final Resting Place will be Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Geneva.

The family will be announcing a party to celebrate Mark's life later this summer.

The family suggests contributions be made in Mark's name to Geneva Area City Schools for sports pay to participate fees, 135 South Eagle Street, Geneva, OH 44041

Online obituary and condolences may be viewed at www.behmfuneral.com

BEHM FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES

Timothy Caruso

ASHTABULA — Timothy Peter Caruso, 63, born in Ashtabula on May 26, 1957, the son of Peter and Francis (DeGeroge) Caruso passed away unexpectedly after suffering a stroke on Dec. 30, 2020.

He was a proud member of St. John High School's class of 1975.

Sports fanatic and retired manufacturer Timothy Caruso's love of life didn't come to an end with his death. He is survived by loved ones who will continue to honor his legacy by living their lives to the fullest. Tim's lifelong commitment to his family is unmatched. The simplest pleasures in life brought great joy to Tim. Spending time with his grandchildren, Vincent and Giada and his beloved dog, Max, was one of his ultimate joys. Tim also had a deep passion for all sports, but particularly loved boxing and football. Tim had an uncanny ability to predict how boxing matches would end before the actual ending. He had a coaches mind for sports and enjoyed telling anyone who would listen.

Everything Tim was as a father, husband, friend and man has been graciously passed on to his son, Randy. Those values and lessons will forever be passed down to every generation of Caruso, due to Tim's leadership. His dedication and unwavering devotion to his family will be greatly missed.

Tim is survived by his beloved wife of 14 years, Estele Caruso; his Mother, Francis Caruso; brother, Frank Caruso; sister, Mary Anne West; a son, Randy (Marlana) Caruso; two grandchildren: Giada and Vincent Caruso, countless cousins and friends, and his beloved dog, Max.

Funeral Mass will be held Saturday February 20, 2021 at 10:00 am at Mt. Carmel Church, Ashtabula. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. Tim's legacy will live on for generations...

CZUP Funeral Home & CREMATION SERVICE

SERVICES PENDING

Kathleen Watts

JEFFERSON — Kathie Watts, 84, passed away peacefully 2/15/2021. She was the loving wife of Thomas and mother of Valerie Weber and Bradley Watts. Services to celebrate her life will be announced at a later date.

www.fleming-billman.com.

Fleming & Billman Funeral Directors, Inc.

THEIR VIEW

The mysterious case of the smelly doggy feet

Relatively Speaking
Raul Ascunce

Next to cheese curls, corn chips are my favorite snack. I especially like the scoop kind because they are great for dipping in guacamole, French onion or seven-layer bean dip. (Sorry, are you drooling on your newspaper yet?)

My affinity for corn chips goes way back to my childhood. When I was 10 years old I found a black and tan dachshund/basset hound mix in the school yard. He was awesome, lazy, pliable and loving. After days of begging, my parents let me keep him.

I loved that dog to pieces, but what I couldn't figure out was whenever I held him, I smelled corn chips. I'd look around the living room for a bowl of the tasty snack, but there was none.

Finally I'd yell, "Ma! Why do I keep smelling corn chips?"

"It's Charlie's feet," she yelled back. "Isn't that great? I love the smell of his feet." And yes, I had a mom who sniffed dog's feet. But when it came to my sweat socks, she would say every time, "Oh, gross. Did you die in these socks?"

I asked Mom, "Why do Charlie's feet smell like corn chips? Did he help you make a taco salad or something?"

Ma said, "Because God made them that way. What do you want for supper?"

"Do we have any French onion dip and corn chips?"

Well, mom and Charlie are probably sniffing each other's feet in heaven now. But I still remember that foot smell.

Flash forward 58 years and guess what? I have another black and tan dog who I named after my first dog. They're totally different, though.

This one is a shepherd mix, high energy, much larger, much smarter, and his food to poop ratio is off the charts.

After a month or so, I started to have serious doubts about having named him Charlie because he was so different from my first Charlie. My first dog was slow, lazy and — to put it nicely — not too bright (which is probably why we got along so well). Current Charlie is hyper energetic, relentlessly playful, and is super intelligent, (which is probably why he thinks I'm not too bright).

But then one day we were both sitting on the sofa and something in my brain triggered memories of Chuck #1. I thought to myself, "What is it? Why am I having these memories of my first dog?"

Then Chuck #2 rolled over on his back in all his neutered glory and thrust one leg up in my face.

There it was...corn chips. His feet smelled like corn chips too. I was thrilled. He really did earn the name of Charlie.

Since Ma wasn't around to ask, I Googled on my computer, "Why do dog feet smell like corn chips?"

It turns out that when dogs get their feet wet, the moisture between their toes produces a harmless bacteria that smells like corn chips. Mystery solved after all these years.

Well, I don't know about you guys, but that makes me hungry for a big old bag of corn chips and some French onion dip. If you have a dog, I bet you're smelling their feet right now.

Bon appétit.

Raul Ascunce is a freelance columnist for the Sentinel-Tribune. He may be contacted at RaulAscunce@gmail.com.

YOUR VIEW

ASL program put BGSU on the map

To the Editor:

It is important for our community to know that Bowling Green State University's intention is to just postpone closing the American Sign Language program. They are not letting any new students in, which will kill it quietly next spring, instead of now with 25,000 rallied around it.

I hope this open letter changes the conversation.

The ASL program does more than "teach a language." Perhaps President Rodney Rogers does not know the wide-reaching effect courses have.

In a social climate obsessed with privilege, you are telling the deaf community that BGSU is one more place we should just accept hearing privilege, while claiming to be a public university for the public good.

Do you know what it's like to go to the doctor, especially in a pandemic, to try to receive treatment from professionals who have their faces covered? It's terrifying. With educated students championing for communication access through the availability of interpreters, or at the very least, clear masks, I could someday have the same medical access you do. Principles of communication access, ADA and the use of technology in the Deaf World are explored in ASL 1 and 2.

Do you know about the mental health crisis affecting deaf young adults due to isolation and communication deprivation? The educational options for deaf students are explored in ASL 3. Students learn how to be an advocate and friend to people who are different from them.

The ability to authentically take food orders, assist at a retail store, and help with personal needs are explored in ASL 2-4.

I have put BGSU on the map as the first university in Ohio to have all four ASL classes TAG approved. I designed those classes, along with the majority of the minor classes, with my professional expertise in Deaf Education, the deaf community, and personal and professional knowledge of communication access.

There are real people who lose because of your decisions.

I am a successful professional with a unique perspective, and I have a disability. The work I do is important. Students leave these classes changed ... ready to champion for public good.

You do not need additional "partnerships." You need to utilize the faculty you have.

You have thousands of students who have received this education in language, equity and access. I urge you to consider the plea of 25,000.

Rebecca Sidders
Assistant Teaching Professor, ASL

LETTERS POLICY

- Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and a phone number. Letter writers must be able to be reached at their phone numbers.
- Only the name and town of resident will be published.
- Each letter is limited to 400 words.
- It is preferred that letters be submitted via email to Editor Debbie Rogers, drogers@aimmediamidwest.com. If sending a hand-written letter, please write legibly, preferably in print lettering.
- Letters will be edited and may be condensed.
- Not all letters will be used.
- A maximum of one letter per month per person will be published.

ASL at BGSU is worth saving

To the Editor:

I wanted to say how angry and frustrated I am that Bowling Green State University is trying to cancel their American Sign Language program and have let go of deaf faculty members. This is inexcusable.

I am currently in a program through Shawnee State University. It's a granted licensure program from the State of Ohio to license more teachers to teach deaf and hard of hearing students. There is a shortage of teachers in this area.

We took ASL through BGSU, and I am currently in a curriculum class also. The state uses several colleges for us to spread the grant money throughout the state.

Rebecca Sidders is my teacher. She is amazing, and the program is amazing. This program is worth saving.

Sonja Jarrells
West Portsmouth

Redistricting, school funding issues loom

To the Editor:

The elected officials in Ohio are going to make some exceedingly important decisions this year concerning redistricting and funding for education.

The League of Women Voters helped to pass laws about how redistricting must be done, and we will be observing and participating to be sure that process is followed, and the redrawn maps are fair. One wit stated there are more possible district maps than atoms in the universe. Not quite, but there are myriad possibilities.

House Bill 1, Fair School Funding, is being heard in the House of Representatives. This bill overwhelmingly passed the House last year as the Cupp-Patterson bill, but it was stopped in the Senate. It provides a structure for the fair, equitable, and constitutional funding of public, private, and voucher schools. Ohio is the only state that subtracts funding from public schools to fund private and voucher schools.

We urge you to stay informed and follow these efforts as their passage, or failure to pass, will greatly affect every person's future. Please visit member directories at ohiohouse.gov and ohiosenate.gov to find contact information for Representative Ghanbari and Senator Gavarone and ask them to support fair redistricting and HB1 Fair School Funding.

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green is a vital, active, nonpartisan group of women and men. Please join us! We will welcome you. Get more information and sign-up on our website: lwvbg.org.

Lee Hakel
President, League of Women Voters Bowling Green

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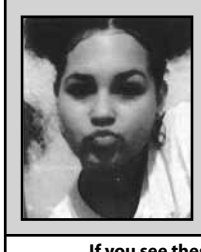
HELP US LOCATE THESE MISSING CHILDREN

MISSING
CAMERON MURDOCK
DOB: Aug 26, 2003 Sex: Male
Missing From: Toledo, OH Race: Black
Age Now: 17 Height: 6'0"
Weight 186lbs Hair: Black Eye Color: Brown
Missing Since: Feb 1, 2021

MISSING
JONATHON BARKER
DOB: Feb 21, 2004 Sex: Male
Missing From: Swanton, OH Race: White
Age Now: 16 Height: 5'7"
Weight 150lbs Hair: Lt. Brown Eye Color: Blue
Missing Since: Jan 17, 2021



MISSING
TY ASIAH WAGNER
DOB: Aug 1, 2006 Sex: Female
Missing From: Youngstown, OH Race: Biracial
Age Now: 14 Height: 5'4"
Weight 150lbs Hair: Brown Eye Color: Brown
Missing Since: : Dec 18, 2020

If you see these missing children or know where he or she can be located please contact the following

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
1-800-843-5678
(1-800-THE-LOST)

Mike DeWine, Ohio Attorney General
1-855-224-6446
(1-855-BCI-OHIO)

AN EXTRA THANK YOU FOR THESE SPONSORS FOR MAKING THIS PAGE POSSIBLE

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

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LOCAL WEATHER

AccuWeather Plan your week | Get the NEW app

TODAY
HIGH: 20
LOW: 17
Cloudy and bitterly cold

THURSDAY
HIGH: 30
LOW: 19
Snow at times, accumulating 1-3"

FRIDAY
HIGH: 24
LOW: 6
Very cold with a little snow at times

SATURDAY
HIGH: 19
LOW: 11
Mostly cloudy and very cold

SUN & MOON

	Today	Thu.
SUN		
Rise	**7:21 a.m.**	**7:20 a.m.**
Set	**6:07 p.m.**	**6:08 p.m.**
MOON		
Rise	**10:22 a.m.**	**10:48 a.m.**
Set	**none**	**12:07 a.m.**

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
Feb 19	Feb 27	Mar 5	Mar 13

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

NATIONAL EXTREMES

48 contiguous states Tuesday

HIGH TEMPERATURE
West Palm Beach, FL **87**

LOW TEMPERATURE
Ely, MN ..... **-46**

ALMANAC

Through 3 p.m. Tuesday

TEMPERATURES
High/Low **23/14**
Normal **36/21**
Record **64** (1927)
Record ..... **-9** (2015)

PRECIPITATION *(in inches)*
24 hrs **0.63**
Month to date **1.18**
Normal month to date **1.35**
Year to date **2.97**
Normal year to date **4.22**
Last year to date **5.43**

BIBLE DIGEST

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice." (Proverbs 12:15 ESV)

None of us has all the answers. Let's seek Godly counsel from Godly people.

LOTTERIES

(Drawings: Feb. 16)
Pick 3 (early): 6 9 0
Pick 4 (early): 2 4 5 1
Pick 5 (early): 6 8 8 0 5

(Drawings: Feb. 15)
Pick 3 (late): 5 0 3
Pick 4 (late): 4 6 9 1
Pick 5 (late): 9 7 6 6 6
Rolling Cash 5: 8 15 20 27 29
Classic Lotto: 10 16 17 25 46 49

Wednesday's jackpot is $4.6 million.

TODAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY

Deana Brown of Fremont receives ashes from The Rev. G. Allan Brown II at Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church in a previous Ash Wednesday service. FILE

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, observed in many Western Christian denominations. It takes place 46 days before Easter, and may take place anytime between Feb. 4 and March 10. Depending on denomination, it is observed with religious services, a ritual with ashes, and fasting.

In the Catholic Church, local customs dictate how ashes are to be placed on the head, and there is no set rule. Originally, ashes were placed on men's heads, while being placed on the foreheads of women, because women covered their heads while in church.

Source: checkiday.com

Caden Henry, 10 years old, clears snow from his Lexview area home on Tuesday.
JASON J. MOLYET/GANNETT

Snow

Continued from Page 1A

February."

Right now, the best chance at another winter storm will come Thursday.

"We're in the one-to-three, two-to-four inches range on that snowstorm," Mitchell said. "We could have mixed precipitation too, which causes its own problems."

Either way, the weatherman was confident winter was about to end. Average snowfall for January in Ohio is 29.6 inches. In February, it's 18.2 inches. March is only 13.7 inches, and April gets a measly 3.2 inches.

In fact, the meteorological winter runs from the beginning of December to the end of February, meaning Mitchell's spring starts in less than two weeks.

"But astronomical spring is not until March 20," he said.

As for the cold? The weather service predicts there are fewer than 10 days of bitter air left before spring arrives.

Then it will be time for Mitchell to start thinking about tornadoes.

"In our business, we go from winter to severe-weather season," he said. "That's the fun part about weather, is the variety."

ztuggle@gannett.com
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LEGAL NOTICE

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POLICE REPORTS

Bucyrus Police Department

Monday

INCIDENTS

A false alarm was received from the 100 block of North Sandusky Avenue. 9:19 a.m.

Officers assisted with a vehicle lock out in the 800 block of Rose Court. 10:03 a.m.

Officers investigated a domestic dispute in the 400 block of West Warren Street. 10:39 a.m.

A person spoke with officers about trash dumping on his property. 11:06 a.m.

Officers investigated a one-vehicle wreck in the 100 block of West Rensselaer Street. 11:23 a.m.

A West Rensselaer Street resident was warned against parking in a private parking lot without permission. 1:26 p.m.

A 911 hang-up call was investigated in the 300 block of Wiley Street. 1:55 p.m.

Officers investigated a domestic dispute in the 100 block of West Mary Street. 2:12 p.m.

A Heritage Circle resident reported possible identity theft. 2:29 p.m.

Officers investigated a 911 call in the 1000 block of East Mansfield Street. 4:25 p.m.

Officers assisted a motorist in the area of River and Tiffin streets. 5:05 p.m.

Officers investigated a parking complaint in the area of Auto Street and Nauman Avenue. 5:59 p.m.

A domestic situation was investigated in the 400 block of Norton Way. 8:23 p.m.

Officers assisted a stranded motorist in the High Street and Cleland Avenue area. 8:52 p.m.

Officers responded to a private-property wreck in the 1100 block of Hopley Avenue. 9:15 p.m.

Officers assisted a motorist in the 200 block of North Sandusky Avenue. 10:28 p.m.

A private-property wreck was reported in the 200 block of Crossroads Boulevard. 11:15 p.m.

A 911 hang-up call was reported in the 1500 block of North Sandusky Avenue. 11:41 p.m.

Tuesday

INCIDENTS

Officers assisted Portsmouth EMS in the 1500 block of North Sandusky Avenue. 12:10 a.m.

A disturbance was reported in the 900 block of East Mansfield Street. 12:22 a.m.

Officers assisted Portsmouth EMS in the 600 block of North Sandusky Avenue. 12:37 a.m.

Officers assisted a motorist in the 100 block of Schell Avenue. 1:37 a.m.

Public Notices

Your Source Public Notices for the latest...

Public Notices

The following matters are the subject of this public notice by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The complete public notice, including any additional instructions for submitting comments, requesting information, a public hearing, or filing an appeal may be obtained at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/actions.aspx or Hearing Clerk, Ohio EPA, 50 W. Town St. P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216. Ph: 614-644-3037 email: HClerk@epa.ohio.gov

Scrap Tire Facility License Action
Willig Tire Recycling LLC
352 South St, Galion, OH 44833
ID #: ST018368
Date of Action: 02/10/2021
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BTF,Feb17'21#4600431

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Public Notices

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In the Common Pleas Court of Crawford County, Ohio.

Whereas, judgment has been rendered against certain parcels of real property for taxes, assessments, charges, penalties, interest, and costs as follows:

The Common Pleas Court Case No.; the case caption; the street address (for guidance only); the permanent parcel number; minimum acceptable bid; auction end date and second auction end date for each parcel, as defined by the Statutes of Ohio are set forth below as follows:

19 CV 0253; TAX EASE OHIO, LLC WITH US BANK AS CUSTODIAN V. JAMES JOHNSON, ET AL; 501 ORANGE STREET, GALION, OH 44833; 19-0026910.001; MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE BID $24,491.00 (PLUS 10% BUYER'S PREMIUM); AUCTION END DATE: March 11, 2021; SECOND AUCTION END DATE: April 8, 2021

NOTE: All parcels will be auctioned online at **www.OhioForeclosures.com**. All auctions will begin at least seven (7) days prior to the auction end date. If any parcel does not receive a sufficient bid, it shall be offered for sale, under the same terms, on the same website, with the second auction beginning at least seven (7) days prior to the end date of the second auction. A ten percent (10%) Buyer's Premium will be added to the high bid to determine the sale price. Full legal description of parcels, and other sale details, are available at **www.OhioForeclosures.com**.

TERMS OF SALE: Purchaser shall be required to pay a buyer's premium, in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the high bid price, which shall be added to the high bid and included in the full purchase price. Deposit of 10%, with a minimum deposit of $1,000.00, shall be wire transferred to Standard Title Co. no later than 2:00 pm EST the day following auction end. Balance of the FULL purchase price shall be wire transferred to Standard Title Co. no later than thirty (30) days following the confirmation of sale. Failure to pay deposit, buyer premium or balance of purchase price timely will result in private selling officer moving the court for a contempt citation against purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for those costs, allowances, and taxes that the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PARCELS TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FEDERAL TAX LIEN THAT MAY NOT BE EXTINGUISHED BY THE SALE.

NOTE: Prospective bidders are responsible for knowing what they are bidding on prior to the time of sale by first having reviewed the records of the City wherein the parcel is located, and the records of the County, and further, by personally viewing the parcel at its location.

NOTE: Per Section 5721.38 of the Ohio Revised Code, an owner of a parcel may redeem his property by payment in full of all taxes and costs until the sale of such parcel is confirmed by the Court.

This advertisement is prepared and published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5721.37 and 5721.39 of the Ohio Revised Code.
(BTF,Feb17,24,Mar3,'21#4601722)

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Telegraph-Forum, USPS #536-960, is published Monday through Saturday at 70 W. Fourth St. Mansfield, OH 44903. Periodicals postage paid at Mansfield, OH 44903.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 62670, San Angelo, TX 76906.

Start

Continued from Page 1A

"We work with them throughout pretty much every stage of their business development, business growth, daily operations," Voorhies said.

The center also works with clients on hiring processes, developing manuals for their employees, strategic planning, financials and more.

Voorhies puts applicants on a business projection plan and assist with state certifications or licensing and calulates projected income, according to Blanchard.

"We do have a requirement that you create at least one job for every $10,000 that we loan but, if you are applying you automatically have one job because you are creating a job for yourself," Blanchard said. "For a $25,000 loan, two jobs generally fill the application requirements." The business has to be located in the county, although the applicant can live elsewhere.

The Port Authority currently has approximately 10 opens loans. Over the past 20 years, it has averaged two loans a year.

The Port Authority just received a second grant of $50,000 from the Department of Ag which will require a matching amount from the Port Authority.

Blanchard estimates the Port Authority could potentially make five to six loans at $25,000 each this year.

More information on the Ohio Small Business Development Center can be found at https://sbdc.ohio.edu.

Law case bound over to common pleas court

Rick Stillion
Cambridge Daily Jeffersonian
USA TODAY NETWORK

The case against a Cambridge area resident accused of harboring a runaway girl and giving her illegal narcotics was bound over to the Guernsey County Common Pleas Court on Thursday.

Jesse A. Law, 43, Cambridge, faces one count of corrupting another with drugs, a second-degree felony.

The decision to bind the felony case over to the higher court was made Thursday during a preliminary hearing in the Cambridge Municipal Court.

The victim's age, 17, was a factor in the filing of the felony offense, according to Guernsey County Sheriff's Major Jeremy Wilkinson.

Law also faces a third-degree misdemeanor count of interference with custody filed by deputies in the municipal court for allegedly harboring the teen after she ran away from home.

The girl had reportedly been living with Law at his Skyline Drive residence for several days when located by deputies.

Guernsey County sheriff's deputies said the girl confessed to being given heroin and methamphetamine.

She also told deputies that Law would have her pick up narcotics at various locations and deliver them to him at his residence.

Law

During the course of their investigation, deputies learned from the girl's cell phone that was taken by her mother prior to her running away, that she had been having sexual relations with older men in exchange for illegal narcotics.

Law was identified as one of the men.

Deputies said Law told them he knew the girl was 17, but he didn't see what was the issue because she would be turning 18 soon.

He also allegedly told deputies that she could be on "worse things" than meth.

A plastic bag containing suspected methamphetamine was found concealed in the girl's duffel bag. Deputies said she told them Law would give her narcotics as needed.

Additional felony drug-related charges are reportedly pending against Law as the result of a prior raid at the Skyline Drive residence.

Those charges are expected to be presented to a grand jury of the Guernsey County Common Pleas Court.

Law remained incarcerated in the Guernsey County Jail on a $300,000 bond set during a hearing in the municipal court.

He is prohibited from having contact with the victim.

Wage

Continued from Page 1A

ment.

Orr agreed such a wage increase could severely limit the city's ability to hire people.

"A lot of people will get left on the side line and not have a chance to get a start in the workforce," said Orr. "This will not fix everything they say it will fix, he said. "It's a vicious cycle."

The mayor and other business owners are also concerned about the "trickle down" impact a wage increase would have locally.

In the restaurant business especially and other small businesses, each day is different.

"You can't predict the public, but we have to have the staff available in case people show up," said Ray.

On a recent day, seven of the 22 employees on the payroll at Lee's were working while one table was occupied by customers.

"While we will be forced to raise prices to pay wages for employees, our distributors will also have to raise prices in order to pay higher wages," said Ray. "In the end, everything gets raised and that trickles down to us.

"It really could put small business owners like us out of business," Ray added.

McCoy said she and other small business owners are already struggling to compete with retail giants such as Walmart that buy in bulk.

"Suppliers sell things at different prices," said McCoy. "I can't buy merchandise at the same rate as the bigger stores that buy in bulk. We are not that big and we have to pay our bills. Our goal is to keep everybody employed, but raising prices to pay higher wages is a double-edge sword."

Small business owners are also concerned such an increase could create issues with employees already paid at that level. That includes employees with special training and licenses for which they are paid a higher wage.

"Now that person who is making $13 is upset," said Orr. "People with a license or a special skill set will be making the same wage as people who don't have those things."

"You would have to pay those people more, but you have to have more money coming in the door to do that," added McCoy.

There is a concern raising prices would prevent people on a fixed income, such as senior citizens, from buying the things they need.

"They are not getting a raise, but they have to cover that increase in the cost of living," said McCoy. "If we raise our prices, they have to pay the higher prices. We all try to help each other, but we can only afford to do so much."

The long-time businesswoman also believes many people will simply spend more if they make more money, and they will not be any better in the long run.

"A lot of people don't have money sense," she said. "It's not taught today like it was in the past."

Orr believes the timing of such an increase could not be worse given the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This country needs a large time-out," said Orr. "We need to let people do what they do well, and let the local market determine when and what things we need to do. You can't just pick a number and put a stamp on it.

"This is creating a lot of drama, and right now, we are still trying to save people's lives."

The last time Ohioans voted to increase the minimum wage was in 2006 after efforts to raise the wage through the state's GOP-controlled Legislature failed. Issue 2 passed with 56.7 percent of the vote, increasing the state's minimum wage from $5.15 to $6.85 an hour and tying annual increases to inflation.

Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown (D) is backing the minimum wage proposal.

"For too many people in this country, hard work isn't paying off," Brown told The Cincinnati Enquirer. "While costs for Ohio families are rising and workers are more productive than ever, wages aren't keeping up."

Ohio 97th District Rep. Adam Holmes (R), of Zanesville, told the Times Recorder that he doesn't feel the bill will pass, largely because of the amount of Democrats who oppose the current proposal.

Holmes also feels the increase will cause financial hardships for those unable to handle the extra expense.

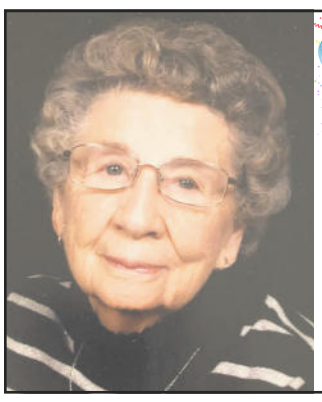
Of the 20 states to increase the rate on Jan. 1, only Montana has a lower minimum wage rate than Ohio at $8.75. Sixteen make more than $10, with California being the highest at $14. Five saw increases of at least $1.

Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Chairman Jeremy Morrow declined to comment specifically on the proposed minimum wage increase.

Instead, the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors sent the following statement.

"We do not take a certain position on political and federal issues. However, we do want to educate our membership and try our best to share the pros and cons of each issue that effects our businesses. Our mission is to provide the necessary vehicle through which to combine forces to executing the continuous, year-after-year program of work necessary for positive business development."

Reporters Sam Black of the Zanesville Times Recorder and Jessie Balmert of the Cincinnati Enquirer contributed to this report.



Happy 99th Birthday!
Marjorie Holmes
She is celebrating her 99th birthday!
Marjorie will be 99 on February 27th

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

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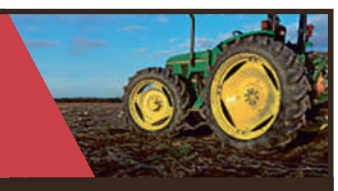
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BETH BAILEY, Managing Editor 740-439-3531 x1223
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Advertising Director.....740-439-3531 x1222

The Daily Jeffersonian is published daily, except for Saturdays, New Years Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas by Gannett Co., Inc., Cambridge, Ohio. Mailing address is P.O. Box 10, Cambridge, OH 43725 with editorial, advertising, circulation and business offices at 831 Whelling Ave., Cambridge, OH 43725. News is gathered by representatives of The Daily Jeffersonian in Guernsey, Noble and Muskingum counties. Content also is provided by the Associated Press and by a number of feature syndicates.

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Budget deficits ahead for Marlington Local

Malcolm Hall Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

LEXINGTON TWP. After hearing sobering financial projections, Marlington Local Board of Education has approved a five-year forecast that shows the district in deficit spending each year.

The projected deficit for the current fiscal year is forecast at $1.08 million. That figure represents how much expenditures are expected to exceed revenue. Expenditures for the current fiscal year are projected at $25.93 million. The current fiscal year ends June 30.

During the Board of Education meeting Thursday night, a financial adviser, Ryan Ghizzoni, told Marlington Local officials they have three options: reduce expenses, increase revenue or a combination of both.

"It is hard for me to say the district can cut its way out of it," said Ghizzoni, a senior analytics adviser with Forecast 5. Ghizzoni has been reviewing Marlington Local financial records and projections with school administrators.

In presenting his findings, Ghizzoni mentioned that Marlington Local's largest expense is in employee salaries and benefits. Smaller financial commitments are supplies and utilities.

"I think the district has cut cost over the years," Superintendent Michael Shreffler said. "There are areas where we can cut more. You get to a point where you can't reduce any more."

What is helping keep Marlington Local afloat now is the use of cash reserves.

However, those reserves will be exhausted by the 2023-24 fiscal year, according to a financial projection chart put out by Marlington Local.

"By 2024 our cash balance will be depleted," Shreffler said, when contacted after the meeting. "By then we will have to do something to build up that revenue. We are going to have to ask the community for a (tax) levy."

The projected deficit for the upcoming 2021-20 fiscal year is expected to be $2.38 million.

"The district has been in deficit spending for the past six or seven years," said Carolyn Gabric, board president. "This didn't happen overnight.

Marlington is looking to get about $1.8 million in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. And there also is a $223,000 increase in funding from the state. But Ghizzoni cautioned Marlington Local officials that such windfalls are one-time financial boosts.

"It helps you out this year," Ghizzoni said. "Your trajectory is not changing."

The Ohio Department of Education will want to see a correction plan from the school system, Ghizzoni warned.

Reach Malcolm at 330-580-8305 or malcolm.hall@cantonrep.com

On Twitter: mhallREP

If you have recovered from COVID-19, think about donating blood to help those still struggling with this serious illness. GETTY IMAGES

Red Cross seeks blood donors who have recovered from COVID-19

Melissa Erickson
USA TODAY NETWORK

If you have recovered from COVID-19, think about donating blood to help those still struggling with this serious illness. People sick with COVID-19 need your plasma.

While there is always a major need for blood donations in the United States, right now a there is an urgent shortage of plasma from people who have recovered from COVID-19, said Dr. Pampee Young, chief medical officer of the American Red Cross.

One way the body fights the virus, especially early on, is by generating antibodies, she said.

"These antibodies coat the virus, essentially stopping it from wreaking havoc in the body. The antibodies physically attach to the virus to neutralize its ability to infect cells," Young said.

People who have recently contracted COVID-19 have not had the time to build up their own antibodies, so their bodies are not ready to fight the virus off, she said. Convalescent plasma therapy may lessen the severity of COVID-19 symptoms and shorten the duration of the illness.

Even though vaccinations are ongoing and infection numbers seem to be going down, the future is uncertain.

"We could still see surges in case numbers and COVID-19-related mortalities," Young said.

There are two ways to help: A blood donation or a donation of convalescent plasma. Those who have fully recovered from COVID-19 can give plasma up to every seven days as long as the antibodies are still present.

"The cold winter months make it tough to meet the plasma demands with weather challenges and illness, and the pandemic only made things worse," Young said.

Donors need to be in good general health. Safety protocols are in place at Red Cross donation centers. Visit RedCross.org to make an appointment.

Obituaries

Jack J. Eshelman

79, went home to be with his Lord on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 in Sebring, Fl. He was born in Canton on August 5, 1941 to Lester and Rebecca (Roshon) Eshelman. Jack was a retired draftsman and designer. He enjoyed working on old cars especially his 1962 Rambler. He also enjoyed traveling. Jack was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Avon Park, FL. He was also a member of 3rd Degree Knights of Columbus, Massillon and 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Mons. Graham Assembly, Canton. Jack loved to be with his family and friends whenever they could get together.

He is survived by his loving wife, Georgia Lee (Carrothers) Eshelman; his son, John (Mary) Eshelman; grandchildren, Michaila and Andrew; and siblings, Gail Campbell, Carol Kinsley and Bill Eshelman.

Family will receive friends from 6 pm – 8 pm on Monday, February 22, 2021 at the Paquelet Funeral Home, Massillon or at St. Barbara's Catholic Church one hour prior to Mass. A Mass of Christian Burial will be concelebrated by Fr. Brian Cline and Fr. Thomas Cebula on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 10:30 am at St. Barbara's Catholic Church. Burial will follow in Calvary Cemetery. Continuing with COVID-19 precautions, all attending will be asked to follow proper social distancing protocol and masks are required. If you are not feeling well, or if you have a compromised immune system, you are encouraged to stay home. Messages of condolence and support may be sent to www.paquelet.com

Paquelet Funeral Home & Crematory
330-833-3222

James A. Piero

of North Canton, passed away peacefully following a brief, sudden illness at the age of 78 on February 18, 2021 with his wife and children by his side. He was born in Canton on November 28, 1942 to the late Andrew and Rose (Wyler) Piero. James is a 1960 graduate of Canton Central Catholic and a 1964 graduate of the University of Akron where he was a 4-year varsity wrestler. He earned both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Education from the University of Akron.

Early in his career, James worked as the director of the Canton City School Auto and Diesel Adult Training Center, but spent most of his 32 years as an elementary physical education teacher within the district. He was instrumental along with his colleagues in developing the "Games That Work" workshop for Ohio physical education teachers that continues to this day. Along with his career in education, James owned and operated three businesses; Jim Piero Lawn Service, Mobile Power Wash and Power Wash Systems. When not working, he always stayed active and enjoyed many hobbies most especially vacationing with his family at the beach, early bird swimming at the C.T. Branin Natatorium, and any outdoor activity he could find.

James is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Jean L. (Noll) Piero; son, Timothy Piero of Lisbon, Ohio; and daughter, Pamela Piero of Perry Township.

In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev. Msgr. Lewis Gaetano at Christ the Servant Parish (Our Lady of Peace), 833 39th St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44709 on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 11 am. In keeping with Covid safety measures and for the health and safety of all there will be no calling hours. Masks must be worn to the service and social distancing observed. The family would like to thank the nurses, aides and doctors at the Aultman Woodlawn Compassionate Care Center for the amazing care James received and helping to make this difficult time more bearable. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Stark County Humane Society (5100 Peach Street NE, Louisville, OH 44641) c/o James A. Piero Memorial Fund or a charity close to your heart. Arrangements entrusted to the Mark R. Vrabel Funeral Home, North Canton 330-452-4041.

Mark R. Vrabel
Funeral Home
330-452-4041

James "Jim" W. Joseph

age 75 of Canton, passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Family and friends will be received at the Rossi Family Funeral Home on Monday from 2 to 3:45 p.m. Funeral services will begin in the funeral home at 4 p.m. Full obituary will appear in Sunday's paper.

Rossi (330)492-5830
www.rossifuneralhomeinc.com

OBITUARIES

If you have any questions regarding the information printed in our obituary notices, please call the funeral home listed at the bottom of the notice. If no funeral home is listed, please call

The Repository/Classified Dept. at (330) 580-8400

920960

David Lee Geyer, Sr.

Age 85, passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021. He was born in Canton, OH on October 17, 1935 to the late Harry and Ruth Geyer. He was a 1954 graduate of Timken High School and entered the U.S. Air Force in 1955.

He is survived by his wife, Jean L. (Lautzenheiser) to whom he was married 65 years; five children, Kay (Todd) Cole of Canton, Karen (Brian) Volzer of North Canton, David (Lori) Geyer of Louisville, Kris (Randy Fetters) Geyer of North Canton and Fred (Laura) Geyer of Louisville; nine grandchildren: Todd (Ashley) Cole, Ben (Rebekah) Cole, Joe (Helena) Volzer, Allyson (Joel) Shawver, Kate Volzer, Mike (Lindsey) Volzer, Josh (Arce) Geyer, Jeremy Geyer and Hannah Geyer; nine great-grandchildren; one brother, Harry (Donna) Geyer; one sister, Judy (Richard) Marchewka. He is preceded in death by his brother, Jack Geyer.

A private memorial service will be conducted in the Sanders Funeral Home in East Canton. Condolences or fond memories may be shared online at: **www.sandersfuneralhomes**

Sanders, 330-488-0222

Sondra Borton Samples Shopbell

Sondra Borton Samples Shopbell, age 79, of Canton passed away at her home on February 14, 2021. She was born on August 14, 1941 in Salem to Clarence M. Borton and Effie P. (Jones) Borton. Sondra graduated as valedictorian from both Goshen High School in 1959 and Ashland College in 1963. She taught at Akron Firestone High School for four years and then began teaching at West Branch High School in 1967. Sondra was the National Honor Society advisor which included homecoming and Share a Christmas. She was also the Academic Challenge Advisor. Sondra was an active member of the First Brethren Church of North Georgetown where she volunteered as church treasurer, Sunday school teacher, and organized Community Meals and Acts 2 Clothes Closet.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Terry I. Shopbell, whom she married June 26, 1993; her son, Charlie (Karla) Samples; grandchildren, Kayla S. Samples and John I. Samples; brother, Clarence E. "Bud" (Kathy) Borton; sisters, Geraldine Dorsey and Donna (Steve) Lysyj; six nieces and nephews; seven great-nieces and nephews; a great-great-niece; and a great-great nephew. She was preceded in death by her parents; and sister, Nancy J. Borton Shopbell.

A funeral service will be held at First Brethren Church in North Georgetown on Tuesday, February 23rd., at noon with Pastor Joel Soza officiating. Friends may call two hours prior at the church. Interment at a later date at North Georgetown Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made in Sondra's honor to First Brethren Church, 27333 Main St, North Georgetown, Ohio 44665. Arrangements are entrusted to Cassaday-Turkle-Christian Funeral Home, 75 South Union Ave., Alliance, Ohio 44601. Friends and family may share condolences and memories online at:

www.ctcfuneral.com
Cassaday-Turkle-Christian Funeral Home, 330-823-1050

Rita Kathryn Geissinger

age 78, of North Canton, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 with her family by her side. She was born in Canton, Ohio on April 1, 1942 to Gilbert Thewes and Twila L. Reed.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 59 years, Richard "Dick" Geissinger; three children: Douglas Geissinger, Richard (Susy) Geissinger Jr., and Hon. "My" Matthew (Denise) Geissinger; four grandchildren, Hannah, Hunter (Hannah Rae), Annie, and M. Wyatt Geissinger; brothers, Gilbert (Linda) Thewes and Jack (Sandy) Lightbody; sisters, Rebecca (Sam) DeSantis and Janice (Joe) Schott; sister-in-law, Patricia Thewes; and numerous nieces and nephews. Besides her parents, Rita is preceded in death by a brother, David Thewes, and sisters, Gail Hahn and Paula Lightbody. Rita was a graduate of Lincoln High School in Canton. In the summer of 1959 she met the love of her life, Dick Geissinger at Meyers Lake amusement park. Rita was known as an extremely friendly, outgoing, and generous soul to all that knew her. Rita's customers at her greenhouse were always welcomed by her warm smile, kind laughter, and generous advice and she always kept them coming back for more. She enjoyed playing cards and hosting game nights in her home for family and friends. There was nothing more important to Rita than her family. She was very proud of her grandchildren and cherished every moment she spent with them. Rita's only life regret was the error of purchasing a mini-bike for only the youngest of her 3 boys.

Calling hours will be Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at the Uniontown Community Park Hall from 5 pm to 8 pm. In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in Rita's name to Pathway Caring for Children at 4895 Dressler Road N.W., Suite A, Canton, Ohio 44718. For those wishing to send condolences please visit: **www.reedfuneralhome.com** to sign the online guestbook.

Reed Funeral Home, 330-477-6721

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

Legal expert says changes needed for polictical sign ordinance

By SUE REID

Solon's ordinance regulating political or opinion signs would likely be ruled unconstitutional if challenged in the courts, city officials were advised last week.

Attorney Ken Myers, a resident of Solon, weighed in on the matter for the Planning Commission. City Prosecutor Lon Stolarsky and Law Director Thomas G. Lobe had asked for Mr. Myers' analysis of the ordinance, which has been under review by the commission. The review followed complaints from residents centering on signage linked to last November's election.

Complaints revolved around signs being up too early, the size of some and the quantity in residential yards.

Mr. Myers had litigated sign ordinance cases in both Cleveland Heights and Middleburg Heights.

"How do we avoid getting sued as a city?" Mr. Myers said. "That's a valid concern."

Mr. Myers said he reviewed the city's ordinance as it stands and the law, as well as what courts have said as to what is permissible and what is not. He also reviewed the ordinances in comparable cities.

"Basically, I found that the city's ordinance as it relates to political or opinion signs as it stands would be ruled unconstitutional if someone challenged it and went to court," he said.

Garfield Heights had a similar ordinance that was challenged several years ago, he said.

It was ultimately ruled unconstitutional and that case provides the court precedence, Mr. Myers continued, of what the court looks for if an ordinance is unconstitutional.

Solon's ordinance distinguishes between opinion signs and commercial signs and restricts opinion signs more, he explained.

"What the court said is you can't treat political speech more harshly than non-political speech," Mr. Myers said. That includes specific content of the sign, the topic of the sign and by labeling it as opinion.

"You created a topic and that topic is highly protected under the First Amendment," he said.

At the minimum, Mr. Myers recommended changing the wording of the ordinance, but also said the meaning and enforcement mechanisms must change.

"If it is enforced as it stands, you can run into problems," he said.

Mr. Myers suggested two different approaches, one general and one more detailed. The general approach involves including a couple of paragraphs setting forth the provisions of free speech and then including a safety component. Safety issues might address issues of not obstructing views as well as the sign being in good working order. But no reference can be made to the type of sign or the content, he noted.

The detailed approach would include a series of procedures to address how complaints would be handled.

"The city's main goal is to promote free speech but also avoid a situation where the city goes into litigation," Mr. Myers said. Even if the city were successful in court, it is a costly endeavor.

"It's very expensive and things are up in the air in litigation," he said. "You don't want to get residents so angry they choose to go to court."

City Council and the mayor must determine the best approach to addressing complaints, he said.

"The bottom line is there are several principles you want to adhere to, [and] to make sure that you're both taking care of your constitutional obligations and your residents' rights, but also reducing the opportunity" for anyone to sue.

Mr. Myers said when he drives through communities during elections and sees lots of signs, he often says, "good, they are expressing their views and promoting their constitutional rights and candidates and issues they want.

"I understand at some point it becomes too much in terms of size of signs and location in the yard, and those things need addressed but minimally," Mr. Myers said. "I feel the complaints you are getting are strictly political."

He said residents may not be complaining a sign is up too long, but it's really the candidate they have issue with.

"You want to avoid getting in the middle of that," he said.

"You hit the nail on the head," Mayor Edward H. Kraus said, adding that Solon has not fully enforced the ordinance due to concerns over constitutional issues.

The mayor favored the detailed approach.

The matter will be set for public hearing at the Feb. 23 meeting.

Kenston **continued from Page 1**

Kenston lost $360,000 from that cut, Mr. Pestello said. With Gov. DeWine's executive order, $181,000 of that $360,000 has been restored, which Mr. Pestello said was "wonderful to hear.

"The forecast puts us in a better situation in February than it did for the forecast that you approved in September," Mr. Pestello told board members.

School districts must submit a five-year forecast to the Ohio Department of Education twice a year, typically in November and May. The treasurer said that the state education department recommends revising the forecast more often if there are significant changes to the district's revenues or expenditures. Other changes also factored into Mr. Pestello's decision to update the five-year forecast.

In the last forecast, he estimated that Kenston's state foundation aid in fiscal year 2021 would be 17 percent lower than it was in fiscal year 2020. His estimate was $2.95 million but now the district is on track to receive about $3.8 million, noting a difference of $850,000. The district also received a dividend check in December from the Bureau of Workers Compensation of $550,000 as part of the bureau's "Billions Back" program, according to the forecast. Mr. Pestello described this payment as a "one time situation."

In November, Kenston received a premium refund from the Bureau of Workers Compensation of $150,000 for policy year 2019, according to the forecast. Mr. Pestello said that this was part of the bureau's $8 billion giveback program to all employers in the state. In addition, he said that the district is "running ahead" on their property tax collections.

"District leadership is committed to continuous monitoring of the district's financial condition on a monthly basis and is committed to continually look for ways to operate the school district in a more effective and efficient manner," Mr. Pestello wrote in the forecast.

Trail **continued from Page 1**

"Orangewood when I first grew up was half the size it is now and only had one entrance-exit."

Councilman Alan Charnas said the trail is a "once in a lifetime chance" since the village can cover the expense with the assessment from Pinecrest.

Councilwoman Staci Vincent said that she carefully read all of the correspondence that she received from residents about the trail. She said that she grew up in Pepper Pike on a street without sidewalks and witnessed an accident where a teenager on a bicycle was injured after being struck by a car. Mrs. Vincent said that 21 years ago she chose her home in Orange Hill, where there are sidewalks.

"Some neighbors mentioned they hadn't experienced a single accident in the decades they have lived there. I am thrilled about that," she said. "But I don't want to wait around to see that statistic change and then wish we had done something to prevent that when the opportunity presented itself, as it has now."

Councilman Jud Kline lives on Orangewood and his property would be affected by the trail. He also plans to build a house at the Lakes of Orange, a new development on Brainard Road. Mr. Kline said that he supports the trail, especially since there is an increased amount of traffic on the street with more Amazon and Doordash deliveries during the COVID-19 pandemic. He said that the village administration will work with residents to avoid disturbing their landscaping.

"I know that the village will work hard with homeowners who have the trail in their front yard to work it around appurtenances and landscaping that ought not to be disturbed if possible, and when it is, it's a small price to pay for something that could be beneficial to all concerned," Mr. Kline said.

In other news, council members approved the concrete restroom structure from CXT, Inc. for a price not to exceed $80,000. The restroom will be located near the playground at the Orange Village Park on Lander Road.

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GRANT OPPORTUNITY

The Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (GCBDD) announces a grant opportunity to provide recreational and social opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. GCBDD is looking for a partner organization who will offer a variety of activities and events such as sports, Dinner Club, Fitness Classes, and more.

All interested parties will have an opportunity for a Question and Answer session being held February 22nd at 9am in the Metzenbaum Center. All grant proposals will be due to GCBDD no later than 4:00 PM on March 19, 2021. Please visit the GCBDD website at: www.geaugadd.org, Facebook page at: **www.facebook.com/GeaugaDD/**, call in to Dave Carlson: 440-729-9406 x1102 or mail in to 8200 Cedar Road, Chesterland, OH attn: Dave Carlson for more information.

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Jason Dearen, Juliet Linderman and Martha Mendoza
ASSOCIATED PRESS

One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, millions of medical-grade N95 face masks are pouring out of American factories and heading into storage, yet doctors and nurses say there still aren't enough to keep them safe.

An Associated Press investigation found a logistical breakdown at the heart of the perceived mask shortage, rooted in federal failures to coordinate supply chains and provide hospitals with clear rules about how to manage their medical equipment.

Exclusive trade data and interviews with manufacturers, federal regulators, hospital procurement officials and frontline medical workers reveal a communication breakdown – not an actual shortage – that is depriving doctors, nurses and others risking exposure to COVID-19 of first-rate protection.

In Fort Worth, Texas, medical-grade mask manufacturer Prestige Ameritech's warehouse is piled high with cases of N95s. It can churn out 1 million every four days. But there aren't orders for nearly that many, so Prestige recently got government approval to export them.

"I'm drowning in these respirators," owner Mike Bowen said.

Meanwhile, Mary Turner, a COVID-19 intensive care nurse at a hospital outside Minneapolis, strapped on the one disposable N-95 respirator allotted for her entire shift.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, Turner threw out her mask after each patient to prevent the spread of disease. Now she wears one mask from each infected person to the next because N95s – which filter out 95% of infectious particles – have supposedly been in short supply since last March.

Turner's employer, North Memorial Health, said in a statement that supplies have stabilized, but the company is still limiting use because "we must remain mindful of that supply" to ensure everyone's safety.

Internal government emails obtained by The Associated Press show there were deliberate decisions to withhold vital information about new mask manufacturers and availability.

Before the pandemic, medical providers followed guidelines that called for N95s to be discarded after each use. As the masks ran short, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention modified guidelines to allow for extended use and reuse if supplies are "depleted," a term left undefined.

Nurses picket in Faribault, Minn., as health care workers protest a shortage of protective masks on Friday. JIM MONE/AP FILE

Hospitals have responded in a variety of ways, the AP has found. Some are back to pre-COVID-19, one-use-per-patient N95 protocols, but most are doling out one mask a day or fewer to each employee. Many hospital procurement officers say they are following guidelines for depleted supplies, even if their own stockpiles are robust.

Chester "Trey" Moeller, who was the CDC's deputy chief of staff until President Joe Biden's inauguration last month, said efforts to increase U.S. mask production succeeded, but the government has failed to connect new suppliers with customers.

"We are forcing our health care industry to reuse sanitized N95s or even worse, wear one N95 all day long," he said.

Before the pandemic, the U.S. demand for N95s was 1.7 billion per year, with 20% for medical use, trade groups say. In 2021, demand for medical use is estimated by industry sources to be 5.7 billion.

Manufacturers like Bowen stepped in to fill the need. Still, many hospitals are restricting masks for workers while building their stockpiles over fears of a future COVID-19 surge.

Loans

Continued from Page 1A

ments for an additional six months. Eligible homeowners must have enrolled in a forbearance plan by the end of last June.

There are 11 million federal government-backed mortgages nationwide. About 2.7 million homeowners are enrolled in COVID-19 forbearance plans.

In a statement, the White House said Biden is committed to protecting homeownership and housing stability, calling the extended forbearance and foreclosure programs "an important step towards building stronger and more equitable communities."

The White House said the extended protections are in part aimed at homeowners of color, who make up a disproportionate share of those with delinquent loans or on forbearance plans.

However, Tuesday's actions did not address the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's federal moratorium on evictions for not paying rent. That moratorium is also set to expire March 31. About one-third of all Americans, roughly 107 million people, are renters.

The Biden administration has been meeting with stakeholders to assess their next steps on the eviction policy, according to a White House official who did not offer additional details.

The foreclosure and eviction prevention measures predate the Biden administration. Former President Donald Trump last extended the moratorium on federally backed foreclosures in August. Through the CDC, Trump in September initiated a four-month moratorium on evictions for renters unable to make payments.

In Biden's $1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill, which he's pushing Congress to pass in the coming weeks, the president has proposed a $10 billion Homeowners Assistance Fund that would provide states with federal assistance to help homeowners with mortgage payments and utility costs.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency, which oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, last week issued a three-month forbearance extension to borrowers nearing the end of their forbearance plans. According to the White House, the actions collectively cover 70% of existing single-family home mortgages. None apply to the 30% of mortgages that are privately owned.

More than 10 million adults live in a household that is not caught up on mortgage payments, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Officers

Continued from Page 1A

after the Dec. 22 shooting death of 47-year-old Andre Hill, an unarmed Black man, is just the 130th officer in the nation to be charged with murder, manslaughter or negligent homicide for an on-duty shooting since 2005, according to data tracked by BGSU's Police Integrity Research Group.

Mitchell, a former Columbus vice officer, was indicted in 2019 for murder in the shooting death of 23-year-old Donna Castleberry in 2018 in the backseat of his unmarked vehicle in Franklinton.

Each man is out on a $1 million bond while awaiting trial in Franklin County Common Pleas Court.

Hill's death followed months of unrest over similar police use-of-force cases around the country, and Coy's indictment has drawn national attention.

Meanwhile, county and federal prosecutors are reviewing the case of former Franklin County Sheriff's SWAT deputy Jason Meade, who fatally shot 23-year-old Casey Goodson Jr. on Dec. 4 as he returned to his grandmother's Northland home. It's unknown yet if federal or county prosecutors will present that case to a grand jury.

Stinson began tracking information about the arrests of law-enforcement officers as his master's thesis, relying on media accounts, in part because there is no governmental agency that collects the data.

His research never stopped, and is seen as providing the best available data on officer-involved shootings in the nation. In 2015, he collaborated with The Washington Post reporters on research for a series of stories on such shootings, which earned the newspaper a Pulitzer Prize.

Among his findings: Of the 96 law-enforcement officers charged in fatal, on-duty shootings whose cases have been resolved during the past 16 years, 52 officers were acquitted or had the charges dismissed and 44 officers were convicted.

Of those officers who were convicted, most were found guilty of lesser crimes. Only seven were convicted of murder.

Why are charges and convictions so rare in such cases?

"The short answer is that most on-duty fatal shootings by police officers are found to be legally justified," Stinson said. "In other words, the officer had a reasonable apprehension about an imminent threat of serious injury or death to himself of others" at the instant when the shots were fired.

"However, since we have 1,000 or so officers who shoot and kill someone in any given year and perhaps 10 or 11 are charged with murder or manslaughter, I'm left to wonder," Stinson said. "Is it possible that some of those other cases really weren't justified, that they are criminal? Because the numbers are so shocking."

Understanding the difficulty of convicting officers in fatal shootings requires knowledge of a U.S. Supreme Court decision, Graham vs. Connor, which has guided the legal analysis of officer-involved shootings for more than three decades.

"It's important for the public to know the standard by which an officer's actions are judged," said James Scanlon, a retired Columbus SWAT officer who spent 33 years with the division and has since trained officers and served as an expert witness at trials in use-of-force cases.

He called Graham vs. Connor "*the* standard" for

A protestor waits outside the Franklin County Courthouse following the initial appearance of former Columbus police officer Adam Coy. JOSHUA A. BICKEL/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

judging whether an officer's deadly-force decision is legally justified. "It's the only standard. Any training an officer has had or policy we have for deadly force is based on it."

The law, once it is explained to jurors, creates a hurdle that can be difficult for prosecutors to clear, Scanlon said.

The decision, issued in 1989, gives police officers significant leeway in the use of deadly force when they perceive that a suspect poses an an imminent threat to officers or others, and limits the second-guessing of that decision.

The ruling requires that an officer's actions be "judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight."

The court's decision, which was unanimous, created what is referred to as the "objective reasonableness" test for officers who use deadly force.

Any evaluation of an officer's actions must include an "allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving," the court found.

Even if an officer is mistaken in thinking that a suspect is armed or poses a threat, the deadly use of force is protected under the Supreme Court ruling as long as the mistaken belief can be viewed as "reasonable" by the average officer on the street.

In Adam Coy's case, body-camera video shows him shooting as Hill emerges from the darkened garage of a Northwest Side residence, where Hill was an expected guest, holding an illuminated cellphone in his raised left hand. Coy's lawyer, Mark Collins, has said Coy thought a silver key ring in Hill's right hand was a gun.

Amy Detweiler, a fellow officer who approached Hill with Coy, told investigators that Coy shouted, "There's a gun in his other hand, there's a gun in his other hand!" before firing his service weapon.

Coy was fired less than a week after the shooting. He is charged with one count of murder, one count of felonious assault and two counts of dereliction of duty, one of which was for failure to render aid to Hill after he was shot.

A written motion filed a week ago by Coy's attorneys, who successfully requested a lower bond from $3 million to $1 million to gain Coy's release, pulled language straight from Graham vs. Connor.

Even in cases where an officer kills someone who is unarmed, it isn't unusual for the officer to be acquitted or not charged at all.

Stinson's research shows that of the 52 officers nationwide whose criminal cases ended without a conviction since 2005, 65% involved victims who weren't armed with a gun or other dangerous weapon.

The increasing availability of video evidence in officer-involved shootings – from police body cameras to bystander cell-phone images – hasn't caused a noteworthy increase in officers being charged, Stinson said.

The early years of his study recorded criminal charges against officers in the single digits across the country – an average of five indictments a year from 2005-2014. Since 2015, the average is closer to 13 a year.

"The numbers have gone up a bit, but it's not statistically significant" when matched with the roughly 1,000 officers who fatally shoot someone each year, Stinson said.

"I would have hypothesized seven or eight years ago that we were going to start having 50 to 100 indictments a year because of the video evidence, and we're not seeing it," he said.

Stinson said his research has found "some cases where video evidence seems overwhelming and damning, and prosecutors still have a difficult time getting indictments."

Grand juries, like trial juries "are simply very reluctant to second-guess the decision of a police officer to use deadly force in a potentially violent street encounter."

John Eck, a criminal-justice professor at the University of Cincinnati, said more attention should be given to an officer's actions in the minutes leading up to the use of deadly force.

"We should be looking at what happened before it became a split-second decision," he said. "If you look at the series of events before (an officer-involved shooting) you may see that if the officer had done something differently five minutes earlier, the shooting could have been avoided."

Stinson said that's one of the most important goals of his research: to seek solutions and improve policing.

"Sometimes law-enforcement officers I speak to seem to forget that," he said. "They think I'm trying to embarrass them or something. We've got to learn a lot more about this data and make sense of it so we can reduce the prevalence of fatal shootings by police officers."

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

LOCAL WEATHER

AccuWeather Plan your week | Get the NEW app

TODAY
HIGH: 26
LOW: 23
Cloudy and quite cold; a bit of p.m. snow

THURSDAY
HIGH: 36
LOW: 23
Snow at times, accumulating 1-3"

FRIDAY
HIGH: 29
LOW: 4
Occasional snow and flurries, mainly later

SATURDAY
HIGH: 23
LOW: 8
Very cold with clouds and sun

SUNDAY
HIGH: 40
LOW: 35
A chance for morning snow showers

ALMANAC
Through 3 p.m. Tuesday

TEMPERATURES
High **26**
Low **18**

PRECIPITATION *(in inches)*
24 hrs ..... **0.38"**

SUN & MOON

SUN	Today	Thu.
Rise	**7:20 a.m.**	**7:19 a.m.**
Set	**6:08 p.m.**	**6:09 p.m.**

MOON	Today	Thu.
Rise	**10:23 a.m.**	**10:49 a.m.**
Set	**none**	**12:06 a.m.**

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
Feb 19	Feb 27	Mar 5	Mar 13

NATIONAL EXTREMES
48 contiguous states Tuesday

HIGH TEMPERATURE
West Palm Beach, FL ..... **87°**

LOW TEMPERATURE
Ely, MN ..... **-46°**

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

BIBLE DIGEST

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice." (Proverbs 12:15 ESV) None of us has all the answers. Let's seek Godly counsel from Godly people.

LOTTERIES

(Drawings: Feb. 16)
Pick 3 (early): 6 9 0
Pick 4 (early): 2 4 5 1
Pick 5 (early): 6 8 8 0 5

(Drawings: Feb. 15)
Pick 3 (late): 5 0 3
Pick 4 (late): 4 6 9 1
Pick 5 (late): 9 7 6 6 6
Rolling Cash 5: 8 15 20 27 29
Classic Lotto: 10 16 17 25 46 49
Wednesday's jackpot is $4.6 million.

CRIME REPORTS

Coshocton County Sheriff's Office

Coshocton Justice Center

Feb. 16
Total inmates, 44; males, 28 and females, 16.

West Lafayette Police Department

Complaints

Feb. 15
Harassment in the 100 block of South Oak Street.
Telephone harassment in the 700 block of Plainfield Road.

Newcomerstown Police Department

Complaints

Feb. 13
Noise complaint on Spaulding Avenue.
Unwanted person on South College Street.
Loud music on Poplar Street.
Feb. 12
Two reports of threats on West Church Street.
Unruly juvenile on Beaver Street.

Ash

Continued from Page 1A

The Rev. Karen Crawford of the Presbyterian Church said they will have a hybrid service at 7 p.m., featuring in-person and Zoom attendance. She said it will be the first time in her 10 years as an ordained minister that she won't be doing the imposition of ashes on people's foreheads. She said ashes will be present as a symbol and most of the service will be about the same as years past. Communion will be through sealed, disposable cups and wafer packs placed in pews.

Crawford said the church returned to in-person services on Sunday for the first time since the pandemic started. Everyone wore masks, except those speaking at the pulpit, and pews had ribbons keeping people apart.

"The fellowship will still be sweet. Although we can't see one another smiling, it's just wonderful to be able to see one another and be fully present together as we worship the Lord and are equipped for ministry by the Spirit," Crawford said. "We won't take for granted the gathering of God's people on the Lord's Day ever again. This whole experience has made me truly grateful for my church family, my church building and my salvation by grace."

Deacon Doug Mould of Sacred Heart Catholic Church said their in-person services have been conducted much the same way. They've also used the pandemic to perform much needed renovations to the sanctuary, which should be completed in the next four months. It includes a new paint scheme, taking up carpet in favor of hardwood floors and other work.

Mould said attendance was down about 50 percent from a year ago. Many have returned to the church, but others haven't and he continues to reach out to those individuals. He sends out weekly emails detailing different faith aspects and what's happening in the church.

"There are a lot of people who rely on the mass for worship and they have a huge desire to participate. Many of those have been coming back, sometimes on a daily basis, sometimes on a Sunday basis," Mould said. "What disturbs me is when I hear reports of 'we can just worship at home and this is going to be fine.' That's not the way church is supposed to be. It's a community and we're supposed to be together and worshiping as one as the body of Christ. Gathering together is essential for our Sunday worship."

Prior to today, what Ash Wednesday services would be like at Sacred Heart was up in the air. Father Victor Wesolowki is off for medical reasons and Mould said a substitute priest has been requested from the Columbus Diocese to conduct mass. Regardless, scripture readings will still be held and they will be doing the sprinkling of ashes method. He said their will be a blessing beforehand and nobody has to accept the ashes if they don't wish.

Deacon Doug Mould of Sacred Heart points out elements of an artist's rendering of what the sanctuary will look like following renovations being conducted during the pandemic. They should be finished in four months. LEONARD HAYHURST/TRIBUNE

"While that doesn't have the same impact as the ashes and the physical touching, we hope the blessing will suffice for them," Mould said.

Ashes for Sacred Heart comes from the burning of palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday services. Some churches get ashes that way and others purchase ashes through a company. Mould said the tradition comes from the Book of Genesis and Adam and Eve being cast out of the Garden of Eden.

"God told Adam, 'remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.' So, death is the ultimate punishment for their sin, for their fall. We are reminded because of that, we are all mortal and we will return to the earth. So, the ashes are the best symbol of that," Mould said. "With the ashes being kind of a gritty substance, when we have it placed on our forehead, we can kind of feel the impact of that, to remind us of our mortality."

Lent is a season of penance that leads up to Good Friday, when Jesus was crucified on the cross, and Easter Sunday, honoring his resurrection. Lent is movable on the calendar, but is always 40 days, linked to the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness.

Mould said it's a period for believers to prepare and discipline themselves through acts of penance, palms, prayer and fasting.

"And to unite ourselves with that ultimate sacrifice of Christ on the cross," he added. "It all leads to and points to Easter Sunday."

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Snow

Continued from Page 1A

ing home delivered meals or food pick-up and the Coshocton Public Library and the West Lafayette branch not opening until 1 p.m.

The National Weather Service in Pittsburgh said Wednesday should be mostly cloudy with a high temperature near 25 degrees. There will be a chance of snow after 1 a.m. Thursday with snow mixed with rain and freezing rain throughout Thursday. Snow showers are likely in the evening until about 1 a.m. Friday. Friday should be mostly cloudy and cold with a high temperature near 27 degrees.

NWS on Tuesday was not calling for much more additional accumulation, but other outlets like AccuWeather were calling for another possible 2 to 4 inches of snow on Thursday. Some forecasts on Monday said Thursday's event was going to be another 4 to 8 inches of snow.

Rob McMasters, executive director of the Coshocton County Emergency Management Agency, said the new system like the previous one is looking to be fairly unpredictable. As of late Tuesday morning, he had not seen snow totals for the area, but knew it was much less than the 7 to 9 inches predicted and there was more ice than had been forecast.

For any snow event, McMasters cautions drivers to only be out if they have to and for people to have an emergency supply kit assembled if needed, such as if heavy snow on power lines causes electricity to go out. He said such a kit should contain a gallon of water per person per day, nonperishable food and blankets. Generators should also not be used indoors as the carbon monoxide exhaust can be deadly.

"Just be prepared for those bad weather situations. It's not uncommon for winter weather to cause power outages," he said.

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Another winter storm moving into the area on Thursday is looking unpredictable with some forecasts predicting 2 to 4 inches of snow and ice with others calling for less. At this time, it's looking to be less than what was originally predicted and less than the last storm. JUDD BONE/FOR THE TRIBUNE

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Rose

Continued from Page 1A

and leaving.

The sheriff's office noted there had been several Facebook posts of similar instances happening in Ohio regarding human trafficking related techniques, but it was unsure if that was the case here. It had also contacted surrounding law enforcement agencies and none had reports of any similar incidents on the day.

After the release was seen by people on social media, the sheriff's office received a call from a Coshocton County resident taking responsibility for the incident who said they only had good, harmless intentions in mind.

They had received the flowers as a Valentine's Day gift and instead of throwing them away after beginning to wilt, they decided to pass on the love by leaving them for someone else to enjoy. They said they never meant to alarm anyone or cause any panic in the community. The sheriff's office said it was able to verify the story and have updated the Walmart security department of the outcome.

The sheriff's office thanks everyone for sharing the original post and getting the information out for others to see. It still advises citizens to stay vigilant and remain aware of their surroundings at all times and to report any suspicious activity one may encounter.

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Postal information
Coshocton Tribune, USPS #133-700, ISSN #1095-8266, is published Monday through Sunday at 1100 Fairy Falls Drive, Unit 1, Coshocton, OH 43812. Periodicals postage paid at Coshocton, OH 43812.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 62670, San Angelo, TX 76906.

OUR WEATHER

AccuWeather Plan your week | Get the NEW app

TODAY'S FORECAST

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING	TONIGHT
COLD	COLD		
4°	22°	17°	19°

Some sun, then cloudy and very cold today. A little snow at times with little or no accumulation tonight.
High 22° / Low 17°

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28° 22°	27° 9°	23° 8°	33° 32°
Chilly with periods of snow, 1-3"	Very cold with periods of snow	Mostly cloudy and very cold	Not as cold with snow showers possible

ALMANAC

Lorain County Airport through 6 p.m. yesterday.

Temperature		Precipitation	
High	21°	24 hours ending 6 p.m.	0.73"
Low	14°	Month to date	1.06"
Normal high	40°	Normal month to date	1.26"
Normal low	23°	Year to date	2.47"
Last year's high	39°	Last year to date	4.53"
Last year's low	30°	Normal year to date	3.84"

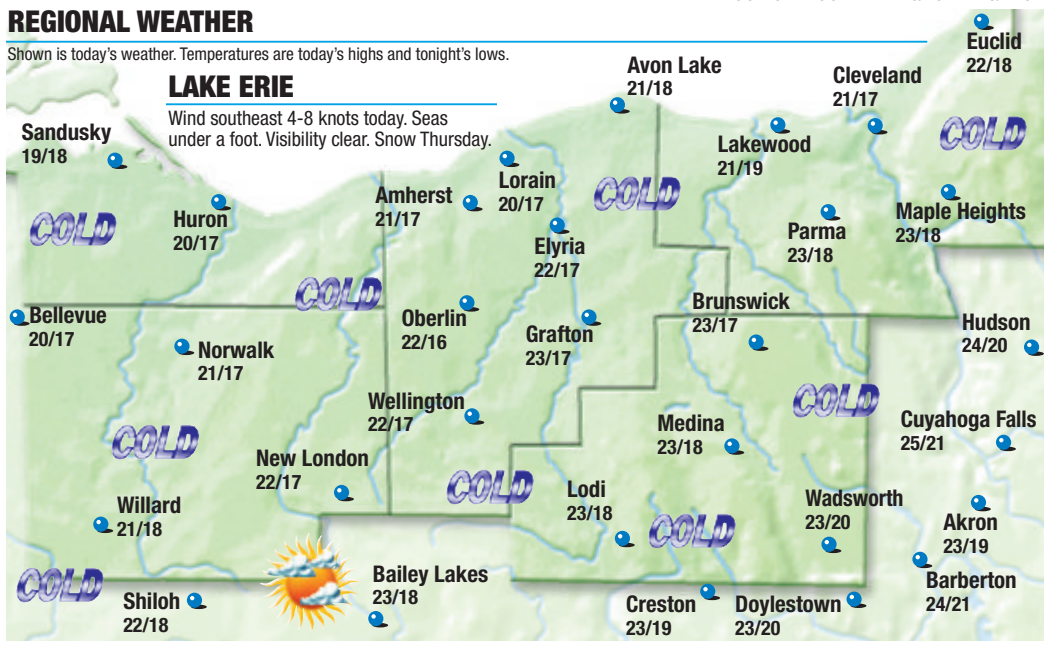
SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:21 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:05 p.m.
Moonrise today	10:20 a.m.
Moonset today	none

First	Full	Last	New
Feb 19	Feb 27	Mar 5	Mar 13

REGIONAL WEATHER

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



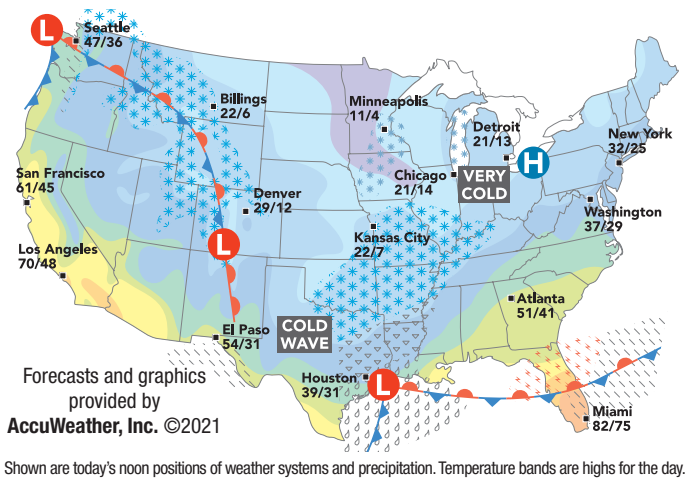
RESORT CITIES

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tom. Hi	Lo	W
Aspen	25	8	sn	26	7	pc
Cancun	85	77	pc	86	74	pc
Daytona Beach	70	63	sh	82	65	pc
Honolulu	81	71	c	80	70	sh
Jacksonville	58	52	sh	81	59	t
Key West	82	76	s	82	75	s
Las Vegas	58	40	s	57	40	s
Miami	82	75	pc	85	75	pc
Montego Bay	83	73	pc	84	74	pc
Myrtle Beach	50	47	pc	59	45	t
Nassau	82	73	pc	83	73	pc
Oranjestad, Aruba	86	77	pc	84	76	pc
Orlando	75	67	sh	84	68	pc
Palm Springs	71	48	s	71	47	s
Puerto Vallarta	73	60	pc	75	56	s
Punta Cana, DR	83	75	pc	84	74	pc
Rio de Janeiro	86	76	t	84	75	t
San Juan, PR	83	74	sh	84	73	sh
Tahiti	85	75	sh	84	75	c
Tampa	75	69	r	81	67	s

WORLD CITIES

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tom. Hi	Lo	W
Athens	47	39	pc	56	43	s
Amsterdam	50	43	sh	53	40	r
Baghdad	70	47	sh	60	41	s
Beijing	37	10	s	42	15	s
Beirut	53	47	r	55	51	sh
Berlin	43	37	sh	47	37	pc
Buenos Aires	79	66	pc	85	71	s
Cairo	54	48	pc	60	51	pc
Calgary	22	2	pc	26	15	pc
Dublin	49	38	pc	47	40	pc
Hong Kong	74	60	s	69	60	s
Jerusalem	40	38	sh	45	42	sh
Lisbon	62	54	pc	61	53	sh
London	52	47	r	51	40	r
Madrid	61	38	pc	59	42	pc
Mexico City	74	45	pc	76	42	s
Montreal	16	5	s	23	15	pc
Moscow	19	0	c	9	-5	s
New Delhi	79	54	pc	80	55	pc
Paris	54	44	pc	57	39	r
Rome	56	38	sh	59	42	s
Seoul	25	15	pc	34	20	pc
Singapore	88	75	pc	88	76	pc
Sydney	75	66	pc	76	69	sh
Tokyo	54	35	pc	46	36	s
Toronto	25	13	pc	26	19	c
Warsaw	33	17	sn	25	14	s

NATIONAL WEATHER



Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Showers | T-storms | Rain | Flurries | Snow | Ice | Cold Front | Warm Front | Stationary

-10s | -0s | 0s | 10s | 20s | 30s | 40s | 50s | 60s | 70s | 80s | 90s | 100s | 110s

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tom. Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	51	41	pc	47	35	sh
Atlantic City	35	23	s	37	35	sn
Baltimore	36	28	s	33	31	sn
Birmingham	49	39	pc	46	27	sh
Boise	37	19	pc	38	31	s
Boston	31	21	s	30	28	sn
Charleston, SC	55	47	pc	68	48	t
Charleston, WV	32	29	c	37	27	r
Chicago	21	14	c	26	12	sn
Cincinnati	24	21	sn	30	15	sn
Columbus	24	21	sn	32	18	sn
Dallas	27	20	sn	31	14	c
Denver	29	12	sn	31	14	pc
Des Moines	14	3	c	16	1	pc
Detroit	21	13	pc	27	18	sn
El Paso	54	31	pc	48	27	s
Erie	22	17	pc	30	23	sn
Fairbanks	17	-1	pc	8	-25	sn
Houston	39	31	i	38	24	c
Huntington, WV	30	27	c	35	23	sn
Indianapolis	21	16	sn	26	7	sn
Kansas City	22	7	sn	21	3	pc
Little Rock	24	22	sn	33	15	sn
Los Angeles	70	48	s	68	48	s
Louisville	28	24	sn	33	15	sn

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Tom. Hi	Lo	W
Memphis	27	24	sn	29	15	sn
Milwaukee	23	16	c	26	13	c
Minneapolis	11	4	sn	16	0	pc
Nashville	35	30	c	35	18	sn
New Orleans	60	45	sh	49	34	c
New York City	32	25	s	30	29	sn
Norfolk	37	33	s	43	38	r
Oklahoma City	22	8	sn	23	3	pc
Omaha	13	1	c	16	5	pc
Philadelphia	33	26	s	32	30	sn
Phoenix	66	44	s	66	43	s
Pittsburgh	24	21	pc	30	24	sn
Portland, OR	48	36	c	43	39	sh
Providence	33	22	s	29	28	sn
Raleigh	46	30	pc	37	37	r
St. Louis	20	11	sn	23	5	c
Salt Lake City	35	23	sn	36	28	c
San Diego	65	49	s	69	48	s
San Francisco	61	45	s	61	52	pc
Santa Fe	33	13	c	33	11	pc
Seattle	47	36	c	44	41	r
Toledo	19	13	pc	26	14	sn
Topeka	22	6	sn	21	5	pc
Tucson	62	34	s	61	38	s
Washington, DC	37	29	s	36	31	sn

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice.

Storm blamed for vaccine shipment delays in Ohio

John Seewer
The Associated Press

TOLEDO — Heavy snow and a coating of sleet and ice shut down several COVID-19 vaccination sites in Ohio on Tuesday. Some shipments of the vaccine could be delayed a day or two because of the weather.

Hospitals and health clinics in Toledo, Dayton and Columbus and several counties in western Ohio canceled their COVID-19 vaccination appointments on Tuesday and were rescheduling the shots.

In the Columbus area, appointments were being rescheduled for Wednesday or Thursday for more than 600 older adults who had been slated to get a second dose through Franklin County Public Health.

"We know it was an inconvenience for folks today ... but we just didn't want to risk them being out in the weather," said spokeswoman Mitzi Kline.

The rescheduling won't affect other appointments this week, she said.

This week's winter storm has delayed shipments of some doses of the vaccine, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine said Tuesday as he also suggested an online scheduling tool for Ohioans still isn't ready to roll out.

Coronavirus vaccines sent directly to providers would be slowed by one or two days, DeWine said.

Doses that the state repackages and sends to smaller distributors are being made on a two-hour delay.

The weather will "slow down for at least a little while the number of people who can be vaccinated in Ohio," DeWine said.

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Don Rutledge

LOIS HEMMING

Lois Hemming celebrates 102 years

Lois Hemming of Carrollton, who was born when Canton Native William McKinley was the 25th President of the United States, observed her 102nd birthday on Saturday, Feb. 13.

She is shown sitting in one of her favorite chairs, reading a handful of congratulatory letters and cards. The photo was taken while Mrs. Hemming was "chatting" on the phone with a well wisher! Congratulations Lois and many more.

Senior menus

Feb. 22-26

Carrollton Friendship Center
Malvern Nutrition Site
Sherrodsville Lions Club

Lunch pick up time at 10:30 a.m. daily at Carrollton, Malvern and Sherrodsville via drive-thru only. Cost is $2. For all reservations, call the Friendship Center a 330-627-7017 before 8:30 a.m.

Monday – Chicken stir-fry over rice, egg roll, pineapple, Fortune cookie, bread/margarine.

Tuesday – Chili, hot dog, banana, coleslaw, juice, crackers.

Wednesday – Ham & cheese omelet, potato O'Brien, warm cinnamon apples, juice, English muffin/margarine.

Thursday – Swedish meatball, mashed potatoes, green beans, tropical fruit, bread/margarine.

Friday – Macaroni & cheese, peas, warm cherries, perfection salad, bread/margarine.

Minerva Senior Center Menu

Monday – Gourmet pork chops, baked potato, Plentiful P's salad, cherry cheesecake.

Tuesday – Lasagna, garlic bread, tossed salad, fruit salad.

Wednesday – Pork roast (plain or BBQ), roasted red potatoes w/rosemary, vegetable bowtie salad, peaches.

Thursday – Baked steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, seven vegetable salad, cake.

Friday –Heilman's parmesan crusted chicken, rice pilaf, honey mustard coleslaw, Ambrosia.

Meals are curbside pickup only. Pickup hours are 4:15-5:30 p.m. daily. Remain in your car and follow the pickup path.

Call the Senior Center at 330-868-6004 by noon on the day you plan to attend.

Events Calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

FREE CLOTHING giveaway to anyone who needs it every 3rd Saturday of the month at the Dellroy Church of the Nazarene from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Anyone welcome.

BLUE CREW Prayer Walk in Dellroy every other Wednesday at 6 p.m. Check Christ Community Church calendar at loveled.org or Facebook posts for specific Prayer Walks. Have a prayer request? Contact 330-735-2127 or cccmsa@loveled.org.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT Group at The Friendship Center, 100 Kensington Rd. NE, from 2-4 p.m. (usually) every 3rd Monday of each month. For more info. call Pat Lake, RN at 800-945-4250 ext. 4901.

FREE COMMUNITY Blessings Dinner at Perry Twp. Hall, sponsored by Perrysville & Pleasant Hill UMC's. This is a DRIVE-THRU only dinner. There will be no dinner in Jan. or Feb. Meals resume again March 31, 2021. If you need assistance in the off-months of Jan & Feb., call Pastor Dixie at 330-663-3202, Liz at 330-904-1369 or Sandy at 330-323-8265.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE MUSIC FOR Meals – Senior Music Night at C.C. Friendship Center, 100 Kensington Rd. NE, every Wednesday from 6-9 p.m. Open mic & dancing. Coffee and punch are provided. Donations accepted. Donations received will be used for Meals on Wheels. For more info., call Tonya at 330-627-7017.

WOOD CARVERS classes at the Carroll County Arts Center every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6-8 p.m.

SWEET PICKIN'S Dulcimer classes at the Carroll County Arts Center every 2nd Tuesday of the month. No charge. Dulcimers available to use. Classes upstairs.

THIS WEEK EVENTS

RIBS at the Carroll Co. Vet's Club, 2038 Brenner Rd. NE, Feb. 19 from 5-8 p.m. Open to the public.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CRAB LEGS at the Carroll Co. Vet's Club, 2038 Brenner Rd. NE, Feb. 26 from 5-8 p.m. Open to the public.

OIL PAINTING adult class with Scott Taggart at Carroll Co. Arts Center, Feb. 27, at 1 p.m. Theme is "Covered Bridge".

Sherry's Book Corner

Hello everyone! I hope all of you have a great day today because I am... it's my birthday! How about that!

Hard to believe I am 68 today. I wish my mom and dad could be here to help us celebrate and our son, Kyle. But I know where they are, in my heart, and that's what counts! As I sit and reflect on my past, I can still say one of the loves of my life is the beauty of nature. I guess it always will be.

Even though I can't write this outside right now, I am sitting near my sliding glass door with the sun sharing its warmth through the glass at my feet. I must say, I have been blessed with many good years. Our Heavenly Father has been kind to me and my family. He is the light in my life. I'd like to share one of my favorite scriptures with you, 'Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.' (Psalms 73:25) Maybe we have that verse in common!

Since Daylight Savings Time begins March 14, we still have many dark hours in which we can read. This was a hard book to put down. It's that good! So to speak, it kept me on the edge of my seat. I think you'll agree. I like this author's style of writing. I am going to read more of her books. Maybe you'll do the same.

I just thought of this, dear friends, the gift of reading is another favorite. Where would we be without the world of books that we can read and cherish. And, pass on to others.

Until next time, sit back, and enjoy the gift of reading!

Your friend,
Sherry
Sherry Kline Bolitho

Submitted

Adult Book
Title: Blind Search
Author: Paula Munier
Publisher: St. Martin's Press
Price: $7.99
Available at the Carroll County District Library

Mercy Carr is a former Army Military Police. Her bomb-sniffing dog, Elvis is also retired. Inspired by the true search-and-rescue case of an autistic boy who got lost in the Vermont wilderness, author Paula Munier's mystery is a compelling roller coaster ride through the worst of a surprise blizzard and human nature.

October in the Green Mountains has never been more beautiful. It's hunting season and nine-year-old Henry is lost in the woods, again. Mercy and Elvis team up with game warden Troy Warner and his search-and-rescue dog, Susie Bear. When a young woman is found shot through the heart with a fatal arrow, will they find Henry the same way?

Carroll County library offers take-home activities

Winter blahs got you down? The Carroll County District Library can help.

In spite of not being able to have in-person programs, the library has various take-home activities that can help with the dreariness. It has a Valentine-themed take home craft that is now available for pickup.

Bookmobile patrons may also be able to get a craft bag on the bookmobile. Also available will be a small packet of puzzles (hidden pictures, word search, maze).

For the book display, the library will be featuring the very popular Love Inspired paperback books.

There are three new book discussion books available for check out. They are as follows: "The Dearly Beloved" by Cara Wall for the As the Page Turns book club; "Hems and Homicide" by Elizabeth Penny for The Usual Suspects (cozy mysteries) book club; and " Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole for the Classy Readers (those who enjoy classics) book club. Each book has an evaluation with two sections. Patrons have their choice of filling out one or both sections of the evaluation. Since we cannot meet in person, the form serves as attendance for the book discussion group.

Finally, as a reminder, the book sale (by donation only) is ongoing. There are new books added to the sale every week. The staff looks forward to seeing you.

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BF-00504924

Middlefield Village

Council Asks Attorney General to Collect Tardy Debts

By Ann Wishart
ann@geaugamapleleaf.com

Middlefield Village Council voted unanimously Feb. 12 to enter into an agreement with Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's office to collect income taxes owed to the village.

Under such an agreement, if an individual or a business is in arrears or on a payment plan with the village and has failed to make those payments, the attorney general's office has ways to collect those debts for the village, said Administrator Leslie Gambosi-McCoy during the virtual meeting.

According to a 2012 news release from then-Attorney General Mike DeWine, the Local Government Collections Services Program will help local governments collect debts owed to them.

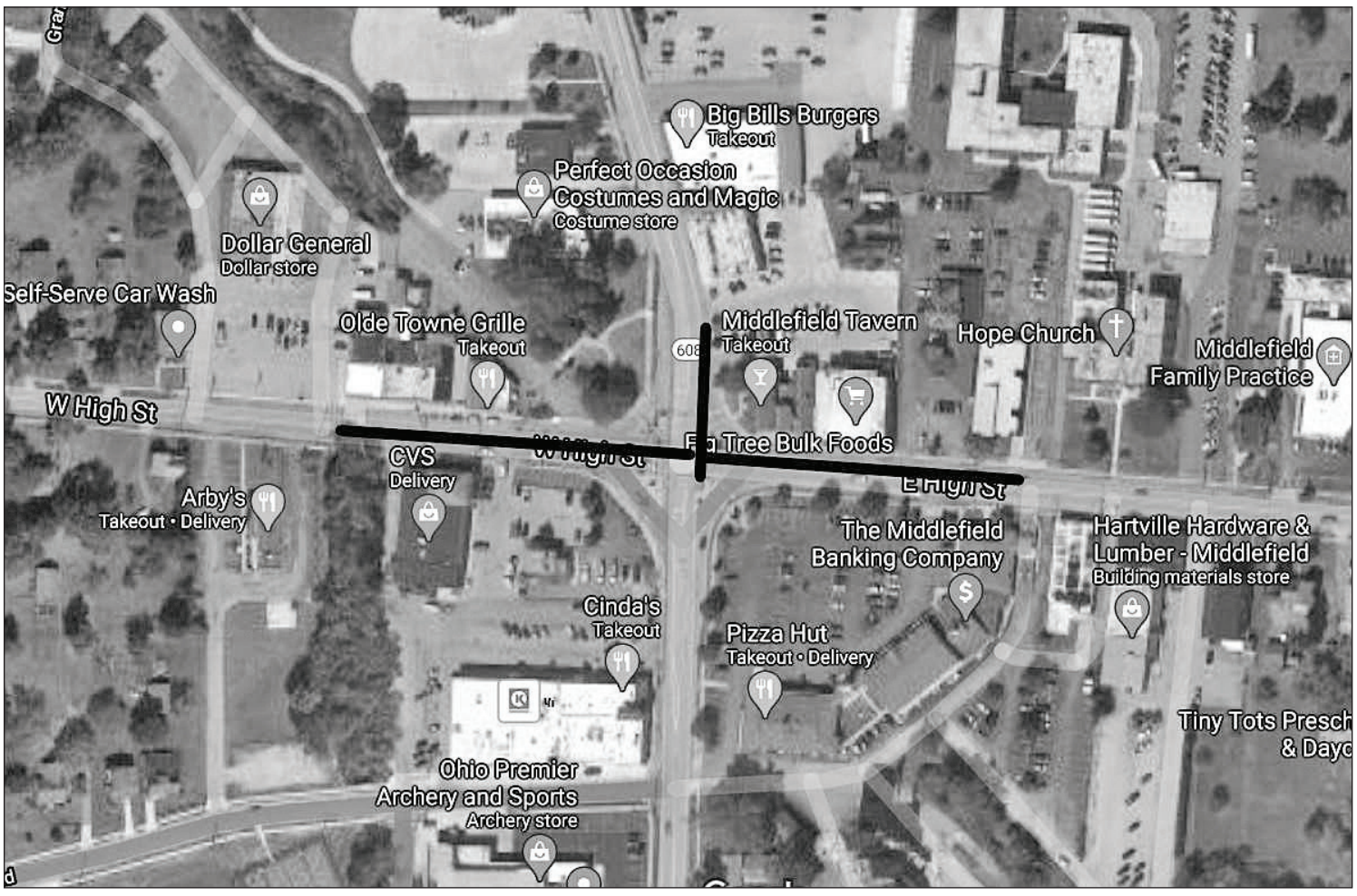
The office serves as the chief collection agent for all state agencies, boards, commissions and universities. A change in the state law about the time of the press release includes local governments.

"The Local Government Collections Services Program will allow local governments across Ohio to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the attorney general's Office to collect debt they are owed," it read. "The debt must be final and greater than $100. Examples of debt that can be collected under the program include statutory fines and court costs. Utilizing the program can allow local governments to offset a debtor's state tax refund or lottery winnings to recover the debt owed."

Creating an MOU and asking the state to collect income tax revenue owed to the village will not use taxpayer funds.

"Because the program is funded by collection costs passed to the debtor, the program will bear no additional cost to the general revenue fund or Ohio taxpayers," the release concluded.

The ordinance for an MOU was passed on the first reading as an emergency measure.



SUBMITTED

Middlefield Village Council discussed on Feb. 11 amending the parking ordinance to limit parking in the areas along the black lines to two hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. except Sundays.

Council also discussed amending an ordinance restricting on-street parking to two hours between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. for several locations in the village.

The restrictions, first discussed at the Jan. 14 meeting, include the area along state Route 87 in front of Old Town Grille to the Happy Hand Shop and along North State Street in front of the Good News to Big Bills Burgers.

Mayor Ben Garlich said the village needs permission to post the signs in front of the businesses before the ordinance is passed.

At the previous meeting, the need was discussed because individuals who live in nearby apartments would leave their vehicles parked on the street 24/7, which resulted in customers visiting the businesses at those locations having to park at a distance.

During department reports, village Service Director Joe Tucholski said the road department has had a hard time keeping up with plowing and salting the village streets.

"This winter had been very difficult," he said. Although there has not been a lot of snow, every time a quarter of an inch falls overnight, plow drivers start plowing a 2 a.m. or 3 a.m. to make the roads safe.

"It takes five hours to hit every road in the village," he said, adding while it is cheaper to just plow the roads, salt is essential or traffic coming into the village in the morning will be driving on ice until sunrise.

"Once the sun pops out, everything thaws real fast," he said.

Kenston

from page 1

"It is encouraged by the Ohio Department of Education that any time there are significant changes to our revenue and/or expenditures, that we should do another five-year forecast, before approval obviously, and then submit it to the Ohio Department of Education," Pestello said.

The treasurer said even though the $181,000 given back to the district was not significant enough to change the forecast, he had been "extremely conservative" with the state foundation funding.

Pestello reduced the estimate of the funding this year by 17 percent over last year's estimate, he said.

"(It came out) to be slightly more than $2.9 million and we are on pace to receive about $3.8 million, so there's about $850,000," he said. "Additionally, we received from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation a dividend check that all employers of the State of Ohio received in December and our share of that dividend was just slightly more than $550,000."

The treasurer noted the dividend check is "a one-time situation" and not something the district should anticipate receiving every year.

"In November, the Bureau of Workers' Compensation, as part of their eight million dollar giveback to employers of the State of Ohio, refunded our district along with all other employers their 2019 policy premium. In our case, (it) was just slightly less than $150,000," he said.

Pestello also noted property taxes are now higher in the communities with students who attend Kenston Schools.

"Our current tax collections are running ahead of what we anticipated because of conservative forecasting and everything that is going (on) with COVID, we were encouraged by our county auditor's office to project less real estate taxes than we normally would in a non-COVID year," he said.

Pestello added, however, despite the updated forecast putting the district in a better situation, a tax levy is still necessary in May.

"I do want to stress, and emphasize to you, that even though the bottom line has improved, in fiscal year of '21, and then obviously in those forecasted years extending out, it does not change our trajectory related to the need to be on the ballot for additional revenue, additional real estate dollars, related to a tax levy that is on the ballot here in May," he said.

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Correspondence

BOWERSTON
By Mary Anna Cotter

Thanks to all of those who plowed and shoveled the recent snows.

The C.V. girls basketball team lost to East Canton 44-27 and to Newcomerstown 51-26 with only four girls eligible to play. Thanks for all you do to keep us going. Emily Siedel has been the high scorer.

The boys C.V. team beat Beallsville, and lost to Toronto 69-46 and Indian Valley 71-35.

The girls bowling team won the Division II sectional tourney at St. Clairsville while the boys lost their game. Conotton Valley commencement is scheduled for May 2 this year.

FREEPORT
By Deb Milligan

Good morning-keep warm and wear your mask.

Happy Birthday-Greg Fritter, Kevin Milligan, Shirley Wells, Mitch Koch, Tim Bear, and Renee Dunlap.

Members of the Lakeland Academy School Board met February 10th for their organizational meeting.

Reminder-Delinquent water bills can be paid by mail to Village of Freeport, PO Box 176, or dropped in a secure box on the door at village hall.

Freeport Friends 4-H Club held their 1st meeting of the year on Feb. 7 at the Tippecanoe Methodist Church. Elected new officers were President-Taylor Bardall, Vice President-Grayden Sproull, Secretary-Hunter Fisher, Treasurer-Taylor Cope, Health-Lexi Stine, Safety-Bristol Tipton, and recreation-Justin Cagot.

Members decided on t-shirts and hoodies for the new 4-H year along with enrollment and projects for the booth at the county fair. Refreshments were served of pizza, chip, and drinks by Bristol & Lexi. Next meeting will be March 31.

Cancer Benefit for Timmy Stine: A local benefit will be held for Timmy Stine, who has Stage 4 Adenocarcinoma, due to treatments, he is no longer able to work. The benefit will be a chicken dinner on Feb. 20. A chicken dinner for $12 will start at 2 p.m. until chickens are gone, Due to COVID it will be a drive thru to pick-up. Donations and 50-50 tickets can be dropped off at Bardall Hardware Store in Freeport. There will be an online Facebook auction items along with a raffle.

Lift up in prayer - Mindy Ripley, Arlene Hyde, Bryan Sayre, Sam Brindley, all those with COVID, and everyone who are working to keep our roads open.

Tri County 4-H Club met January 17th with guest speaker Caity Romshak, the 4-H educator for Harrison County who spoke about the upcoming Harrison County Fair, judging and asked if anyone is interested in joining shoot sports.

New officers were elected as follows President-Kolt Hyde, Vice President-Lauren Doane, Secretary-Mallorie Dean, Treasurer-Kendra DeWees, Health Officer-Sophia Kaurich, Safety Officer-Emily Luyster, Reaction-Lance Smith, and Facebook coordinator-Gracie Rogers.

Parents of the Tri-County Showstoppers are raffling a Mossberg 350 Legend Rifle. Tickets are $5 each and the drawing will be held on March 28. Next meeting will be Feb. 21 at 5 p.m.

Congratulations to brothers Jackson and Clayton Bardall, grandsons of Charlie and Marty Bardall of Freeport, opposed one another on the gridiron when the Eastern Kentucky Colonels hosted Western Carolina Catamounts in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl in Richmond, Kentucky.

Jackson Bardall, a redshirt senior right guard for Eastern Kentucky, and younger brother Clayton, a redshirt sophomore tight end for Western Carolina were captains for the respective teams, meeting at midfield for the coin toss.

Clayton won the coin toss, but Jackson claimed the bragging rights as Eastern Kentucky had scoring plays of 94, 69, 63, and 66 yards on its way to beating Western Carolina 49-17, in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl at Roy Kidd Stadium.

Their father Brad was a graduate of Lakeland High School and their mother Rachael was given the coin toss coin. They reside in Cumming, Georgia.

Hope everyone had a Happy Valentines Day.

The Raider Valentine's Weekend had a special menu for couples or families and good music along with photos were enjoyed.

The community extends its sympathy to Jeanie Stewart on the loss of her brother Graydon "Russell" Taggart, 73 of Dennison, and to Mitchell McClintock, Sr., on the loss of his wife, Diana McClintock, 72 of Holloway.

Freeport Sportsman Club will sponsor a Coyote Tournament March 5, 6, & 7. You can sign up at Woodland Outdoors between Freeport and Tippecanoe on Friday March 5 from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. Weigh In will be at Woodland Outdoors at noon on Sunday. For more information call Rob Laporte at 330-340-8224.

Four Seasons Garden Club will meet Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. at the home of Sharon Gump.

Life up in your prayers-Marlene Bardall, Shirley Rogers, Clark Howell, Gary Piatt, Sam and Holly Brindley.

SMITHFIELD
BY ESTHER MCCOY

As I started this column on Monday evening, the picture window in the living room was turning into a beautiful design of ice. It looked even better when a car passed and the light shone into the house.in many shapes. It was not so pretty when Lamont had to go out and beat huge icicles from the edge of the house for fear someone would get hurt. And there could be no sledding on this surface of ice. You could not guide the sled. And how did your Monday start?

I like the story Linda Griffith had on Facebook about the wedding day that she and her husband-to-be encountered. It was a snowy day just like that this Feb. 14 when their son, Steve's 42 cows decided to slip out the door that was safe to wander down despite a slight glaze of ice from the milking barn. This 2020-day, saw Linda trying to round up the cows and drive them back into the barn with her car. Fifty-one years ago, her husband-to-be had to drive his cows in before he could make it to his own wedding. It seems that what goes around comes back around, doesn't it? ."I miss you and you are still my Valentine," she wrote.

We have had some long established anniversaries. Tom and Mary Jean Price Gibbons were married 60 years on Valentine's Day.

Shirley Fisher Griesbaum, class of 1951, wrote a letter in 2020 to tell that she had been unaware that Richard McElroy had passed away when she wrote to order a copy of "Spartan of the Ohio Valley," about Mrs. Foster a SHS teacher for many years.. He received her letter at an earlier time and said that he looked Shirley up in the yearbook to familiarize himself with her. Since death crossed the mail, she had received a very kind but sad reply from Pam McElroy telling of his death in late January.

Merril Welday Fisher wrote to say that she enjoyed reading the Smithfield Newsletter. "I would love to hear from anyone who might remember me," she wrote. So much for Smithfield High School .It is gone but not forgotten.

Beverly Francisco Balash received a great Christmas gift from her daughter, Michelle, a two-week trip to Italy for her and younger sister, Linda. Bev's family lived across the street from us and we were all a happy gang of youngsters in our younger years.. There was no fighting, well maybe a bit but mostly we all got along. Those truly were the happy days.

My neice, Nola Toth, will be celebrating a birthday on Feb. 24 I'm not sure if it is 10 or 11-years. My brother Don would have been 82 on Feb. 27. He passed away on Dec. 23 and is sadly missed.

SCIO
By Ina Marks

I want to congratulate Marge Findley on her retirement after 30 years serving the Harrison County Board of Elections. Thank you Marge for your dedication. You will be greatly missed. But enjoy your retirement.

A special Happy 90th Birthday goes to Alice Moore a friend that lives next-door to me have many more and enjoy your day. And to all others celebrating.

Prayers and best wishes to all that are ill, shut-ins and always remember their caregivers. They are a very blessing to have. Bless all.

Sympathy and prayers goes to all family and friends who have lost loved ones. Bless all. RIP.

We have had enough snow would you agree. Thanks to all the folks for being here when I need. Bless You. Have a Blessed week.

JEWETT/CADIZ
By Ruby Foutz

Did everyone enjoy dinner or time with their Valentine? Isn't it nice to have a day thrown in your month for time alone with your sweetheart? Hope you had a great day.

Congratulations to Marjorie Findling on her retirement from the Harrison County Board of Elections (over 30 years).

Best wishes to you.

County remains red despite lower COVID cases. Continue to protect yourself as much as you can.

Congratulations and best wishes to Carlee Jo Bailey & Jacob Lee Kerwood and Kara Anne VanDyke & Bryan Alan on their applications for marriage.

Prayers and get well wishes to Bob & Mariam Addy, Mike & JoAnn White, Joyce Dowdle, Dale Norris, and anyone that has the flu, just not feeling well, or COVID. We hope you're well soon. Please pray for our nation, ones that have lost their electricity, homes etc. in the different states.

Happy Birthday wishes and many more to Bernie Wilson, Kelly E. Love, Donna Thompson, Terry Thompson, and my dear friend Ina Marks.

Deepest sympathy and prayers to the following families: Rea E. Brindley 87 Cadiz; Richard Wallace "Dick" Ankrom 81 Scio; Margaret "Marge" Barrett 90 Cadiz; Grayden Russell Taggart 73 Cadiz; and Cecil Roy Warner 75 Cadiz. They will be missed.

Scripture for today: Ezekiel 36:22-32 - A Spirit-Filled Heart (especially Ezekiel 36:26). Continue to study God's word. God bless you all, Rev. Dr. Ruby Foutz 740 946-2925.

NEW RUMLEY
By Donna Jean Haney

Tuesday February 23, 12 Noon The Fellowship Girls will have lunch at The Scio restaurant.

Tuesday March, 2, 12 Noon The New Rumley Schoolmates will have lunch at The Scio Restaurant. If you attended New Rumley School come and join us.

Happy birthday to Diane Pyles, Richard Beatty, Hunter Kuzak, Ina Marks.

Good News

By Pastor Ken Staley:
Pleasant Grove & Harrisville United Methodist Churches

How to be Blessed

Numerous times in the Gospels Jesus is said to have compassion on the multitudes. Not surprising, this is actually why He came.

Do you and I see the multitudes like Jesus did or are they just people that sometimes get in our way.

In Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount scripture says that Jesus saw the multitude and it was then that He went up the mountain to talk to His disciples. We should pay close attention here because Jesus is about to tell us the prime directive from heaven of how He wants us to live and how to be blessed according to His will.

Every verse of what is known as the Beatitudes begins with the word, Blessed.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." That doesn't mean flat broke in your bank account, it means those who know that they have no righteousness of their own to approach God. When we realize we need a savior, Jesus, the kingdom of heaven becomes our home.

When Jesus said, "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted" He wasn't talking about people who have had tragedy in their life, He was talking about those who mourn over their own sinful state and that they will be comforted with salvation from on high through the cross. This is the antithesis of the mantra of pop psychology that proclaims, "I'm ok, you're ok." Scripture says otherwise.

Then comes a very misunderstood verse, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Meek does not mean weak. In the day that this verse was written meekness meant "self-controlled, and humble." Meek people are those who break their own will, like one breaks a horse, to stand up for God's will.

Jesus said we are blessed when we hunger and thirst for righteousness. Our bodies hunger and thirst for a lot of different things in this life but when our spirit's hunger is stronger than our body's, it's then that we will be truly satisfied.

Now, how's your mercy tank? Is it on full or empty? "Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy". We reap what we sow. If we want mercy, we have to give it. Jesus goes on to say that the blessed life is when we become pure in heart and are known as peacemakers.

It's easy to be a troublemaker but as followers of Jesus we are called to be peacemakers and sometimes that means giving up our own rights. It also means unashamedly proclaiming that God has made peace with the world through the cross of Jesus.

Finally, Jesus said "Blessed are you when you are persecuted and insulted for righteousness sake… great is your reward in heaven. There is a great day of rewards coming for the faithful. The verses in Matt.5:1-12 comprise the blessed life. It's sure not society's version of being blessed but as the apostle Paul would later say, "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us."

PastorKenStaley@gmail.com

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

COVID-19 Update: Vaccine Maintenance Program, Nursing Home Visitation, Phase 1B Medical Conditions

(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted today provided the following updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WEATHER DELAYS

As a result of continued bad weather, vaccine shipments in Ohio and across the country continue to be delayed. Ohioans with vaccine appointments this week should confirm that their appointment has not been canceled before leaving home.

Because of these weather delays, it is expected that providers will give vaccinations over the weekend as shipments arrive.

VACCINE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

This morning, Ohio launched its COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program for nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Each month, facilities can host a vaccine clinic for residents and staff if there is the need for vaccinations. The program ensures that vaccinations in long-term care facilities continue for new residents and staff or current residents and staff who have now decided to be vaccinated.

NURSING HOME VISITATION

Governor DeWine announced that he has assembled a team of doctors and nurses to develop a plan for safe nursing home visitation. Members of the team are experts in infectious disease control, skilled nursing, and other types of long-term care settings.

Ohio's existing visitation order does allow compassionate care visits. Examples of compassionate care situations could include:

- A resident who was living with their family before recently being admitted to a home, is struggling with the change in environment and lack of physical family support.
- A resident who needs cueing and encouragement with eating or drinking, previously provided by family or caregiver(s), is experiencing weight loss or dehydration.
- A resident, who used to talk and interact with others, is experiencing emotional distress, seldom speaking, or crying more frequently.

The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman is available to assist citizens with questions about compassionate care visits. The office can be reached at OhioOmbudsman@age.ohio.gov or 1-800-282-1206.

PHASE 1B MEDICAL CONDITIONS

This week, vaccine eligibility opened up to Ohioans born with the medical conditions outlined below, or those who were diagnosed in early childhood whose conditions continued into adulthood. Following anecdotal reports of individuals with these conditions being denied vaccination appointments, particularly those with cystic fibrosis, Governor DeWine stressed that vaccine providers should vaccinate those of any age with any of the following conditions.

VACCINE DATA COLLECTION

Governor DeWine again asked vaccine providers to collect and report accurate and complete data on vaccine administrations including race, ethnicity, age, and category of eligibility. This information is critical to understanding uptake rates among specific communities or occupations and also helps inform future policy and allocation decisions. The Ohio Department of Health will continue to reach out to all providers to make sure this critical information is being entered into the system.

RICHLAND COUNTY CLINIC

Today Lt. Governor Jon Husted traveled to Richland Public Health (RPH) in Mansfield to tour their vaccine clinic and thank the staff and healthcare providers for their efforts to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine. Most of the 100 Ohioans being vaccinated during the visit today were receiving their second dose.

To date, RPH has vaccinated 2,705 individuals (948 fully vaccinated) at their clinic that runs typically Monday-Friday.

During the press conference, Lt. Governor Husted had the opportunity to look on as two Richland County residents received their shot: Ms. Doris Rheinbolt received her second dose and Mansfield Mayor Tim Theaker received his first dose, respectively.

CURRENT CASE DATA

In total, there are 947,389 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 reported in Ohio and 16,611 confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 49,061 people have been hospitalized throughout the pandemic, including 7,002 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting coronavirus.ohio.gov.

The deadline to submit material to the News-Herald is noon on Wednesdays

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HARRISON NEWS-HERALD

USPS PUBLICATION NO. 236-080

Harrison News-Herald, USPS PUBLICATION NO. 236-080 Copyright ©2015 by the Harrison News-Herald, a Schloss Media, Inc. publication is published 52 times per year by Schloss Media, Inc., 144 S. Main St., Cadiz, Ohio 43907. The Harrison News-Herald is published weekly, on Saturday. Business and Editorial Offices: 144 S. Main St., Cadiz, Ohio 43907. Accounting and Circulation Offices: Harrison News-Herald, a Schloss Media, Inc. publication, 144 S. Main St., Cadiz, Ohio 43907. Application to mail at Periodicals postage prices is pending at Cadiz, Ohio.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Harrison News-Herald, 144 S. Main St., Cadiz, Ohio 43907.
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February 20, 2021
One section, 10 Pages
Vol. 53, No.41

OUTDOORS

Big Spring working to perfection at Killbuck Marsh

Art Holden
Guest columnist

SHREVE — Now, with nearly every northeast Ohio lake, pond and slow-moving stream locked up with ice, waterfowl are looking for a place to safely gather, a sanctuary if you will. And thanks to the Ohio Division of Wildlife's completion of the Big Spring project this past year, there's such a place at the 6,000-acre Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area outside of Shreve.

While I featured the evolution and cost of the project in a story in early November, now is really the first time the Big Spring is getting a workout and, I'm happy to report, it's performing as it should.

"You ask me why I do what I do? This is why I do it," said Dennis Solon, the Division of Wildlife's manager of the KMWA in a phone interview this past week. "If you could see what I'm seeing — literally thousands of waterfowl — that's why I do it! Flock after flock coming from the spring to feed in a corn field that we've just cut."

Mother Nature offers up geese, swans, cranes and ducks

The Big Spring sits along the dredged-out Killbuck Creek, which runs though the Wildlife Area. The area around the spring was dug out to make a 3-acre pond that never freezes because of the 4,500-gallons-per-hour of 55-degree water that flows into it from the hillside.

Gates and valves keep water from the creek from entering the pond. Water from the pond then flows south along the Killbuck a ways before flowing into the creek, thus creating a good stretch of open water.

In that small area of unfrozen water, Mother Nature has filled it with geese and Trumpeter and Tundra swans, Sandhill Cranes and ducks of all kinds, including Widgeons, Gadwalls, Teal, Mallards and divers of all sorts, just to name a few.

When they take flight, be it to leave to feed, or when scared off, the sky is black with birds.

Getting flight on film was not to be

Solon, and the DOW's Erich Long, both tried, unsuccessfully, this past week to capture the scene on film, trying to sneak up close enough to get a series of photos of the birds, only to be denied each time.

"If you can imagine, there's 2,000 sets of eyes watching out," Solon said.

After realizing getting the photo was going to be difficult after approaching the first time on foot from the west, Long and Solon decided an approach from the top would work out best. But, in a perfect example of Murphy's Law, Long kicked up a deer when exiting the truck. The deer ran down the hill, spooking the cranes, which alerted the rest of the water-

See HOLDEN, Page 4B

OUTDOORS NOTES

Trap teams needed

The East Holmes Sportsman's Association is looking for teams for its spring trap league starting on March 24. The club is limiting it at 15 teams. Contact the club soon to reserve a spot.

This will be a 50-bird program for 10 weeks. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, please call one of the following phone numbers: 330-204-3684 or 330-231-9158.

The East Holmes Sportsman's Association is located at 6781 Township Road 310, Millersburg.

Lake Erie ice fishing access

Anglers looking for an access point to Lake Erie for ice fishing are encouraged to visit Camp Perry in Ottawa County, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife. Camp Perry is an Ohio National Guard training facility located near Port Clinton, on the shore of Lake Erie. Ice fishing access at Camp Perry will open on Tuesday, Feb. 16. The base has 200 parking spaces available each day and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Ice fishing parking is available from 4:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Vehicles are required to exit the base prior to closing time.

All vehicles are required to check in upon arrival. A $15 fee will be charged by Camp Perry per vehicle, per day, and parking is permitted in designated locations only. Camp Perry is located at 1000 North Lawrence Drive No. 600, Port Clinton, 43452. Questions can be directed to Camp Perry at 888-889-7010.

Outdoor notes, email change

Any group, individual or organization wishing to announce events in the Outdoor Notes section should email them to letsplabal@yahoo.com. Please put Outdoor Note in the subject line.

Tournament

Continued from Page 1B

(Millbury), Northview (Toledo).

Local look: A young Wooster team will take the playoff experience as a positive at the very least, and any playoff victories will be a bonus. Even while playing in one of the easier Northeast districts, it'll be tough for the Generals to get out of sectional play.

DIVISION II

East 2 District

Teams (seeding based on super-district): 2. Indian Creek, **3. West Holmes**, 4. Maysville, 7. Philo, 11. Steubenville, 14. St. Clairsville, 15. Indian Valley, 16. River View, 17. Meadowbrook.

The favorite: Indian Creek. The duo of Taylor Jones and Kylie Kiger has been tough for opponents to stop, and Indian Creek's defense as been equally impressive, holding opponents to 33.8 points per game. The district will go through Indian Creek.

Five players to watch: Taylor Jones (Indian Creek, f, sr.), Kylie Kiger (Indian Creek, g, sr.), **Katie Sprang (West Holmes, g, sr.)**, Bailee Smith (Maysville, g, sr.), Makayla Abram (Steubenville, f, sr.).

Regional lookahead: The regional matchups are East 2 District versus Southeast 2 District and Southeast 1 District versus East 1 District. The winners of those games will face off in the regional final. Other top seeds in the region: Sheridan (Southeast 2), Vinton County (Southeast 1), Tri-Valley (East 1).

Local look: After going through the OCC undefeated, West Holmes comes into the playoffs with high hopes. The Knights get a sectional semi bye, but will go through a potential gauntlet in district play. Likely district semifinal opponent Maysville has the best player in the district in Bailee Smith, who is averaging 26.6 points per game. The defending district runner-ups will be one of the best teams West Holmes has seen all year. If the Knights get past Maysville, the district's top seed, Indian Creek, will likely be in the way. Indian Creek beat West Holmes earlier this season 43-31.

Northeast 4 District

Teams (seeding based on super-district): 3. CVCA, 5. Northwest, **11. Triway**, 12. Firelands, 13. Hawken, 19. Cloverleaf, 23. Keystone, 24. Lutheran West, 27. Akron Springfield, 30. St. Martin De Porres, 31. Fairview.

The favorite: CVCA. The district will likely come down to an all-PAC-7 district final between the two top seeds in the region — CVCA and Northwest. The two played a couple of down-to-the-wire classics during the regular season, with Northwest winning at home 56-54 and CVCA winning at home 40-39. Part three would be a fitting way to decide the district champion.

Five players to watch: Gia Casalinova (CVCA, g, soph.), Lily Bottomley (Northwest, f, soph.), **McKayla Feikert (Triway, g, sr.)**, Madison Sutton (Firelands, g/f, sr.), Tori Smith (Cloverleaf, f, sr.).

Regional lookahead: The regional matchups are Northeast 4 District versus Northeast 3 District and Northeast 1 District versus Northeast 2 District. The winners of those games will face off in the regional final. Other top seeds in the region: Laurel (Northeast 3), Perry (Northeast 1), Poland Seminary (Northeast 2).

Local look: Triway has a tough sectional final matchup against Firelands right away, and it might be even tougher if McKayla Feikert isn't back from injury by then. Feikert does a little bit of everything for the Titans, and is one of the most consistent players in the area. Potential PAC-7 matchups against Northwest and CVCA would likely await Triway if they can get past the sectional stage. The Titans have gone 0-4 against the Indians and Royals, losing by an average margin of 14.3.

Wrestling

Continued from Page 1B

And then Tucker and Dylan won their second ones this year as juniors, so that's pretty impressive too."

Kaufman, who's in the midst of a breakout season, wants his second straight OCC title to lead to even bigger and better things.

"It's good motivation to get me to keep working harder," Kaufman said. "The main goal is placing at state."

Earning second-place finishes for the Knights were Corbin Miller (126 pounds), Caleb Larimore (145), Kalan Bowling (152) and Gavin Greer (160). Thirds went to Noah Tish at (120) and Elisha Baldridge (195).

Also placing in the top three for the Generals were Grant Hoffman (third, 145), Travis Legg (third, 160) and heavyweight Jaysen Deeds (third).

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Seed Days 2021

Specials going on all February long
• Twine & Seed 5% off
• Crystalyx Barrels 5% off + $5 off for 4 or more barrels
Crystalyx BRAND SUPPLEMENTS

Specials going on February 24 – March 13
• Pond2o 5% off for pond mapping + 5% off per case + 5% off for seed days
POND2O
• Brooms & Shovels 10-20% off
• Rubbermaid Tanks 10% off
• All Fencing products 5% off

Specials going on February 24 – March 3 pick up or delivery by March 19
• Loyal Life Pet Food $5.00 off for all 30, 40 & 50 lb. bags - $2.50 for all 20 lb. bags
Loyall Life

THREE LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!
Mt. Eaton Elevator
(330) 359-5028
15911 Berry St.
Mt Eaton, Ohio 44659
Holmes Ag Service
(330) 279-2501
301 S Market St.
Holmesville, Ohio 44633
Mt. Hope Ag Center
(330) 674-0416
8070 SR 241
Mt. Hope, Ohio 44660
Phone Orders with Contactless pick up are Welcome!
WO-22898995

Harrison Township solar field could be windfall

Kent Mallett
Newark Advocate
USA TODAY NETWORK

HARRISON TOWNSHIP — A proposed 108-megawatt solar field on 512 acres of Harrison Township farmland could provide a financial windfall for property tax recipients, especially Southwest Licking Schools.

Union Ridge Solar, a subsidiary of Leeward Renewable Energy, announced plans to construct the solar field near the AEP Kirk substation on Watkins Road, on property north of Refugee Road, west of York Road, south of Blacks Road and on both sides of Watkins Road.

The company would pay a flat fee of least $753,000 annually for 30 years, or $22.6 million, if the project receives the required state and local approvals for the Qualified Energy Tax Exemption Program. The minimum payment would be in lieu of taxes, based on a state law assessing $7,000 per megawatt for such solar and wind fields. The amount could be increased up to $9,000 per megawatt, or $969,300 annually.

The county commissioners must establish an Alternate Energy Zone for the area, or countywide, for the project to proceed.

"No decisions have been made, but we're inclined to be positive toward this potential opportunity," Licking County Commissioner Tim Bubb said. "I suspect it's likely to go forward. There's no aspect of it that's a negative. Facebook, Amazon and Google all want to buy green energy from the grid. There's a desire for that energy."

Facebook, Amazon and Google have all located data centers in western Licking County in recent years.

Nate Strum, executive director of Grow Licking County, said, "I think this is something that makes us more attractive to large-scale opportunities."

The recipients of the payments would be all the taxing districts for the area, which currently includes Southwest Licking Schools, Harrison Township, Licking County government, Licking Park District, Pataskala Library, West Licking Joint Fire District, and Career and Technology Education Centers of Licking County.

Southwest Licking Schools Superintendent Dr. Kasey Perkins said her district is estimated to receive approximate annual revenues of $445,000 if the project goes forward.

However, Perkins noted that annual payment could have a perishable date: “I think one thing that’s important to know though, is there is a possibility the money could come to an end without renewing, so we have to consider as a school district not trying to rely on those funds for ongoing operating expenditures if that money comes to an end,” she said.

She said of the proposed solar concept, “Opportunities like this, to me, are much better for communities than the amount of growth going into other areas in our school district. Those housing developments really hurt the school system when we can’t keep up with the amount of growth coming in, whereas this project provides a benefit to schools without hurting our (enrollment) numbers.”

Perkins said the district has been told construction could be completed in the last quarter of 2022, with the district beginning to see revenues from the project in 2023.

The location has everything the company wants, Bubb said.

"They need a big, flat area near a substation," Bubb said. "There aren't that many farms or places you can do it. It has to be an electrical substation that can take the input. We're fortunate in Licking County, they found one (site) so good. They called it a sweet spot."

According to the Ohio Development Services Agency, the Qualified Energy Tax Exemption Program provides owners of alternative energy projects with an exemption for tax liabilities. The program consolidates all tax liabilities into one flat fee. The recipient pays a per-megawatt tax based on the facilities' total capacity for power production and the percentage of Ohio workers used in the construction of the facility.

Union Ridge Solar states in its project overview the solar field site will be located south of the AEP’s substation, where electricity from the solar field will be transferred to become part of the bulk power transmission system in Ohio. The facility will be developed, owned and operated by Union Ridge for at least 30 years, the company said.

Construction would begin in 2022 and become operational by the end of the year, if it obtains all the approvals. The 107.7 megawatts of solar capacity is equivalent to providing power for 18,300 homes, according to Union Ridge.

A virtual public meeting has been scheduled for 6-8 p.m. Feb. 25 to provide information to interested residents. Residents can register for the event online at unionridgesolar.com. Started at 8 p.m. on the same day, residents can call into a public information meeting at 866-899-4679 using access code 482-026-749.

Harrison Township Trustee Mark Van Buren said the potential $2,000 per megawatt additional payment from the company would go to the county, but the county commissioners could provide some of that revenue to the township.

"The township gets about $50,000 (annually) and it's in our backyard," Van Buren said. "The township really doesn't have jurisdiction."

Bubb said, "We can share with the township. That's negotiable. We could have a shared agreement."

Union Ridge will submit to the Ohio Power Siting Board an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need, which is a requirement to build the facility. The company will have public information meetings.

Van Buren said he has heard from a few residents about the project and advises them to remain involved in the process.

"The residents of Harrison Township are pretty smart and want to be educated, and that's the first step," Van Buren said. "Let's find out what the facts are."

Residents are invited to email the Ohio Public Siting Board at: contactOPSB@puco.ohio.gov to learn more about the process and potentially provide testimony. Or comments can be mailed to: Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. The written comments will be filed in the case record.

Virtual local public hearings are also live-streamed at www.youtube.com/user/PUCOhio.

--Reporter Craig McDonald also contributed to this story.

Timeline

Feb. 25: Virtual public information meeting

March 21-22: Union Ridge Solar submits application to OPSB

Within 60 days after receiving application: OPSB decides if application has all required information and sets date for public hearing.

At least 15 days before public hearing: OPSB issues report on its evaluation of the project

Third quarter 2021: Public hearing

Fourth quarter 2021: OPSB decision on certificate

First quarter 2022: If approved, construction begins

Fourth quarter 2022: Project becomes operational

Seattle woman, 90, walks 6 miles through snow for vaccine

SEATTLE – A rare winter storm that dumped a foot of snow on Seattle couldn’t keep a 90-year-old woman from her first appointment for the coronavirus vaccine. The Seattle Times reports that Fran Goldman walked six miles round trip to get her shot.

“I have been calling to get an appointment anywhere, every morning, every afternoon and often I’ve been online at night,” Goldman said.

She finally secured a slot for Sunday morning, but Friday and Saturday a strong winter storm moved through the region, turning the city’s normally rainy streets into a winter scene of snowdrifts.

Goldman dressed in fleece pants and a short-sleeved shirt so that the nurse could get to her arm easily. Over that, she layered a fleece zip-up, then a down coat, then a rain jacket.

She then put on snow boots, took out her walking sticks and ventured onto the snowy streets.

“It was not easy going, it was challenging,” she told the newspaper.

But Goldman made it to her appointment, just 5 minutes late.

Her daughter Ruth Goldman, who lives in Buffalo, New York, wasn’t surprised by her mother’s actions.

“We’re outside people,” she said. “We love being outside. I was out yesterday at Lake Ontario with a wind chill of 6 degrees.”

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OBITUARIES

Carol Lynn Patterson

Carol Lynn Patterson, age 80, of, Salem, died Saturday. February 13, 2021. She was born May 12, 1940 in Denver, Colorado, the daughter of the late John Frederick and Dorothy Jane (Jenson) Keener.

Mrs. Patterson was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Salem and had been an area resident since 1948. She was a 1958 graduate of Salem High School and graduated from Mount Union College in 1962 with a B.A. degree.

Carol served on the board of Mobile Meals and delivered meals. She also served on the board at Century House of Salem and did grocery shopping for Century House. Carol believed in donating blood and had given more than 17 gallons. In Marco Island, Florida she was a volunteer at the NCH Urgent Care Center and was proud to be an "Owl Lady" for the Ground Owls.

Carol is survived by her husband and partner for over 58 years, Thomas Cook Patterson, whom she married November 3, 1962. Married in the town she grew up, Carol and Tom together developed a successful business and volunteer network, traveling all over the globe, and enjoying the company of many friends. The photo above is from a family trip to the Grand Canyon in 2014. She is also survived by a son, Thomas John (Jennie) Patterson of Northville, Michigan; a daughter, Susan Lynn Patterson (Juan) Imeroni of Cincinnati; a brother, Donald F. (Marilyn "Marty") Keener; and three grandchildren, TJ and Maggie Patterson and Sophia Imeroni.

She loved her children and grandchildren (known as Grannie) immensely, teaching by example the power of love and dedication. She was also an avid book reader, athlete, lifelong learner, volunteer, and someone who was always willing and wanting to lend a hand, friend or stranger. All this provided her family with a foundation for life. And even during her final days on earth, battling COVID and related issues, her sense of humor NEVER wavered.

Preceding her in death were her mother (1963) and her father (1997).

Per Carol's explicit instructions, there will be no calling hours or service. Inurnment will be at Grandview Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Salem Community Foundation, 141 S Ellsworth Ave, Salem, OH 44460, the Angels for Animals, 4750 West South Range Rd. Canfield, OH 44406, or Pearce Mobile Meals Fund, PO Box 553, Salem, OH 44460.

Arrangements are being handled by Stark Memorial Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

To view Carol's obituary, send condolences and share favorite memories, visit www.starkmemorial.com.

2/17/21

Jay Greathouse Jr.

EAST LIVERPOOL – Jay Greathouse Jr., 50, of East Liverpool, Ohio, died on February 12, 2021 in Heritage Valley Hospital, Beaver due to complications from diabetes. Born January 29, 1971 in Weirton, W.Va., he was the son of the late Earl W. Sr. and Dorothy Sweat Greathouse.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Alvina Ross and Nancy Williams.

Jay was a member of the House of Prayer, Calcutta. He was an avid fisherman and enjoyed hunting.

He leaves behind his wife, Alicia Staley Greathouse; his children; Caleb Greathouse and Jacob Greathouse, at home, Karliee Greathouse, Canton, Ohio and Brent Michael Miller, Wellsburg, W.Va.; three grandchildren; a brother, Stanley Pugh ,Newell, W.Va.; a sister, Denise Griffin, St. Mary's, Ga. and his mother-in-law, Mary Jo Staley, Calabash, N.C.

Friends will be received on Thursday from 2 p.m.- 4 p.m and 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the D.L. Williams Funeral Home, 848 Midland Ave., Midland, Pa.

A funeral service will be conducted on Friday. Due to COVID, it is by invitation only. Internment will take place at Riverview Cemetery in East Liverpool, Ohio.

2/17/21

Barbara McCowin

East Palestine – Barbara L. McCowin, 73, passed away February 14, 2021 at the Covington Skilled Nursing and Rehab in East Palestine.

She was born July 17, 1947 in Salem, OH, daughter of the late Burdell and Lois Hofmeister McCowin.

Barbara was a 1966 graduate of East Palestine High School. She was a member of the East Palestine First Church of Christ , where she sang in the church choir. Barbara was a longtime car hop for Fiesta Drive-In and later worked at Dutch-N-Donna's, Tenos and McDonald's restaurants in East Palestine. Barb loved to study her family's genealogy and crochet. Even while a resident of the nursing home, she made baby afghans that were donated to her church and East Palestine Social Concerns.

She is survived by her aunts, Pat Hoffmaster and Lois Baun; and cousins Clyde (Michele) Hoffmeister, Ted (Vicki) Hall, Randy Hoffmaster, Debbie Hoffmaster, Sherri Baun and Gary Baun; and several close friends.

Besides her parents, Barbara was preceded in death by her grandparents, several aunts and uncles, and her cousin, Robert Hoffmaster.

A private burial will take place at Glenview Cemetery in East Palestine, where she will be laid to rest beside her mother. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and out of concern for the extended family and friends, a memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Memorial contributions can be made in her name to First Church of Christ, 20 West Martin Street, East Palestine, OH.

The Linsley-Royal Funeral Home in East Palestine is in charge of arrangements.

www.linsley-royal.com

2/17/21

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

— **Dr. Bernard Lown,** a Massachusetts cardiologist who invented the first reliable heart defibrillator and later co-founded an anti-nuclear war group that was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize, died Tuesday. He was 99. Lown, who was a professor at Harvard and a physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, had helped advance cardiac treatment. He'd been among the first doctors to emphasize the importance of diet and exercise in treating heart disease.

OBITUARIES

Eileen May Binsley

Eileen May Binsley, 92, of Hanoverton, passed away peacefully at her daughter's home in Virginia on February 11, 2021 following a brief illness.

Eileen was born in Highlandtown, Ohio, the daughter of Robert McKenzie and Margaret McDonald. She was also a much-loved stepdaughter of James T. McDonald. Her only sibling, prankster Harold R. "Bud" McKenzie, preceded her in death in 1993.

A graduate of Wellsville High School, Eileen began her working career as a waitress at the Avalon Restaurant in Hanoverton, and as a potter at the Wellsville Pottery, before beginning work at Summitville Tiles, Inc., where she met her future husband, Orville Binsley. Soon after marrying Orville, Eileen became a homemaker and a mother to two daughters, Kathleen Kay (Brad) Hale of Salem, Ohio, and Joyann Binsley of Willis, Virginia. She is also survived by two grandchildren, Travis Fletcher of Salem, Ohio, and Fiona Binsley of Willis, Virginia.

Several things were very important to Eileen. She loved her family. She was kind, thoughtful and generous to others, and she loved sharing the joys of birthdays, graduations, weddings, and new babies, as well as helping those in need. Eileen loved animals throughout her life, although she chose not to have pets in her later years, following the loss of "Poppy," her goldfish named after a dear friend. She loved the Hanoverton community, in which she lived and contributed for nearly two-thirds of her life, and she looked forward to visiting with her neighbors on her front porch during the warmer months. And Eileen loved her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and was a member of the church families at the First Christian Church of Kensington and the Hanoverton Christian Church, where she taught Sunday school for a period of time.

A memorial service is planned in the spring in Hanoverton, at which time Eileen's cremains will be interred alongside her beloved husband, Orville, who preceded her death in 2002. Memorial donations may be made to the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Association in Ohio.

The care of Eileen has been entrusted to High Country Services. Online condolences can be made at www.highcountryservice.com.

2/17/21

DEATH NOTICES

Nancy Nutter

SALEM — Nancy Lee Nutter, 81, died Sunday. She was born March 4, 1939, the daughter of Donald and Elaine Greenamyer. Arrangements are by Stark Memorial Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Salem.

Jenny Hester

EAST LIVERPOOL — Jenny Lee Williams Hester, 89, died Sunday. She was born in East Liverpool on Nov. 9, 1931, the daughter of William J. and Rebecca Nesbit Williams. Arrangements are by the Dawson Funeral Home.

Dolores Podwel

WELLSVILLE — Dolores Jean "DJ" Podwel, 76, of Wellsville, died Monday at her home following a lengthy illness. She was born May 30, 1944, in East Liverpool, the daughter of Domenic and Rose M. (Chefalo) Comparetto. Arrangements are by the Roberts Funeral Home in Wellsville.

Cynthia Burnip

SALINEVILLE — Cynthia O. Burnip, 63, of Main Street, died late Saturday night at Aultman Hospital in Canton. She was born July 16, 1957, the daughter of Wilfred and Marjorie Johnson Burnip. Arrangements are by the Kerr-Pastore Funeral Home in Salineville.

Ethyl DeGarmo

EAST LIVERPOOL — Ethyl DeGarmo, 93, of East Liverpool, died Wednesday at St. Mary's Alzheimer's Center. She was born Feb. 12, 1927 in Wellsville, the daughter of Cyrus and Nancy Thomas. Arrangements are by the Roberts Funeral Home in Wellsville.

Patrick Grippe

EAST LIVERPOOL — Patrick Joseph Grippe, 78, of East Liverpool, died Wednesday at home after a lengthy illness and finally Covid-19. He was born in Meadville, Pa., on July 18, 1942, the son of Joseph and Alberta Siverling Grippe. Arrangements are by CARE Funeral & Cremation Specialists — Martin Chapel in Calcutta.

2/17/21

LOTTERY

Ohio

Day: 6-9-0 and 2-4-5-1
Five: 6-8-8-0-5
Evening: 8-0-6 and 9-1-0-8
Five: 7-7-6-3-3
Cash 5: 10-14-15-30-39
Mega Millions: 1-36-44-54-66
Mega Ball: 10
Megaplier: 3

Mega Millions: $96 million

Pennsylvania

Cash 5: 7-32-33-36-42
Match 6: 3-7-13-25-34-45
Day: 7-1 and 9-9-3
6-4-3-3 and 4-6-4-1-9
Evening: 6-8 and 0-3-6
8-9-3-1 and 7-9-4-4-2
Treasure: 1-5-9-17-25

West Virginia

4-8-6 and 7-4-9-2
Cash 25: 3-9-12-15-16-21

Powerball: $66 million

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

OBITUARIES

Tonia Scott

Columbiana – Tonia Scott, 77, of Columbiana, passed away on Friday evening, February 12, 2021 at Masternick Memorial Health Care Center, New Middletown.

Tonia was born on July 12, 1943 in Salem, OH, daughter of the late Fred and Esther Krautner Girard and had lived in this area all of her life.

She had worked for Family Recovery Counseling Center in Lisbon as well as the The Counseling Center and was a member of East Fairfield United Methodist Church. Tonia loved to cook, especially for her family. She also enjoyed taking care of her grandchildren and her great granddaughter.

Tonia is survived by her husband, Joe Scott, whom she married on September 14, 2002; her daughter, Julie A. Frederick and Bill of Columbiana; two step-daughters, Jennifer J. (Steve) Barnett of Carrollton and Jodi L. Scott of Lexington; her sister, Carol "Mickey" Morrow of Columbiana; her two brothers, Jerry (Nancy) Girard of Boerne, TX and Fred (Judy) Girard of Columbus; eight grandchildren, Cody Dole (Tiffany), Chelsea Hayden (Joseph), Brianne Stoner (Robert), Dylan McMurray (Savannah), Shayla Frederick, Brian Frederick, Ryan Barnett, Katey Barnett; and a great granddaughter, Sadie Dole.

She was preceded in death by her son, Brian Scott Frederick and a brother, Ricky Girard.

Private services will be held for the family at the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana.

Public visitation will be held on Friday, February 19, 2021 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm at the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana following social distancing and face mask protocol.

Memorial donations may be made to East Fairfield United Methodist Church or The Alzheimer's Association 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana.

Family and friends may view this obituary and send condolences at www.familycareservices.com

2/17/21

Anna Mae Roseburg

Lisbon – Anna Mae Roseburg, 83, formerly of Hanoverton, died at 12:15 PM Monday, February 15, 2021 at Continuing Healthcare of Lisbon.

Born February 8, 1938 in Zona, WV, she was a daughter of the late Wilbert and Mildred M. (Boothe) Tolley.

Anna worked as an instructor/Workshop Specialist II at the Columbiana County MRDD for 22 years, retiring in 1999.

She was a member of the New Lebanon Presbyterian Church and a member of the Salineville class of '57. She enjoyed genealogy and painting.

Survivors include her children, Debora K. Roseburg of Hanoverton, Sandra L. Teichert of Phoenix, AZ, and Ralph E. (GiGi) Roseburg of Port Orange, FL; grandchildren: Brooke Power, Jordan Pitts (Michael Deutschlander), Ty (Nicole) Roseburg, Benjamin Roseburg, and Chantel (Nathaniel) Isner. There are seven great-grandchildren: Gavin Power, Riley and Calvin Isner, Stella and Michael Deutschlander, and Weston and Ryner Roseburg. She also leaves a sister, Lois (Tim) McGuyrt of Canton, a brother, Jim (Marian) Tolley of Black Hawk, SD, and sister-in-law, Doris Tolley of Salem.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Roseburg, her brother, Roy W. Tolley, and sister, Merle E. Tolley.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you the staff of Continuing Healthcare of Lisbon and Crossroads Hospice.

There will be a private funeral service officiated by her brother at 11:00 AM Friday at the Weber Funeral Home. The service will be livestreamed for the family. Interment will be at the New Lebanon Church Cemetery. Friends may call one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

View this obituary and leave condolences at www.weber-fh.com

2/17/21

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

— **Marriott Chief Executive Arne Sorenson,** who grew the company into the world's largest hotel chain and steered it through a global pandemic that has been catastrophic for the travel industry, has died. He was 62. Sorenson reduced his schedule at Marriott this month to pursue a more aggressive cancer treatment. He was first diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2019; a recent routine scan had confirmed the cancer had returned, the company said. J.W. Marriott Jr., the company's executive chairman, said Sorenson loved every aspect of the hotel business and relished traveling and meeting employees around the world. Marriott has 30 hotel brands, including Ritz-Carlton, Sheraton and Westin, and more than 7,000 properties worldwide.

OBITUARIES

PUBLIC MEETINGS

All public entities (trustees, village and city councils, commissioners, etc.) must publicize their meeting dates, times and places. Except in the case of an emergency meeting, The Logan Daily News *should be informed of meeting times at least two days in advance. When possible, give at least one week's notice.*

Thursday, Feb. 18

• Hocking County commissioners meeting, 9:30 a.m., via Facebook live at https://www.facebook.com/hockingcommissioners/.

• Hocking College board of trustees meeting, 6 p.m., virtual/hybrid. For a link to watch the meeting, email fullerk@hocking.edu.

• Marion Township trustees meeting, 7 p.m., Marion Township Community Center 30737 Logan Hornsmill Road, Logan.

Monday, Feb. 22

• Logan-Hocking Local board of education, regular meeting, 6 p.m., Logan High School, 14470 state Route 328, Logan.

• Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board meeting, via Zoom. Find your local call-in number at https://zoom.us/u/adEYSsJE4X.

Tuesday, Feb. 23

• Logan city council meeting, 7 p.m., Logan-Hocking Middle School, 13579 Maysville-Williams Road, Logan.

• Hocking County budget commission meeting, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. Contact the county auditor's office at 740-385-2127 for Zoom call-in information.

YOUR WEATHER REPORT

Logan Area Five Day Forecast

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Snow Likely	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Snow
34 21	28 6	25 10	39 31	38 28
Precip Chance: 80%	Precip Chance: 20%	Precip Chance: 0%	Precip Chance: 10%	Precip Chance: 50%

Logan Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with an 80% chance of snow, high of 34°, humidity of 85%. North northeast wind 3 to 6 mph. New snow accumulation of around three inches possible. The record high for today is 66° set in 2017.

Wednesday's Statistics

Temperatures	
High	25
Low	0
Record High	67 in 2011
Record Low	-20 in 2015
Precipitation	
Amount	0.00"

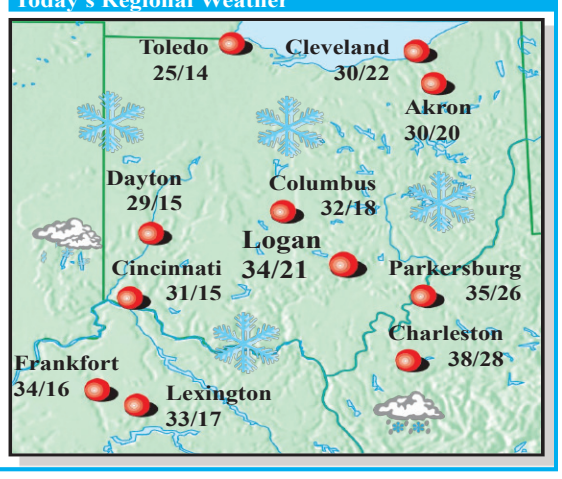
Data as reported from Fairfield County Airport

Hocking River Level

Location	Flood Stage	Today	24hr Change
Athens	20	4.00	-0.17

Download the free weather app at: **https://wxtogo.com**

Today's Regional Weather



Wednesday, Feb. 24

• Perry Township trustees meeting, 7:30 p.m., township hall.

• South Central Ohio Job and Family Services executive committee meeting, 1:30 p.m., SCO-JFS Chillicothe, may be virtual.

Thursday, Feb. 25

• Hocking County commissioners meeting, 9:30 a.m., via Facebook live at https://www.facebook.com/hockingcommissioners/.

• Buckeye Hills Regional Council regional transportation planning organization committee meeting 1:30 p.m., by remote videoconference. The meeting is to gather feedback on the regional long-range transportation plan and to review and seek committee approval for the 2022 RTPO work plan for the Ohio Department of Transportation. To watch the livestream go to www.facebook.com/Buckeye-Hills.

• Tri-County Career Center local professional development committee meeting, 2:30 p.m., Porter Building room 512.

• Washington Township trustees meeting, 7 p.m., township hall, 31183 Ilesboro Road, Logan.

• Hocking Valley Community Hospital board of trustees meeting, 4 p.m., CIC building conference room.

Friday, Feb. 26

• Laurel Township trustee meeting, 7 p.m., township recreation center.

Tuesday, March 2

• Falls Township trustees meeting, 6 p.m., township hall, 12654 state Route 93N, Logan.

• Saltcreek Township trustees meeting, 7 p.m., township building, Sam's Creek Road.

Wednesday, March 3

• Hocking County Veterans' Service Commission meeting, 1 p.m., veterans' office, 30657 Redrock Court, Logan.

Thursday, March 4

• Hocking County Board of Elections, reorganization meeting, noon, board office, 93 W. Hunter St., Logan.

Tuesday, March 9

• Green Township trustees meeting, virtual. Conference URL: uberconference.com/greentwptrustees. Dial-in number: 781-448-4437. PIN: 45511.

Hocking Hills Byway added to America's Byways collection

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration recently added 34 new National Scenic Byways and 15 All-American Roads to America's Byways collection, including Hocking Hills Palisades Scenic Byway. America's Byways are a distinctive collection of American roads, their stories, and treasured places. Under the National Scenic Byways Program, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as National Scenic Byways or All-American Roads based on their archaeological, cultural, historical, natural, recreational, and scenic qualities.

"America's Byways are roads to the very heart and soul of America," said National Scenic Byway Foundation (NSBF) president Chris Sieverdes in a news release. "Byways connect us to this country's beauty, history, and culture. As the National Voice of Scenic Byways and Roads, NSBF is excited to welcome these new designees, and we look forward to working with them, as well as those previously designated, to preserve our nation's past while looking towards the future for our grandchildren and their children."

To be designated as a National Scenic Byway, a road must possess at least one of the six intrinsic qualities and be regionally significant. These roads are often the "roads less traveled."

A road must possess multiple nationally significant intrinsic qualities and have one-of-a-kind features that do not exist elsewhere to receive an All-American Road designation. An All-American Road must also provide an exceptional traveling experience so recognized by travelers that they would make a drive along the byway a primary reason for their trip.

The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991 and administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), was created to preserve and protect the nation's scenic byways and, at the same time, promote tourism and economic development.

Green Township taking bids for stone

GREEN TOWNSHIP – The Green Township trustees will be accepting bids for various sizes of stone, stone delivered, and delivery to the township garage located at 35005 Linton Road, Logan, Ohio. Envelopes containing bids should be sealed and addressed to: Green Twp. Trustees c/o "Stone Bid."

Deadline for sealed bids is at 7 p.m. on March 9, 2021, at the regular meeting and they will be opened during the virtual meeting. Envelopes containing bids should be sealed and addressed to: Green Twp Trustees, PO Box 127 Haydenville, Ohio 43127. The Green Township trustees reserve the right to reject any and all bids. Questions may be directed to the Trustees at 740-385-1792.

Virtual meeting info:

Conference URL: uberconference.com/greentwptrustees

Dial in number: 781-448-4437

PIN: 45511

SUBMITTED

Members of the Hocking County Children's Chorus rehearse.

HCCC

Continued from page A1

According to the FAO and Wanczyk, Appalachian Ohio experiences a "philanthropy gap." This means the region's nonprofits, schools and community organizations have less means to support their needs and pursue opportunities. It also means there are fewer permanent dollars in the area, Wanczyk said.

A portion of each gift given on Cause Connector goes to the FAO's I'm a Child of Appalachia Fund to fund future FAO philanthropy. The HCCC LCD Projector and Screen project has a deadline of April 9 to reach its goal funding.

Donations big and small can be made online. Suggested donations start at $25. Donations can be made and more information can be found at www.causeconnector.org/project/lcd-projector-and-screen/.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

TO VIEW AN ARCHIVE OF OUR OBITUARIES VISIT US ONLINE AT **LOGANDAILY.COM** AND CLICK ON 'OBITUARIES'

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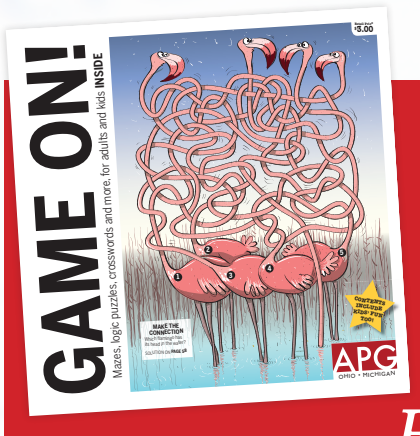


Coming Soon!
February 27, 2021
in The Logan Daily News

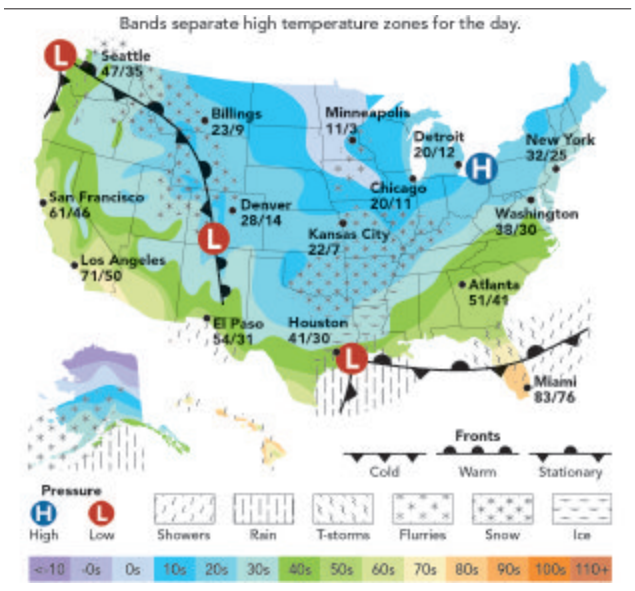
The Puzzle Book is great for those who cannot get enough puzzles ... with added content designed for young readers.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

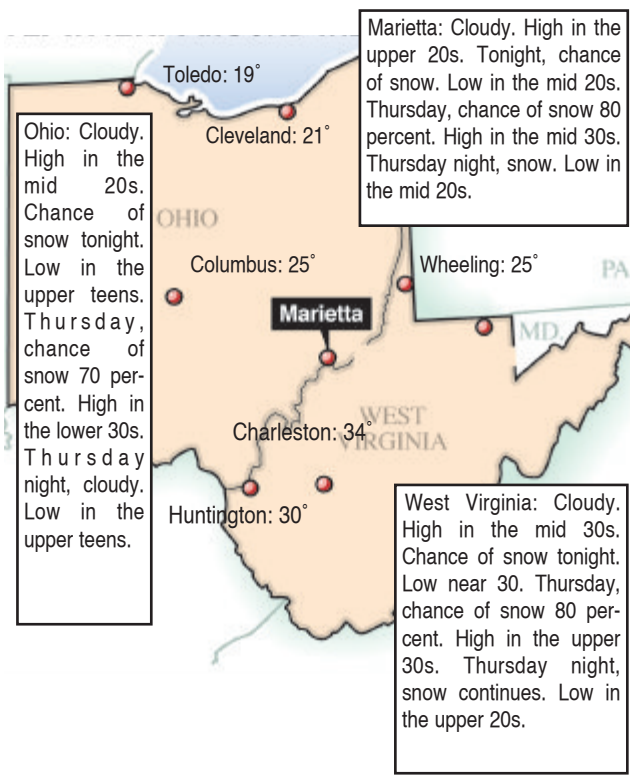
All home delivery subscribers will automatically receive the 2021 Puzzle Book premium section with their February 27th weekend edition of the Logan Daily News. Subscribers' expiration date will be adjusted to reflect the $2.00 charge and delivery of this special edition. Subscribers may opt out from receiving the 2021 Puzzle Book by calling 740-592-6612, Ext. 301114. by 3 p.m. on Feb. 19.

ACROSS THE NATION TODAY

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



THE WEATHER: AROUND THE REGION



Marietta: Cloudy. High in the upper 20s. Tonight, chance of snow. Low in the mid 20s. Thursday, chance of snow 80 percent. High in the mid 30s. Thursday night, snow. Low in the mid 20s.

Ohio: Cloudy. High in the mid 20s. Chance of snow tonight. Low in the upper teens. Thursday, chance of snow 70 percent. High in the lower 30s. Thursday night, cloudy. Low in the upper teens.

West Virginia: Cloudy. High in the mid 30s. Chance of snow tonight. Low near 30. Thursday, chance of snow 80 percent. High in the upper 30s. Thursday night, snow continues. Low in the upper 20s.

EXTENDED MARIETTA FORECAST

Friday
Chance of snow.
High 28. Low 9.

Saturday
Partly cloudy.
High 27. Low 10.

Sunday
Cloudy.
High 37. Low 30.

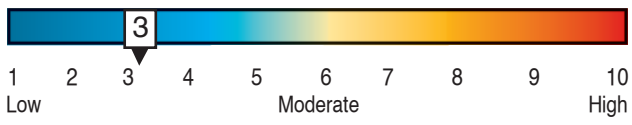
FOR THE RECORD: FEB. 16

Temperature
High: 21
Low: 10
Average temperature
High: 43.3
Low: 23.9
Record temperature
High: 72 in 1954
Low: -2 in 1963

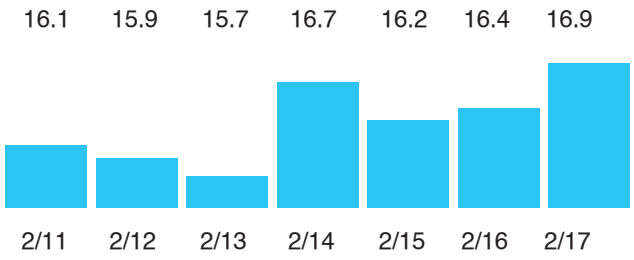
Precipitation: 0.6
Total this month: 10.9
Record: 1.37 in 2018
Sun
Sunset, Feb. 17: 6:06
Sunrise, Feb. 18: 7:12

ULTRAVIOLET GUIDE

Indicates danger from sun's rays



OHIO RIVER LEVEL



The Marietta Times

Our mission: We commit to providing accurate, vital and timely news and information to you through a variety of products and services. We are dedicated to making a difference in your life through community service and leadership.

Where we get our news: We get our news from our staff of journalists, from The Associated Press and from you, the reader.

How to call us: You can call all of our departments at 740-373-2121. You can fax us at 740-376-5475.

Business Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Missed your paper: Call us until 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8-11 a.m. Saturday, at 740-373-2121 (press 1)

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Subscription rates	8 wks	13 wks	26 wks	52 wks
All Access home delivery	$34.00	$51.35	$102.70	$200.20
By mail	43.20	70.15	140.30	280.20
Mail, out of Wash. Co.	51.20	83.15	166.30	332.60

The Marietta Times is published daily, six days a week, Monday through Saturday, and will publish 312 daily editions in a 52-week year, excluding Sundays. Postage is paid out of the U.S. post office, Marietta, Ohio 45750. USPS ID #329-260.

The publisher reserves the right to change subscription rates upon 20 days' notice. The notice may be by mail to the subscriber, by notice contained in the newspaper itself or otherwise. Subscription rate changes may be implemented by changing the duration of the subscription.

Member: Audit Bureau of Circulations
The Times is printed with soy-based inks on paper containing recycled newsprint

FROZEN FENCE

Photo by Art Smith

The barbs on farm fences, including this one in the Churchtown area, were covered with a layer of ice early Tuesday morning following a winter storm that covered most of the area with the frozen water. If you have a recent photo that showcases the beauty of the Mid-Ohio Valley, submit it to Art Smith at asmith@mariettatimes.com for possible inclusion on this page. See more photos at Instagram.com/mariettatimes.

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Tyler Perry, Clintons attend memorial for actor Tyson

NEW YORK (AP) — Tyler Perry and Bill and Hillary Clinton were among the attendees of a private memorial service for Cicely Tyson at Harlem's famed Abyssinian Baptist Church.

The memorial service Tuesday came a day after hundreds of admirers of the pioneering Black actor lined up outside the church for a public viewing. Some said they had come from as far as Atlanta or Los Angeles to be there.

Abyssinian Baptist's pastor, Rev. Calvin O. Butts, said afterwards that Tyson was an example of "a life well lived and an example of how we all might live," adding, "She was as much an ambassador for peace and love as anybody I can think of."

Also in attendance for the nearly three-hour service were gospel singer Bebe Winans and Valerie Simpson of the duo Ashford & Simpson.

During the ceremony, the sun broke through the clouds and the temperature rose past 40 for the first time in the snowy city more than a week.

Tyson died Jan. 28. The New York-born actor was 96.

Tyson was the first Black woman to have a recurring role in a dramatic television series, the 1963 drama "East Side, West Side." Her performance as a sharecropper's wife in the 1972 movie "Sounder" cemented her stardom and earned an Oscar nomination.

She went on to win two Emmy Awards for playing the 110-year-old former slave in the 1974 television drama "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman" and another Emmy 20 years later for "Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All."

At age 88, Tyson won a Tony Award for the revival of Horton Foote's "The Trip to Bountiful" in 2013. President Barack Obama awarded her the Medal of Freedom in 2016.

Tampa delays Gasparilla pirate festival to 2022

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — For more than 100 years, Tampa has held a celebration of pirate lore known as Gasparilla. Avast, mateys, it's not to be this time.

Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla represented Tampa's old guard when it began the event in 1904, and is still at the helm today. This year's event was postponed and then canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The group now says the next one won't be held until January 2022.

The parade draws hundreds of thousands of people as beads and other trinkets are thrown from floats, some resembling pirate ships and firing cannons.

WEDNESDAY'S HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's scary to want and scarier still to desire. Remember this, because you have the keys to what other people want. Over the course of your dealings, their feelings may be heightened and illogical.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People around you will take off their sweaters because you create such warmth. Other effects of your personal weather system will include the privilege of hearing what's really on their hearts and minds.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In this human family, usefulness helps ensure a decent position. You're always looking for ways to make yourself more useful and, today, you'll land on one that will be fun to learn.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's atypical and nonsensical journey will amuse you. Why you go one direction instead of another is a mystery. Even more mysterious is how you still manage to get there.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You gravitate toward the people who see you as you would like to be seen and also the ones who see things in you that you cannot yet see in yourself. Both types are essential in your development.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You cannot be enticed today, neither by advertiser nor friends with (what they think are) good ideas. It's so obvious to you what the next right move is that you can't help but laugh in the face of persuasion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get people to switch to your side because you do it better. Knowing which metrics matter most to people will be key here. Hint: Everyone wants to have more fun and ease.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have high expectations for loved ones but you also afford them wide margins for error. Those two factors go together toward optimal performance and, at the same time, sanity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You cannot have diamonds without paying the price. Even those who come by their diamonds via gifting pay the diamond rate in one way or another. It's something to consider before purchase or reception.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When your mind goes to that negative situation, go exercise, listen to happy music or do anything that brings you vitality. You're making a habit of getting your emotional payoffs from seeking joy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're not interested in what you should do today, as societal expectation has nothing to do with your own journey of self-discovery, which cannot be fulfilled under the umbrella of "should."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Though you'd love to fill your time with meaningful pursuits, it's even better to discover the purpose behind the pursuits you already engage in and frame it all with your own meaning.

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Rating: GOLD

				6				
		6	1		7	4		2
7				3	4			6
	8				1		3	
3		9		8		7		5
	2		3				6	
9			5	1				4
1		5	9		3	6		
				7				

2/17/21

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Solution to 2/16/21

6	8	5	7	3	9	4	1	2
9	2	1	4	8	6	3	5	7
7	4	3	5	1	2	8	9	6
2	1	6	8	9	7	5	4	3
5	7	8	3	4	1	2	6	9
4	3	9	2	6	5	1	7	8
8	6	4	1	7	3	9	2	5
1	5	7	9	2	8	6	3	4
3	9	2	6	5	4	7	8	1

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TODAY
HIGH: 20
LOW: 17
Cloudy and bitterly cold

THURSDAY
HIGH: 30
LOW: 19
Snow at times, accumulating 1-3"

FRIDAY
HIGH: 24
LOW: 6
Very cold with a little snow at times

SATURDAY
HIGH: 19
LOW: 11
Mostly cloudy and very cold

SUN & MOON

	Today	Thu.
SUN		
Rise	**7:21 a.m.**	**7:20 a.m.**
Set	**6:07 p.m.**	**6:08 p.m.**
MOON		
Rise	**10:22 a.m.**	**10:48 a.m.**
Set	**none**	**12:07 a.m.**

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
Feb 19	Feb 27	Mar 5	Mar 13

NATIONAL EXTREMES

48 contiguous states Tuesday

HIGH TEMPERATURE
West Palm Beach, FL **87**

LOW TEMPERATURE
Ely, MN ..... **-46**

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

ALMANAC

Through 3 p.m. Tuesday

TEMPERATURES
High/Low **23/14**
Normal **36/21**
Record **64** (1927)
Record ..... **-9** (2015)

PRECIPITATION *(in inches)*
24 hrs **0.63**
Month to date **1.18**
Normal month to date **1.35**
Year to date **2.97**
Normal year to date **4.22**
Last year to date **5.43**

BIBLE DIGEST

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice." (Proverbs 12:15 ESV)

None of us has all the answers. Let's seek Godly counsel from Godly people.

LOTTERIES

(Drawings: Feb. 16)
Pick 3 (early): 6 9 0
Pick 4 (early): 2 4 5 1
Pick 5 (early): 6 8 8 0 5

(Drawings: Feb. 15)
Pick 3 (late): 5 0 3
Pick 4 (late): 4 6 9 1
Pick 5 (late): 9 7 6 6 6
Rolling Cash 5: 8 15 20 27 29
Classic Lotto: 10 16 17 25 46 49
Wednesday's jackpot is $4.6 million.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson holds a vial of the AstraZeneca vaccine. The United Nations' health agency gave its approval Monday to a vaccine developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca.
JEREMY SELWYN/POOL VIA AP

UN vaccine plan for poor countries nears rollout

Jamey Keaten
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA – It's nearly launch time for COVAX, the United Nations' unprecedented program to deploy COVID-19 vaccines for hundreds of millions in need around the globe.

More than two months after countries like Britain and the United States started immunizing their most vulnerable people, the U.N.'s health agency gave its approval Monday to a vaccine developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca, which should trigger the release of hundreds of millions of doses by COVAX.

COVAX missed its own target of starting vaccination in poor countries at the same time as immunizations were rolled out in rich countries, and numerous developing countries have signed their own deals to buy vaccines, fearing the program won't deliver.

The World Health Organization and partners hope COVAX can finally start shipping out vaccines later this month.

Here's a look at the project:

What is COVAX and why does it matter?

It's a cooperative program aimed to make sure low- and middle-income countries get equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. Some buy them, others get them for free from donor countries and charities.

COVAX hopes to deploy about 336 million doses by the end of June, and about 2 billion doses by the end of the year.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said last week that more than 130 million doses of vaccine have been deployed globally – three-quarters of them in only 10 countries. Almost 130 countries with 2.5 billion people haven't administered a dose, he said.

Why is WHO 'emergency use' approval important?

Unlike most wealthy nations, many developing countries don't have the resources to assess whether vaccines should be approved. They rely on the WHO to determine if vaccines are safe, effective and have been made properly.

The most impactful moment for COVAX so far looms with Monday's approval of the AstraZeneca vaccine; the program has bought hundreds of millions of doses, although there is no guarantee when countries will receive them. The Serum Institute of India, which will produce the majority of them, has previously said its provision of shots to COVAX would be "calibrated" in line with India's own domestic and other needs.

But questions have arisen recently about the vaccine's use, given the increasing spread of the virus variant first identified in South Africa. Early studies suggest the AstraZeneca vaccine is less effective against that variant and South Africa's government delayed plans to roll out its own supplies of the vaccine. The WHO said last week the AstraZeneca shot should still be used in countries that have detected variants – but the head of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned the region's countries to prioritize other vaccines instead.

Who gets the doses first?

COVAX leaders haven't said.

Gian Gandhi, the UNICEF supply coordinator for COVAX, said a confirmation of the doses that the U.N. children's agency can deploy will come once the WHO has approved the AstraZeneca vaccine.

The WHO takes into account readiness and need, and has placed a priority on getting doses to health care workers and vulnerable people like the elderly.

The deployment "will vary from country to country," Gandhi said. "In some instances, the time frame could be in the range of days and weeks; in others it could be several weeks."

Derek and Andrea Mullins are the owners of Shovel City Drinkery, which is located at 181 N. Main Street in downtown Marion. The bar opened Sept. 23.
MICAH WALKER

Drinkery

Continued from Page 1A

subscribers, 12 million social media fans and 25 million monthly sessions.

New on the menu

Along with offering classic drinks such as the Old Fashioned, Shovel City will launch a new cocktail menu next month. One of new drinks is called Mustachio Joe, named after Marion Police officer Joe McDonald.

"He has a really crazy mustache," he said. "He has a great personality and fun to be around."

"We always try to let certain people try our new drinks to get some feedback and he enjoyed this cocktail. He threw out some names, but we wanted to have something we felt would be worthy of him and worthy of the bar."

The drink contains bourbon, Aperol, lemon juice, sugar, lemon wheel and orange bitters.

Mullins will also debut Return to Normalcy, named after a slogan from President Warren G. Harding's 1920 election campaign. A Prohibition-era Manhattan, the drink has bourbon, vermouth, Gran Gala Orange Liqueur, scotch, bitters and a flamed lemon.

"All of the Harding things have been done a lot with all the businesses in Marion, but we wanted to do something that was more obscure and kind of tie it in to where we're at right now in the world," he said. "We can all use a return to normalcy."

Snow

Continued from Page 1A

Marion County and most of Ohio experienced the biggest snowstorm of the season Monday evening into Tuesday morning, getting hit with sleet, snow and frigid temperatures.

According to the National Weather Service, the area received 9 inches of snow and was under a Level 3 snow emergency. The county has since dropped to a Level 2. The storm also caused the cancellations of schools and closure of several businesses and agencies.

That was more than enough snow for 17-year-old Logan Rensch and his 12-year-old sister Kennedy Rensch to shovel at their Marion home. The two spent the first part of their snow day clearing their driveway. Logan Rensch said he then planned to shovel some driveways and front walks for his older neighbors.

"After that, we might play, do a snowball fight," he said.

However, Kennedy Rensch was ready to go back inside.

"I like to stay indoors and watch TV," she said. "I get cold really fast."

Sold out supplies

The winter storm also caused winter removal gear, like shovels and salt to be in limited supply. Dave Schroeder, the store director at the Meijer in Marion, said there were no more shovels on the shelves and only a few bags of salt left.

"We were busy throughout the weekend," he said.

Schroeder also saw a surge of customers Monday right before the snowstorm began. He said the store has ordered more supplies, but is unsure when it will come in.

Snow causes closures

All five school districts, plus Tri-Rivers Career Center, were closed or switched to a remote learning day due to the inclement weather. In addition, several businesses in downtown Marion were closed, such as Center Street Market, Baires, A Taste of Memphis, Topped, Brave Woman and Nathan's Barber Shop.

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Hospitals still ration N95 masks

Jason Dearen, Juliet Linderman and Martha Mendoza
The Associated Press

Mike Bowen's warehouse outside Fort Worth, Texas, was piled high with cases of medical-grade N95 face masks. His company, Prestige Ameritech, can churn out 1 million masks every four days, but he doesn't have orders for nearly that many. So he recently got approval from the government to export them.

"I'm drowning in these respirators," Bowen said.

On the same day 1000 miles north, Mary Turner, a COVID-19 intensive care nurse at a hospital outside Minneapolis, strapped on the one disposable N-95 respirator allotted for her entire shift.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, Turner would have thrown out her mask and grabbed a new one after each patient to prevent the spread of disease. But on this day, she'll wear that mask from one infected person to the next because N95s — they filter out 95 percent of infectious particles — have supposedly been in short supply since last March.

Turner's employer, North Memorial Health, said in a statement that supplies have stabilized, but the company is still limiting use because "we must remain mindful of that supply" to ensure everyone's safety.

One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, many millions of N95 masks are pouring out of American factories and heading into storage. Yet doctors and nurses like Turner say there still aren't nearly enough in the "ICU rooms with high-flow oxygen and COVID germs all over."

While supply and demand issues surrounding N95 respirators are well-documented, until now the reasons for this discrepancy have been unclear.

The logistical breakdown is rooted in federal failures over the past year to coordinate supply chains and provide hospitals with clear rules about how to manage their medical equipment.

Internal government emails obtained by The Associated Press show there were deliberate decisions to withhold vital information about new mask manufacturers and availability. Exclusive trade data and interviews with manufacturers, hospital procurement officials and frontline medical workers reveal a communication breakdown — not an actual shortage — that is depriving doctors, nurses, paramedics and other people risking exposure to COVID-19 of first-rate protection.

CHRIS TARRANT / PRESTIGE AMERITECH VIA AP

One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. finds itself with many millions of N95 masks pouring out of American factories and heading into storage, shown here at a Texas warehouse earlier this month. Yet there still aren't nearly enough in ICU rooms and hospitals.

Before the pandemic, medical providers followed manufacturer and government guidelines that called for N95s to be discarded after each use, largely to protect doctors and nurses from catching infectious diseases themselves. As N95s ran short, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention modified those guidelines to allow for extended use and reuse only if supplies are "depleted," a term left undefined.

Hospitals have responded in a variety of ways, the AP has found. Some are back to pre-COVID-19, one-use-per-patient N95 protocols, but most are doling out one mask a day or fewer to each employee. Many hospital procurement officers say they are relying on CDC guidelines for depleted supplies, even if their own stockpiles are robust.

Chester "Trey" Moeller, a political appointee who served as the CDC's deputy chief of staff until President Joe Biden's inauguration last month, said efforts to increase U.S. mask production were successful, but there has since been a federal breakdown in connecting those who need them with this new supply.

"We are forcing our health care industry to reuse sanitized N95s or even worse, wear one N95 all day long," he said.

Before the pandemic tore through the U.S., the demand for N95 masks was 1.7 billion per year, with 80 percent going to industrial uses and 20 percent into medical, trade groups say. In 2021, demand for N95 masks for medical use is estimated by industry sources to be 5.7 billion.

With the increased demand and prodding from the federal government, U.S. manufacturers stepped in. Bowen's company, Prestige Ameritech, boosted production from 75,000 N95 respirators a month to almost 10 million during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Still, many hospitals are building their stockpiles over fears of a future surge, and restricting the number given directly to health care workers.

The AP spoke with a dozen procurement officers who buy supplies for more than 300 hospitals across the U.S. All said they have enough N95s now, between two and 12 months worth, sitting in storage.

Even so, all but two of those hospital systems are limiting their doctors, nurses and other workers to one mask per day, or even one per week. Some say they are waiting for the supply to grow even more, while others say they never plan to go back to pre-COVID-19 usage.

Dean Weber, vice president of corporate supply chain management for Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Sanford Health, said the one-N95-per-patient guidelines were established with the help of manufacturers.

"You know, the mask manufacturers are in the business of selling masks," Weber said. He said he prioritizes safety over cost, but he doesn't believe these respirators need to be tossed after each use. "We were all, in fact, you know, just infatuated with an N95."

But John Wright, vice president of supply chains for Salt Lake City-based Intermountain Healthcare, says reusing masks or wearing them longer "would not be appropriate" once they have enough supplies. He hopes his 23 hospitals and hundreds of clinics will be back to single use within two weeks.

Meanwhile, the U.S. finds itself in a paradox. The more N95s are rationed to alleviate a perceived shortage, the fewer masks are actually reaching the front lines.

N95s still appear on the FDA shortage list, in part because of reports from doctors and nurses who say they still don't have enough. The American Hospital Association also says there's a scarcity of N95s, citing global demand. But the government shortage list triggers distributors to limit how many masks they can sell to each hospital.

"The concept is similar to when trading is halted on Wall Street," said David Hargraves, senior vice president of supply chain for Premier, a group purchasing organization that helps buy equipment and supplies for thousands of hospitals across the U.S. "You put the protective allocation in place to prevent folks from hoarding and overbuying, therefore exacerbating the shortage situation."

But without clear guidance, hospitals are left to make their own decisions.

Some procurement officers are loath to trust masks from unfamiliar suppliers. Others balk at federally approved domestic manufacturers, some of whom charge more than international makers. And adding new products into a hospital's inventory can be tricky: Every health care worker must be fit-tested before using a new brand.

"It's not easy to pivot from one brand to another," said Katie Dean, health care supply chain director at Stanford Health Care in California, where they are back to using one N95 mask per patient, as needed.

ANALYSIS: Highlights of COVID-19 relief bill progressing in House

Kevin Freking
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Democratic-led effort to pass a $1.9 trillion pandemic relief package has passed its latest challenge with House committees advancing measures that will soon be combined into a single bill expected to clear the full House by the end of February.

Democrats beat back hundreds of amendments from Republicans who have raised concerns that the spending is vastly more than necessary and designed to advance policy priorities that go beyond helping Americans get through the pandemic. Democrats and President Joe Biden counter that a robust aid package is necessary to prevent a long and painful recovery from the pandemic.

Their goal is to have COVID-19 relief approved by mid-March, when extra unemployment assistance and other pandemic aid expires.

A look at some highlights of the legislation moving through the House:

More checks

The legislation provides a rebate that amounts to $1,400 for a single taxpayer, or $2,800 for a married couple that files jointly, plus $1,400 per dependent. Individuals earning up to $75,000 would get the full amount as would married couples with incomes up to $150,000.

The size of the check would shrink for those making slightly more with a hard cut-off at $100,000 for individuals and $200,000 for married couples.

Some Republicans want to cut the size of the rebate as well as the pool of Americans eligible for it, but Biden has insisted on $1,400 checks, saying "that's what the American people were promised." The new round of checks will cost the government an estimated $422 billion.

Bigger tax break for households with kids

Under current law, most taxpayers can reduce their federal income tax bill by up to $2,000 per child. The package moving through the House would increase the tax break to $3,000 for every child age 6 to 17 and $3,600 for every child under the age of 6.

The legislation also calls for the payments to be delivered monthly instead of in one lump sum. If the secretary of the Treasury determines that isn't feasible, then the payments are to be made as frequently as possible.

Also, families would get the full credit regardless of how little they make in a year, even just a few hundred dollars, leading to criticism that the changes would serve as a disincentive to work. Add in the $1,400 per individual checks and other items in the proposal, and the legislation would reduce the number of children living in poverty by more than half, according to an analysis from the Center on Poverty and Social Policy at Columbia University.

Aid to states and cities

The legislation would send $350 billion to state and local governments and tribal governments. While Republicans in Congress have largely objected to this initiative, Biden's push has some GOP support among governors and mayors.

Many communities have taken hits to their tax base as millions of people have lost their jobs and as people stay home and avoid restaurants and stores to prevent getting COVID-19. Many areas have also seen expenses rise as they work to treat the sick and ramp up vaccinations.

But the impact varies from state to state and from town to town. Critics say the funding is not appropriately targeted and is far more than necessary with billions of dollars allocated last spring to states and communities still unspent.

Aid to schools

The bill calls for $130 billion in additional help to schools for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. The money would be used to reduce class sizes and modify classrooms to enhance social distancing, install ventilation systems and purchase personal protective equipment. The money could also be used to increase the hiring of nurses, counselors and to provide summer school.

Spending for colleges and universities would be boosted by $40 billion, with the money used to defray an institution's pandemic-related expenses and to provide emergency aid to students to cover expenses such as food and housing and computer equipment.

Aid to businesses

The bill provides another round of relief for airlines and eligible contractors, $15 billion, so long as they refrain from furloughing workers or cutting pay through September. It's the third round of support for airlines.

A new program for restaurants and bars hurt by the pandemic would receive $25 billion. The grants provide up to $10 million per entity with a limit of $5 million per physical location. The grants can be used to cover payroll, rent, utilities and other operational expenses.

The bill also provides another $7.25 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program, a tiny fraction of what was allocated in previous legislation. The loans are designed to help borrowers meet their payroll and operating costs and can potentially be forgiven.

Aid to the unemployed

Expanded unemployment benefits from the federal government would be extended, with an increase from $300 a week to $400 a week. That's on top of what beneficiaries are getting through their state unemployment insurance program.

Raising the minimum wage

The bill would gradually raise the federal minimum wage to $15 per hour by June 2025 and then adjust it to increase at the same rate as median hourly wages.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected several positives and negatives that would occur if the minimum wage hike makes it over the finish line. On the plus side, about 900,000 people would be lifted out of poverty once the $15 hourly wage is fully in place. Some 17 million people making below the new minimum wage would see a pay raise. On the negative, about 1.4 million jobs would be lost as employers look for ways to offset their higher personnel costs.

It's unclear if the wage hike will make it through the Senate due to opposition among a handful of Democrats and possible procedural hurdles.

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Animal Cruelty

Continued from Page 1A

cording to Predragovich. He had very little body fat. Muscle wasting had started.

Predragovich said Wentling and Kedigh "thought they pulled a fast one on Officer Hitchcock and the humane society. They hid their male chihuahua in their oven to not allow the humane society to remove him on Nov. 13.

"While going through the evidence photos, Officer Hitchcock was able to see the dog in the oven," Predragovich wrote. "After collecting a second search warrant on Nov. 19, Officer Hitchcock was able to remove all of the animals from the home."

The judge gave Kedigh and Wentling the same sentences: 90 days in jail on each count, for a total of 270 days. Jail time was suspended pending successful completion of five years' probation.

Both have the same probation terms:

* Not own, possess or live at a residence with companion animals, and not possess outdoor animals.

* Submit to random inspections to ensure compliance by a probation officer, who may be in the company of a humane agent.

* Obtain a mental health assessment and comply with recommended treatment, including taking medications as prescribed.

* Pay restitution to the humane society for the care and boarding of the animals in the amount of $4,105.53.

* Not use alcohol or illegal drugs, and submit to random testing.

The defendants are prohibited from possessing companion animals for life. That restriction goes beyond the term of probation; however, VonAllman said she would be willing to consider amending that order if in the future the defendants were able to persuade her that they have their mental health situation under control, and can otherwise provide proper care for animals.

Debris littered a Somerdale home where animals were found in November to have been severely neglected. COURTESY OF TUSCARAWAS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

"The Tuscarawas County Humane Society is very pleased with the outcome of this case and are very happy to announce all of the animals within the case have been adopted and are thriving in their new, safe, and clean homes," Predragovich said.

Humane society representatives who participated in the Nov. 13 inspection were Kelly Schoelles, vice president, and Ashlie Yoder, veterinary technician. Hitchcock also serves as a Dover police captain.

The Tuscarawas County Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that relies solely on grants and donations to operate. More information is online at www.tuschumanesociety.com.

Reach Nancy at 330-364-8402 or nancy.molnar@timesreporter.com.

On Twitter: @nmolnarTR

Map

Continued from Page 1A

main high.

When Gov. Mike DeWine unveiled the county map in July, he described seven indicators by which coronavirus spread would be evaluated in each county.

One indicator was new cases, based on population. If a county had more than 50 new cases per 100,000 residents over the past two weeks, they met that indicator.

Additionally, if a county became "red," it could not improve to orange, or a level 2 alert, unless it had fewer than 100 new cases per 100,000 residents. That's been in place from the beginning of the map, but it's only come into play in recent months.

Without that safeguard, only one county would be red this week: Athens County.

Seven would be the lowest level — yellow, or level 1 alert — instead of red:

- Geauga.
- Holmes.
- Knox.
- Miami.
- Ottawa.
- Pickaway.
- Scioto.

The state's four orange counties all meet the threshold of "high incidence," but that's not a factor in rising to the red level, only in coming down off it.

The COVID-19 heat map was initially used to impose county-level mask mandates before a statewide order was put in place in late July. There have been no other state-level mandates or orders tired to the colors , but school districts and other local officials use the map to make decisions.

The map lost some of its usefulness as cases and hospitalizations surged in November and December.

Several indicators are based on their rate of increase. So even when numbers were high for some counties, they didn't increase sharply enough to trigger another indicator. In a few instances, a county would move to the highest level of purple and back down again, despite having high numbers of new cases, hospitalizations and hospital visits.

'High incidence'

In December, DeWine began encouraging people to look at county incidence rates as a better indicator of spread. The rates measure new cases in the last 14 days per 100,000 residents.

Comparing that figure to several months ago reveals there's greater spread than before, even if the heat map doesn't show it.

The median rate among Ohio's 88 counties for new cases per 100,000 residents in mid-August was 66, a USA TODAY Network Ohio analysis of state data shows. That rose to 113 in mid-October, 574 in mid-November and 961 in mid-December. The recent decrease in cases has put Ohio at 228 new cases per 100,000 residents in mid-February.

So that median rate is much lower than the end of 2020 – but still twice as much as in October, when state health officials and hospital leaders were sounding the alarm about a rise in cases and hospitalizations.

In mid-October, there were 36 counties below the rate of community spread of 100 cases per capita over the last 14 days. This week, there is just one: Vinton County, the state's smallest with about 13,500 residents.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said school leaders should use incidence as a factor in deciding how to bring students back to classrooms. Last week, they revised their recommendations to look at the last seven days instead of 14, as DeWine's map does.

Only 10 Ohio counties have less than 100 new cases per 100,000 residents in the past week, according to the CDC. The rest – including Franklin, Hamilton, Stark and Summit – all have above that level, meeting the CDC's highest transmission category.

Cincinnati Enquirer investigations and enterprise editor Mark Wert contributed.

Fire Chief

Continued from Page 1A

wife Betty by his side, according to the obituary posted by Koch Funeral Home of Scio.

Kovarik began his 34-year career teaching for Jewett Schools, then Jewett-Scio and then Harrison Hills City School District, where he was an assistant principal and school bus driver, his death notice said.

"But he is more fondly remembered by his students as 'Mr. K', the band director of both the Jewett Wildcat Marching Band and the Jewett-Scio Viking Marching Band," it said.

WTOV gave this account of Miser's death from Sheriff Abdalla:

"At 1:45, a gentleman from West Virginia called stating that his stepdad called him and told him he was going to kill a man," Abdalla was quoted as saying.

From there, a female called from a residence (in Salem Township) to say that a suspect shot and killed her boyfriend and then turned a gun on himself," Abdalla said.

"He bragged about what he was going to do," the sheriff said. "The suspect made the female sit at the table and told her 'You're going to watch what I am going to do. You are going to remember it.' "

There was a prior relationship. The suspect and the woman were in a relationship four years ago. The victim was her current boyfriend of nine months.

The victim was shot six times, then the suspect turned the gun on himself.

According to Abdalla, the suspect had penned yet-to-be mailed cards to both a woman in Las Vegas and his stepson, saying he already did this.

"I've never had anybody admit to a crime before it happened," Abdalla said.

The woman was not harmed physically.

"The hatred he had built up in him, it's a wonder he didn't shoot the woman as well," Abdalla said. "To shoot a person six times — six times — you've never heard of it."

According to the sheriff, Miller has a criminal history. In 1984, he was convicted of drug trafficking and was given a significant sentence.

The Jewett Volunteer Fire Department posted a message about the deaths of Miser and Kovarik on its Facebook page Tuesday.

"Please pray for the families, friends and fellow firemen of our two lifelong firemen," it said. "Chief Denny Kovarik and Assistant Chief Richard Miser. You will be greatly missed by so many. RIP gentlemen."

Memorial contributions on behalf of Kovarik may be made to Jewett VFD, P.O. Box 15, Jewett, Ohio 43986 or the Conotton Creek Trail, 90151 Kilgore Ridge Road, Scio, Ohio 43988.

Reach Nancy at 330-364-8402 or nancy.molnar@timesreporter.com.

On Twitter: @nmolnarTR

Obituaries

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Ada M. Raber

81, of Walnut Creek passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at Aultman Compassionate Care in Canton following complications from a stroke. She was born in Sugarcreek on February 1, 1940 to the late Jonas and Lydian (Troyer) Schlabach and married Mel Raber on October 2, 1958. He survives. She was a member of Light in the Valley Chapel near Sugarcreek since 1962. She was primarily a homemaker, but worked for many years in the kitchen at Walnut Hills Retirement Home in Walnut Creek. She enjoyed volunteering at Save-N-Serve in Millersburg following her retirement.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her children, Karen Raber (Ivan Grubbs) of Millersburg, Ruby (Wayne) Miller of Charm and Lonnie (Rachel) Raber of Landrum, S. Carolina; 6 grandchildren, LaFonda (Ruark) Miller, Lance Miller, Joshua (Cori) Schlegel, AJ (Victoria) Raber, Kimberly Raber and Brandon Raber; 6 great grandchildren, Rogan, Cyprus, Caynan, Isaiah (Moriah), Hailey, and Brenden; 2 sisters Esther (Abe) Troyer of Sugarcreek and Freda Schlabach of New Philadelphia; and 2 sisters-in-law Shirley Schlabach of Millersburg and Betty Schlabach of Sugarcreek. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her son-in-law David Miller and 2 brothers, Oren Schlabach and Andrew Schlabach.

Services will be held on Sunday, February 21, 2021 at 2:00 PM at Light in the Valley Chapel with Pastor Ferman Yoder officiating. Burial will follow in the Church Cemetery. Friends may call on Saturday from 1-4 and 6-8 PM at the Church and Sunday from 1-1:30 PM prior to the start of the services. Masks will be required and social distancing will be observed. Arrangements are being handled by Smith-Varns Funeral Home in Sugarcreek.

Smith-Varns, 330-852-2141

Jacob E. Lautenschleger

90, of Coshocton and formerly of Baltic, died Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021 at Majora Lane in Millersburg. He was born in Dover on April 3, 1930 to the late Floyd and Esta (Goss) Lautenschleger, Sr. and married Lois Nelson on April 6, 1957. She survives. He retired in 1999 from Belden Brick in Sugarcreek after over 50 years. He was a member of St. Peters United Church of Christ at Fiat. He served in the Army during the Korean and was a member of the Sugarcreek American Legion.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son, Neil (Marlene) Lautenschleger of Fresno; three grandchildren, Angela Lautenschleger of Fresno, Shena (Matt) Nichols of West Lafayette and Jason Lautenschleger of Fresno; two great-grandchildren, Collin and Skye Nichols; and his sister, Erma (Glenn) Lorenz of Coshocton. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by two sisters, Kathryn Lautenschleger and Mary Lou Huprich; four brothers, Rollie, Floyd Jr., Glen, and Richard Lautenschleger, and his dog Mindy.

Family services will be held on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021 at 12 p.m. (Noon) at Smith-Varns Funeral Home in Sugarcreek with Rev. Dennis Landaw officiating. Burial will follow in Fairfield Cemetery in West Lafayette where military honors will be conducted by the Sugarcreek American Post 494. The family will receive friends on Monday from 10-12 (Noon) at the funeral home prior to the service. Memorials may be made to St.Peters Fiat United Church of Christ PO Box 155, Baltic, Ohio 43804.

Smith-Varns
330-852-2141
www.smithvarns.com

Cases

Continued from Page 1A

Dover City Schools — five new student cases (113 total cases), one new staff case (54 total cases).

Indian Valley Local Schools — one new student case (36 total cases), one new staff case (39 total cases).

New Philadelphia City Schools — no new student cases (58 total cases), one new staff case (33 total cases).

Tuscarawas Valley Local Schools — four new student cases (22 total cases), no new staff cases (17 total cases).

No new cases were reported at Garaway Local Schools, Newcomerstown Exempted Village Schools and Strasburg-Franklin Local Schools.

Information was not available for Buckeye Career Center, the East Central Ohio Educational Service Center, Tuscarawas Central Catholic and the Tuscarawas County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Source: Tuscarawas County Health Department

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

FirstEnergy halts political contributions

Jim Mackinnon
Akron Beacon Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Official says FirstEnergy has stopped making political contributions and will no longer make contributions to political nonprofit 501 (c) (4) organizations.

FirstEnergy Corp.'s latest earnings report – it made more than $1.1 billion in profit last year – took a back seat Thursday morning to executives explaining how they are making the Akron utility less political, more open and focused on compliance as it deals with federal and state investigations over the $61 million Householder bribery scandal.

FirstEnergy's leadership is working to make the company more transparent and less politically involved, Steven Strah, president and acting chief executive officer, said in a conference call with industry analysts. FirstEnergy released its earnings before the stock market opened.

FirstEnergy has stopped making political contributions and will no longer make contributions to political nonprofit 501 (c) (4) organizations, he said.

FirstEnergy lobbying will be "much more limited" compared to past practice and the utility will provide more disclosure on its lobbying activities, Strah said.

"Our commitment starts at the top and extends throughout the organization," Strah said. The utility is committed to creating a company-wide culture in which compliance is second nature and communication is open and transparent, he said. That will include a "boots on the ground" program to ensure all employees understand compliance, he said.

FirstEnergy's internal investigation into the Householder scandal is being done by independent law firms and consultants, he and other executives said. The internal investigation to date has not found anything new that has not previously been disclosed, the executives said.

The company continues to cooperate with Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission investigators, executives said.

"Our fundamental performance in 2020 was solid, and we continued making progress on our strategic goals. This is a testament to our team's dedication, commitment to customer service, and focus on execution, even in the face of unprecedented challenges," Strah said in a news release. "As we move forward, our leadership team is committed to continue taking decisive actions to put our company on the right path, with integrity and transparency."

FirstEnergy's board of directors acted quickly to terminate top executives, including former CEO Chuck Jones, said Christopher Pappas, the company's executive director.

FirstEnergy is caught up in federal and state bribery and racketeering investigations involving former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder and others over the passage and support of House Bill 6. The bill, now law, provided more than $1 billion in subsidies to the Davis-Besse and Perry nuclear plants in Ohio now owned and operated by Energy Harbor, a former FirstEnergy subsidiary.

FirstEnergy earlier in the week said in a regulatory filing it now "believes" that a $4 million consulting payment tied to the Householder investigation may have been used for purposes other than what was in the consulting agreement. The money, paid in 2019, went to an entity controlled by an unnamed, appointed former state electric utilities regulator, FirstEnergy said.

The company announced related leadership changes involving Pappas and the appointment of a new board member.

Pappas said he will be stepping down from his executive director role by April 1 to become an independent board member again.

The company said it appointed energy industry executive John W. Somerhalder as board vice chairman and executive director effective March 1. Somerhalder will also serve on the executive leadership team in a transitional capacity, FirstEnergy said.

Somerhalder is charged with leading efforts to rebuild trust with FirstEnergy regulators, the financial community, and others. As executive director, he will support the senior leadership team's efforts to achieve its priorities and strengthen the company's governance and compliance functions, FirstEnergy said.

Somerhalder previously was interim president and chief executive officer of CenterPoint Energy, an electric and natural gas utility. His background includes interim president and CEO of Colonial Pipeline, and president and CEO of AGL Resources. His career includes nearly 30 years at El Paso Corp.

The utility also disclosed that billionaire investor and hedge fund manager Carl Icahn in a Feb. 16 letter said he and affiliates intend to buy significant shares in the company. Icahn told the utility he intends to buy between $184 million and $920 million in FirstEnergy stock.

Executives said they do not know if Icahn, 85, an activist investor whose background includes hostile takeovers and proxy battles, has bought any shares yet or what his intentions are regarding FirstEnergy.

FirstEnergy shares rose strongly on the news. Shares closed Thursday up $2.30, or 7.2%, to $34.23.

FirstEnergy reported it earned $1.1 billion, or $1.99 a share, on revenue of $10.8 billion for fiscal 2020. The utility reported earning $242 million, or 45 cents per share, on revenue of $2.5 billion for its fourth quarter.

The company said it expects to have a profit of $1.3 billion to $1.4 billion for the current 2021 fiscal year.

Davey Elementary receives Purple Star Award

Staff Report

Davey Elementary School in Kent was chosen to receive a Purple Star Award, which recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to the U.S. military. Schools that earn the award receive a special Purple Star recognition to display. Davey Elementary School is one of 31 honorees to receive the designation for 2020-2021.

A school qualifies to be honored if it completes all activities required plus one optional activity. The Purple Star Advisory Board helps decide eligibility.

Required activities include having a staff point of contact for military students and families. The liaison completes professional development on special considerations for military students and families under federal law. The school must also maintain a dedicated page on its website featuring resources for military families.

Optional activities include providing professional development for additional staff on special considerations for military students and families, passing a resolution at a school board meeting publicizing support for military children and families, or hosting a military recognition event.

Reporter Kaitlyn McGarvey can be reached at kmcgarvey@recordpub.com or on Twitter at @kaitlynmcg_rc.

Davey Elementary School is one of 31 honorees to receive the designation for 2020-2021. LISA SCALFARO

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

Story of wrongful conviction is shared without permission

Dear Abby
Jeanne Phillips

Dear Abby: I'm a gay man in my late 40s, partnered with a man in his late 50s. There are a lot of issues from my past that I try hard to move beyond and let go of. I was wrongly accused and convicted of a crime I didn't commit, for which I was sentenced to life in prison.

I sat in prison seven years before I was able to prove my innocence and regain my freedom. Even then, I was forced to accept certain requirements to keep my freedom, regardless of being proven innocent. Unfortunately, I'm finding it difficult because my partner keeps sharing my story with people who are complete strangers to me.

How do I move past this, if he keeps telling people a story that is NOT his to tell, but mine to disclose if I choose to do so? The shame and embarrassment of facing this trauma of my past on a regular basis isn't healthy for me. He dismisses my feelings most of the time when I bring up things he does that upset me.

I love this man with all of my heart. He was one of only two people who stood by me during my trauma and made it possible to prove my innocence. He was also my "first."

– *Frustrated in the Midwest*

Dear Frustrated: That your much older partner dismisses your feelings is controlling and condescending. He has no right to disclose VERY personal information about you with strangers.

You wrote that this is your first relationship. If this continues, it may not be your last. Present it to your partner in exactly these terms. Couples counseling may save your relationship, but only if the balance of power is adjusted.

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 DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Create captivating photos using simple tip

Hints From Heloise
Heloise

Dear Heloise: I teach my kids to use a bath towel for one week before washing. I tell them that they are clean when they get out of the shower, so the towel remains relatively clean for that whole week. It saves time and money on laundry day.

– *Kathryn L. in Michigan*

Kathryn, make sure they hang up the towel so it can dry properly.

– *Heloise*

Dear Readers: Now that pretty much everybody has a phone with a camera component, let's look at a hint for taking better pictures. Is anyone familiar with the Rule of Thirds in Photography? Here it is, in a nutshell:

Imagine your photo lens with a tic-tac-toe board over it: nine equal spaces. Photography experts agree that the subject of your picture should lay on the vertical lines, ⅓ in from each side, OR where the lines intersect with the horizontal lines.

This creates a more captivating and interesting image than one where the subject is centered in the picture. You can imagine that there's more to the picture than that one subject. Is he looking at something? Traveling toward something? Moving somehow? Fascinating!

– *Heloise*

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise@Heloise.com. I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.

THE DAILY CHIEF-UNION

Saturday, February 20, 2021 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351 Single Copy $1.00

Today

Partly sunny
High lower 20s
Low around 7

Locally

Health department reports 52nd death from COVID-19

Wyandot County Public Health reported the county's 52nd death from COVID-19 Thursday.

On Friday, the health department reported there are 105 active COVID-19 cases in Wyandot County.

The cumulative case count since March is 2,067. This includes 1,610 lab-confirmed cases, 428 probable cases and 29 suspected cases based on positive antibody test. There is currently one patient hospitalized with COVID-19. There have been 52 deaths deaths and 1,910 recoveries.

As of Wednesday, the Ohio Department of Health has reported 949,695 cases and 16,693 deaths.

Continue to practice social distancing, to wear face coverings in public, to clean and disinfect regularly, to monitor health daily and to wash hands frequently.

Wyandot County currently is at a level three (red on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System. At level three, there is very high exposure and spread and county residents are asked to limit activities as much as possible.

A website for Wyandot County residents to preregister for the COVID-19 vaccine is available at wyandotgetvaccinated.com. Those who are preregistered will be contacted by the health department over the phone or by Drug Mart by text or call to schedule an appointment when a vaccine ias available. Currently, ages 75 and up are being scheduled. The next group will cover those 70 and up.

For additional statewide case information, download the COVID Summary data spreadsheet at coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/COVIDSummaryData.csv.

The Ohio Department of Health has created a dashboard which provides both local and regional data at coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard.

Antibody testing currently is available to the public. As Wyandot County Public Health receives the results of these tests, it will be reported using specific criteria. If the patient received a positive antibody test and had been in close contact with a lab-confirmed case, linked to a community outbreak or exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, the case will be labeled as probable. A positive antibody test result meeting none of these conditions will be considered a suspected case.

For more information on antibody tests, visit cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/serology-overview.html.

A statewide mandated face covering order is in place. All individuals in Ohio must wear facial coverings in public at all times.

— At an indoor location that is not a residence.

— Outdoors, but unable to maintain 6-foot social distance from people who are not household members.

— Waiting for, riding, driving, or operating public transportation, such as a taxi, a car service, or a private car used for ride-sharing.

The order only requires those 10 years old or older to wear a mask. Additional exclusions include:

— Those with a medical condition or a disability or those communicating with someone with a disability.

— Those who are actively exercising or playing sports.

— Those who are officiants at religious services.

— Those who are actively involved in public safety.

— Those who are actively eating or drinking.

Learn about responsible protocols for all businesses at coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/responsible-restart-ohio/Responsible-Protocols/.

FYI

The following circulars are included in today's Daily Chief-Union:

Rite-Aid
Save-A-Lot
Valassis coupon

Daily Chief-Union/Brian Hemminger

Nevada fire

Firefighters from Wyandot East Fire and Rescue battled a blaze on Dombaugh Street in Nevada for over four hours Wednesday. The detached garage was a total loss and an adjacent hous etrailer sustained significant damage. The fire was categorized as "suspicious" and remains under investigation.

Suspicious Nevada fire under investigation

By BRIAN HEMMINGER
Staff writer

NEVADA — A suspicious fire is under investigation in Nevada.

Wyandot East Fire and Rescue reported it was dispatched to a garage fire at 5:54 p.m. Wednesday on Dombaugh Street near South Main Street.

Upon arrival, a detached garage was fully engulfed as well as heavy fire coming from an adjacent house trailer.

The department said it took firefighters 20 minutes to get the fire under control and an additional four hours to fully extinguish the blaze.

"Crews and efforts were hindered by several issues caused by the extreme cold and snow including frozen hoses and a malfunctioning fire hydrant," a statement from Wyandot East Fire and Rescue read. "The cause of the fire is being categorized as suspicious and is currently under investigation."

A report from the Wyandot County Sheriff's Office said the garage was destroyed in the fire, and the mobile home was significantly damaged but remained standing.

Photographs were taken at the scene and traffic was shut down on Ohio 231 at the U.S. 30 east junction.

The Wyandot East Fire Department received aid from the Upper Sandusky, Pitt Township, Sycamore, Dallas Township and Bucyrus fire departments, as well as Wyandot East EMS.

The American Red Cross of North Central Ohio also responded to the fire Wednesday.

The Red Cross provided assistance for the immediate needs of four adults living in the home, such as temporary lodging, food and clothing. Red Cross volunteers will continue to help the those affected, providing recovery assistance, resources and referrals to community partners.

The American Red Cross North Central Ohio Chapter is a United Way partner.

Wynford school staff to be vaccinated on Friday

By BRIAN HEMMINGER
Staff writer

BUCYRUS — The Wynford Board of Education was informed the Wynford Local Schools will have its staff vaccinated next week at its regular meeting Thursday.

Superintendent Fred Fox said the numbers for students quarantined are going down and the current plan is to have Wynford staff vaccinated Friday, although a time has not been finalized due to other schools in Crawford County also being vaccinated that day.

"It will be a relief to give that to our teachers," Fox said. "About 60% of our staff is participating in the vaccination."

Fox thanked the snow removal crews at the school because they've been busy this week. He said they're using two new trucks, which has helped improve efficiency. Fox said the district us currently on its third order of salt.

Fox said demolition of old parts of the building continues, but it has been delayed by the snow this week.

A pre-bid meeting with dozens of contractors was held recently for renovation of the elementary school, Fox said.

"It was a good turnout," Fox said. "We took a tour of what we're trying to do. The bid opens March 4 and I'm hearing estimates of approximately $3 million for the project."

Fox said a full-time bus driver position is open for the district and it has benefits.

A board member asked about a bus that went into a ditch Wednesday. Fox said the incident happened near Nevada and the students on board were transported off the bus and no one was injured.

In old business, the board rescinded the supplemental contracts of Eden Smock, fall play director; Brandon Buck, assistant drama/technical director (half); and Kathleen Smock, assistant drama director (half) for the 2020-21 school year. Fox said the district will have a spring musical.

In new business, the board approved:

— Supplemental contracts for David Lilly, assistant baseball coach; Michael Hill, junior varsity baseball coach; Caleb Stone, volunteer baseball coach; Mark Alspach, assistant softball coach; Deidra Taylor, junior varsity softball coach; Samuel Caldwell, volunteer softball coach; Gregory Coffman and Madalyn Branham, assistant track coaches; Cyle Skidmore, volunteer track coach and spring weightlifting coordinator; William Byrnes, middle school track coach; Brandon Buck, assistant drama/technical director (half); Kathleen Smock, assistant drama adviser (half); Matthew Safford, assistant drama/musical instrumental (half); Eleni Smock and Krista Richmond, assistant drama/musical instrumentals (quarter); Eden Smock, assistant drama/musical vocal; James Besch, musical accompanist; and Dorothy Faris, drama/musical choreographer for the 2020-21 school year, pending completion of necessary certifications where applicable.

— Hiring David Bell as videographer for the 2021 spring musical, compensated at $400.

— Hiring Cassidy Votaw as a substitute for after-school supervision for students in grades six through 12, retroactive to Jan. 13.

— Hiring Jordan Oliver as an instructional tutor for a high school student for up to four hours per week, retroactive to Jan. 19.

— The resignations of Benjamin Stuckey as cross country coach, effective Jan. 26; Seth Keller as junior varsity baseball coach, effective Jan. 29; April Shroll as elementary secretary, effective Feb. 20; and Katrina Sipes as full-time bus driver, effective Jan. 28.

— Kyle Rall as Thursday school and Saturday school staff personnel for the 2020-21 school year, retroactive to Feb. 13.

— A supplemental contract for Alexander Crall, volunteer baseball coach for the 2020-21 school year, with board member Steve Crall abstaining.

— A supplemental contract for Cathleen Johnson, middle school track coach for the 2020-21 school year, with board member Mark Johnson abstaining.

The board also approved the following operational items:

— A $5,671.44 school safety grant.

— A purchase order to Cardinal Bus Sales and Service for one 78 passenger handicapped bus.

— A contract with the Colonel Crawford Local School District for potential excess costs for five Wynford resident students for the 2020-21 school year.

— An agreement with Eath Networks to purchase an updated WeatherBug station, with expense covered by a grant and a donation.

— Accepting a bid and corresponding purchase order with Vaughn Industries to install a panel relocation to prepare for renovation of the old high school building.

— Accepting a bid and corresponding purchase orders with The Ohio Floor Company to refinish the old high school and elementary gymnasium floors.

— A $6,080 donation from DT Petroleum Service to offset the cost of the WeatherBug equipment purchase.

— A donation of two boxes of children's size face masks to Wynford Elementary from Family Farm and Home, Bucyrus.

— A donation of 45 cloth masks by Jen Fetter and The Sewing Shop.

— The semi-annual bullying report for the 2020-21 school year.

— A temporary policy allowing temporary non-bachelor's degree substitute teaching licenses to help alleviate the certified substitute shortage, expiring June 30.

— The 2020-21 Better Seed Host agreement with the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

— A purchase order to Central Ohio Farmer's Co-op for diesel and unleaded fuel.

— A donation of 16 gallons of hand sanitizer from local businesses.

— A software license agreement with EDGE Document Solutions, LLC.

— Mary Ehmann and Brittanie Ulmer as teachers' aides for the 2020-21 school year.

County DD board informed of new Angeline Industries CEO

By BRIAN HEMMINGER
Staff writer

The Wyandot County Board of Developmental Disabilities was informed of the new Angeline Industries executive director/CEO during its regular meeting Thursday, which was held virtually.

Angeline Superintendent Todd Dilley said in compliance with the federal requirement that Angeline Industries become certified as an agency provider of Medicaid direct services, the Angeline Industries board of directors selected Bob Witt to serve in the role of executive director/CEO.

Bob Witt

"Bob brings over 17 years of nonprofit leadership experience in the social services sector, including services to children and adults with developmental disabilities," Dilley said. "Bob recently moved from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to Tiffin to be closer to family and he's currently hard at work getting oriented to Angeline Industries and obtaining a significant amount of online training required by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities."

Dilley said Witt attended Heidelberg and that's where he met his wife.

"Hiring a CEO is an enormously important step, now completed, towards privatization," board president Tom Eyestone said. "Sometimes things just work out."

As part of his orientation, Witt has been spending partial days in each program area getting to know staff and individuals served. Dilley said he'll be coordinating with the Angeline Industries board on a day and time for a socially distanced opportunity for the DD board to meet Witt.

"We're excited to have (Witt)," Dilley said. "We think he's going to be a great fit. (Business manager) Amy (Traxler) and (Service Support Administration Director) Amanda (Rowlinson) would agree that he's a genuine team player. He's not looking to come in and take everything on his own. He's genuinely interested in what people on our staff have to say. We're appreciative of that."

In the finance report, Traxler reported donations were received from the estate of Lucinda Swartz, in memorial of Louis Rall and from the Carey Conservation Sportsman's Club, to be designated for the preschool.

In the superintendent's report, Dilley said to date, Angeline School has experienced eight closures and five delay days, which exceeds the five calamity closure days allowed. Dilley said the plan is to extend the end of the school year by up to four make-up days as necessary, and any school closures from 10 days or more will be treated as remote learning days instead to avoid additional make-up days.

With county developmental disability board members having to complete four hours of in-service training per year, Dilley proposed having Rowlinson speak about role of SSA in assuring health and safety as well as major unusual incident reporting following the March board meeting. The board approved the proposal.

Dilley reported Angeline Industries Inc.'s Marilyn J. Bowen building received a final approval by the State of Ohio's Richland County building code examiner's office and CSI Construction services will conduct a final walk-through before handing over the keys to the building. Dilley said the next phase will be to work with self advocates to select a name for the building, furnish it and get the Ohio Department of DD's approval for it as a new adult day services site.

Dilley praised the Wyandot County Health Department for its work with helping to get members of the DD community vaccinated from COVID-19.

"We have not had one single difficult moment when partnering with (the health department)," Dilley said. "A number of our colleagues from other counties have not had this experience with their local health departments. Every chance I get, I want to give a shoutout to our colleagues at Wyandot County Public Health. Our folks were deemed a priority group for the vaccine and they dove right in and helped make sure they were getting vaccine opportunities."

(Continued on page 2)

Upper rallies from 13 down in 4th quarter to beat Huron

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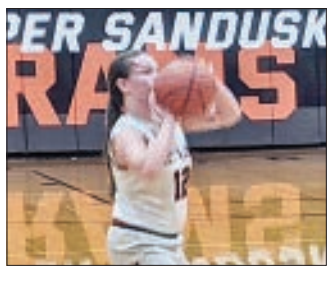

Falcons hold off Rockets to win back-to-back titles

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Obituaries

Henry Booze

Henry F. Booze, of Upper Sandusky, died Friday, Feb. 19, 2021, at Wyandot Memorial Hospital in Upper Sandusky. He was 73.

Arrangements are pending with Lucas-Batton Funeral Home.

Norman Miller

SYCAMORE — Norman W. Miller, of rural Bloomville, died at 7:43 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021, in the emergency room at Tiffin Mercy Hospital. He was 67.

Arrangements are pending with Walton-Moore Funeral Home, Sycamore.

Riverdale student wins Red Cross scholarship

FINDLAY — David Borkosky, of Carey, helped save lives by recently hosting an American Red Cross blood drive and earned a $1,000 scholarship as a result of his lifesaving efforts.

As part of the Red Cross Leaders Save Lives winter program, the Riverdale High School student hosted a blood drive at Mount Blanchard United Methodist Church on Dec. 23, 2020, which collected 40 blood donations. As a result, Borkosky was entered in a drawing to win a scholarship and was chosen as a winner. He was also awarded a gift card.

"I knew it was a great program for the Red Cross because of my brother's participation," Borkosky said, noting that his older brother preceded him as a host of a Leaders Save Lives blood drive. "After he graduated, I was asked to take over his role and I was happy to do it, knowing the impact it has on the community and the need for blood donors."

Blood donors from high school and college blood drives account for about 20% of donations given through the Red Cross during the school year. The Leaders Save Lives program encourages community-minded high school and college students to host blood drives to help maintain the blood supply for patients in need of lifesaving transfusions. As the pandemic wears on in 2021, blood donations remain essential to the health of communities.

Students can sign up now to participate in the Leaders Save Lives spring program for drives now through May 31. For more information, visit RedCrossBlood.org/LeadersSaveLives.

Blood donation safety precautions

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions — including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff — have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment before arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

How to donate blood

Download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information.

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients.

Nearly all at-risk DD individuals vaccinated

(Continued from page 1)

Rowlinson discussed the vaccination process.

"SSAs kicked it into high gear to contact first individuals living in group settings and their director support professionals," Rowlinson said. "We were able to accomplish that by Christmas. After the holiday break, we started contacting individuals that met the criteria for phase 1b. They had to have a DD diagnosis as well as medical conditions that put them at high risk. We made a list and started calling everyone that met phase 1b criteria. We assisted in scheduling and I very happily handed the list over to Jamie Crawford, the Wyandot County Director of Nursing. We had about 15 individuals that still needed to be scheduled for vaccines and of those 15, we now only have three left.

"Any time there's been a cancellation or any time they have an extra dose, she calls me and asks if they can come to someone's house. She even called me at 7 p.m. on a Friday evening to ask about helping someone. She's on the phone with me or texting me constantly. I can tell you, we're probably one of the only counties that can say we're this close to being done as of Feb. 18. I give all the praises in the world to the health department and our SSAs who have worked diligently to make this possible. I'm so excited to be almost done with this, because that allows us to get back to work on other things for DD awareness month."

Dilley said planning is continuing for DD Awareness Month in March. This year's theme is "We Are....Better Together." Part of the campaign includes billboards, social media, including community partners in the newsletter and some community outreach.

Rowlinson discussed what the SSA department is doing to help the county get more involved in the campaign.

"DD Awareness Month has brought a ray of sunshine and light for us," Rowlinson said. "Now we get to do fun stuff. We're really excited about, even though it has to be COVID compliant, we've had some really awesome ideas from our group. This year is the first year we've had an individual who's an artist from Art Connections draw our T-shirts. The drawing that's on the front of our shirts has been done by one of our own, Mike Schroeder. He came up with it in 24 hours and it's phenomenal. He's going to be a feature for us on one of our billboards and he very much deserves it."

In an effort to get the community more involved, Rowlinson said the school opened access to school districts in the county and let them know they could get involved with T-shirt orders.

"The Carey special education director Jenn Barrett said she had orders for me," she said. "They had 78 orders, equivalent to $780 worth of T-shirts to celebrate and support us for DD Awareness Month. I was flabbergasted. Then we got a call from Mohawk. They have a stack of orders for us. We're triple what we normally have for orders already. Jenny Wilson's taken 194 orders at Angeline and there are still more coming."

Rowlinson also said she is working to have a multimedia presentation made in coordination with people across all of Wyandot County submitting photos and videos to share awareness.

"We're hoping this is the best awareness year yet," she said.

Safety blotter

Upper Sandusky Police Department

An officer was dispatched to the 600 block of North Fifth Street late the afternoon of Feb. 14 for a injured deer. The officer dispatched the deer and it was receipted to an Upper Sandusky man.

A caller reported someone threw a rock into a vehicle's windshield in the 300 block of North Sandusky Avenue late the afternoon of Feb. 14.

Terry A. Armstrong, Upper Sandusky, was cited for open container in a motor vehicle in the 300 block of North Sandusky Avenue late the afternoon of Feb. 14.

Eric L. Rawlins, Marion, was arrested for OVI/under the influence and OVI/refusal, and was cited for open container in a motor vehicle in the 400 block of North Warpole Street early the morning of Feb. 15.

An Upper Sandusky man reported a fraudulent change to his bank account the morning of Feb. 15. The man's bank card was canceled and a fraud report was filed.

Laurie C. Vent, Upper Sandusky, was cited for speeding on East Wyandot Avenue near Third Street the morning of Feb. 15.

Ahmed A. Jama, Columbus, was cited for parking where signs prohibited in the 100 block of Comfort Drive the afternoon of Feb. 15.

An officer was dispatched to the entrance of the new reservoir near CH 60 for a car stuck in a drift the afternoon of Feb. 15. A family member of an Upper Sandusky female juvenile arrived to help get the vehicle out of the snow.

An officer assisted an Upper Sandusky woman with a vehicle unlock in the 100 block of Karcher Drive the afternoon of Feb. 15.

An officer assisted a Nevada woman with closing a stuck overhead storage unit door in the 500 block of Raybestos Drive the afternoon of Feb. 15.

An officer checked on a disabled vehicle on River Street the evening of Feb. 15. The driver said she was getting a new tire for the vehicle and did not need assistance.

Officers assisted an Upper Sandusky woman with a vehicle stuck in an alleyway in the 100 block of South Fourth Street the night of Feb. 15. The officers were able to push the vehicle into a parking space.

An officer assisted a Bucyrus man with a vehicle unlock on the U.S. 23 southbound ramp at Ohio 53 the night of Feb. 15.

An officer assisted the Wyandot County Sheriff's Office with a stuck vehicle at the intersection of Wyandot and Sandusky avenues the night of Feb. 15.

An officer assisted a Sycamore man with a vehicle that was stuck in the snow on Spring Street early the morning of Feb. 16.

The Upper Sandusky Street Department requested the police department contact the owners of vehicles parked in angles parking spots on Wyandot Avenue and Sandusky Avenue the morning of Feb. 16. The vehicles had been plowed in. Dispatch was unable to contact the owners.

An officer and a street department employee attempted to assist an Upper Sandusky man who was stuck in the snow on West Crawford Street near South Sandusky Avenue the morning of Feb. 16. They were unable to get the vehicle unstuck, but Fox's Towing removed the vehicle.

An officer assisted an Upper Sandusky woman with a vehicle unlock in the 300 block of Indian Mill Drive the morning of Feb. 16.

Wyandot County Sheriff's Office

Tracy M. Ramsey, Carey, was transported from the Wyandot County Jail to the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville for incarceration stemming from charges out of Wyandot County Common Pleas Court for harassment with bodily fluids the morning of Feb. 9. Mary L. Stapleton, Carey, was picked up from the Ohio Reformatory for Women and transported to the Wyandot County Jail for a judicial release hearing.

Jessica A. Stansberry, Carey, was cited for failure to control following a one-vehicle crash on CH 96 the afternoon of Feb. 10. Stansberry was traveling southbound on CH 96 near Ohio 103 when she went off the right side of the roadway, striking a fence post, causing no damage.

Dalton M. Parks, Upper Sandusky, was arrested for drug possession and was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of dangerous drug instruments in the 4000 block of TH 128 the night of Feb. 14.

Carl M. Dyer, Sycamore, was arrested for unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful transport of a firearm in a motor vehicle, and was cited for no valid driver's license and driving under suspension in the 4000 block of TH 128 the night of Feb. 14.

A deputy was dispatched to TH 103 near Ohio 199 the night of Feb. 15 for a vehicle stuck in a ditch the night of Feb. 15. Due to deplorable road conditions and numerous pending calls, tow trucks were not responding at the time. The vehicle was off the roadway and after making sure it was locked, the deputy gave the driver a ride home to Upper Sandusky.

Inmates George E. Boone, Elkart, Virginia; Israel L. Crumpton, Detroit; and Corbin C. Johnson, Upper Sandusky, were transported from the Wyandot County Jail to the Correctional Reception Center in Orient for incarceration the morning of Feb. 16.

A rural Upper Sandusky woman reported a township snow plow struck her vehicle that was parked on the side of the road in the 6000 block of TH 104 the afternoon of Feb. 16. Damage was caused to the driver's side of the vehicle. Insurance information was collected from Salem Township and the woman and photographs were taken of the damage.

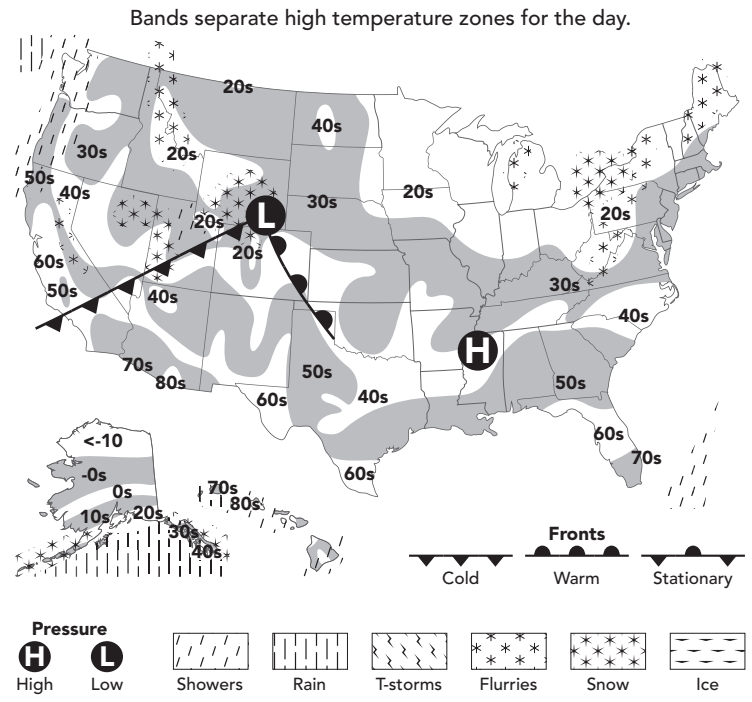
Deputies were dispatched to the 100 block of Dombaugh Street in Nevada for a structure fire late the afternoon of Feb. 16. Upon arrival, a mobile home and detached garage were fully engulfed. The Wyandot East, Upper Sandusky, Pitt Township, Sycamore and Bucyrus fire departments assisted at the scene and extinguished the fire. A deputy photographed the scene and directed traffic on Ohio 231 at the U.S. 30 junction. The garage was a total loss, but the mobile home remained standing, although was significantly damaged. The cause of the fire was categorized as suspicious and remains under investigation.

Today's Weather

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Saturday, February 20, 2021

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



NATIONAL SUMMARY: A break from major storms will be underway today, and the severe cold over the Central states is forecast to ease into next week. Some chilly air will contribute to snow showers from the Great Lakes to the interior Northeast. A weak storm is expected to bring spotty snow over the interior West. Some rain will fall over the coastal Northwest.

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TODAY...Partly sunny. Highs in the lower 20s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. Wind chill values as low as 6 below in the morning.

TONIGHT...Mostly cloudy. Cold with lows around 7 above. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph, becoming south after midnight.

SUNDAY...Partly sunny in the morning, then becoming mostly cloudy. Not as cool with highs in the lower 30s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Wind chill values as low as zero in the morning.

SUNDAY NIGHT...Snow and rain showers. Light snow accumulation. Not as cool with lows in the lower 30s. Temperature rising into the mid 30s after midnight. South winds 10 to 15 mph with gusts up to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

MONDAY...Mostly cloudy. Rain and snow showers in the morning. Near steady temperature in the mid 30s. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

MONDAY NIGHT...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Back in Paris pact, US faces tougher climate steps ahead

WASHINGTON (AP) — World leaders welcomed the United States' official return to the Paris climate accord Friday, but politically trickier steps lie just ahead for President Joe Biden, including setting a tough national target in coming months for cutting damaging fossil fuel emissions.

And even as Biden noted the country's first day back in the climate pact, the globe's dangerous warming was just one of a long list of urgent problems he raised in a video speech to European leaders on Friday, a month into his administration. Before bringing up climate issues, he touched on the global pandemic, sputtering national economies and tense relations with China, among other matters that threaten to impede and delay tackling the nation's status as the world's top carbon polluter after China.

Despite all the other challenges, Biden said, speaking to the Munich security conference, "we can no longer delay or do the bare minimum to address climate change. This is a global existential crisis, and all of us will suffer if we fail."

Biden signed an executive order on his first day in office reversing the pullout ordered by President Donald Trump. Trump said soon after he took office that he would start the process of pulling the U.S. from the Paris accord, but it didn't take effect until Nov. 4, 2020, because of provisions in the agreement.

Officially, the United States was only out of the worldwide global climate pact for 107 days. It was part of Trump's withdrawal from global allegiances in general and his oft-stated but false view that global warming was a laughably mistaken take by the world's scientists.

More broadly, Trump reversed Obama-era initiatives to rein in oil, gas and coal emissions and opened new federal lands and waters to exploration and drilling. Biden is working to overturn those measures and additionally has pledged a $2 trillion remake of U.S. power grids, transportation systems and other infrastructure to sharply cut fossil fuel pollution.

While Friday's return is heavily symbolic, world leaders say they expect America to prove its seriousness to the cause. They are particularly eager for the United States to announce its new national 2030 target for cutting fossil fuel emissions, which scientists agree are altering the Earth's climate and worsening the extremes of drought, hurricanes, flooding and other natural disasters.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

Upper Sandusky Elks #83

31 PRIZES IN 31 DAYS EVENT

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this will be an online fundraising event only

Starting March 1, 2021

One Main Prize Will Be Given Away Every Day for 31 Days

The 31 Main prizes will consist of 22 $100 CASH PRIZES, 8 GUNS, and a special gun for St. Patty's Day!

Additional multiple side raffles and drawings will also be going on throughtout the entire 31 days, with additional items being added as well as fast cash events, cash prizes, guns, hunting accessories, etc., continually added throughtout the event.

Tickets are $10 each for the 31 Prizes in 31 Days Event

Purchase of 31 Prizes in 31 Days Event not required to participate in other online events.

Tickets available online at bpoe83GR.givesmart.com from members or at Wyandot Firearms or Sunshine Insurance

Since the start of these events over $400,000.00 has been given to Wyandot County Charities. Some side raffles will start early.

SEE MEMBERS FOR MORE DETAILS

Upper's Winter Fantasy of Lights

Wyandot County's Light Extravaganza

a non profit charitable event established 1997

Applications for 2021 Recipient Are Being Accepted

Criteria:

- 501(c)3 charitable organization, or unit of government
- Recipients of 2015 may again make application
- Monies received to be used for Wyandot Co. and its residents
- Application should be submitted on required form (see below)

Application Requirements:

- Name of organization, contact name(s), address, phone
- Description of need, specific use of funds, service areas
- Population served, other pertinent information
- Must be received by Saturday, May 1, 2021

For Required Form:

Go to: www.uppersfantasyoflights.org, click on donation and Download Application Form / Application Guidelines
Or Call: (419) 934-0431
Email: fantasyoflights@gmail.com

Application Should Be Submitted To:

Fantasy of Lights, P.O. Box 6, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
or Emailed to: fantasyoflights@gmail.com

Attach 501(c)3 determination letter or a written statement from a local or state auditor verifying your status as a governmental entity.

Lifestyles

Editorial staff
dcueditor@dailychiefunion.com
419-294-2332, ext. 28
419-294-5608, fax

Dorcas Carey Public Library

Fiction

"Neighbors" by Danielle Steel. Meredith White was one of Hollywood's most recognizable faces. But a personal tragedy cut her acting career short and alienated her from her family. For the last 15 years, White has been living alone in San Francisco with two trusted caretakers. Then, on a muggy late summer day, a massive earthquake strikes Northern California, plunging the Bay Area into chaos. Without a moment's hesitation, White invites her stunned and shaken neighbors into her mostly undamaged home as the recovery begins. These people did not even realize that movie star White was living on their street. Now, they are sharing her mansion, as well as their most closely kept secrets. Without the walls and privacy of their own homes, one by one, new relationships are forged. For every neighbor there is a story, from the doctor whose wife and children fear him, to the beautiful young woman dating a dishonorable man, to the aspiring writer caring for a famous blind musician. In the heart of the crisis, White finds herself venturing back into the world. And thanks to the suspicions and the dogged detective work of a disaster relief volunteer, a former military officer named Charles, a shocking truth about her own world is exposed. Suddenly White sees her isolation, her estranged family and even her acting career in a whole new light.

"Outlaw Country" (A Smoke Jensen Novel of the West) by William Johnstone. For most couples, the marriage vows end with "'Til death do us part." But when Smoke Jensen takes Sally Reynolds as his lawfully wedded wife, it's just the beginning. The tragic deaths of Jensen' s first wife and child weigh heavily on his heart. Thankfully, Reynolds is there to give him the support he needs when they return to Colorado, where it all happened. She's ready to embrace her husband's past — for better or worse — and to welcome his friend Preacher into the family. But when outlaws make an attempt to kidnap a local girl, Reynolds is forced to use the gun skills she had learned from Jensen to save both of their lives, learning the hard way what it means to be married to a Jensen.

"The Push" by Ashley Audrain. Blythe Connor is determined that she will be the warm, comforting mother to her new baby Violet that she herself never had. But in the thick of motherhood's exhausting early days, Connor becomes convinced that something is wrong with her daughter — she doesn' t behave like most children do. Or is it all in Connor' s head? Her husband, Fox, says she' s imagining things. The more Fox dismisses her fears, the more Connor begins to question her own sanity, and the more readers begin to question what Connor is telling them about her life as well. Then their son Sam is born — and with him, Connor has the blissful connection she' d always imagined with her child. Even Violet seems to love her little brother. But when life as they know it is changed in an instant, the devastating fall-out forces Connor to face the truth.

"The Forever Girl" (The Wildstone Series) by Jill Shalvis. When Maze returns to Wildstone for the wedding of her estranged bff and the sister of her heart, it's also a reunion of a once ragtag team of teenagers who had only each other until a tragedy tore them apart and scattered them wide. Now as adults together again in the lake house, there are secrets and resentments mixed up in all the amazing childhood memories. Unexpectedly, they instantly fall back into their roles: Maze their reckless leader, Cat the den mother, Heather the beloved baby sister and Walker a man of mystery. Life has changed all four of them in immeasurable ways. Maze and Cat must decide if they can rebuild their friendship, and Maze discovers her long-held attraction to Walker hasn't faded with the years but has only grown stronger.

"A Perfect Amish Romance" by Shelley Shepard Gray. Aaron Coblentz has a secret: he's been studying to take the GED to get promoted at work. But he can't let his Amish family know, not when his older brother already left the faith just a year after getting baptized, practically crippling the family. When Coblentz asks bookmobile librarian Sarah Anne Miller for some additional study guides, she does one better. She arranges for Kayla Kaufman to be his tutor. Kaufman has a secret, too. Her life has been turned upside down in a matter of months —her mother's death propelled her father into a constant state of depression, and unable to deal with his erratic behavior, her longtime boyfriend has broken things off. But despite losing those she holds most dear, she hasn't completely given up on love. Only now she seeks to find it in the sweet romance novels she secretly checks out from Miller' s bookmobile. As Coblentz and Kaufman' s study sessions start to feel less like work and more like pleasure, they soon realize that happily ever afters don't only happen in fiction; sometimes they happen when you least expect it.

Nonfiction

"Hello Habits: A Minimalist' s Guide to a Better Life" by Furnio Sasaki. Fumio Sasaki changed his life when he became a minimalist. But before minimalism could really stick, he had to make it a habit. All of us live our lives based on the habits we've formed, from when we get up in the morning to what we eat and drink to how likely we are to actually make it to the gym. In "Hello, Habits," Sasaki explains how we can acquire the new habits that we want — and get rid of the ones that don't do us any good. Drawing on leading theories and tips about the science of habit formation from cognitive psychology, neuroscience and sociology, along with examples from popular culture and tried-and-tested techniques from his own life, he unravels common misperceptions about "willpower" and "talent," and offers a step-by-step guide to success. Ultimately, Sasaki shows how ordinary people like himself can use his principles of good habit-making to improve themselves and change their lives.

"Rituals for Virtual Meetings: Creative Way's to Engage People and Strengthen Relationships" by Kuisat Ozene Ph.D. We rely on virtual meetings now more than ever. However, they can often feel awkward, monotonous and frustrating. If you're not thrilled with your virtual meetings, rituals can help your group break through to better results by providing structures that unlock freedom. With rituals, virtual meetings can be moments that are elevated and nurtured, opportunities for people to build connection and trust while accomplishing a common goal. In "Rituals for Virtual Meetings: Creative Ways to Engage People and Strengthen Relationships" authors Kursat Ozenc and Glenn Fajardo show leaders, managers and meeting organizers how to build rapport and rhythm amongst team members when everyone is not in the same physical space. "Rituals for Virtual Meetings" provides readers with practical, concrete steps to improve group cohesion and performance. Perfect for anyone who needs to engage people in virtual settings, the book also belongs on the shelves of anyone interested in how to increase team engagement in a variety of contexts.

To borrow these or any of the other materials from the Dorcas Carey Public Library, visit the library's webpage at dorcascarey.org to place a request for materials or call the library at 419-396-7921 or 419-788-2768. The library is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday; from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Curbside service is available. Send questions via email to ltoland@seolibraries.org or visit the library' s page on Facebook.

Consumers shocked by 1099-G form identity theft

The Better Business Bureau recently announced that it has received daily reports from consumers who have received 1099-G forms from the Job and Family Services offices in Ohio, Michigan or other states. The callers have no idea what these forms mean or whether they are scams, but indicate they have had their identity stolen.

These 1099-G forms are just another unwelcome byproduct of the pandemic: crooks are taking advantage of increased unemployment to collect benefits in the names of unsuspecting victims. This fraud is costing the state and federal government billions of dollars.

How the scam works

Thieves typically get the personal information they need for fake unemployment claims by purchasing it online. One con artist told USA Today that he compiles lists of real people. Then, on the "dark net," he pays $2 in cryptocurrency to match each name with a Social Security number and date of birth. Amazingly, this is often all the information he needs to file a phony unemployment claim.

Other times, scammers get personal information for fake claims through "phishing messages" that the consumers fell for. They may have received an email offering a reward like a gift card or free product. Or they may have been scared by an email that claimed to be from the government that they had failed to pay their taxes or missed jury duty. They innocently provided personal information which the scammers used for their fake unemployment claims. Most victims do not know their identity has been used for unemployment fraud until they are contacted about an unemployment claim they never made.

According to BBB Scam Tracker, here are some common ways victims became aware of the fraud:

— Most common is they receive a 1099-G form from the government telling them that they received thousands of dollars in unemployment benefits. This is serious. If the victim doesn't report the scam, the "earnings" will be reported to IRS and may be taxable.

— They received notification from an unemployment office "confirming" the date of their last day of work — even though they are still employed or have been retired for years.

— A letter from the state unemployment office or department of labor informing them that their unemployment benefits were denied — even though they made no such claim.

— Their employer is notified that they filed for unemployment benefits, even though they still work for the company. Consumers who receive a letter, email or any other notification about an unemployment claim that they never made should be sure to report it.

Consumers also should check their credit report. An unemployment claim in a consumer's name means that scammers have their personal information. Be sure to check credit reports at AnnualCreditReport.com for unauthorized inquiries and accounts. This is the only free crediting reporting service authorized by the Federal Trade Commission.

Consider freezing credit. This keeps anyone from seeing a credit report without proof of identity. Contact the three major credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) to do this.

Set up transaction alerts with a bank or credit union. This ensures notification of any withdrawal above a dollar amount which the user determines. Explain to them what has happened.

Five WMH Foundation scholarships are available

The Wyandot Memorial Hospital Foundation will award five $1,000 scholarships this spring to Wyandot County residents planning careers in healthcare.

Scholarship applications are available at the hospital's information desk in the lobby and are due March 15. The application may also be downloaded from the foundation's page on the hospital website at WyandotMemorial.org.

High school seniors or adult students currently pursuing healthcare degrees may apply for the awards. Selection criteria include scholastic achievement (2.5 grade point average or better), financial need, character and citizenship and commitment to community. Students are eligible to receive the award a maximum of two years, either consecutively or non-consecutively.

Supporting documentation required for the application includes the most recent school transcripts, proof of residency in Wyandot County and three letters of recommendation.

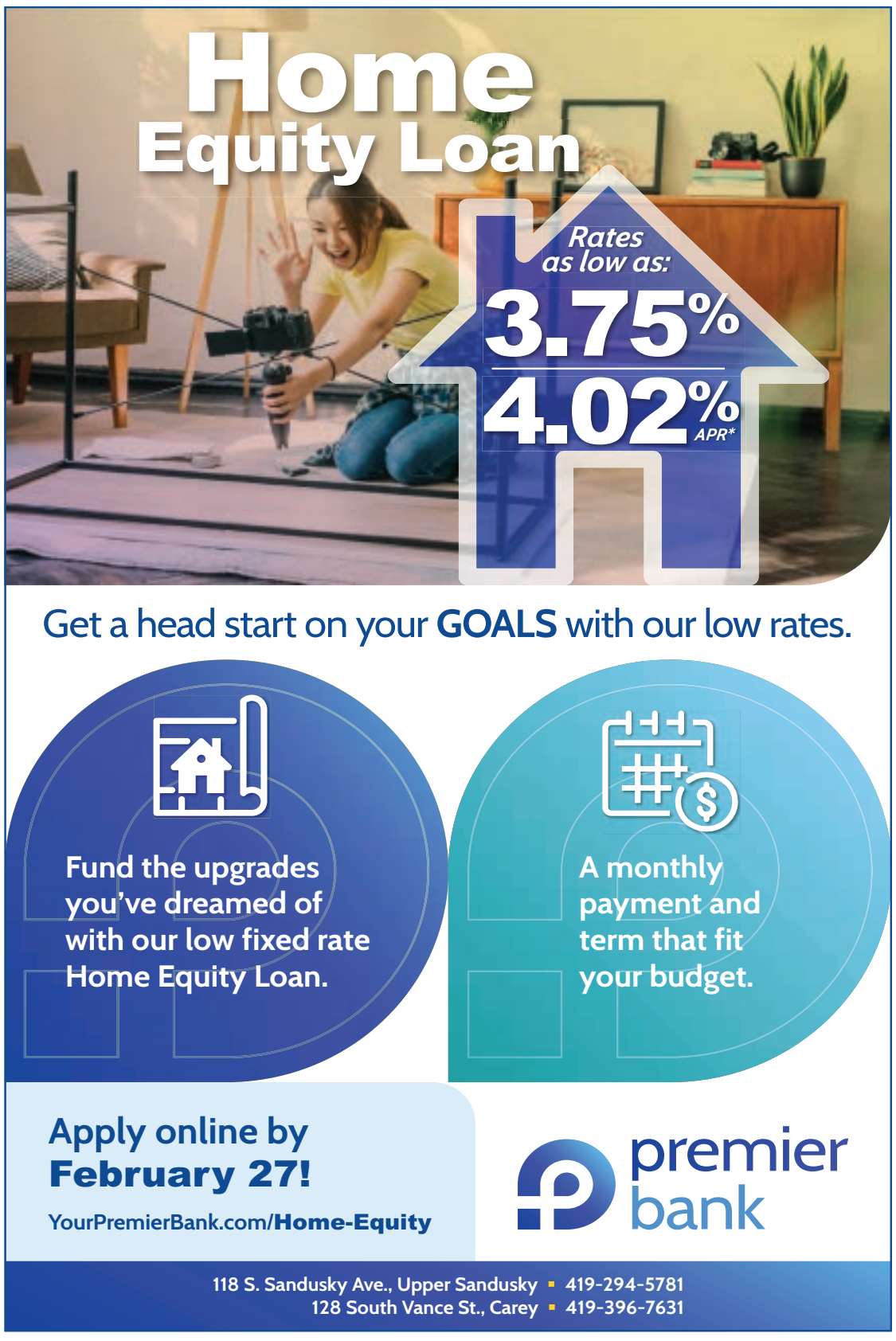
The awards will be announced in late May after the foundation board's scholarship committee reviews and considers all qualifying applications.

For more information, contact the public relations office at Wyandot Memorial Hospital by calling 419-294-4991, ext. 2268, or emailing jboden@wyandotmemorial.org.

DCPL's Carey Page Turners group to meet Wednesday

CAREY — Carey Page Turners, the Dorcas Carey Public Library adult book discussion group will meet via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 24.

The group will be discussing the book "The Last Midwife" by Sandra Dallas. Group members share their views about this book and offer suggestions of other books that group members may enjoy reading.



OpinionsEditorials

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The Daily Chief-Union

The Union, established in 1845, and The Chief, established in 1879, consolidated in 1938.

Jeff Barnes, Publisher

Published Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas when published another day instead, by The Daily Chief Co., 111 W. Wyandot Ave., PO Box 180, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351-0180.

USPS 142-240
Second-class postage paid at Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351-0180 according to current postal requirements.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE SUBSCRIPTION RATES	1-YR	6-MOS	3-MOS	1-MO
Carrier Delivery	$117.04	$60.04	$30.79	$11.00
Motor Route Delivery	$134.15	$68.85	$34.95	$13.00

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Rest in peace, Rush

Michael Reagan

Making Sense

His fans knew it was coming, but they were still crushed to hear the news that Rush Limbaugh had died.

His political enemies and the liberal mainstream media, on the other hand, fell all over themselves trying to see who could spit the most venom and hatred on his grave before he was even in it.

They called him names, misrepresented his personality and, in the end, succeeded only in betraying how little they had listened to his show during the last 30 years.

The bums who run the New York Times were ready with their Page 1 obituary.

It was a predictable hit job, a nasty editorial aimed at pleasing the Times' liberal readership.

It was clearly written by someone who hated Rush's conservative politics and didn't appreciate or understand his humor, his irony, his mastery of the radio medium or his long-term appeal to millions of average Americans who did not live in Manhattan.

I prefer what Ben Domenech, the co-founder of The Federalist, wrote in the city's honest paper, the New York Post.

"Limbaugh prevailed over his critics, not just because he was a once-in-a-lifetime talent, but because he was right about his favorite subject: America.

"There can be no conservatism confined to the intellectual or corporate set — you needed to trust the people, as Ronald Reagan understood. Limbaugh legitimized this impulse by treating the views of high ranked politicians and his everyday callers with the same level of respect."

Rush's success in the 1990s made it possible for many of us to get jobs in talk radio and allow our voices also to compete with the liberal TV networks and major print media.

When he burst upon the national scene in 1989 I was living in L.A. and commuting 262 miles roundtrip every day to do a local talk-show in San Diego.

I was on the verge of signing a new three-year contract when I arrived one Monday to do my show and was told I had been replaced by Rush.

Suddenly I found myself trying to figure out how to make a living and support my wife and two young kids. I didn't want to become a bagger at a Ralph's supermarket.

I took some guest gigs in Seattle and was offered a talk show job in Milwaukee. But being a California-born kid, moving to Milwaukee with my family was out of the question.

Anyway, in the dog-eat-dog world of radio, in three months I could just as easily be replaced by Rush again.

Realizing I had to do unto others before they did it unto me again, in 1990 I began putting together my own national talk show.

Our "national" talk show struggled to get off the launch pad, to say the least.

We had so little money, my first paycheck bounced and my "pay" ended up being a Green Bay Packer's cap, which I still have.

To make the show sound bigger than it was, we faked calls from listeners.

Producers would go out to a payphone in the parking lot and call the show and say they were "Bob from San Diego" or "Sheila from Ohio."

Ultimately my show got picked up by Premiere Radio Networks, the country's largest syndication company, and I became its first long-form talk-show host on a roster that eventually would include giants like Rush, Sean Hannity and Dr. Laura.

Until I walked away in 2009, I ended up working in radio for 26 years. Nineteen years were with my nationally syndicated talk show, which was carried by nearly 300 stations.

I owe my talk-radio career to Rush. Without him blazing the trail and creating a new medium for conservatives, I don't know where I would have ended up.

Many of the biggest names in conservative talk radio and TV today also owe their careers to him.

For three decades he showed so many of us the way. We talkers knew we were never going to be him, but he opened the door for us so we could try.

Thanks for that and everything else, Rush. RIP.

Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant and the author of "Lessons My Father Taught Me: The Strength, Integrity, and Faith of Ronald Reagan." He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelereagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

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New minimum wage must be part of deal

By DOUGLAS COHN and ELEANOR CLIFT

Douglas Cohn

Washington Merry Go Round

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers are negotiating over a $15 minimum wage and if it should be included in the coronavirus relief package now before Congress. What is there to negotiate? This should be a done deal. The federal minimum wage was last raised in 2009, when it rose from $6.55 to $7.25 an hour, the last step in a three-step phase-in approved by Congress in 2007, when Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., was still there to ride herd on his Senate colleagues to do the right thing.

Kennedy died in August 2009, and for the last decade there hasn't been a clarion call from Congress to boost the wages of people at the lowest end of the income scale. President Biden is calling on Congress to deliver this much-needed raise, saying people who work 40 hours a week should not have to live in poverty. He points out that if the federal minimum wage had been indexed to rise with the cost of living, it would be over $20 an hour.

Critics say raising the minimum wage will cost jobs and put small businesses out of business. This strains credulity. If everybody must meet the same criteria, a boost in the minimum wage might well raise the cost of some products, but it would be minimal. Conversely, playing the devil's advocate, what about lowering the minimum wage, to four dollars an hour. Would that make sense? Of course not, so why not all join hands and do what the economy and decency demand.

People earning these low wages must depend on government subsidies for food and rent while the businesses that employ them get away with paying what can fairly be called impoverishing wages. In other words, the government is subsidizing these businesses, effectively paying half of the wages for their minimum wage employees. It is fiscally and morally wrong for the federal government to enable businesses to shirk their duty and responsibility to pay fair and livable wages by providing these stop-gap measures.

Actually, this process is well underway. Twenty-five states are raising their minimum wage in 2021 though none to the $15 mark The most ambitious are California and Massachusetts, which will get there by January 1, 2023, and Illinois by 2025. Florida just voted to raise its state's minimum wage to $15 over the next six years.

Gradualism is the weak watchword, and even after voters have their say as they did in Florida in last year's election, favoring the $15 minimum wage, it takes a while to work its way into the system. It doesn't happen overnight even though it should.

For all of Biden's strong rhetoric favoring working men and women, he must deal with the reality of a Senate heavily weighted to favor the smaller, redder states where wages are often far less than they are in the bigger, bluer states like California and Massachusetts, where higher wages are needed to be competitive in the workplace, and Biden must keep all 50 Democratic senators on the same page if he's to get the $15 minimum wage into his America Rescue Plan.

Or Biden could do what he's doing, which is negotiating a $15 minimum wage to be phased in over a period of several years. It seems so miserly when you step back and realize that someone even earning that amount of money would be unlikely to get very far out of poverty.

The safety net is needed and important, but if workers were paid a fair wage, there would be less of a strain on government. Implementing a $15 federal minimum wage is a needed and necessary step toward the fair restructuring of the economy that Biden promised, and a strong show of support for the working men and women whose votes decide who is president.

Douglas Cohn's latest books are "World War 4: Nine Scenarios" (endorsed by seven flag officers) and "The President's First Year: The Only School for Presidents Is the Presidency."

Twitter: @douglas_cohn

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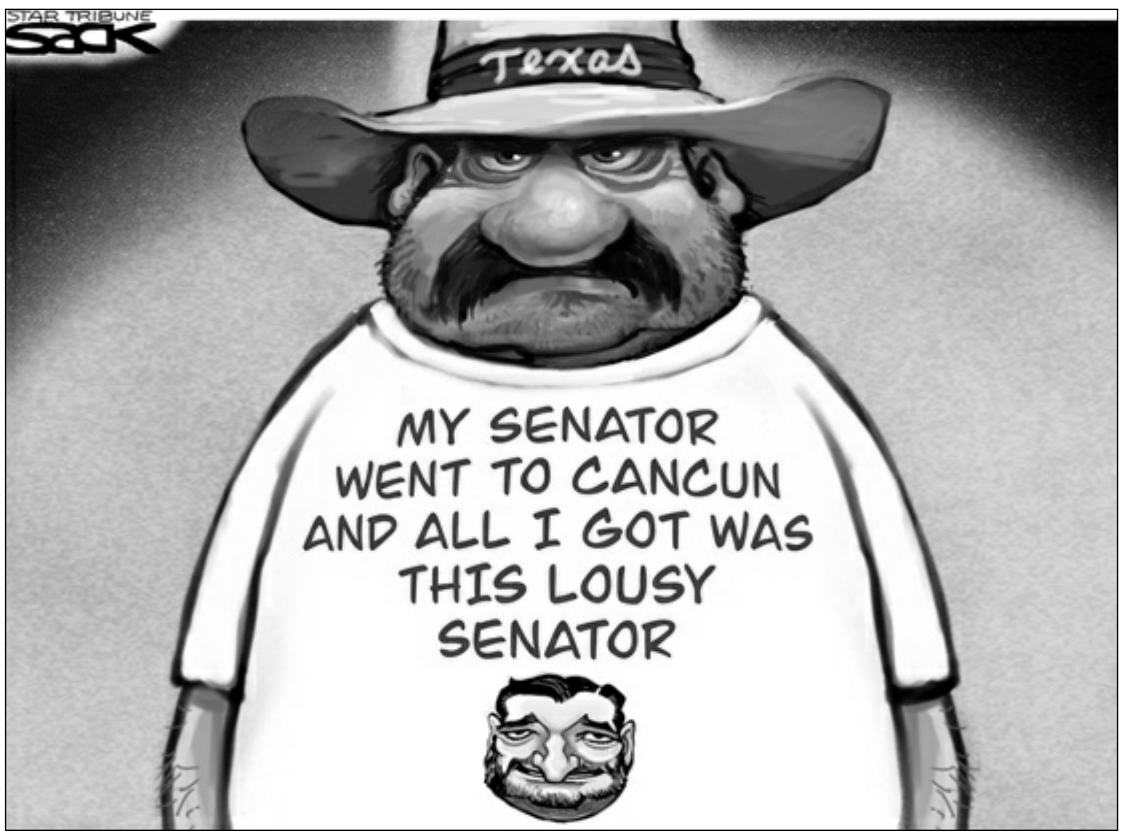


Woman struggles to get over husband's death

Dear Annie

Annie Lane

Dear Annie: Last month, I lost the man of my dreams, my husband. It hurts so bad without him. I don't know what to do. I miss him terribly. He was my everything for years now. He was my heart and soul. My heart is broken into a million pieces. I have talked with counselors; some help, others don't. We still had so many plans for the future. It just hurts. I want him back but I can't have that. I want to cry and at the same time want to laugh and smile for all the good times we had. I feel so lost and empty without him. I feel like I lost a part of me that day. Is there any advice you can give me? â " Grieving Wife

Dear Grieving Wife: I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. As therapist and grief advocate Megan Devine writes in her book "It's OK that You're Not OK": "There is a quiet, a stillness, that pervades everything in early grief. Loss stuns us into a place beyond language." There are no words to adequately address your pain, but here is my meager attempt.

You've suffered a devastating blow. It feels like you lost a part of yourself that day because you did. I won't attempt to offer you solutions, because your grief is not a problem; it's the natural reaction to this traumatic, life-altering event. I say all this not to make you feel worse but to make you feel heard. All of your feelings â " from desperation, to anger, to numbness, to the whole-body heartache that thrums beneath it all â " are valid.

That doesn't mean you're condemned to a lifetime of suffering, or that you need to endure this alone. I commend you for reaching out to others for support over the past few weeks, and I encourage you to keep doing so. Continue trying out counselors until you find one you like. Eventually, you might even consider joining a grief support group. While the pandemic may make it difficult to meet in person, there are online grief-support communities, such as Grieving.com and GriefInCommon.com.

Lastly, keep holding onto those good memories like a raft. No one can ever take them away.

———

Dear Annie: I am 32 and living at my childhood home with my mother. I was once away at college and had several mediocre jobs in a few different cities. However, my inability to find a job that paid well enough to sustain my independence resulted in me moving home with my mother a few years ago. I was laid off in May due to COVID-19, but my employment there was rocky anyway.

I look back on certain failures, and I'm incredibly embarrassed and ashamed. I am desperate to take responsibility for my life and become an adult, but the fear and my inadequacy are overwhelming. I am having difficulty coping. Am I destined to struggle for the rest of my life? â " Man-Child

Dear Man: It breaks my heart to hear how you talk to yourself. I can tell from your letter that you're a thoughtful, emotionally intelligent person. But all the reassurances in the world won't mean a thing if your depression and anxiety keep getting the last word. So, first and foremost, you must prioritize your mental health, through therapy and any other necessary treatment. And if you feel like you might hurt yourself or just would like someone to talk to, you can call 800-273-8255 any time.

Additionally, taking part in something bigger than oneself is a spiritual salve. I strongly encourage you to volunteer somewhere, whether virtually or in person. You can find opportunities at volunteermatch.org. You have a lot to offer the world. We need you.

"*Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie*" *is out now. Annie Lane's debut book — featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette — is available as a paperback and e-book. www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.*

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Feb. 20, the 51st day of 2021. There are 314 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 20, 1905, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Jacobson v. Massachusetts, upheld, 7-2, compulsory vaccination laws intended to protect the public's health.

On this date:

In 1792, President George Washington signed an act creating the United States Post Office Department.

In 1839, Congress prohibited dueling in the District of Columbia.

In 1933, Congress proposed the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to repeal Prohibition.

In 1942, Lt. Edward "Butch" O'Hare became the U.S. Navy's first flying ace of World War II by shooting down five Japanese bombers while defending the aircraft carrier USS Lexington in the South Pacific.

In 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Project Mercury's Friendship 7 spacecraft, which circled the globe three times in a flight lasting 4 hours, 55 minutes and 23 seconds before splashing down safely in the Atlantic Ocean 800 miles southeast of Bermuda.

In 1965, America's Ranger 8 spacecraft crashed on the moon, as planned, after sending back thousands of pictures of the lunar surface.

In 1987, a bomb left by Unabomber Ted Kaczynski exploded behind a computer store in Salt Lake City, seriously injuring store owner Gary Wright. Soviet authorities released Jewish activist Josef Begun.

In 1998, Tara Lipinski of the U.S. won the ladies' figure skating gold medal at the Nagano Olympics; Michelle Kwan won the silver.

In 1999, movie reviewer Gene Siskel died at a hospital outside Chicago at age 53.

In 2003, a fire sparked by pyrotechnics broke out during a concert by the group Great White at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island, killing 100 people and injuring about 200 others.

In 2007, in a victory for President George W. Bush, a divided federal appeals court ruled that Guantanamo Bay detainees could not use the U.S. court system to challenge their indefinite imprisonment.

In 2010, Alexander Haig, a soldier and statesman who'd held high posts in three Republican administrations and some of the U.S. military's top jobs, died in Baltimore at 85.

Ten years ago: Security forces loyal to Libya's Moammar Gadhafi unleashed heavy gunfire as thousands marched in the rebellious eastern city of Benghazi, cutting down mourners trying to bury victims. Twenty-year-old Trevor Bayne won the Daytona 500 in only his second Sprint Cup start.

Five years ago: Donald Trump barreled to victory in South Carolina's Republican primary; Hillary Clinton pulled out a crucial win over Bernie Sanders in Nevada's Democratic caucuses. A funeral Mass was held for Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

One year ago: Japan's Health Ministry said two passengers who'd been taken off a quarantined cruise ship after being infected with the new coronavirus had died; both were in their 80s and had pre-existing diseases. Sixteen Americans who'd been brought to the U.S. from the cruise ship were in hospitals, either because delayed test results showed that they had the virus or because they had shown symptoms.

Daily Chief-Union/Andrew Wilson

Leading scorer

Carey's Alaina Tiell (11) shoots a jumper against Western Reserve on Thursday. Tiell scored 15 points in the Blue Devils' 41-22 win

WR goes scoreless for 14 minutes

(Continued from page 9)

twice as long. Their posts do a phenomenal job of applying pressure, and a lot of posts don't do that. That's something they do very well here at Carey."

Tiell scored nine of Carey's 12 first-quarter points, including a floater with 1:37 remaining in the first quarter that gave Carey a 12-5 lead. Sadie Arend's first basket of the game, a layup with 3:44 remaining in the second quarter, put Carey ahead 16-5.

It was all part of a 16-0 run to close the first half and opened the third quarter.

And that defensive effort enabled the Blue Devils to overcome a night in which they shot 15 for 47 from the field, including 5 for 18 from long range.

"That's what we hope for, that's something we try to control, and we did that," Carey coach Phil Vaughn said. "The only thing, I think we have to box out better going forward. They got some second opportunities and on foul shots too, and you can't give that up. We have to finish them off with good box-outs."

Ellison Roark hit two of her three 3-pointers early in the third quarter, the first from the top of the key and second from the left wing, giving the Blue Devils a 28-6 lead.

Tiell scored 15 points, Roark added nine and Avarie Stewart scored seven.

"They got some good looks, and it looked like they were forcing Ady away from the 3-point line," Vaughn said. "We have four girls that shoot the 3. They just need to, as it comes to them, standing offense, take the first and best opportunity."

After being held scoreless in the second quarter, the Roughriders scored eight points in the third quarter, as Duchette hit a jumper from the key, Ellie Blankenship hit a layup and Woodrum hit a 3-pointer from the right wing with less than a minute remaining. Duchette led the Roughriders with 13 points.

The Roughriders shot 9 for 36 from the field, including 2 for 11 from 3-point range.

"We came in here and we played a phenomenal defensive game," Ashley said. "This team's capable of scoring more than 60 points, and holding them to 41 I thought was an awesome job on my girls' part. We got the looks we wanted, we just couldn't get the ball to fall."

Carey led by as much as 39-18 after a jumper by Ady Stewart with 1:22 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Thursday's contest marked the end of the Ashley's first season as coach.

"We didn't honestly think we would get the whole season in, so the fact that we got to play 20 games is definitely awesome within its own self," Ashley said. "We were fortunate; our girls really took the COVID protocols seriously. We never had to quarantine. They really buckled down and proved that they wanted a season. We had a really good stretch of basketball where we were scoring up in the 40 and 50 points. We were getting our good looks and finishing. Second half of the season, we couldn't finish. Our defense was always there though, and I can't speak enough about that."

CAREY (19-3): Tiell 5-3-15, Roark 3-0-9, Av. Stewart 3-1-7, Arend 3-0-6, Ad. Stewart 1-2-4. Totals 15-47 6-8 41.

WESTERN RESERVE (8-12): Duchette 5-2-13, Blankenship 2-0-4, Woodrum 1-0-3, French 1-0-2. Totals 9-36 2-8 22.

3-point goals: Roark 3, Tiell 2, Woodrum, Duchette.

Score by quarters

Western Reserve	5	0	8	9	— 22
Carey	12	8	14	7	— 41

Fairview runs away with big 2nd quarter

SHERWOOD — The Riverdale girls basketball team trailed by three points at the end of the first quarter, but Fairview scored 26 points in the second quarter on the way to its 58-20 win Thursday in a Division III sectional semifinal at Fairview.

Carrigan Vent

The No. 3 seed Apaches will host No. 8 seed Van Buren in the sectional final at 7 p.m. Saturday.

After scoring seven points in the first quarter, the Falcons (8-13) only scored 13 the rest of the way.

Carrie Zeedyk scored 15 points with four rebounds and two steals. Kelly Crites scored 12 points with three steals, while Allison Rhodes scored eight points with five rebounds.

The Apaches shot 24 of 59 on the night, including 5 of 18 from 3-point range.

Riverdale shot 8 for 41 from the floor and didn't make a 3-pointer.

The Falcons were led by Carrigan Vent, who scored eight points. Hanna Breidenbach scored six points. Danielle Searfoss added four.

RIVERDALE (8-13): Vent 2-4-8, Breidenbach 3-0-6, Searfoss 2-0-4, Howell 1-0-2. Totals 8-32 4-5 20.

FAIRVIEW (19-3): C. Zeedyk 4-1-15, Crites 5-2-12, Rhodes 4-1-8, P. Ricica 2-2-7, Smith 2-0-6, O. Ricica 2-0-4, Mavis 1-0-2, Cline 1-0-2, Singer 1-0-2. Totals 19-41 5-9 58.

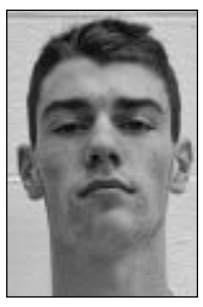
3-point goals: Zeedyk 2, Smith 2, P. Ricica.

Score by quarters

Riverdale	7	7	2	4	— 20
Fairview	10	26	15	7	— 58

Warriors start fast, win big over Redskins

ARCADIA — The Mohawk boys basketball hit 10 3-pointers and three players scored in double figures in the Warriors' 78-43 win over Arcadia on Thursday at Arcadia.



AJ Hess

AJ Hess led all scorers with 17 points, Tyler Hayman scored 13 points, Austin Tusing scored 10 points and Landen Snyder scored nine points.

Reese Hannam scored five points with nine rebounds.

Mohawk outscored Arcadia 17-4 in the first quarter, 22-17 in the second quarter, 20-9 in the third quarter and 19-13 in the fourth quarter.

The Warriors (15-6) forced 26 turnovers.

The Redskins (4-18) were led by Josh Cassell, who scored 14 points, and Logan Boes, who scored nine.

The Warriors also won the junior varsity game 64-16. Zaiden Fry scored 17 points. Mohawk travels to Upper Sandusky at noon today.

MOHAWK (15-6): Hess 7-1-17, Hayman 5-1-13, Tusing 4-0-10, Snyder 3-2-9, Geary 2-0-6, Russell 2-2-6, Combs 2-0-5, Hannam 1-3-5, Oesch 1-0-2, Fry 0-1-1. Totals 29 10-15 78.

ARCADIA (4-18): Cassell 6-2-14, Boes 3-2-9, Lucius 3-2-8, Cohee 3-1-7, Stoner 2-0-5. Totals 17 7-12 43.

3-point goals: Hayman 2, Geary 2, Tusing 2, Hess 2, Boes, Stoner, Combs, Snyder.

Score by quarters

Arcadia	4	17	9	13	— 43
Mohawk	17	22	20	19	— 78

Junior varsity: Mohawk won 64-16.

In Brief

Fastpitch softball signups in Upper starting this week

Signups are beginning for the Upper Sandusky Girls Fastpitch Summer League.

Dates for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade are 9-11:30 a.m. today at Beca House Coffee, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at 9 Flags Pizza, and 9-11:30 a.m. Feb. 27 at Beca House.

Indians bringing back lefty Perez

CLEVELAND (AP) — Oliver Perez's long baseball odyssey spins on.

The reliable and crafty reliever agreed Thursday to a minor league deal with the Indians, who invited the left-hander to big league training camp to give him a shot to make their bullpen. Perez has spent the past three seasons with Cleveland, appearing in 139 games.

Perez will turn 40 in August and shows no sign of slowing down.

"I think one of the things we've really grown to appreciate about Oliver is not only his savvy on the mound and his ability to get outs," said Chris Antonetti, the Indians president of baseball operations. "But the impact he has while he's sitting out there in the bullpen with other players and the respect he commands within the clubhouse.

"So we're really excited to welcome him back to the organization and see what that 2021 chapter of his career looks like."

Perez went 1-1 with a 2.00 ERA in 21 games last season while helping the Indians gain a wild-card spot. Perez has a 73-92 record and 4.35 ERA in 18 seasons with the Mets, Pirates, Diamondbacks, Padres, Nationals, Mariners, Astros and Indians.

Clock expires after Mohawk steal

(Continued from page 9)

them to."

Still trailing by five late in the game, Mohawk forced turnovers on five straight possessions but could not convert them into points. Gabrielle Maringer missed on the front end of a one-and-one, and the Warriors got one more basket inside from Klopp to make it a one-possession game with about 10 seconds left.

However, they were out of timeouts. The Lakers finally had to use one of theirs, unable to get the ball inbounded, with 5.2 seconds left. After the break, Bailey Sheets knocked a pass away and dove to the floor to get it, but time ran out before she could try to get the ball to a teammate for a potential game-tying 3-pointer.

"Our 1-3-1 three-quarter press was really giving them fits," Hannam said. "... We just needed a couple more makes. We had some decent looks. Even there at the end, we get a 2-pointer and we're only down three. We needed about 10 more seconds left. We even got a steal at the end. Me and my timeout happiness, we were out of timeouts."

Mohawk made the game's first run, getting a Harper 3-pointer on the game's first possession and then moving ahead 9-1 by the middle of the first quarter. A pair of 3-pointers by Stephens, who led the Lakers with 10 points, got them right back in it, and they trailed just 11-9 at the end of the first quarter and then took a 17-16 lead by halftime. Their biggest advantage was 22-16 with about five minutes left in the third quarter.

"We knew Mohawk was going to give us problems," Heller said. "Their much better than their record indicates, and they've got a 6-2 girl, and that's hard to compete against when you don't have anything close."

Harper, a four-year varsity player for the Warriors, had five points and four rebounds in her final game. Another senior starter, Jessie Weir tallied four steals and three rebounds.

But the rest of Mohawk's rotation will return for next season, including their other three starts, who all were sophomores.

"Every journey has to come to an end, and for the seniors, that was the end," Hannam said. "There was some emotions going on down there tonight. They fought hard. I could see it in their faces when they were sitting on the bench. They've worked a long time to come to this point in their career, but I was proud of them. ... With all the turmoil we've had over the years, they have an opportunity to help lead us in the right direction, and they all chose to lead us right in the right direction."

MOHAWK (5-18): Klopp 8-1-17, Harper 2-0-5, Sheets 2-0-4, Hamilton 1-0-3, Bailey 1-0-2. Totals 14- 1-2 31.

DANBURY (8-12): Stephens 4-0-10, M. Maringer 3-0-6, Brown 2-2-6, Uhinck 2-1-5, Rose 2-0-4, G. Maringer 1-0-3. Totals 14- 3-10 34.

3-point goals: Stephens, Harper, Hamilton, G. Maringer.

Score by quarters

Mohawk	11	5	11	4	— 31
Danbury	9	8	7	10	— 34

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Driving to the hoop

Mohawk's Bailey Sheets (20) gets to the basket in front of Danbury's Gabrielle Maringer (1) in a Division IV sectional semifinal game Thursday night. Sheets had four points and five steals in the Warriors' 34-31 loss.

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Post shot

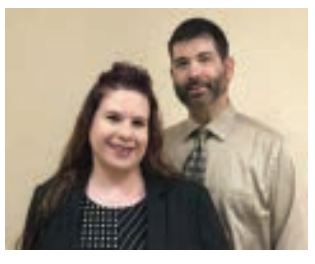
Mohawk's Mia Miller (15) puts up a shot in the paint Thursday night at Danbury. The Warriors fell short in the fourth quarter 34-31.

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

From the corner

Mohawk's Jessie Weir (24) spots up for a corner 3-pointer in a Division IV sectional semifinal against Danbury. Weir did not score but had four steals in the Warriors' 34-31 loss.

Questions about a Medicare plan?



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Court

Judge hears criminal, traffic cases in Upper Sandusky muni court

Criminal

Elias N. Lubow, Pickerington, charged by the patrol with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia, pretrial held, continued to March 30.

Kimberly S. Morris, Sycamore, charged by the state with driving without consent, pretrial held, continued to March 30.

Peyton D. Hawk, McComb, charged by the police with domestic violence menacing, disposition hearing held, disposition deferred on conditions.

Mary A. McCaleb, Upper Sandusky, charged by the state with assault, disposition hearing held, found guilty.

Kewan D. Watts, Bowling Green, Kentucky, charged by the patrol with possession of open beer in a motor vehicle, possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana paraphernalia, indigency hearing held, continued to Feb. 18.

Mahmoud N. Saad, Dearborn, Michigan, charged by the sheriff with possession of marijuana, pleaded guilty, found guilty.

Loren J. Shaw, Findlay, charged by the police with misuse of 911, continued to April 13.

Matthew E. Witten, Upper Sandusky, charged by the police with violation of open burning ordinance, pleaded no contest, found guilty.

Dairl E. Smith Jr., Columbus, charged by the state with passing a bad check, pretrial held, continued to March 24.

Khadijah M. Baker, Mansfield, charged by the state with menacing, finding deferred on conditions.

Shane D. Conley, Carey, charged by the police with criminal mischief, amended plea to guilty, found guilty.

Thomas E. Simmons, Upper Sandusky, charged by the police with fleeing/eluding, failed to appear, bench warrant issued.

Traffic

Elias N. Lubow, Pickerington, charged by the patrol with OVI/under the influence and speed (90/65), pretrial held, continued to March 30.

Stephanie R. Taylor, Caledonia, charged by the police with OVI/under the influence and failure to drive in marked lanes, pretrial held, continued to March 30.

Robert O. Lewis, Carey, charged by the sheriff with failure to control and OVI/refusal, indigency hearing held, continued to March 1.

Kewan D. Watts, Bowling Green, Kentucky, charged by the patrol with distracted driving, speed (86/65), OVI (third offense) and OVI/refusal, indigency hearing held, continued to Feb. 18.

Marquita P. Jackson, Columbus, charged by the sheriff with failure to drive in marked lanes and OVI, amended plea to guilty, found guilty; and no operator's license, dismissed.

Mahmoud N. Saad, Dearborn, Michigan, charged by the sheriff with speed (78/65) and no operator's license, pleaded guilty, found guilty.

Thomas D. Vallery, Tiffin, charged by the patrol with OVI/under the influence, amended plea to guilty, found guilty; and OVI (breath, high), dismissed.

Aaron C. Williams, Upper Sandusky, charged by the police with physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence, pleaded not guilty, indigency hearing held, trial set for March 16.

Beauregard M. Harvey, Sylvania, charged by the patrol with speed (85/65), trial held to court, found guilty.

Mark S. Weininger, Upper Sandusky, charged by the sheriff with improper passing, trial held to court, found guilty.

Alicia A. Littleton, charged by the police with driving under child support license forfeiture suspension, pleaded guilty, finding deferred on conditions.

Thomas E. Simmons, Upper Sandusky, charged by the police with two counts of OVI/under the influence, speed (56/25), driving under 12-point suspension and OVI/refusal, bench warrant issued.

Chris I. Broderdorp, Upper Sandusky, charged by the police with fictitious registration, driving under suspension and physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence, pretrial held, continued to March 24.

Carlos A. McCall, Columbus, charged by the patrol with driving under 12-point suspension and stop sign violation, pretrial held, trial scheduled for March 30.

Judgments made in county court

Judgments rendered

State of Ohio vs. Tyler A. Niederkohr, 210 S. Main St., Nevada, breaking and entering, sentenced.

Ashley Swain and a minor, 212 Dow St., Carey, vs. Bonnie L. Stansberry, 12651 W. TH 24, Carey, dismissed without prejudice.

State of Ohio vs. Isreal L. Crumpton, Detroit, attempted illegal conveyance of drugs of abuse on to the grounds of specified government facility, sentenced.

State of Ohio vs. Corbin C. Johnson, 10358 TH 103, Upper Sandusky, soliciting and gross sexual imposition, sentenced.

State of Ohio vs. Jermone L. Allen, Toledo, improper handling of firearms in a motor vehicle, sentenced.

Jillian M. Lopez, 635 N. Vance St., Carey, vs. William Lopez, Dover, decree of divorce.

State of Ohio vs. Courtney L. Barber, Mansfield, complicity to aggravated trafficking in drugs, sentenced.

Keith Lemons, administrator for estate of Sandy Lemons, Fostoria; Community Insurance Company, Mason, Community Insurance Co., Columbus; Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, Chicago and Springfield, Illinois; and Anthem BCBS, San Antonio, vs. Jon E. Zimmerman, 11361 CH 97, Upper Sandusky; and Ohio Department of Medicaid, Columbus, settled, dismissed with prejudice.

CLASSIFIEDS

1 - Legals

LEGAL NOTICE
PROBATE COURT OF
WYANDOT COUNTY, OHIO

"TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KIN, PATRICIA A., DECEASED, WYANDOT COUNTY PROBATE COURT, CASE NO. 20201075. The fiduciary in the estate has filed an inventory and appraisal of his trust. A hearing on the inventory and appraisal will be held March 11, 2021 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Court. The Court is located 109 S. Sandusky Ave., Rm. 23, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351. Any person desiring to file exceptions to said Inventory must file at least five days prior to the day set for hearing.

KATHLEEN A. AUBRY
February 18

LEGAL NOTICE
PROBATE COURT OF
WYANDOT COUNTY, OHIO

"TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF FILLMORE, MARGARET ANN., DECEASED, WYANDOT COUNTY PROBATE COURT, CASE NO. 20201112. The fiduciary in the estate has filed an inventory and appraisal of his trust. A hearing on the inventory and appraisal will be held March 18, 2021 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Court. The Court is located 109 S. Sandusky Ave., Rm. 23, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351. Any person desiring to file exceptions to said Inventory must file at least five days prior to the day set for hearing.

KATHLEEN A. AUBRY
February 19

PROBATE COURT OF
WYANDOT COUNTY, OHIO
CHANGE OF NAME OF
KEATON JAE LEMLEY
TO
KEATON JAE WENTZ
CASE NO. 20219002
Notice of hearing on
Change of Name

Applicant hereby gives notice to all interested persons and to Raymond Lemley, whose last known address is 132 Newhard St. Carey, OH 43316 that the applicant has filed an Application for Change of Name in the Probate Court of Wyandot County, Ohio, requesting the change of name of Keaton Jae Lemley to Keaton Jae Wentz. The hearing on the application will be held on the 23rd day of April, 2021 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Probate Court of Wyandot County, located at Courthouse, 109 S. Sandusky Ave., Second Fl., Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351

Jennifer M. Roper
18579 Township Highway49
Wharton, OH 43359
February 19

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6 - Special Notices

DELIVERY PROBLEM?
Residents of Upper Sandusky who do not receive their Daily Chief-Union by 5p.m. Monday-Friday or by 10a.m. Saturday and are unable to reach their carrier may call 419-294-2331, Ext. 22 and one will be delivered.
Thank you for your cooperation.
Circulation Department
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11 - Monuments

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34 - Help Wanted

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Questions? Call 419-772-2781 (M-F, 8a-5p)

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34 - Help Wanted

LIFEGUARD
POOL CASHIER

The City of Upper Sandusky is accepting applications for the seasonal positions of **Lifeguard** and **Cashier** fort the Municipal Swimming Pool. Applicants must reside within the Upper Sandusky School District. Work permits will be required for applicants under the age of 18.

Lifeguard General Description: Responsibilities include but are not limited to: monitor activities in swimming areas to prevent accidents and provide assistance to swimmers; cautions swimmers regarding unsafe areas; rescues swimmers in danger of drowning and administers first aid; maintains order in swimming areas; inspects facilities for cleanliness; may give swimming instructions. Qualifications: must posses a current lifesaving certificate or an instructor's certificate, First Aid, and CPR/AED certification.

Cashier General Description: Responsibilities include but are not limited to**:** greet pool patrons; operate cash register and issue change to patrons; manage patron sign in sheet; custodial or maintenance as assigned.

Applications, and a copy if the full description, can be picked up at the City's Water Office 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, Applications must be returned by March 22, 2021. Contact the Human Resources office are 419-731-2131 with questions. The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Medical office staff member needed. Will train for required duties in clerical and patient care. Computer skills helpful. office is located in Kenton. Please send resume to Box 65 I/C the Kenton Times, 201 E. Columbus Street, Kenton, Ohio 43326

SUB NEEDED Guaranteed Saturdays every week. More days possible. Must have reliable car. If interested send letter to Box 62, c/o Kenton Times, 201 Columbus St, Kenton OH 43326.

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36 - Business Oppt.

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43 - Houses for Rent

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48 - Wanted to Buy

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53 - Antiques

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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

~ Stella Wilder's daily horoscope ~

Born today, you have a fine sense of style, and your instinct for presenting yourself at the best possible advantage is perhaps second to none. That doesn't mean, of course, that style is always more impactful to you than substance; on the contrary, only when style is used in tandem with solid substance will you really enjoy the gains of which you feel you are deserving. You must take care to keep style and substance in balance, for if you allow yourself to become too colorful, you will find that much of what you are working for is actually rendered inaccessible to you.

You have the ability to sense when things are even slightly out of whack. You don't always know how to fix what is wrong, but when you do, you do so in a way that others are not often able to match. Indeed, in many ways you are quite inimitable — though others often do try.

Also born on this date are: Rihanna, singer; Kurt Cobain, singer and musician; Sidney Poitier, actor; Charles Barkley, basketball player; Cindy Crawford, supermodel; Justin Verlander, baseball player; Nancy Wilson, singer; Anthony Head, actor; Sandy Duncan, actress; Ansel Adams, photographer; Gloria Vanderbilt, heiress and designer; Gale Gordon, actor; Peter Strauss, actor; Robert Altman, filmmaker; Bobby Unser, auto racer; Mike Leigh, fillmaker; Patty Hearst, heiress.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — What you're trying to do at this time rubs some others the wrong way, but not everyone. You can keep it up at least for the time being.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You're eager to make changes that will lighten your load and allow you to be more nimble in almost all things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — The demands you've been making are not, in the main, realistic, and you know it. Perhaps you're merely trying to test someone?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Take care that what you are doing doesn't come across as inappropriate to those who are trying to follow the rules a bit more closely than you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — The messes that someone else is making right now can be easily cleaned up, but you shouldn't be the one to do it! You must draw the line.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You're eager to find a new outlet for increasing energy and a sudden surge in creative ideas. You may want to follow another's path for a while.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may have to work your way through several options today before you hit on the one that is just right for you and someone working with you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You should be able to see all obstacles today in time to do something to avoid them. Serious dangers should be few, but that can change quickly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You want everything to go according to plan today, but you may be trying too hard to establish "right" and "wrong" ways of getting things done.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You can stay on course throughout this rather difficult day. Others may look to you to lead them, and you can do so quite successfully.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You receive a warning that has you paying attention to all developments with renewed diligence. You can't afford an unlucky turn.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You are pushing yourself to achieve something for which you may not be wholly ready. A little more learning and preparation are in order.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"C'W UCJF SR FMZIFYY LX SAHPJY — C'EF DRS SAF YOP CP SAF LRIPCP' HPW SAF LRRP HS PCDAS." — CIECPD VFIUCP

Previous Solution: "Today I am the happiest man in the world; my son was born and thanks to God for this gift." — Lionel Messi

TODAY'S CLUE: d symbol Z

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

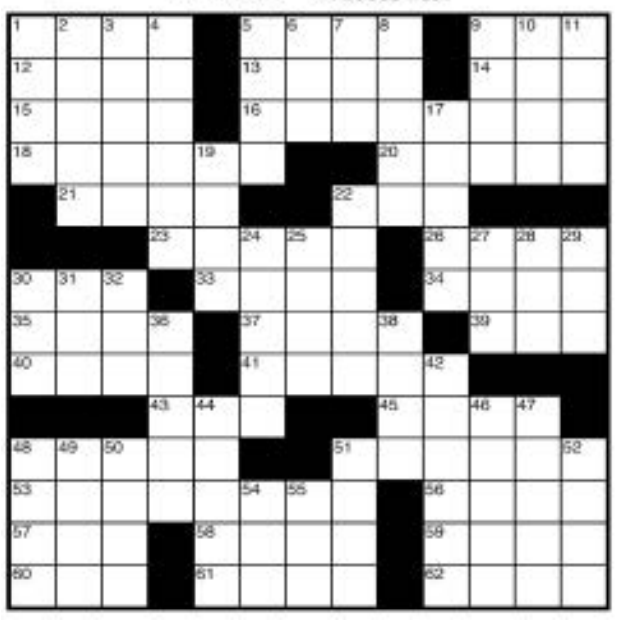
1 Lift with effort
5 Growth on rocks
9 Spigot
12 Not quite shut
13 Four Corners state
14 Sweater letter
15 Late-night Jay
16 Ratfinks
18 Arcane
20 Spacious
21 Kind
22 Always, to the bard
23 Gauguin's prop
26 Very, informally
30 Football team mems.
33 Valley
34 Quotable catcher
35 Fictional plantation
37 Not run from
39 Gathered dust
40 Blurted out
41 Go in
43 Replay device
45 Part of SWAK
48 Walkie-talkie
51 Avoid
53 Nacre sources
56 Fox's prey
57 Corsage flower
58 Source of light
59 Razor feature
60 Qt. parts
61 Like cotton candy
62 Organ part

DOWN

1 Lunar phenomenon
2 Bounce
3 Imagine
4 Road company
5 Has to
6 Giants hero of yore
7 — Paulo
8 Terra firma
9 Quartet minus one
10 Polite cough
11 Nosegay
17 Queen's truck
19 Soft metal
22 Choose
24 Lower-risk
25 High spirits
27 Sister of Helios
28 Famous Khan
29 Came to the suet
30 Milk amts.
31 Cote murmur
32 — Lanka
36 Tylenol rival
38 Mouse alerts
42 Heavier, as a dessert
44 Loses heat
46 Partial darkness
47 Twilled fabric
48 Sloping walk
49 Be next to
50 Blocks
51 "Around the Horn" airer
52 Lawn invader
54 Forty winks
55 Flightless bird

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	E	M	O			H	A	M		A	T	M
T	E	A	R	Y		E	C	O		L	O	U
V	O	I	C	E		W	E	A	K	E	N	S
			A	L	A	S		N	I	X	I	E
	W	I	S	P	S		E	S	C			
R	A	M		E	P	I	C		K	N	E	W
Y	I	P		D	I	B	S		S	U	R	E
E	V	E	S		R	I	T	A		D	R	S
S	E	L	L		I	S	A	K		G	E	T
			Y	I	N		S	I	D	E	D	
W	I	D	E	N		B	Y	T	E			
A	V	E	R	A	G	E		A	T	L	A	S
R	E	S		N	U	N		S	E	I	N	E
P	S	I		E	N	D			R	E	N	T



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Rams rally from 13 points down in 4th quarter to top Tigers

Daily Chief-Union/Brian Hemminger

From downtown

Upper Sandusky's Zandria Gallant (left) spots up for a 3-pointer Friday. Gallant hit three 3-pointers, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with 90 seconds remaining to help Upper Sandusky defeat Huron 63-60 in the Division III Northwest sectional semifinal.

By BRIAN HEMMINGER
Staff writer

In a game where both teams combined to hit 22 3-pointers, it was the final shot from downtown that sealed the victory.

Upper Sandusky's Zandria Gallant gave the Rams the lead in the final 90 seconds with her third 3-pointer as Upper Sandusky overcame a 13-point fourth quarter deficit to defeat Huron 63-60 in a sectional semifinal of the girls Division III basketball tournament Friday at Upper Sandusky.

With 90 seconds to go and down two points, Gallant's defender went under a screen, leaving her open to launch a 3-pointer. It was nothing but net.

"I couldn't have done it without my team," Gallant said. "The only way I was able to do that was getting open because my team was setting good screens and I felt, 'Well, she's off of me. I might as well shoot it.' I did it against Wynford and I was like, 'If I make it, I make it. If I don't, we still have a chance to come back.' There was like a minute left and we could still get a score late to tie it."

On the ensuing possession, Gallant stepped in front of an errant Huron pass, then dished it to Upper Sandusky's Kaidance Iles, who made a layup to give the Rams a 63-60 lead.

"We wanted to press and make them turn the ball over and that's what we did," Gallant said.

Huron had a chance to tie the game. With 3.4 seconds remaining, Huron's Mia Hurst found herself open a few feet behind the 3-point line, but her shot deflected off the rim as Upper Sandusky celebrated.

"That's what you need — you need an open look," Huron coach Patrick Phillips said. "Whether it goes in or not, that's the other side of the coin, but you can't ask for a better look than that. She was a little deep, but I have confidence in Mia to hit those shots. We got who we wanted to shoot and we got the shot; it just didn't fall."

The Rams entered the fourth quarter down 56-45, but they outscored Huron 18-4 to pull off the comeback victory.

"I'm just so happy for them," Upper Sandusky coach Jerry Vent said. "I feel good. They deserve it. The work that they do doesn't get recognized in the win column a lot, so I'm glad for them. Obviously when you make a comeback like that, there's gonna be excitement. That played into it some. It shows you just how hungry they are for the season not to be over and for this to continue and to keep growing. … A solid, solid team effort tonight. Everybody made plays when they needed to.

Upper Sandusky's comeback was fueled by red-hot 3-point shooting. Gallant hit two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, as did Jenna Kurtz. Kurtz finished the game with five 3-pointers and 17 points. The Rams hit 12 3-pointers on the night.

"A lot of that is from my teammates," Kurtz said. "We look to get it down low and get it in to V (Velourea Stowers), and she's really good at kicking it out to us and finding the open pass. I believed in my teammates and I believed we were going to work together to get the shots that we needed and get to the places that we needed to be to get this win tonight. I loved our effort and that we believed in each other."

Iles led all scorers with 20 points, and she played a key role in the fourth quarter getting her hands in passing lanes to force the Tigers to turn the ball over.

"Realizing that we were down double digits definitely made the

(Continued on page 9)

Back-to-back champs: Falcons win BVC

By LONNIE McMILLAN
Sports editor

PANDORA — Riverdale did not like waiting so long between boys basketball league championships.

After winning a title for the first time in 46 years last season, the Falcons held off Pandora-Gilboa to take back-to-back Blanchard Valley Conference titles Friday night at Pandora-Gilboa.

The Falcons (14-8, 8-2 BVC) led by 12 entering the fourth quarter, during which they only scored two points, but it was enough to share the BVC title with Liberty-Benton, which beat Cory-Rawson in another showdown that determined the top spot in the league.

"I'm going to say this loud and clear, never in Riverdale history has a boy's basketball team ever won back-to-back championships, and those seniors can hang their hats on that," Riverdale coach Craig Taylor said. "It's amazing, it's amazing. These guys busted their tails the whole year, the whole year. All the credit goes to the guys in there. Amazing job, amazing."

In a game where scoring was hard to come by, the Falcons got just enough of it, primarily from its defense, forcing 16 Rockets turnovers and turning many of them into baskets. Defense spurred a run of six straight points to end the third quarter, giving Riverdale a 35-23 lead.

But Pandora-Gilboa hit their only two 3-pointers of the night early in the fourth quarter, and Riverdale did not score over the final six minutes. Aiden Harris hit a pair of free throws with 2:08 remaining to make it a three-point game.

"I'm not sure how many stops we got in a row, but we dug in and they got it when we had to," Taylor said.

The two free throws were the only points either team scored in the final four minutes of the game. A pair of Riverdale turnovers gave Pandora a couple of chances that it could not convert. In fact, on its last full possession, it needed nearly a minute to attempt a shot. Blake Steiner missed on a drive to the hoop, and Isaac Holland rebounded and was fouled with 3.8 seconds left.

With one more foul before the bonus, the Rockets fouled Holland again with 2.2 seconds to go. He missed on the front end of a one-and-one, but a three-quarter court heave by Pandora was high off the backboard.

"All offseason we've been working hard obviously trying to get back to back," Riverdale's Andrew Kuenzli said. "Since last year, we worked hard and got what we wanted. We came back this year and we worked the same as last year and got it done this year."

Holland led Riverdale with 13 points, including his team's first seven points. He scored on a putback early in the second quarter to tie the game at 13, but foul trouble slowed him the rest of the way.

Instead, the Falcons turned to their defense to create offense, and they used an 8-0 run late in the first half to take control. It started with a Drew Frey steal and layup, and after Kuenzli made two free throws, a Jackson Clark steal led to a Kuenzli layup. Frey stepped in front of another pass to get an easy basket at the other end and make it 23-15.

It was more of the same early in the third quarter. Thomas Miller had a steal and layup, and later he assisted a Kuenzli basket after another steal, making it 29-17.

Then after the Rockets cut their deficit to six points, the Falcons turned up the pressure again. Clark had two more steals and Kuenzli one, leading to six points to double Riverdale's lead.

"Our turnovers were creating a ton of our offense," Taylor said. "… I don't know

(Continued on page 10)

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Celebrate good times

Riverdale's players celebrate in the student section Friday night after the Falcons held off Pandora-Gilboa 37-34 to win a share of the Blanchard Valley Conference championship for the second straight season.

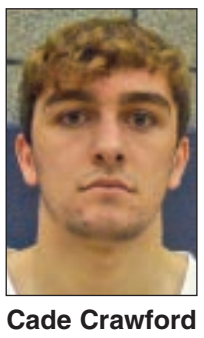
Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Impact player

Riverdale's Isaac Holland (32) glides in for a layup in front of Pandora-Gilboa's Bryce Basinger (40) on Friday night. Holland scored a game-high 13 points and added seven rebounds and three blocks in the Falcons' 37-34 win.

Blue Devils down Rockets with big 2nd half

CAREY — Despite being ice cold from 3-point land and trailing at the half, the Carey boys basketball team stepped up its defense to dominate the second half and defeat Northern 10 Athletic Conference rival Ridgedale 54-43 Friday at Carey.



Cade Crawford

Carey (16-5 12-4 N10) went 1-for-15 on 3-pointers, but the Blue Devils made up for it by forcing 25 Ridgedale turnovers.

Ridgedale (4-18 3-13 N10) led 13-9 after the first quarter and 25-21 at the half, but Carey held the Rockets to just six points in the third quarter while the Blue Devils blasted off for 17 points.

Carey never looked back.

The Blue Devils were led by Cade Crawford, who scored 14 points. Landen Kemerley added 10 points.

Ridgedale had three players in double digits. Adam Beard had 13 points, Michael Burns had 12 points and Alec Gordon had 11 points.

Carey also won the junior varsity game 65-22.

Next up, the Blue Devils host North Baltimore at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Division IV Northwest sectional semifinal.

RIDGEDALE (4-18 3-13 N10): Beard 5-2-13, Burns 4-3-12, Gordon 5-1-11, Thiel 2-0-4, Murphy 1-0-2, Ruth 0-1-1. Totals 17-36 7-12 43.

CAREY (16-5 12-4 N10): Crawford 5-3-14, Kemerley 3-4-10, Bell 2-3-7, Lonsway 3-0-6, Yeater 2-2-6, Conti 2-1-5, Nash 2-0-4, Hill 1-0-2. Totals 20-47 13-24 54.

3-point goals: Beard, Burns, Crawford.

Score by quarters

Ridgedale	13	12	6	12	— 43
Carey	9	12	17	16	— 54

Junior varsity: Carey won 65-22.

Daily Chief-Union/Andrew Wilson

Solid showing

Upper Sandusky's Ethan Collins competes in the 200 IM on Friday in the Division II district swim meeting in Bowling Green. He was 12th in 2:09.92.

Wenger sets records at district swim meet

By ANDREW WILSON
Staff writer

BOWLING GREEN — Despite only having one day to practice for the Division II Northwest District Swimming Tournament, Upper Sandusky freshman Jenna Wenger still managed a top-five finish.

And broke a couple school records along the way.

Wenger finished fourth in the 200 free (2:03.09) at the tournament on Friday, a new school record. Wenger's lead-off 100 in the 400 free relay, 55.87, also was a new school record.

"She hung in there with the leader (Colonel Crawford's Katie Hanft) for the majority of the race," Upper Sandusky coach Justin Richardson said. "Some of those girls have a number of years and more experience on her and what she managed to accomplish with that, I think was great. (I'm) looking forward to seeing her in the 200 (free) down the road and in other events."

Although the final results from each district tournament across the state were pending as of Friday night, Richardson said he thinks Wenger is close, but may narrowly miss qualifying for state.

The 200 free was the second race of the tournament on Thursday, and it was during a week in which the snowstorms canceled various practices. But neither of those factors seemed to affect Wenger.

"I was to stay next to a Colonel Crawford swimmer who got the fastest time, and then in the last 50 (meters), to go as fast as I could," Wenger

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Daily Chief-Union/Andrew Wilson

Strong swim

Upper Sandusky's Lindsay Weininger does the backstroke at the Division II district swim meet Friday. She was 20th in 1:07.18.

Daily Chief-Union/Andrew Wilson

Contested inside

Carey's Avarie Stewart puts up a shot over the block of a Western Reserve defender on Thursday. Stewart scored seven points in the Blue Devils' 41-22 win.

Carey overcomes poor shooting with stifling defense in sectional

By ANDREW WILSON
Staff writer

CAREY — After Western Reserve's Lilli White handed the ball to Anna Woodrum at the top of the key, Woodrum drove to the left wing and tried to pass it across to White on the right wing, but Carey's Alaina Tiell stole it and hit a transition layup.

Tiell's layup right before the halftime buzzer was one of 11 turnovers the Blue Devils forced and one of many reasons the Blue Devils held the Roughriders scoreless for a nearly 14-minute stretch in their 41-22 win in a Division III sectional semifinal Thursday at Carey.

The No. 4 Blue Devils (19-3) advance to the sectional final where they will host No. 5 Ashland Crestview at 7 p.m. today.

After Izzi Duchette hit a 3-pointer from the right wing with 4:25 remaining in the first quarter, the No. 10 seed Roughriders (8-12) were held scoreless until Duchette hit one of 2 free throws with 6:44 remaining in the third quarter.

"They are so aggressive, not just on the ball, but away from the ball," Western Reserve coach Carli Ashley said. "They're constantly in the passing lanes, they always have their hands up making themselves look

(Continued on page 5)

Mohawk falls short at Danbury

By LONNIE McMILLAN
Sports editor

LAKESIDE-MARBLEHEAD — Each team made runs, and it was one at the start of the fourth quarter that was enough for Danbury to hold off Mohawk 34-31 in a Division IV sectional semifinal girls basketball game Thursday night at Danbury.

The No. 9 seed Lakers (8-12) erased a three-point deficit by scoring the first eight points of the fourth quarter and then held on to advance to the sectional final to take on No. 1 seed Buckeye Central at 7 p.m. today at Buckeye Central.

Seeded 10th, the Warriors (5-18) had scored the final seven points of the third quarter, and made a push to erase their deficit again, but it came up short in the final seconds.

Mohawk's Emily Klopp led all players in the back-and-forth game with 17 points, 13 rebounds and six blocked shots.

"In that stretch, we just weren't valuing every possession," Mohawk coach Bruce Hannam said. "They started to get a little physical, and we just didn't take care of the ball like we did for the most part the rest of the game. That's how our whole season's gone. If we can withstand a couple surges, then we can do pretty good. We've talked about it and coached it, but it's hard to stop it when it's happening to you."

In barely over a minute, the Warriors scored seven points to turn a 24-20 deficit into a 27-24 lead, starting with a Joleigh Hamilton 3-pointer. Aubrie Harper followed with a jumper with a foot on the 3-point line, and then Kendall Bailey knocked down a jumper.

But that momentum did not carry into the fourth quarter. Natalie Rose converted in the post, and then Kamil Stephens' steal and layup gave the Lakers a 28-27 lead. Rose hit a short jumper, and Stephens added a fourth straight basket on her team's first four possessions of the quarter, making it a five-point game.

"We just said, 'Be patient, move the ball, and just look for the openings, and be ready to shoot,'" Danbury coach Dick Heller said. "That's what they did. There wasn't anything special. We just stuck with our game plan and looked for shots, moved the ball offensively, and we got the shots to fall when we needed

(Continued on page 5)

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Doing her thing

Mohawk's Aubrie Harper (22) gets an open look from beyond the arc against Danbury on Thursday night in a Division IV sectional semifinal game. She had five points in the Warriors' 34-31 loss.

Iles, Kurtz combine for 37 points in Rams win

(Continued from page 8)

defensive effort go up, because it wasn't there in the first half," Iles said. "Tonight was definitely our night — in the fourth quarter at least. It was exciting. I just wanted to keep going. I wanted my teammates to keep making shots and making plays. I just wanted it to keep going and going so we could win."

Iles led the Rams with five steals. Upper Sandusky forced 16 turnovers.

As great as the Rams finished the game, they struggled early. Huron dropped 25 points in the first quarter to jump out to a 25-15 lead.

"We were a little bit slow early on and I think their athleticism surprised us," Vent said. "We were slow in and out of those traps and leaving people open on the back side."

Huron operated like a well-oiled machine early on, scoring repeatedly on drives to the basket for layups or finding the open 3-pointer after help came. The Tigers hit 10 3-pointers in the game as Jessica Holsapple and Rae Roldan had three 3-pointers apiece.

"They executed just about everything I drew up, everything we asked them to do," Phillips said. "They have really improved on finding the next pass and moving the ball. Tonight was the culmination of that after seeing it all year, putting it all together. I was really happy to see that because, even though it's the end of the season, they'll carry that over to next season."

After the Rams closed the gap to six points at the half, 35-29, Huron came out blistering in the third quarter with three 3-pointers to take a 44-33 lead and force an Upper Sandusky timeout.

"If you asked me how we would win the game, I'd have said we've got to limit their 3-point looks," Vent said. "We tried to scramble a little bit defensively to get them to play faster, but that didn't work to our advantage early on. Even into the third quarter, they came out and made three (3-pointers) in the first two minutes."

While the aggressive defense backfired early, Vent said he thinks it paid dividends in the fourth quarter.

"That's what brought us back into the game, because (Huron) kept shooting similar shots and they missed them in the fourth quarter and we were able to secure rebounds," Vent said. "I really think our intensity got to them in the fourth quarter. It's kind of like running the football in football. Passing looks great and everything, but if you can wear them down through a four-quarter game, you can make plays like that."

Besides Iles and Kurtz, the Rams were led by Gallant's 11 points and Grace Vent's eight points. Vent also led the Rams with five assists.

Huron was led by Holsapple, who scored 15 points. Ava Winnestaffer had 10 points while both Hurst and Roldan had nine points.

With the victory, Upper Sandusky will take on No. 1 seed Willard at 7 p.m. tonight.

"We want to make a run," coach Vent said. "We want to give Willard all that they can handle."

HURON (4-12): Holsapple 6-0-15, Winnestaffer 5-0-10, Hurst 4-0-9, Roldan 3-0-9, Lamb 3-0-7, Sugalski 2-0-6, 2-0-4. Totals 25 0-0 60.

UPPER SANDUSKY (8-13): Iles 8-2-20, Kurtz 6-0-17, Gallant 4-0-11, Vent 3-0-8, Stowers 2-0-4, Byrum 1-1-3. Totals 24 3-8 63.

3-point goals: Kurtz 5, Gallant 3, Holsapple 3, Roldan 3, Iles 2, Sugalski 2, Vent 2, Hurst, Lamb.

Score by quarters

Huron	25	10	21	4	— 60
Upper Sandusky	15	14	16	18	— 63

Daily Chief-Union/Brian Hemminger

Floater

Upper Sandusky's Kaidance Iles (right) puts up a shot in front of two Huron defenders Friday as Velourea Sowers (34) boxes out. Iles led all scorers with 20 points and had five steals in the Rams' 63-60 comeback win.

Daily Chief-Union/Brian Hemminger

On fire

Upper Sandusky's Jenna Kurtz (left) puts up a 3-point shot against Huron on Friday. Kurtz scored 17 points, including five 3-pointers, in the Rams' 63-60 victory.

Daily Chief-Union/Andrew Wilson

Setting PRs

Cade Rothlisberger takes a deep breath during his backstroke Friday. Rothlisberger set a new personal best in the 100 free (52.47) and the 100 back (1:00.52) in the Division II District meet at Bowling Green.

Upper sets marks at BG

(Continued from page 8)

said. "I stayed with her most of the race."

Wenger's race was one of four the Upper Sandusky girls swim team competed in, as it also placed 19th in the 400 free relay (4:13.56) and 24th (2:12.33) in the 200 medley relay. Lindsay Weininger placed 20th in the 100 back (1:07.18), tying her personal-best time.

Weininger, however, dropped a second off of her previous personal-best time in her split, the 100 freestyle, in the medley relay.

"I was supposed to sprint the first 50 (meters) and then give whatever you got on the end," Weininger said. "My time was a little slow in the first 50, but it was still pretty good."

The Upper Sandusky boys swimming team competed in eight events, and Ethan Collins' 12th-place finish in the 200 IM was their best finish.

"I was looking to get out well in the butterfly and then hold during the rest of the race," Collins said, "but that didn't go as planned and got pretty tired throughout the race."

He did, however, have two new personal-best times, including in the 100 breast (1:06.86), topping his previous personal-best time by a second, as well as in the breaststroke in the 200 medley relay, which was half of a second faster than his pervious personal-best time.

In addition to Collins' new personal-best times, the Rams got personal-best times in the 200 medley relay (18th, 1:49.24). Cade Rothlisberger accomplished new personal-best times in the 100 free (23rd, 52.47) and 100 back (1:00.52).

"I very pleased with (Rothlisberger's) swim," Richardson said. "I think he's been a really hard worker this year, and it's great to see, despite how the week has gone due to weather, due to circumstances beyond our control. He still managed to hold on, and after having a great week last week, he still had a better week this week. (I'm) very happy for him."

Additionally, Jonah Voorheis had two personal-best times, including his butterfly in the 200 medley relay as well as his split in the 400 free relay (57.46). He helped the Rams finish the 400 free relay in 3:36.50.

"The boys dropped six seconds total, five of those were straight up due to Jonah, and he's been a very hard worker this year, so I'm really glad situations where hard work pays off," Richardson said.

Neither team has a senior on it, as the girl's team was primarily comprised of freshmen and sophomores and the boy's team has several juniors as well as five sophomores and three freshmen. Richardson is optimistic about the future of both teams.

"We're continuing to see strong competition, so we set those goals to bring that for next year and really want to stay with the top competition," Richardson said. "We had a number of events today that we were in the top or second-to-top heat, and so I think next year, one of our goals is to be in as many top heats as possible, and I think that number's going to increase, that's a good thing."

Results
Girls
200 free: 4. Wenger 2:03.09.
100 back: 20. Weininger 20 1:07.18.
400 free relay: 19. Upper Sandusky 4:13.56.
200 medley relay: 24. Upper Sandusky 2:12.33.
Boys
50 free: 26. Frey 23.48.
100 free: 23. Rothlisberger 52.47.
100 back: 23. Rothlisberger 1:00.52.
100 breast: 25. Collins 1:06.86.
100 fly: 24. Frey 57.53.
200 IM: 12. Collins 2:09.92.
400 free relay: 14. Upper Sandusky 3:36.50.
200 medley relay: 18. Upper Sandusky 1:49.24.

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Acrobatic play

Riverdale's Drew Frey (10) glides through the air as Pandora-Gilboa's Aidan Morris (20) puts up his arms on defense. Frey had seven points, three rebounds and three steals in the Falcons' 37-34 victory.

Defense carries Falcons to win against Rockets

(Continued from page 8)
how many field goals that we hit tonight that were in our half-court offense. It probably wasn't very many."

Those transition points allowed the Falcons to overcome going just 14 of 40 (35%) from the field overall, including 1 of 7 from long range. They held the Rockets to 13-of-41 (31.7%) shooting that included a 2-of-17 mark on 3-pointers.

When things got tight in the fourth quarter, Taylor said his confidence in his players remained high because they are proven winners. Not only did they capture a league boys basketball title last season, but many of them were part of three straight conference titles in boys soccer.

"They've been there and battled, and plus you take Andrew Kuenzli and throw him in. Andrew's competed in golf tournaments. Those guys, it takes the pressure off. The soccer team played in the regionals this year, they're battle-tested. That's what makes multiple sport athletes so special. That's why we need them, and that's why we love them at Riverdale."

Despite foul trouble, Holland had a team-high seven rebounds and blocked three shots. He has won five league titles between soccer and basketball, but he said it never gets old.

"Honestly it doesn't," he said. "Every time it's always just overwhelming."

Kuenzli finished with 10 points and five rebounds. Frey had seven points and three steals.

Steiner's eight points led the Rockets.

Devin Harbour scored 10 points to lead Riverdale in a 56-28 loss in the junior varsity game.

The Falcons host BVC co-champion Liberty-Benton in a Division III sectional semifinal game at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

RIVERDALE (14-8, 8-2 BVC): Holland 6-0-13, Kuenzli 3-4-10, Frey 3-1-7, Clark 1-1-3, Miller 1-0-2, N. Courtney 0-2-2. Totals 14-40 8-12 37.

PANDORA-GILBOA (10-12, 7-3 BVC): Steiner 3-1-8, Harris 2-2-7, Basinger 2-2-6, Morris 2-0-4, Biery 2-0-4, Luginbill 1-1-3, Huffman 1-0-2. Totals 13-41 6-12 34.

3-point goals: Holland, Harris, Steiner.

Score by quarters

Pandora-Gilboa	11	6	6	11	— 34
Riverdale	9	14	12	2	— 37

Junior varsity: Pandora-Gilboa won 56-28.

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Drawing contact

Riverdale's Jackson Clark collides with Pandora-Gilboa's Aiden Harris (20) and draws a foul Friday night. Clark had three points, four steals, three assists and three rebounds in the Falcons' 37-34 win.

Daily Chief-Union/Lonnie McMillan

Scoop and score

Riverdale's Nolan Courtney (11) flips up a shot toward the rim on a fast break Friday night at Pandora-Gilboa. He scored two points as the Falcons topped the Rockets 37-34 to claim a share of the BVC title.

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Jim and Dorothy Leslie
Pete and Connie Miller
Jean Moon
Dorothy Newell
Helen M. Pool
Beth Riedlinger
Sierra Sherman
Carl and Helen Shinn
Jean A. Shumaker
Kelli Smith
Ken and Teresa Stark
Kara Stoops
Angela Teague
Harold and Karen Tuttle
Denny and Maria Vaughn
Taven Wentling

Friend
Anonymous
Trevor Barth
Tammie and Bill Blum
Tracey Bollinger
John Caldwell
Erika Hill
Jean Hollanshead
Brenda Jennings
Theresa Jerew
Todd LaRowe
Byron Lehman
Brenda Moore
Staci Musselman
Patrick and Vivian Oney
Daymond and Kristin Penwell
Sandra Preston
Jathan and Tiffany Saltzman
Brooke Scherger
Heather Schindler
Abby Searfoss
Denise Silcox
Sandy Taylor
Courtney Thiel
LeeAnna Weatherholtz
April Weaver

McDonald's

From Page A1

As an example of his treatment, the suit alleges that McDonalds "steered Mr. Washington into (restaurants) in distressed, predominantly black neighborhoods which — as McDonald's well knew — yield considerably less profit than stores in more affluent communities."

In a teleconference with reporters Tuesday afternoon and in the lawsuit, Washington and his lawyers said McDonald's "tightly controls who may enter its system," restricting who the franchisee can sell its restaurants to and forcing them to sell restaurants that do not meet certain standards.

"Just a few years ago, Mr. Washington was McDonald's largest black franchisee in the nation," the suit states.

"As part of its effort to reduce black ownership in its system, McDonald's targeted Mr. Washington for unfair grading and assessments designed to render him ineligible to continue to operate his restaurants," the suit states.

"It did so to force him to sell numerous stores to white franchisees."

Washington protested the way he was being treated, but that "intensified McDonald's campaign to drive him from its system," the suit states.

CORPORATE RESPONSE

Tuesday, McDonald's USA issued a statement: "This situation is the result of years of mismanagement by Mr. Washington."

McDonald's USA said his restaurants "have a public record" of "health and sanitation concerns."

The statement said Washington "has failed to meet many of our standards on people, operations, guest satisfaction and reinvestment."

McDonalds USA stated that McDonald's "does not place franchisees into specific franchises; while McDonald's may recommend locations, franchisees ultimately select the locations they wish to purchase."

"Between 2013 and today, there has been a reduction in the total number of franchisee organizations and employees at McDonald's as part of restructuring efforts," McDonald's stated.

During the teleconference, when Washington was made aware of McDonald's remarks about "health and sanitation concerns," he said: "As to the claims McDonald's may be making, I would say this: Treat me the same way you treated white operators that may have had similar situations. In an over 40-year span of time, you're going to have a few speed bumps. I don't care what career you've had."

He said the remarks from McDonald's are an attempt to "direct the narrative away from the bigger issue — the parity of the black and white owners in the system."

LOCAL HOLDINGS

Washington now owns 14 McDonald's restaurants in northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

He has seven Mahoning Valley restaurants — in Newton Falls, Mahoning Avenue and South Raccoon Road locations in Austintown, East Midlothian Boulevard in Youngstown, North Canfield Road in Mineral Ridge, Boardman Canfield Road in Boardman and Boardman Poland Road in Poland. He also has two restaurants in Hermitage, Pa., one in Sharon, Pa., one in Greenville, Pa., two in Cleveland and one in Euclid.

The lawsuit states that one way McDonald's has forced down the number of black franchisees from 377 in 1998 to 186 now was to give black restaurant owners too little time to carry out store remodels and then use that as "excuse to deem black franchisees ineligible for expansion" through acquiring additional restaurants.

The number of McDonald's restaurants has more than doubled — from 15,086 to 38,999 — during that time, the suit states. Black owners average $700,000 less in annual sales per store than white owners, the lawsuit states.

Washington grew up in Flint, Mich., and attended Michigan State University on a track scholarship, narrowly missing the 1972 Olympic track team and later played for the Oakland Athletics Major League Baseball team from 1974-1975. Four years later, he became a McDonald's franchisee.

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Washington's restaurants

Herb Washington now owns 14 McDonald's restaurants in northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

He has seven Mahoning Valley restaurants — in Newton Falls, Mahoning Avenue and South Raccoon Road locations in Austintown, East Midlothian Boulevard in Youngstown, North Canfield Road in Mineral Ridge, Boardman Canfield Road in Boardman and Boardman Poland Road in Poland. He also has two restaurants in Hermitage, Pa., one in Sharon, Pa., one in Greenville, Pa., two in Cleveland and one in Euclid.

Balint

From Page A1

from the base states.

"I know that Trevor's family still has many unanswered questions," Ryan said in a statement Tuesday. "I will remain in close contact with military leadership at Yakota Air Base and the Balint family and will assist in any way necessary in the days ahead."

According to a video posted to a social media site, Britni Balint told security she last saw her husband at 1:30 a.m. Feb. 1 at their apartment located near the east gate of the air base. Trevor Balint taught at Mendel Elementary School, which is close to the apartment.

Britni Balint had received a phone call later on Feb. 1 that someone had found her husband's wallet at a building located on the base. At 5:30 p.m. that day, the wife retrieved the wallet and in a search of the building found his cellphone, keys, jacket, facemask, shoes as well as alcoholic beverage containers. She called security to report Balint missing after coming home from that search.

Since that time, Americans in Japan had been helping the family in the search by posting flyers in and around the base and also using social media. Ryan and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman last week helped Mott obtain an emergency visa to fly to Japan Feb. 12 to help and support her daughter.

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Howland

From Page A1

according to the 911 report.

Township police officers were dispatched about 6:20 p.m. to the Howland Springs Road address. Upon arrival, an officer spoke with Howland Fire Department medics who had already confirmed the two deaths.

According to the police report, officers found at the scene two black small plastic bags with white residue, a hotel card key with a cut straw, a lottery ticket folded with gray powder, an unknown orange filler and a red cellphone with black case.

Assistant township police Chief Jeff Urso said drugs may have involved in the deaths.

"Any time suspected drugs are found at the scene of a death investigation, it's always a possibility," Urso said.

The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation has been called to help.

A friend who came to the Howland Springs residence through a back door to check on the couple called Trumbull County 911 about 6:19 p.m. on Friday. The friend, who found the couple in a bedroom, told dispatchers the two had been at the Rig in Howland the night before.

Reporter Renee Fox contributed to this report.

gvogrin@tribtoday.com

Woman pleads in burglary

Staff report

WARREN — A Warren woman on Tuesday pleaded guilty to a burglary charge linked to an uninvited return to her childhood home.

Gretchen Heltzel, 30, of Olive Street, will be sentenced by Trumbull County Common Pleas Judge Andrew D. Logan after a background investigation by the adult probation department.

Heltzel agreed to pleading guilty to amended charges of third-degree burglary and aggravated possession of drugs in reference to a July 25, 2020, incident in the 3200 block of Atlantic Street NE.

The plea deal came after the parties agreed to a psychiatric report that ruled Heltzel competent to stand trial on the charges. Heltzel said she was disoriented the night of the incident and thought she was going home. Her attorney, Ross T. Smith, told the judge the defendant had lived at the address as a child.

According to a Warren police report, officers encountered a woman running through a wooded area in the rear of the Altantic Street residence near the tee box on the Trumbull Country Club golf course.

The report states the burglary victims told officers the woman knocked on the front door about 7:30 p.m. and wanted to come in, but left the residence. About two and a half hours later, the report states, she returned and tried to get in through a deadbolted back door. She then tried to open a rear window and then walked into the back yard and started dancing, the report states.

Prosecutors said a small trace of methamphetamine was found on Heltzel during her arrest.

Logan had ordered Heltzel's bond be reduced to $2,500, and she have no contact with the Atlantic Street NE address or the two victims. Smith said his client had already served eight months in the Trumbull County jail.

Heltzel could face a maximum sentence of four years in prison.

news@tribtoday.com

LEGAL NOTICE

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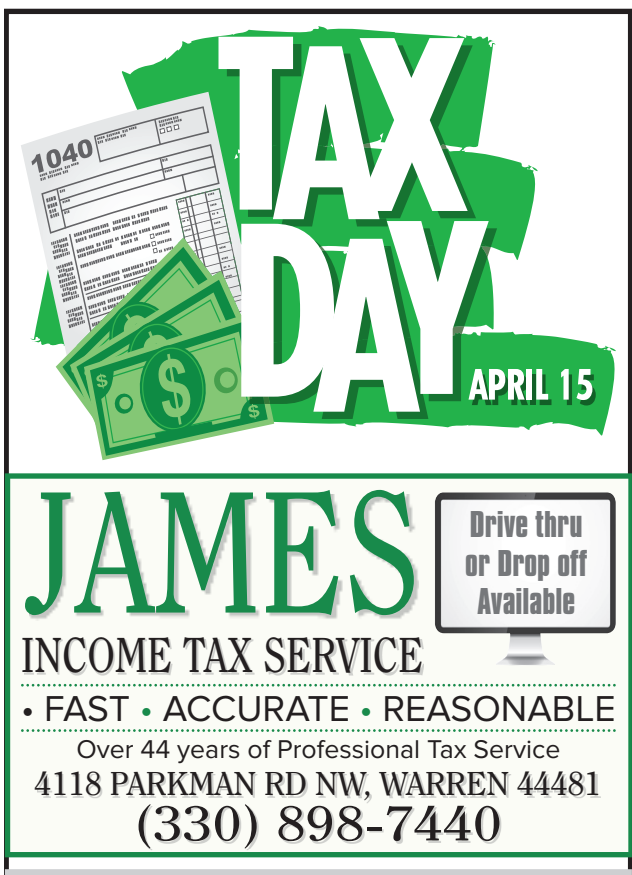

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CRIME

March trial date set for Kirtland men

Both facing federal drug charges, weapons charges

By Andrew Cass
acass@news-herald.com
@AndrewCassNH on Twitter

A pair of Kirtland men facing federal drug trafficking and weapons charges are scheduled to stand trial March 22, court records show.

Ernest Corrigan, 57, and Andrew Householder 43, were arraigned in early February on charges of conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute controlled substances; possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and oxycodone and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Corrigan is also facing a charge of a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Their trial will be overseen by U.S. District Attorney Judge for the Northern District of Ohio Donald C. Nugent, according to court records.

According to an affidavit filed in the Northern District of Ohio Court in January, the Cleveland Division of the FBI and the Geauga County Sheriff's Office allegedly identified the pair as methamphetamine traffickers.

Surveillance measures were undertaken and from August through December officers conducted a number of controlled buys of methamphetamines from a residence used by the defendants.

The residence was located 8569 Euclid Chardon Road in Kirtland, according to court records.

A search warrant was issued for the home on Dec. 30 and executed the following day, according to the complaint.

While searching the residence, agents discovered a methamphetamine lab and pill press allegedly used to make counterfeit Adderall pills, which contained methamphetamine.

Agents also recovered 16 firearms including AR-15 style rifles, sniper rifles, shotguns, and handguns, along with thousands of rounds of ammunition of all calibers. Corrigan is prohibited from possessing a firearm due to two previous federal convictions for trafficking methamphetamine and a conviction for the possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio.

The agents also allegedly obtained more than a kilogram of methamphetamine and detectable amounts of heroin, cocaine and oxycodone.

A pretrial by telephone is scheduled for Feb. 18, according to court records.

A final pretrial by telephone is scheduled for March 15.

NORTHEAST OHIO

Organizations trying to keep seniors, community connected

By Marah Morrison
mmorrison@news-herald.com
@ByMarahJane on Twitter

SUBMITTED

Robby Belknap, Gilmour Academy senior and co-creator of the Powerful Pens program, is shown with Maddie Kovalcheck, a second-grade student at Hawken School.

Even amid the novel coronavirus, area government nonprofit organizations are striving to keep seniors and community members connected.

At the Lake County Council on Aging, Ann Marie Armaro and staff members have had the opportunity to think outside of the box, and have came up with three virtual programs to keep everyone engaged — Powerful Pens, Letters of Love and a phone calling program where seniors can receive friendly phone calls from community members.

"It's important right now. A lot of these seniors can't get out," said Armaro, the volunteer and community engagement specialist at the agency.

"In my past experience working with volunteers, it's always a really cool connection. I've seen kids really take to stories seniors share."

Volunteers are currently being used for essential services, such as Meals on Wheels and kitchen work, Armaro said. Groups still partake in writing holiday cards and a group within the Perry Schools system are involved in the Letters of Love program.

"They're all kids and they've made cards that we send out on Valentine's Day," Armaro said. "They've been doing this quite a few years."

Powerful Pens, a program recently created by a local teen, has expanded to reach more seniors in the community, Armaro said. A lot of the pen pals are adults writing to adults, but school-aged kids are involved as well.

"My grandmother wrote beautifully. She's been gone a long time and I still have things (she wrote), and I just think in this day and age, some of the kids aren't even learning to write or read cursive," Armaro said. "It's such a thing that needs to continue and a lot of the seniors love it. Some of them can't hear well, so phone calls aren't always going to work and you can't go visit."

Staff members at the Geauga County Department on Aging want seniors to know they are not forgotten, says Sandy McLeod, senior center supervisor.

Prior to the coronavirus, many intergenerational opportunities took place.

"I did a lot with Chardon High School — book discussions where the students and the seniors read the same book," McLeod said. "Chardon Senior Center had a writing program with one of the local schools where the kids would write to the seniors so they could get to know each other."

Amid the coronavirus, the department has implemented a social program during breakfast and lunch where people can get online to talk to seniors so they are not eating alone, McLeod said.

In addition, a Halloween drive-through event took place where seniors stayed in their cars. Hundreds participated in like events to be able to see staff members and seniors they've missed.

"They're very faithful because they really wanted to keep a routine in their life because they don't go out," she said. "We've tried to really keep people connected."

Within the first two weeks of the department's shutdown, staff members did not wait to get programs up and running online, McLeod said. All exercise classes and an additional yoga class have been provided online, as well as speakers from the health department and Geauga Hospital, she said.

Despite the past year being much more challenging, the opportunities still remained never ending, McLeod said.

"Anything that interests them to help them take their minds off being home alone," McLeod said. "We've had traveler culture, the history of Cleveland, our local park district on, history of the fair, we had Matt Dolan from the Indians Foundation."

With many functions people have done over the years being closed down, Armaro is looking forward to bringing back volunteers.

"We want to bring back the volunteers in the way we used to use them," she said.

"We had grocery shoppers for our seniors, friendly visitors — we want to bring all of that back. We're always trying to come up with different things that are safe."

PERRY VILLAGE

'Definitely moving forward'

PITCH In program taking more steps to starting to provide services to residents

By Bill DeBus
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@bdebusnh on Twitter

A committee overseeing Perry Village's new community-assistance program continues to make steady progress toward the point where the endeavor will begin serving clients in need.

Village Council President Jean Schonauer recently provided an updated on PITCH In, a program that will recruit and assign volunteers to help people with various work that needs to be done inside or outside their homes. Possible chores might include washing windows, lawn and yard care, and cleaning gutters.

"We're definitely moving forward, I know not as quickly as we'd all like it to be, but I think our due diligence is important to make sure that we do it right," Schonauer said regarding steps being taken to connect volunteers with clients requesting services.

The first word in the title of the program's name stands for Perry Investing Toward Community Help. It was decided to add the word "In" to create a phrase that would attract attention and be easy to remember.

Schonauer gave a report on PITCH In during the Feb. 11 Village Council meeting. She co-founded the program along with fellow Councilman Rick Walker.

Currently, a major focus of the administrative committee's efforts is to recruit and screen volunteers who will perform projects for village residents in need.

In hopes of securing more willing helpers for the program, a PITCH In participation agreement for volunteers has been posted on the perryvillageohio.com website. Schonauer said committee member Carmen Tibaldi will oversee the volunteer registration.

Meanwhile, Walker will serve as the panel's point person in coordinating mandatory background checks for all volunteers, Schonauer added. Along with completing a successful background check, another requirement for volunteers is that they be at least 18 years old.

Once a solid roster of eligible volunteers is in place, the PITCH In committee will look at registering potential recipients for services to be provided through the program.

"Hopefully we can start with some spring projects and definitely some summer projects," Schonauer said.

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Local briefs

Genealogy group meeting Feb. 25

The Lake County Genealogical Society's next meeting will be held 10 a.m. to noon, Feb. 25.

The speaker, Cari Taplin, will talk about "Organizing Your Research: Making Molehills out of Mountains."

The organization, which usually meets on the last Thursday of the month, has been meeting via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic. Visit www.lcgsohio.org to get the email address to request an invitation to the Zoom presentation.

Program looks at maple sugaring

Mentor Public Library is hosting an online program about the history of maple sugaring at 6:30 p.m., March 4.

Experts from the Geauga Park District will discuss the origins of maple sugaring. Then they'll take a nostalgic look at 20th century maple-syrup production as practiced by farm families in Geauga and Lake counties during this time of year.

The talk is open to all and will be hosted via Zoom. Those interested need to register to get the Zoom link by signing up at www.mentorpl.org or by calling 440-255-8811, ext. 247.

Agenda

The Agenda lists public meetings and closed executive sessions in the area today, unless otherwise noted.

Auburn Township Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m., administration building.

Bainbridge Township Park Board: 7 p.m., community hall.

Chardon Township trustees: 7 p.m., town hall.

Chester Township trustees: Noon, executive session, town hall.

Chester Township Zoning Commission: 7 p.m., town hall

Concord Township trustees: 6:30 p.m., office hours; 7:30, regular meeting; followed by special meeting; town hall and remote access (See https://concordtwp.com/government/public-meetings/ for access).

Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities: 6 p.m., administrative board room, 8200 Cedar Road, Chester Township.

Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services: 6 p.m., board office and remote access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87823907270 or 646-558-8656 (ID: 878 2390 7270, passcode: 123368).

Geauga County Revolving Loan Fund committee: 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Building 1, 470 Center St., Chardon.

Hambden Township trustees: 6:30 p.m., town hall.

Kirtland City Council: 5:30 p.m., Finance Committee; 7, council meeting; remote access: https://zoom.us/j/4402563332 or312-626-6799 (ID 440 256 3332).

Kirtland School Board: 7 a.m., Thursday, Finance Committee, Hornet Hall, elementary school.

Lake County Family and Children First Council: 2 p.m., Children's Executive Committee; 3, Steering Committee; remote access: via Zoom (For access info, call 440-350-4299, prior to the meeting and leave message).

Madison Fire District Board: 7 p.m., Station No. 3 Training Center, 840 River St.

Mentor Library trustees: 5 p.m., remote access: via Zoom (To view meeting, contact jasonlea@mentorpl.org).

Munson Township Board of Zoning Appeals: 6:30 p.m., town hall.

Riverside School Board: 7:30 p.m., lecture room, high school.

Russell Township trustees: 6:30 p.m., town hall.

South Russell Village Zoning Board of Review: 7 p.m., village hall.

Willoughby Hills Charter Review Commission: 7 p.m., remote access: via Zoom: Access info at www.willoughbyhills-oh.gov).

Willoughby Hills Civil Service Commission: 1 p.m., council chambers, city hall.

Corrections

Accuracy is important to us at The News-Herald. We have reserved this space for corrections. If you see an error in our paper, please let us know by calling 440-951-0000 or 800-947-2737, ext. 47167.

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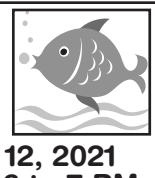

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Map

Continued from Page 1A

cent months.

Without that safeguard, only one county would be red this week: Athens County.

Seven would be the lowest level – yellow, or level 1 alert – instead of red:

- Geauga.
- Holmes.
- Knox.
- Miami.
- Ottawa.
- Pickaway.
- Scioto.

The state's four orange counties all meet the threshold of "high incidence," but that's not a factor in rising to the red level, only in coming down off it.

The COVID-19 heat map was initially used to impose county-level mask mandates before a statewide order was put in place in late July. There have been no other state-level mandates or orders tired to the colors, but school districts and other local officials use the map to make decisions.

The map lost some of its usefulness as cases and hospitalizations surged in November and December.

Several indicators are based on their rate of increase. So even when numbers were high for some counties, they didn't increase sharply enough to trigger another indicator. In a few instances, a county would move to the highest level of purple and back down again, despite having high numbers of new cases, hospitalizations and hospital visits.

'High incidence'

In December, DeWine began encouraging people to look at county incidence rates as a better indicator of spread. The rates measure new cases in the last 14 days per 100,000 residents.

Comparing that figure to several months ago reveals there's greater spread than before, even if the heat map doesn't show it.

The median rate among Ohio's 88 counties for new cases per 100,000 residents in mid-August was 66, a USA TODAY Network Ohio analysis of state data shows. That rose to 113 in mid-October, 574 in mid-November and 961 in mid-December. The recent decrease in cases has put Ohio at 228 new cases per 100,000 residents in mid-February.

So that median rate is much lower than the end of 2020 – but still twice as much as in October, when state health officials and hospital leaders were sounding the alarm about a rise in cases and hospitalizations.

In mid-October, there were 36 counties below the rate of community spread of 100 cases per capita over the last 14 days. This week, there is just one: Vinton County, the state's smallest with about 13,500 residents.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said school leaders should use incidence as a factor in deciding how to bring students back to classrooms. Last week, they revised their recommendations to look at the last seven days instead of 14, as DeWine's map does.

Only 10 Ohio counties have less than 100 new cases per 100,000 residents in the past week, according to the CDC. The rest – including Franklin, Hamilton, Stark and Summit – all have above that level, meeting the CDC's highest transmission category.

Cincinnati Enquirer investigations and enterprise editor Mark Wert contributed.

Chickens

Continued from Page 3A

he's talked to have indicated a desire to learn those skills, especially since the onset of the pandemic.

"Everybody [is] anxious; everybody is on edge because nobody knows what's next," he said. "A lot of people are worried about food, about surviving in general. How can we address this anxiety a little bit?"

Chickens could be part of the answer, Greer believes.

If Barberton does become a backyard chicken city, it won't be the first in Summit County.

Akron permits chickens but bars them from dwellings or within 100 feet of any dwelling. In 2016, Hudson opted to allow up to 12 hens – but not roosters – on residential properties that were one acre or more. Stow and Tallmadge don't regulate the practice.

Barry L. Ganoe, New Franklin Zoning & Planning Department administrator, said via email that the city allows chickens – or any type of fowl – only on two-acre or larger lots outside platted subdivisions and one-acre properties within an allotment. The practice tends to generate complaints from neighbors, he said, and is more costly than buying eggs at a store.

Green permits up to eight hens, but no roosters. Lakemore passed an ordinance in 2017 banning poultry 77 years after a 1940 ordinance regulated the practice.

"I always encourage people to call the county," he said. "If people in Coventry have questions, I can point them in the right direction."

A 2014 study of the backyard chicken movement found that more the 95% of backyard flock owners kept chickens for food – either eggs or meat. Another 62.8% used the chickens for pest control or fertilizer for gardens.

Then, there are show chickens.

David Adkins, secretary-treasurer for the American Poultry Association, said that some individuals who start with keeping chickens for other reasons migrate to keeping them as show animals.

At contests and fairs, the chickens are judged on weight, leg color, earlobe color, number of toes, comb type and other factors. The pandemic practically eliminated shows that would run 40 or more weeks a year, but people are still picking up the hobby, he said.

Adkins said he's seen a steady increase in line with the rise of popularity of the backyard chicken movement.

He attributes the increase in both to a number of factors.

"During this pandemic, we've had incidents of seeming food insecurity," he said. "People have more time on their hands. In general, when people are stressed, we tend to try as humans to revert back to a simpler time."

When people shift their attention to show chickens, they can still benefit from their fowls.

"I've got 40 or 50 chickens that are show chickens," he said. "But I still eat the eggs."

Greer said he plans to introduce his ordinance in March to give time for homeowners to start the practice by peak season.

"People tend to get chickens in mid-summer," he said.

He's still fine-tuning the legislation to deal with concerns and suggestions. Some residents don't want any restrictions, but Greer said that's not a reasonable position. Other residents fear the smells and noise. Prohibiting roosters solves most of the noise problem, he said.

"If we are going to sell the idea to the public and administration, it has to be palatable for them," he said. "We have to be open-minded. We have to think about the overall idea [behind] backyard chickens is that it's not farming."

In his mind, the practice is part of the bigger goal of increased self-sufficiency. He's thought about classes that teach skills – including how to keep chickens – that many people have lost or never picked up.

"I'm trying to tear down that threshold of not knowing how to do this," he said.

5 most popular backyard chicken breeds

- Rhode Island Red.
- Plymouth Rock.
- Ameraucana.
- Orpington.
- Wyandotte.

Source: Poultry Science study, 2014

Backyard chicken-keeping, the practice of urban and suburban homeowners raising chickens for food or fertilizer, has been popular for years. The American Pet Producers Association estimated 10 million U.S. households, or about 8%, kept chickens in 2018.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

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Wayne County Humane Society
1161 Mechanicsburg Rd., Wooster
www.wchs.org

VALKYRIE

Valkyrie was surrendered to the shelter when her owner was no longer able to care for her. She had kittens which are now weaned and now the whole family is available for adoption! Valkyrie was in foster with smaller children and did amazing with them. She will do well in almost any home!

Name: VALKYRIE
Animal ID: 46317862
Species: Cat
Breed: Abyssinian/Domestic Shorthair
Age: 6 years
Gender: Spayed Female
Color: Silver/Buff
Declawed: No
Intake Date: 12/10/2020

JADE

Meet Jade! She is a sweet kitty that is a little on the shy side. Jade would thrive in a home that is quiet and lower activity to allow her to come out of her shell more. She is a sweet girl and just needs some one to love her and be patient. Stop in and see this pretty girl today!

Name: JADE
Animal ID: 46348838
Species: Cat
Breed: Domestic Shorthair/Mix
Age: 1 year
Gender: Spayed Female
Color: Brown/Black
Declawed: No
Intake Date: 12/30/2020

WCHS is open by appointment only. See www.wchs.org for details.

WO-01050001

Fitness

Continued from Page 1A

The center offers two yoga classes, one for 18 and older and the other for 50 and older. Each has a maximum capacity of 15 participants per class, which are taught by Graham. The 50-plus class is held on Mondays from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. and the 18-plus class is Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m.

Mats, blocks, and straps are available for use at the center.

A COVID-19 waiver and pre-registration are required to reserve a spot. To register, call the Wooster Community Center at 330-263-5207.

Theil

Continued from Page 3A

The chairs are available in three models, each with different support options and are available for the cost of shipping.

Go Baby Go

Cole Galloway, PT, PhD of the University of Delaware founded Go Baby Go (http://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/LfxOCJ6K0qiBKX859tzcK2Y?domain=bit.ly) in 2012 for children under the age of 10 with physical and developmental disabilities.

They provide modified ride-on cars propelled by pushing a button instead of a foot pedal. Children who were on the sidelines may now find themselves the center of a playgroup due to their "cool" car.

Galloway has expanded Go Baby Go by sharing the blueprints and instructions with teams of volunteers at other colleges and universities. There are now 150 chapters worldwide.

The Frog

The Frog (http://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/ouWUCKr7JZfD4Jqm7TA03jg?domain=bit.ly) helps babies and toddlers move around on their tummies. The cost is $250; comes in two sizes; adaptable for children with tracheostomies or gastrostomy tubes.

Go Bro

The Go Bro (http://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/eSgUCL9IK8fkQvP4BHjsMbA?domain=bit.ly) is from the same company that makes The Frog. Cost is $400 and is for young children who can sit independently.

ZipZac

ZipZac (http://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/n-ZjCM8KLQH22zl5WBulpDOy?domain=zipzac.com) is a lightweight, low to the ground, toddler wheelchair. It is $45/month to rent and $900 to purchase. The original chair was made for Zachary so he could zip around like a regular little boy.

Why is it so important for children to have as much mobility as possible? Dr. Rebecca Garcia-Sosa Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago stated, "When you're actively learning through movement, you use different skills – working memory, planning, and other executive functions."

She went on to say that children with mobility limitations are more likely to have developmental delays because the brain is not being stimulated as are their mobile peers.

Beverly Theil is a child advocate in Wayne and Holmes counties. She can be contacted at BeverlyVT@aol.com.

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WO-23173408

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-209-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rate of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clauses, and related matters. This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 8, 2021, at https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-209-EVH or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 205 5082. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at www.puco.ohio.gov or contacting the Commission at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 20-0209-GA-GCR, 20-0309-GA-UEX, 20-0409-GA-PIP

Summary: Proof of Pub Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corp.'s Proof of Publication electronically filed by Ms. Kari D Hehmeyer on behalf of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corp.