US launches mass expulsion of Haitian migrants

More than 12,000 people camping in Texas border town

Juan A. Lozano, Eric Gay, Elliot Spagat and Evens Sanon
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEL RIO, Texas – The U.S. is flying Haitians camped in a Texas border town back to their homeland and blocking others from crossing the border from Mexico in a massive show of force that signals the beginning of what could be one of America's swiftest, large-scale expulsions of migrants or refugees in decades.

More than 320 migrants arrived in Port-au-Prince on three flights Sunday, and Haiti said six flights were expected Tuesday. In all, U.S. authorities moved to expel many of the more than 12,000 migrants camped around a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, after crossing from Ciudad Acuña, Mexico.

Mexico also said it would deport Haitian migrants, and began busing them from Ciudad Acuña Sunday evening, according to Luis Angel Urraza, president of the local chamber of commerce. He said he saw the first two buses leave from in front of his restaurant with about 90 people aboard.

"There isn't room for them in the city anymore; we can't help them anymore," he said.

Mexico's immigration agency did not immediately respond to a request for comment. But a federal official told The Associated Press on Sunday that the plan was to take the migrants to Monterrey, in northern Mexico, and Tapachula, in the south, with flights to Haiti from those cities to begin in coming days.

The U.S. plans to begin seven expulsion flights daily on Wednesday, four to Port-au-Prince and three to Cap-Haitien, according to a U.S. official who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. Flights will continue to depart from San Antonio but authorities may add El Paso, the official said.

The only obvious parallel for such an expulsion without an opportunity to seek asylum was in 1992 when the Coast Guard intercepted Haitian refugees at sea, said Yael Schacher, senior U.S. advocate at Refugees International whose doctoral studies focused on the history of U.S. asylum law.

Similarly large numbers of Mexicans have been sent home during peak years of immigration but over land and not so suddenly.

Haitians have been migrating to the U.S. in large numbers from South America for several years, many having left their Caribbean nation after a devastating 2010 earthquake. After jobs dried up from the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, many made the dangerous trek by foot, bus and car to the U.S. border.

Some of the migrants at the Del Rio camp said the recent devastating earthquake in Haiti and the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse make them afraid to return to a country that seems more unstable than when they left.

"In Haiti, there is no security," said Fabricio Jean, a 38-year-old Haitian who arrived in Texas with his wife and two daughters. "The country is in a political crisis."

Since Friday, 3,300 migrants have already been removed from the Del Rio camp to planes or detention centers, Border Patrol Chief Raul L. Ortiz said Sunday. He expected to have 3,000 of the approximately 12,600 remaining migrants moved within a day, and aimed for the rest to be gone within the week.

"We are working around the clock to expeditiously move migrants out of the heat, elements and from underneath this bridge to our processing facilities in order to quickly process and remove individuals from the United States consistent with our laws and our policies," Ortiz said at news conference at the Del Rio bridge. The Texas city of about 35,000 people sits roughly 145 miles west of San Antonio.

Six flights were scheduled in Haiti on Tuesday – three in Port-au-Prince and three in the northern city of Cap-Haitien, said Jean Négot Bonheur Delva, Haiti's migration director.

Haitian migrants wade across the Rio Grande from Del Rio, Texas, to return to Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, on Sunday to avoid deportation to Haiti from the U.S.
FELIX MARQUEZ/AP

The rapid expulsions were made possible by a pandemic-related authority adopted by former President Donald Trump in March 2020 that allows for migrants to be immediately removed from the country without an opportunity to seek asylum. President Joe Biden exempted unaccompanied children from the order but let the rest stand.

Any Haitians not expelled are subject to immigration laws, which include rights to seek asylum and other forms of humanitarian protection. Families are quickly released in the U.S. because the government cannot generally hold children.

Some people arriving on the first flight covered their heads as they walked into a large bus parked next to the plane. Dozens lined up to receive a plate of rice, beans, chicken and plantains as they wondered where they would sleep and how they would make money to support their families.

All were given $100 and tested for COVID-19, though authorities were not planning to put them into quarantine, said Marie-Lourde Jean-Charles with the Office of National Migration.

Gary Monplaisir, 26, said his parents and sister live in Port-au-Prince, but he wasn't sure if he would stay with them because to reach their house he, his wife and their 5-year-old daughter would cross a gang-controlled area called Martissant where killings are routine.

"I'm scared," he said. "I don't have a plan."

He moved to Chile in 2017, just as he was about to earn an accounting degree, to work as a tow truck driver. He later paid for his wife and daughter to join him. They tried to reach the U.S. because he thought he could get a better-paying job and help his family in Haiti.

"We're always looking for better opportunities," he said.

Some migrants said they were planning to leave Haiti again as soon as possible. Valeria Ternission, 29, said she and her husband want to travel with their 4-year-old son back to Chile, where she worked as a bakery's cashier.

"I am truly worried, especially for the child," she said. "I can't do anything here."

India to resume exports of coronavirus vaccines

Sheikh Saaliq and Aniruddha Ghosal ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW DELHI – India, the world's largest vaccine producer, will resume exports and donations of surplus coronavirus vaccines in October after halting them during a devastating surge in domestic infections in April, the health minister said Monday.

Mansukh Mandaviya said the surplus vaccines will be used to fulfill India's "commitment towards the world for the collective fight against COVID-19," but vaccinating Indians will remain the government's "topmost priority."

India was expected to be a key supplier for the world and for the U.N.-backed initiative aimed at vaccine equity known as COVAX. It began exporting doses in January but stopped doing so to inoculate its own population during a massive surge in infections in April that pushed India's health system to the breaking point.

The halt in exports left many developing countries without adequate supplies and delayed vaccines for millions of people.

Before halting exports, India donated or sold 66 million vaccine doses to nearly 100 countries.

Mandaviya did not specify how many doses would be exported. He said India's monthly coronavirus vaccine production has more than doubled since April and is expected to increase to 300 million doses in October.

"We will help the world and fulfill our responsibility to COVAX," he said.

Serum Institute of India, the world's largest maker of vaccines, is now producing an estimated 150 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine each month, a more than twofold increase since April.

India's inoculations have risen in recent months.

A country of nearly 1.4 billion people, India has administered more than 800 million vaccine doses. It has given at least one dose to more than 62% of the eligible adult population and two doses to about 22%.

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Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia") gives notice that it filed an Application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") on June 30, 2021, requesting authority to amend its filed tariffs to modify its rate structure; to increase the rates and charges for its natural gas distribution and transportation services; to amend its tariff to make various changes to how Columbia provides distribution and transportation services to customers; to incorporate various minor formatting and stylistic changes into its tariff; and to modify its accounting methods as necessary to effectuate its Application. Columbia also applied, under R.C. Chapter 4929, for approval of an alternative rate plan, which includes its existing Infrastructure Replacement Program ("IRP") and Capital Expenditure Program ("CEP") and their associated riders, and a request to implement a new Federally Mandated Investment ("FMI") Rider, described below. Additionally, Columbia applied for authority to continue offering its Demand Side Management ("DSM") Program. The Application affects rates and charges and terms and conditions for natural gas service for all Columbia customers in each of the 61 Ohio counties where Columbia offers service.

This notice summarizes the substance of Columbia's Application. Anyone seeking more detailed information regarding Columbia's Application may inspect a copy of the Application, including its supporting schedules and Columbia's current and proposed rate sheets, by any of the following methods:

- visiting the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793;
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The Staff of the Commission and any interested parties that intervene in the proceeding may make recommendations that differ from the Application, and the Commission may adopt those recommendations.

Columbia has not filed an application to increase its base rates since 2008. Columbia's Application proposes various changes to its rate structure, including:

- Increasing the volumetric breakpoint between its SGS / SGTS / FRSGTS rate classes and its GS / GTS / FRGTS rate classes, from 300 Mcf/year to 600 Mcf/year;
- Removing the seasonal load factor requirement for the LGS / LGTS / FRLGTS rate classes;
- Incorporating the IRP and CEP Riders into base rates;
- Establishing a Monthly Delivery Charge for the FRCTS rate class;
- Adding new LGS/LGTS/FRLGTS Schools Services, for primary and secondary school customer accounts consuming at least 18,000 Mcf per year; and
- Eliminating the Mainline Delivery Charge in the LGTS tariff.

Columbia also seeks to recover historical expenses that the Commission had authorized Columbia to defer, and to defer new expenses related to a leak detection pilot program.

Columbia's current base rates were determined in a rate filing that became effective December 3, 2008. Columbia's Application states that the current rates and charges do not provide a just and reasonable rate of return on Columbia's used and useful property as of March 31, 2021 (the date certain in this case). The Application further states that Columbia requires a revenue increase to provide Columbia an opportunity to earn a fair return on its assets and recover its costs of operation. For purposes of Columbia's Application, Columbia's revenues and expenses reflect its actual and projected costs of rendering natural gas service during calendar year 2021, with adjustments as described in the Application and supporting schedules. Columbia has requested the following increases in operating revenue for its rate classes:

Rate Classes	Requested Increase in Operating Revenue
Small General Service (SGS) Small General Transportation Service (SGTS) Full Requirements Small General Transportation Service (FRSGTS)	31.4%
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Large General Service (LGS) Large General Transportation Service (LGTS) Full Requirements Large General Transportation Service (FRLGTS)	15.1%
Full Requirements Cooperative Transportation Service (FRCTS)	12.6%

These increases in proposed operating revenue do not necessarily equal the increases in total expected monthly charges for any customer. For example, if the Commission approves Columbia's Application, a SGS customer using 10 Mcf of gas from Columbia Gas would see a total monthly bill increase from $93.53 to $105.70, an increase of approximately 13.0% (including gas costs). Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, any person, firm, corporation, or association may file an objection to the increased rates that Columbia has proposed by alleging that Columbia's proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

Columbia is also seeking authority to implement an alternative rate plan, which would consist of its existing IRP and CEP (and their associated riders) and a new proposed FMI Rider. Columbia seeks Commission approval to continue the IRP and Rider IRP, with minor changes, from 2021 through 2026. Changes to the IRP include shifting capital projects in which less than 50% of the retired pipe is priority pipe to the CEP and eliminating the 5% limit on plastic pipe replacement for priority pipe-replacement projects under Columbia's Accelerated Mains Replacement Program ("AMRP"). Columbia would continue its CEP and CEP Rider through 2026, with updated caps for the CEP Rider charge for 2021 through 2027. The new FMI Rider would be a monthly charge for customers in all rate classes to allow Columbia to recover incremental costs associated with federally and state-mandated safety investments.

Additionally, Columbia is seeking Commission authority to continue its DSM Program and its associated DSM Rider from 2023 through 2027. Columbia's DSM Program offers cost-effective energy efficiency programs and rebates to help customers save energy and lower utility bills. Projected budgets for the DSM Program (excluding WarmChoice® funding included in base rates) range from approximately $29.8 million in 2023 to approximately $31.9 million in 2027.

Metro Parks board to demolish four rental houses

Mark Ferenchik
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks will demolish four rental homes on park property, and any residential leases will now be approved by the parks board following an investigation by The Dispatch that raised questions about rental rates and oversight.

The Metro Parks board of commissioners voted 3-0 on Tuesday to demolish three houses along Amity Road in western Franklin County at Prairie Oaks Metro Park, and one house at Chestnut Ridge Metro Park, located west of Carroll in Fairfield County.

The resolution approved by the board also states that when Metro Parks acquires any structures when buying land for park space in the future, it will dispose of them within six months either by a sale through a competitive process or demolition.

In addition, Metro Parks will tell the remaining tenants living in two of the four rental homes that it plans to demolish that their leases will be terminated between 60 and 120 days, but will work with them during the transition period.

"It was our commitment to the board to look at past practices and make them better," Tim Moloney, Metro Parks executive director, said Tuesday at the monthly Metro Parks board meeting at Walnut Woods Metro Park in southeastern Franklin County.

The actions come after an investigation by The Dispatch into the oversight of residential properties owned by Metro Parks. The Dispatch reported in June that Metro Parks leased a stone house, the Benua House, overlooking a lake at Clear Creek Metro Park in Hocking County for monthly rates that Hocking Hills real estate experts said were well-below nightly market rates. Among those who leased the 4,700-square-foot Benua House, which has since been demolished, was a group led by prominent Columbus-area developer Mark Wagenbrenner.

Wagenbrenner's Thrive Companies is now building a $650 million residential housing, apartments and retail development within the new 220-acre Quarry Trails Metro Park near Trabue and Dublin roads west of the Scioto River, a portion of which is set to open this fall.

In August, The Dispatch reported that Metro Parks still owns six residential rental properties, including one at the former Hoover YMCA land in southeastern Franklin County that it purchased in 2020 and where a current Metro Parks park ranger has lived for $800 a month rent.

A now-retired Metro Parks park manager has lived since 1985 at the house at Chestnut Ridge Metro Park on Winchester Pie near Carroll that Metro Parks plans to demolish. The house is on a 39.7-acre parcel the Fairfield County auditor's office values at $340,800.

The tenant, who has paid $400 a month in rent, previously told The Dispatch that he had maintained the property at his expense for years and provides security for the location.

The most-recent rents at the other four residential properties Metro Parks owns:

• One home for $600 a month and two homes for $500 a month at Prairie Oaks Metro Park, located off Plain City-Georgesville Road in western Franklin and northeastern Madison counties.

• One home currently rented for $500 a month at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, the system's largest park with more than 7,000 acres along the Big Darby and Little Darby creeks in Pleasant and Prairie townships.

None of those rents was approved by the Metro Parks board. Park officials said the rental amounts amounts were determined by property surveys, but the last one was conducted in 2008.

Board member George McCue said it was a quick turnaround for Metro Parks staff to come up with a plan to deal with the rental properties.

Asked why district officials decided to demolish four of the six rental homes, Moloney replied: "They weren't providing services to the (Metro Parks)."

Moloney told The Dispatch in August that the Metro Parks board didn't want any of its rentals to be a financial burden for taxpayers.

Moloney pointed out that the Metro Parks board will have to make decisions within six months about what to do with some structures on a 282-acre property in Madison Township that it voted Tuesday to buy for $2.9 million, or $10,284 an acre.

The property is adjacent to Walnut Woods Metro Park, a more than 1,000-acre park off Lithopolis Road near Groveport that features an area of tall pines, thick forest and fields adjacent to Walnut Creek. The property will be added to that park.

Metro Parks is buying the property from Daltonna and Craig Crawford, trustee of the Donna J. Miller Trust for Park Land. Metro Parks said 75% of the purchase cost will be paid by a Clean Ohio Fund Green Space program grant. Metro Parks also is applying for a state grant to restore wetlands on 80 acres of that property.

mferench@dispatch.com
@MarkFerenchik

Alabama weighs using virus funds to build new prisons

Kim Chandler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Alabama is weighing the use of $400 million in pandemic relief funds to build new prisons, a proposal that state Republican leaders say would save state taxpayer money but that critics argue is not the intended use of the federal aid.

Lawmakers on Monday were scheduled to begin a special session focused on a $1.3 billion prison construction plan to build at least three new prisons and renovate others. The projects would be done in phases and funded with a $785 million bond issue, $150 million in general fund dollars and $400 million from the state's $2.2 billion share of American Rescue Plan funds.

Gov. Kay Ivey and Republican legislative leaders have defended the use of the virus funds, saying it will enable the state to essentially "pay cash" for part of the construction and avoid using state dollars as well as paying interest on a loan.

Republican Sen. Greg Albritton, who chairs the Senate general fund budget committee, said legislative leaders are comfortable they can legally use the money for prison construction. Albritton said part of the federal dollars are to replace revenue lost during the pandemic. He said that pot of funds "has many, many fewer restrictions" on how it is used.

Dev Wakeley, a policy analyst with Alabama Arise, said while the state may be legally able to use the money for prison construction, the purpose was to do things that "will help everyday Alabamians in their lives, and to smooth out the recovery."

Alabama Arise is an advocacy organization for low-income families.

He said the money could be used for items such as an expansion of the state's Medicaid program to provide medical coverage to previously uninsured Alabamians and child care programs.

"Congress surely did not contemplate, state governments, deciding that well, you know, we're just not going to use this money to actually improve lives of people ... instead we're going to blow $400 million on building fancy new prisons that don't even really get at the problems" of the state incarceration system.

Rep. Chris England, D-Tuscaloosa, said there are "obviously better uses of the money."

A spokesman said the U.S. Department of Treasury does not preapprove any specific uses of the funds and has not issued a final rule on usage. Treasury officials say the department is monitoring all proposed expenditures and expects any state or local government that uses state and local funds in violation of the eligible uses to repay the misused funds to the federal government.

The Alabama prison construction proposal calls for at least three new prisons – at least a 4,000-bed prison in Elmore County with enhanced space for medical and mental health care needs; another at least 4,000-bed prison in Escambia County; and a women's prison – as well as renovations to existing facilities.

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OBITUARIES

VONETTA GARDNER

LIMA — Mrs. Vonetta Lynn Gardner, age 46, passed from this life on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at approximately 6:25 a.m. at Lima Memorial Health Systems.

She was born on October 26, 1974 in Lima, Ohio to the union of Frede Edward Williams and Ora Parrish. Her father is deceased and her mother survives in Lima.

She was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Plummie Lee Gardner, Jr., Gardner, he preceded her in death on September 14, 2021.

Mrs. Gardner was a Homemaker and a member of Philippian Missionary Baptist Church.

She leaves to cherish her precious memory 2 sons; Plummie Gardner, III and Omarion Gardner both of Lima. Keionna Tumlin, Latasha Pratt, Latricia Gardner and Nikki Gardner all of Atlanta, Georgia. 9 grandchildren. A brother; Martinus Parrish of Columbus, OH. Favorite Aunt; Kendis Parrish and 2 special friends; Roslyn Burton and Stephanie Dukes. A host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Home going services will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Second Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Dennis Ward, officiating

Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. until time of services also at the Church.

Interment: Woodlawn Cemetery

Services entrusted to: JONES-CLARK FUNERAL HOME, INC.

To order flowers and to offer condolences to the GARDNER Family, visit www.jonesclarkfuneralhome.com

PLUMMIE GARDNER, JR.

LIMA — Mr. Plummie Lee Gardner, Jr., age 61, passed from this life on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at approximately 3:43 p.m. at Lima Memorial Health Systems.

He was born on September 25, 1959 in Griffin, Georgia to the union of Plummie L. and Grovene (Lawrence) Gardner, Sr.; both parents preceded him in death.

He was united in holy matrimony to Vonetta Lynn (Parrish) Gardner, she passed away on September 16, 2021.

Mr. Gardner worked as an operator with Kosei for over 13 years. He was a member of the National Guard.

He leaves to cherish his precious memory 2 sons; Plummie Gardner, III and Omarion Gardner both of Lima. Keionna Tumlin, Latasha Pratt, Latricia Gardner and Nikki Gardner all of Atlanta, Georgia. 9 grandchildren. 2 brothers; David Stephenson of Lima and Gregory Gardner of Atlanta, GA. A sister; Darnell Gardner of Atlanta, GA. A special cousin/friend; Grady Lawrence. A host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Home going services will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at Second Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Dennis Ward, officiating

Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. until time of services also the Church.

Interment: Woodlawn Cemetery

Services entrusted to: JONES-CLARK FUNERAL HOME, INC.

To order flowers and to offer condolences to the GARDNER Family, visit www.jonesclarkfuneralhome.com

EDWARD MARCUM

LIMA — Edward L. Marcum, 78, passed away at 7:52 a.m. on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at Mercy Health St. Rita's Medical Center.

Ed was born on March 8, 1943, in Middlesboro, KY, to the late Leon C. and Martha E. (Jones) Marcum .

Ed was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. Serving during Vietnam on the U.S.S Enterprise. Ed was a member of Lighthouse Baptist Church and VFW #1275. Ed enjoyed experiencing different restaurants.

He is survived by his siblings Andrea (Dan) Mason of Lima, OH , William Marcum of Tennessee; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and friend Carolyn Cross.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Kenneth Marcum.

The family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Lighthouse Baptist Church.

The funeral service will follow at 12 p.m. Pastor Christopher Page will officiate. Burial will be later in Jones Family Cemetery in Middlesboro, KY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Lighthouse Baptist Church.

Arrangements handled by Chamberlain-Huckeriede Funeral Home, Lima. Condolences may be expressed at www.chamberlainhuckeriede.com .

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EDWARD HOLTKAMP

KALIDA — Edward J. Holtkamp, 93, of Kalida, died peacefully at 12:45 p.m. Friday, September 17, 2021 at Mercy Health St. Rita's Medical Center, Lima. He was born in Kalida on February 28, 1928 to the late Edward and Mary (Stechschulte) Holtkamp. He was preceded in death by his sisters, Sister Catherine Mary Holtkamp, CDP, and Margaret (Holtkamp) Pizzurro. His sister, Esther (Holtkamp) Wenzel, survives him.

He was the beloved uncle to 10 nieces and nephews and 16 great nieces and nephews who also survive him. They have many fond memories of summers in Kalida with Uncle Ed, including golfing (of course!), bowling, playing putt-putt, hunting night crawlers, fishing, going to the park and having root beer floats at the carry-out. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Holtkamp was a co-owner of Holtkamp-Fortman Hardware in Kalida, a United States Army Veteran and an active member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Kalida. He was a charter member of Country Acres Golf Club (Moose Landing Country Club), a member of the Kalida Volunteer Fire Department, and a huge Kalida High School Wildcats basketball fan who rarely missed a home game.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 25, 2021 at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Kalida with Father Mark Hoying officiating. Burial will follow in St. Michael's Cemetery, Kalida.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of LOVE FUNERAL HOME, Ottawa. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital or to the Congregation of Divine Providence, 5300 Saint Anne Drive, Melbourne, KY 41059.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.lovefuneralhome.com

More obituaries **Page 2A**

Biden

From page 1A

drone-controlled air strike in Kabul, Afghanistan, killed not an Islamic terrorist as first claimed but 10 civilians, including a charity worker employed by a California organization, and seven children.

And in the same week, the Biden administration ignited a huge row with the oldest ally of the United States, France. Biden announced it was sharing sensitive technology to help Australian build nuclear-powered submarines, which scuttled Canberra's $66-billion sub deal with France. It was part of a new defense pact that also included Britain and was widely seen as a fortification against China's rising aggression in the Indo-Pacific region, which Biden hopes to make a strategic priority.

Claiming it was blindsided, France was furious, and it seemed an unusual fight for Biden to pick, or obliviously trigger.

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Hinckley

From page 1A

is to release Hinckley from all court supervision in June.

A 2020 violence risk assessment conducted on behalf of Washington's Department of Behavioral Health concluded that Hinckley would not pose a danger if he's unconditionally released.

The U.S. government had previously opposed ending restrictions. But it recently retained an independent expert to examine Hinckley and took a different position Monday, with attorneys saying they would agree to unconditional release if Hinckley follows the rules and shows mental stability for the next nine months.

Kacie Weston, an attorney for the U.S. government, said it wants to make sure Hinckley can adapt to living on his own for the first time in 40 years.

He recently moved out his mother's house, which sits along a golf course in a gated community in Williamsburg. She died in July. Attorneys did not say where Hinckley is currently living.

"Mr. Hinckley does have a history of turning inward, and toward isolation," Weston said.

Another concern is the impending retirement of one of Hinckley's therapists and the looming end to a therapy group, which has provided much support and social interaction. Weston said Hinckley will likely face challenges finding a similar group in the future.

"All we have to do is wait a few more months and see," Weston said. "And we'll have actual hard data. We'll have information in real time to see how Mr. Hinckley adapts."

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute said in a statement that it was "saddened" by the court's plan.

Hinckley was 25 when he shot and wounded the 40th U.S. president outside a Washington hotel. The shooting paralyzed Reagan press secretary James Brady, who died in 2014. It also injured Secret Service agent Timothy McCarthy and Washington police officer Thomas Delahanty.

Hinckley did not attend Monday's hearing. But Barry Levine, his attorney, said Hinckley wanted to express his "heartfelt" apologies and "profound regret" to the people he shot and their families as well as to Foster and the American people.

"Perhaps it is too much to ask for forgiveness," Levine said. "But we hope they have an understanding that the acts that caused him to do this terrible thing (were caused by) mental illness."

Anita Hill still waits for change

By Jocelyn Noveck
AP National Writer

America had yet to really understand sexual harassment when Anita Hill testified against Clarence Thomas in front of an all-male Senate panel in October 1991. He was confirmed to the Supreme Court anyway, but Hill's work was just beginning.

Now, three decades later, what does 65-year-old Hill wish she could have told 35-year-old Hill, the young professor in the bright blue suit who testified calmly and deliberately that day but had utterly no idea what lay ahead?

"I wish I had known then that the work would take a long time," she says now. "That I should be patient — diligent, but patient." As a lawyer, she had thought institutions would do their job, she says. "What I wasn't understanding was our culture of denial."

It's safe to say the soft-spoken Hill, an exceedingly private person who has spent her entire adult life in the classroom, didn't grow up planning to become an activist. But the Thomas hearings set her on a different path, and when the #MeToo reckoning exploded in 2017, she was automatically a potent symbol.

She still teaches gender, race and law at Brandeis University and also chairs the Hollywood Commission, which fights harassment in the entertainment industry, along with other advocacy work.

So it seems appropriate that Hill's latest project is one that combines her paths of academia and activism. Her new book, "Believing: Our Thirty-Year Journey to End Gender Violence," is a heavily researched look at gender violence — tracing its roots, measuring its impact, and suggesting ways to fight it.

Through a mix of academic studies, legal analysis, anecdotes and interviews, Hill looks at different spheres of society and finds that although there's surely a better understanding of sexual harassment and gender violence now than three decades ago — when Wyoming Sen. Alan Simpson referred at the hearing to "that sexual harassment crap" — there's a lack of comprehension of how deeply rooted the problems are.

She also says it's unrealistic to expect a younger generation's more evolved values will be enough to eradicate gender violence, an idea she calls "the myth of the woke generation." First of all, beliefs in any generation are mixed, but also, it's the institutions and systems that need to change, she says.

"It's really dangerous for us to think that gender violence is not a huge problem, that it is not a problem that's affecting (all of us)," Hill says. "There's probably not anyone who doesn't have a story about something that happened to them or to someone they know."

What Hill has learned, she says, is that attitudes may have evolved, but systems and institutions haven't kept pace. "It's not enough for us as a society to change," she says. "If we keep the same systems in place, the problem's going to keep repeating itself."

Council

From page 1A

$78,468 adjustment in the Clerk's Office Civica CMI Records and authorize the Lima City auditor to make a payment of $75,147 to the Lima Municipal Court to cover the bank account deficit from the Contingency account.

• Council presented a resolution memorializing the late Estella Cooper.

Cooper died recently and had been active in the community through the Lima School Board, the Bradfield Community Center, the Lima Family YMCA and other organizations.

Reach Sam Shriver at 567-242-0409.

Student

From page 1A

The university also invested more in financial aid and conducted a 15-month academic and administrative review of its programs in 2019 to identify $9 million in cost savings and another $1 million in investments, he said.

The coronavirus pandemic created another "headwind," DiBiasio said, but ONU was still able to resume in-person classes last fall without "missing a single day of in-person instruction."

Some 80% of ONU students and 90% of fulltime faculty and staff are fully vaccinated, DiBiasio said, while unvaccinated faculty, staff and students are tested for coronavirus weekly.

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Submitted photo

Columbiana Fall Homecoming

The Columbiana High School 2021 Fall Homecoming King and Queen will be crowned Friday during halftime of the varsity football game against United. The dance will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday. The homecoming court is (front from left) Ava Halas, Tori Long, Monica Cobbin; (back from left) Ethan Clark, Tony Kocanjer and Drake Daugherty.

Submitted photo

West Branch Fall Homecoming

The West Branch 2021 Homecoming queen will be crowned before the varsity football game Friday night. The dance will be held Saturday. The West Branch 2021 Homecoming Court, from left, front row, Katie Kent, daughter of Penny Kent and Bill Kent; Mara Woost, daughter of Marcy and Bryan Woost; Morgan Loudon, daughter of Scott and Melissa Loudon; Addyson Jones, daughter of Casey and Tracie Jones; back row, Kiersten Hofmann, daughter of William and Samantha Hofmann; Samantha Tubbs, daughter of Dan and Sue Tubbs; Alyssa Barnett, daughter of Scott and Andrea Barnett.

Submitted photo

New Lisbon Lodge Breakfast

New Lisbon Lodge #65 will hold a public all-you-can-eat breakfast from 7 a.m-10 a.m. Saturday. Price per meal is $8 which includes eggs, bacon, sausage links, sausage gravy, and biscuits. There will also be a waffle bar at an additional $2 per person. Water, coffee, orange juice, and tomato juice are also included. Shown, from left, Jim Landfried and Al Myers.

Prison sentence complicates longtime friendship

DEAR ABBY: I have a former high school classmate who, over the years, I've gotten pretty close to. He has been there for me when I was at my lowest, and I have been there for him as well. He lives several hours away, but we talked almost daily in addition to being on social media.

A few months ago I stopped hearing from him, and his social media profile went dark. I had a bad feeling, so I Googled him and was shocked to see he had been arrested! While it wasn't a violent crime, it was horrible just the same. He has called me several times from prison, declaring his innocence - always requesting money. Abby, I live paycheck to paycheck. Even if I had extra money, I wouldn't feel comfortable giving it to him.

I feel hurt and used. Part of me says I need to end the friendship; the other part says he needs friends right now and it's not my place to judge him. I have refused to accept his last few calls because I really don't know what to do. Your thoughts are appreciated. -- BLINDSIDED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR BLINDSIDED: This person hasn't used you - yet. The next time he reaches out, accept the call. When you do, make clear that you can offer moral support, but you cannot give him money because you live paycheck to paycheck. You may not hear from him after that. But if he continues to ask, take a giant step backward and recognize this friendship has run its course.

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NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Positive kid power

Lake Ridge Academy instills kindness, collaboration during year of service

By Aliah Kimbro
akimbro@morningjournal.com

Lake Ridge Academy, 37501 Center Ridge Road in North Ridgeville, has kicked off its annual commitment to community service.

The school's annual Year of Service Kick-off day was Sept. 24.

Megan Zahler, director of Enrollment, said the day is just the beginning of a year filled with service.

"Throughout the year, we do so many different service projects," Zahler said. "We wanted to recognize that it is a year-long effort and commitment, so we wanted to get students excited about it and do a kick-off day."

Students traveled to Lorain County parks to clean up grounds and learn about plants, animals and resources in their natural settings, she said.

"Our students, grades K-12, do projects both on and off campus," Zahler said. "It's a way for us to recommit ourselves to the relationships which happen on campus, but also recognize the importance of those which occur off campus as well."

Mitch White, head of School, said this year marks the 12th year of the service initiative.

"It highlights what makes Lake Ridge Academy so special," White said. "We are a small K-12 school, where younger students are mentored by older students, and where a natural world education makes our curriculum come alive."

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy Upper School students maintain the garden in the rear of the campus.

Zahler says she hopes that through service, students recognize the importance of caring for the environment around them.

"Our educational philosophy teaches them to love their natural surroundings and get out there," she said. "Our students understand that love comes first, and the service and protection comes naturally afterwards.

"They're learning the connection, not only between themselves and their internal learning, but also the connection to the greater world and community," she said.

Lake Ridge Academy senior and Student Body President Joel Lacoste said he always looks forward to participating in community service efforts.

"I think it's a really great opportunity to work with younger kids that I wouldn't see on a regular basis," Joel said. "I like to connect with them over the fact that we both have a love for Lake Ridge and our campus.

"The best way to give back in that regard is working together as a community."

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy students K-12 participate in the annual Year of Service Kick-Off Day on campus.

Joel said as he graduates this spring, he will recall the values instilled during service.

"I'll always remember the concept of teamwork and being able to come together, no matter our differences," he said.

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy senior and Student Body President Joel Lacoste works with a kindergarten student.

NORTHEAST OHIO

NOACA funds grants in regional development, investment strategies

Staff report

The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency secured two grants to address economic development planning and finance investment strategies for Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina counties, according to a news release.

The agency will receive $122,544 from the United States Economic Development Administration to coordinate the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and $295,000 from the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement a Regional Infrastructure Accelerators Demonstration Program.

Both programs support the agency's vision statement to strengthen regional cohesion and support economic development in Northeast Ohio, the release said.

Accelerate regional infrastructure

NOACA was one of five national recipients designated in the 2021 funding round as a Regional Infrastructure Accelerator.

It shares this latest funding with other cities, including Chicago, San Diego, Seattle and Fresno.

Under the two-year demonstration program, accelerators would provide assistance and act as a resource to regional entities as they develop significantly high-cost infrastructure projects that could be eligible for USDOT credit assistance.

Economic Development

As the first Greater Cleveland regional area Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy or CEDS, NOACA will work with stakeholders to lead a strategic planning process designed to build capacity and guide economic and community development opportunities across the five-county region.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy provides a vehicle for individuals, organizations, local governments and private industry to engage in a meaningful conversation about what strategies would best serve as a blueprint for economic development growth.

It is also a prerequisite to access $13 billion of federal American Rescue Plan Act program funding.

"This is a significant step," said Grace Gallucci, executive director and CEO of NOACA. "As our region continues to grows, NOACA will build consensus and facilitate discussions on how to plan and best prioritize economic development opportunities.

"As part of the planning process, NOACA hopes to form alliances to bring more federal funding to communities and to identify opportunities to grow together as a diverse region."

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for Authority to Increase Rates and Charges for its Gas Distribution Service,
For Approval of an Alternative Form of Regulation,
to Continue its Demand Side Management Program, and
For Approval of a Change in Accounting Methods
PUCO Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, 21-638-GA-ALT, 21-639-GA-UNC, 21-640-GA-AAM

Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia") gives notice that it filed an Application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") on June 30, 2021, requesting authority to amend its filed tariffs to modify its rate structure; to increase the rates and charges for its natural gas distribution and transportation services; to amend its tariff to make various changes to how Columbia provides distribution and transportation services to customers; to incorporate various minor formatting and stylistic changes into its tariff; and to modify its accounting methods as necessary to effectuate its Application. Columbia also applied, under R.C. Chapter 4929, for approval of an alternative rate plan, which includes its existing Infrastructure Replacement Program ("IRP") and Capital Expenditure Program ("CEP") and their associated riders, and a request to implement a new Federally Mandated Investment ("FMI") Rider, described below. Additionally, Columbia applied for authority to continue offering its Demand Side Management ("DSM") Program. The Application affects rates and charges and terms and conditions for natural gas service for all Columbia customers in each of the 61 Ohio counties where Columbia offers service.

This notice summarizes the substance of Columbia's Application. Anyone seeking more detailed information regarding Columbia's Application may inspect a copy of the Application, including its supporting schedules and Columbia's current and proposed rate sheets, by any of the following methods:

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The Staff of the Commission and any interested parties that intervene in the proceeding may make recommendations that differ from the Application, and the Commission may adopt those recommendations.

Columbia has not filed an application to increase its base rates since 2008. Columbia's Application proposes various changes to its rate structure, including:

- Increasing the volumetric breakpoint between its SGS / SGTS / FRSGTS rate classes and its GS / GTS / FRGTS rate classes, from 300 Mcf/year to 600 Mcf/year;
- Removing the seasonal load factor requirement for the LGS / LGTS / FRLGTS rate classes;
- Incorporating the IRP and CEP Riders into base rates;
- Establishing a Monthly Delivery Charge for the FRCTS rate class;
- Adding new LGS/LGTS/FRLGTS Schools Services, for primary and secondary school customer accounts consuming at least 18,000 Mcf per year; and
- Eliminating the Mainline Delivery Charge in the LGTS tariff.

Columbia also seeks to recover historical expenses that the Commission had authorized Columbia to defer, and to defer new expenses related to a leak detection pilot program.

Columbia's current base rates were determined in a rate filing that became effective December 3, 2008. Columbia's Application states that the current rates and charges do not provide a just and reasonable rate of return on Columbia's used and useful property as of March 31, 2021 (the date certain in this case). The Application further states that Columbia requires a revenue increase to provide Columbia an opportunity to earn a fair return on its assets and recover its costs of operation. For purposes of Columbia's Application, Columbia's revenues and expenses reflect its actual and projected costs of rendering natural gas service during calendar year 2021, with adjustments as described in the Application and supporting schedules. Columbia has requested the following increases in operating revenue for its rate classes:

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Full Requirements Cooperative Transportation Service (FRCTS)	12.6%

These increases in proposed operating revenue do not necessarily equal the increases in total expected monthly charges for any customer. For example, if the Commission approves Columbia's Application, a SGS customer using 10 Mcf of gas from Columbia Gas would see a total monthly bill increase from $93.53 to $105.70, an increase of approximately 13.0% (including gas costs). Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, any person, firm, corporation, or association may file an objection to the increased rates that Columbia has proposed by alleging that Columbia's proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

Columbia is also seeking authority to implement an alternative rate plan, which would consist of its existing IRP and CEP (and their associated riders) and a new proposed FMI Rider. Columbia seeks Commission approval to continue the IRP and Rider IRP, with minor changes, from 2021 through 2026. Changes to the IRP include shifting capital projects in which less than 50% of the retired pipe is priority pipe to the CEP and eliminating the 5% limit on plastic pipe replacement for priority pipe-replacement projects under Columbia's Accelerated Mains Replacement Program ("AMRP"). Columbia would continue its CEP and CEP Rider through 2026, with updated caps for the CEP Rider charge for 2021 through 2027. The new FMI Rider would be a monthly charge for customers in all rate classes to allow Columbia to recover incremental costs associated with federally and state-mandated safety investments.

Additionally, Columbia is seeking Commission authority to continue its DSM Program and its associated DSM Rider from 2023 through 2027. Columbia's DSM Program offers cost-effective energy efficiency programs and rebates to help customers save energy and lower utility bills. Projected budgets for the DSM Program (excluding WarmChoice® funding included in base rates) range from approximately $29.8 million in 2023 to approximately $31.9 million in 2027.

SPORTS

Cole stumbles against Indians as Yanks drop 1-1/2 games out

NEW YORK (AP) – Gerrit Cole stumbled when the New York Yankees needed an ace-like outing, allowing seven runs over 5 2/3 innings in a costly 11-1 defeat to the Cleveland Indians on Sunday.

After losing consecutive games by eight or more runs for the first time since May 2008, New York dropped 1 1/2 games behind Toronto for the second AL wild card and 2 1/2 games back of wild card leader Boston with 12 games left.

Harold Ramirez hit a pair of two-run singles and drove in a career-high four runs before leaving with a right shoulder injury.

Cole (15-8) matched his 2021 high for earned runs and gave up 10 hits for the first time since June 30, 2017, with Pittsburgh. Cleveland rookie Eli Morgan (3-7) allowed one run and six hits in six innings.

Cardinals 8, Padres 7

ST. LOUIS (AP) – San Diego center fielder Fernando Tatis Jr. dropped Nolan Arenado's bases-loaded popup and heaved the ball home, leading to a five-run first inning as St. Louis completed a three-game sweep and extended its winning streak to eight.

Tatis' brutal error and mental mistake – he chose not to make an easy throw to second or third for a force-out – came one day after his dugout dustup with teammate Manny Machado.

Jake Arrieta (5-14) left after six batters and 20 pitches because of a right adductor groin strain. He allowed five runs – four earned – three hits and a walk while getting one out.

Alex Reyes (9-8) allowed one run over two innings, and Giovanny Gallegos struck out two in a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Blue Jays 5, Twins 3

TORONTO (AP) – José Berríos (12-9) allowed three runs and four hits in 6 2/3 innings to beat the team that traded him to Toronto on July 30.

Bo Bichette homered in a five-run first inning. Vladimir Guerrero Jr. had three hits and an RBI as the Blue Jays improved to 15-3 in September and at 84-65 moved a season-best 19 games above .500.

Jordan Romano got three outs for his 19th save.

Luke Farrell (1-1), a son of former Blue Jays manager John Farrell, was pulled after allowing seven hits in one inning. Minnesota lost for the sixth time in eight games.

Red Sox 8, Orioles 6

BOSTON (AP) – Kiké Hernández's game-tying RBI single caromed off the second-base bag and into shallow center field, sparking a three-run, seventh-inning rally that carried Boston to a three-game sweep and five-game winning streak.

J.D. Martinez had a solo homer and Kevin Plawecki added a two-run single for the Red Sox.

Trey Mancini had a three-run double for the Orioles, who lost 12 of the final 13 meetings against the Red Sox after sweeping a season-opening three-game series.

After Hirokazu Sawamura (5-1) gave up a two-run lead in the top of the seventh, Boston rallied against Conner Greene (1-1). Garrett Richards got three outs for his third save.

Baltimore has a big league-worst 102 losses.

Tigers 2, Rays 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) – Wily Peralta (4-3) gave up three hits in seven innings, Eric Haase homered off Shane McClanahan (9-6) and Dustin Garneau went deep against Nick Anderson.

Kyle Funkhouser pitched the ninth for his first save since college.

Tampa Bay leads the AL East by 6 1/2 games and is headed to its second straight division title.

Athletics 3, Angels 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) – Shohei Ohtani struck out 10 but went winless in consecutive starts on the mound for the first time since June.

Yan Gomes' second-inning home run and Matt Chapman's drive in the fourth built a 2-0 lead against Ohtani, who is is 9-2 with a 3.28 ERA along with a .257 average at the plate, 44 homers and 94 RBIs.

Jed Lowie hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the 10th off Raisel Iglesias (7-5), and Oakland won its fifth straight to remain within two games of Toronto for the second AL wild card. The A's will finish with a winning record in four straight years for the first time since 1999-2006.

Jose Rojas tied the score in the ninth with an RBI single off Sergio Romo that sent a second run home when right fielder Seth Brown bobbled the ball and then threw the ball to the backstop for an error. Lou Trivino (6-7) got five outs for the win.

Mariners 7, Royals 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) – Rookie Jarred Kelenic homered, doubled twice and went 5 for 9 with three home runs, two doubles, three walks and seven RBIs in the three-game series.

Seattle remained four games behind Toronto for the second AL wild-card spot.

Kansas City was ensured its fifth straight losing season. The Royals won the 2015 World Series, went 81-81 the next year and haven't finished above .500 since.

Logan Gilbert (6-5) cruised through seven innings, allowing one run on three hits.

Jackson Kowar (0-4) gave up five runs and seven hits in four innings.

White Sox 7, Rangers 2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) – José Abreu capped a five-run fourth inning with a two-run single that tied him with Kansas City's Salvador Perez for the major league RBIs lead at 113.

Yasmani Grandal homered for the second game in a row and Chicago closed on making the playoffs in consecutive seasons for the first time. The White Sox lead the AL Central by 11 games over second-place Cleveland.

Cesar Herrnandez also had a two-run single in that outburst off Jordan Lyles (9-12) for a 5-0 lead.

Lucas Giolito (9-10) struck out four while allowing one run over 5 1/3 innings.

Dodgers 8, Reds 5

CINCINNATI (AP) – Clayton Kershaw (10-7) allowed one run and three hits over five sharp innings for his first win since June 27.

Gavin Lux and Corey Seager hit two-run homers and Will Smith went deep as the Dodgers won for the eighth time in nine games. They began the afternoon two games behind San Francisco in the NL West.

Cincinnati lost its eighth straight series and dropped three games back of St. Louis for the second NL wild-card spot. Wade Miley (12-7) allowedg six runs and nine hits in a season-low three innings.

Marlins 6, Pirates 5

MIAMI (AP) – Lewin Díaz led off the bottom of the 10th with a two-run homer off Chad Kuhl (5-7), denying the Pirates what would have been their first series sweep this season.

Ben Gamel's sacrifice fly off Steven Okert (2-1) gave the Pirates a 5-4 lead in the 10th after automatic runner Ke'Bryan Hayes advanced on a wild pitch.

Cubs 6, Brewers 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) – Patrick Wisdom set a Cubs rookie record with his 27th homer, hitting a three-run drive that capped a five-run comeback in the eighth.

Pinch-hitter Willson Contreras started the rally with a 14-pitch plate appearance against Brad Boxberger (5-4). Adam Morgan (1-0) pitched one inning of shutout relief, and Michael Rucker retired Jace Peterson on a flyout for his first big league save.

Milwaukee's magic number for wrapping up its first NL Central title since 2018 remained at three.

Astros 7, Diamondbacks 6

HOUSTON (AP) – Jose Siri and Chas McCormick hit back-to-back home runs in the eighth off Brandyn Sittinger (0-1).

AL West-leading Houston won for the fourth time in five games and cut Tampa Bay's lead for the best record in the AL to 3 ½ games.

Peter Solomon (1-0) allowed one run in four innings of relief for his first big league win. Ryan Pressly pitched the ninth for his 25th save.

Nationals 3, Rockies 0

WASHINGTON (AP) – Juan Soto homered to back Paolo Espino (5-5), who allowed three hits in 5 2/3 innings and helped end the Rockies' rare five-game road winning streak.

Soto hit a 454-foot drive in the third inning off Jon Gray (8-11) for his 26th home run this season. Soto is hitting .362 with a 1.178 OPS since the All-Star break.

Colorado went 7-2 on its first winning trip this year and is 25-52 on the road and 45-27 at Coors Field.

Kyle Finnegan got three outs to complete a five-hitter and earned his 10th save.

Braves 3, Giants 0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) – Eddie Rosario, acquired from Cleveland on July 30, became the second Atlanta player in a month to hit for the cycle. Adam Duvall also homered, his 36th.

Max Fried (12-7) allowed three hits in seven innings for the Braves, who moved two games ahead of Philadelphia in the NL East after the Phillies lost to the Mets. Will Smith got his 33rd save.

San Francisco's NL West lead was cut to one game over the Dodgers. Anthony DeSclafani (12-7) gave up two runs and six hits in six innings.

Mets 3, Phillies 2

NEW YORK (AP) – Jeff McNeil hit a tiebreaking homer leading off the seventh inning, and New York beat Philadelphia, snapping a five-game skid and damaging the Phillies playoff hopes.

The Phillies blew a two-run lead Sunday night and fell two games behind the Atlanta Braves in the NL East and 3 1/2 games behind the St. Louis Cardinals in the race for the second NL wild card.

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SPORTS

Hot Harper carries Phillies into NL East title contention

PHILADELPHIA (AP) – Bryce Harper waited for the "MVP!" chants to fade as he stepped to the microphone at the Phillies' home finale to thank fans for sticking by them in the pennant race.

The National League MVP contender who bows every game to fans in right field – he might even play catch with a lucky few – told the city the Phillies just might have more games to play in Philadelphia.

"We have six more big ones," he said. "Hopefully, we're back here Oct. 11 with you guys waving your flags and your towels and we bring back October baseball. We've got a big week ahead."

Not since the halcyon days of Jimmy Rollins, Ryan Howard and Chase Utley have the Phillies played big September games with postseason stakes, and six this week will determine if they make the playoffs for the first time since 2011.

The 28-year-old Harper is doing it all – from sliding headfirst into home to win games to throwing fastballs home from right field to save games – for the Phillies in their pursuit of the NL East crown. He has slugged them into contention since the All-Star break and has them facing a make-or-break series in Atlanta.

The Braves are in control of the NL East when they open a three-game series with the Phillies on Tuesday. Atlanta leads the division by 2 1/2 games – its magic number to clinch is five – and the Phillies will likely have to sweep the series to have a shot at the division. Philadelphia ace Zack Wheeler gets the start in the opener against Atlanta's Charlie Morton.

"We have to go down there, we have do our job, we have to be ready from pitch one," Harper said. "Every time you play somebody, you want to sweep them."

The pennant-race pressure cookers are a hefty reason the Phillies gave Harper $330 million over 13 years to sign in 2019.

His contract is big.

His numbers, even bigger.

Harper is batting .313 with 34 home runs and 82 RBIs, leads the league with a 1.055 OPS and has a career-high 40 doubles. He has reached base in 22 straight games, the longest active streak in the National League. Harper has walked 20 times over his last 16 games and even has 10 outfield assists. His value to the Phillies makes him the betting favorite at -200 to win NL MVP, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, and in line to earn a second trophy to pair with his 2015 MVP with Washington.

Phillies fans chant "MVP!" for the player known as MV3 (in a nod to his uniform number) for a reason. Harper has managed a bad back that slowed him in the first half — he didn't make the All-Star team – and his durability down the stretch has been a bonus for manager Joe Girardi.

Just don't expect Harper to peek at his oversized stats on the scoreboard.

"I haven't looked at my numbers," he said. "I don't like Joe showing me my numbers. I don't let my friends show me my numbers. I don't let (wife) Kayla or anything... I don't look at it on Instagram. Every time my eyes even come close to looking at something, it's out of it as quick as possible."

Ask around the National League, though, and Harper is going to have to fight it out for MVP.

Take, for example, San Diego slugger Fernando Tatis Jr., who leads the NL with 41 homers.

"I get a chance to watch Fernando Tatis Jr. perform 18 times a year and he brings an unbelievable amount of energy to the field," Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo said. "It's that type of stuff that he can do that, to me, points him toward him being the potential MVP winner this year. But there are a lot of great candidates."

There are a few, like Washington outfielder Juan Soto. The 22-year-old Soto was the breakout star of the Nationals' 2019 World Series-winning team and leads the league in walks and on-base percentage.

"Juan should have consideration of being that MVP," said his manager, Dave Martinez. "What he's done and what he's meant to this team, as you know, he carries this team, day in and day out."

Soto carried the Nationals all the way to a 64-92 record entering Monday, not anywhere close to 2015 when they went 83-79 and finished second in the NL East and Harper was MVP.

Harper is batting .347 with 26 doubles, 19 homers and 48 RBIs since the All-Star break.

Harper would have Mike Schmidt's vote: the three-time NL MVP and Hall of Fame third baseman wrote last week, " The National League MVP is Bryce Harper, who on Aug. 1 put his team on his back, became the best player in the league, and stole it."

Harper might be known in Philadelphia these days as the slugger who both launched 400-something-foot home runs into second decks and spawned exponentially more Etsy products.

The days of fans simply wearing an authentic No. 3 Philadelphia Phillies jersey or other pieces of team merchandise have yielded to a DIY knockoff revolution of Harper merch that translates into Big Bryce Bucks.

Kids raised on Wawa hoagies play baseball wearing the same rounded-eye Phillie Phanatic headband worn by Harper, while moms and dads make a mad rush for a "Clearwooder" shirt more fitting for Mare Sheehan than an NL MVP front-runner. Pop culture aficionados wouldn't miss out on the Gritty and Phanatic T-shirt designed as an homage to "Pulp Fiction." Harper sure sparked a buying frenzy when he wore the shirt to the ballpark for his first opening day with the Phillies in 2019.

"He plays to the crowd, he wears wild colors, his people know just how to accessorize him and create memorabilia-themed for all occasions. For every Schmidt jersey, there are 10 Harpers," Schmidt wrote.

What Harper wears, Philly fans buy.

Just imagine how the diehards would look in 2021 playoff gear.

After furious comeback, 49ers leave Rodgers too much time

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) – Everything seemed to be going to plan down the stretch of the San Francisco 49ers' first home game with fans in more than 20 months – with just one small problem.

They left Aaron Rodgers with a little too much time for a gut-crushing comeback.

After Kyle Juszczyk's 12-yard TD catch with 37 seconds lead gave the Niners the lead in a game they once trailed by 17 points, San Francisco's defense allowed Rodgers to complete two passes to Davante Adams and lost 30-28 on Mason Crosby's 51-yard field goal on the final play Sunday night.

"You always worry with Aaron on the other side," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "That's why we didn't use any timeouts. We were hoping to take it down."

San Francisco (2-1) took over at its 25 with 2:39 to play and facing a six-point deficit after an inexplicable fumble by Jimmy Garoppolo set up a field goal by Crosby.

Garoppolo responded with two big passes to George Kittle and a third-and-10 conversion to Deebo Samuel to get the ball to the 12 with 43 seconds left. He then hit Juszczyk on a slant for the score, giving the Niners a 28-27 lead in a game they trailed by 17 points in the first half.

As the 49ers players celebrated and the fans roared in their first game back at Levi's Stadium since the 2019 NFC title game win over Green Bay, Rodgers was plotting the final comeback.

"I didn't really have a lot of time to think about it," Juszczyk said when asked if he left the Packers too much time.

"I think the entire team was swarming me. I didn't even know how much time was left on the clock. It wasn't really something that was on my mind during the play as well. We were down six. We needed a touchdown. So I was trying to score."

Rodgers exploited a banged-up secondary that went into the game missing cornerback Jason Verrett and then lost K'Waun Williams and Josh Norman to injuries by completing two passes to Adams that set up the winning kick.

"There's always too much time on the clock if there's ever time on the clock, especially with Aaron Rodgers," Kittle said. "I think we have a really good defense. I don't really have any worries when our defense is out on the field. But it's Aaron Rodgers and Davante Adams over there. They did what they had to do to win."

And the Niners made too many mistakes that they couldn't overcome. Garoppolo threw an interception in the first half that helped put San Francisco in the 17-0 hole.

His fumble when he threw the ball to the ground behind him while trying to avoid a sack by Kenny Clark gave the Packers another score.

There were also three long pass interference calls and a running game that was held to 67 yards on 21 carries.

That added up to a loss for a Niners team that returned home following back-to-back road wins at Detroit and Philadelphia to open the season.

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TELEVISION

GIF-worthy moments from the Emmys: "SNL" cast member Bowen Yang made an unforgettable entrance to present the Emmy for best actress in a comedy series. Check out more moments at MorningJournal.com.

LOTTERY

Ohio
Day/Night
Pick 3: 423/410
Pick 4: 9014/0444
Pick 5: 17140/11969
Rolling Cash 5: 2-13-16-19-38
Jackpot: $220,000
Classic Lotto: 5-19-20-25-43-49
Jackpot: $13.9 Million
Kicker: 4-2-9-9-1-8
Hotline: 800-589-6446

MEGA MILLIONS
Friday
17-32-40-59-61
Mega Ball: 18
Megaplier: 3
Jackpot: $432 Million

POWERBALL
Saturday
5-36-39-45-57
Powerball: 11
Powerplay: 2
Jackpot: $472 Million

PENNSYLVANIA
Day/Night
Pick 3: 374/462
Pick 4: 0827/1510
Cash 5: 10-19-21-25-26

MICHIGAN
Day/Night
Daily 3: 760/582
Daily 4: 3493/7111
Fantasy 5: 12-19-26-28-34
Lotto 47: 11-14-19-40-41-46

OBITUARIES

No obituaries were submitted for this edition of The Morning Journal.

CONTACT US

Until further notice, our lobby remains **PERMANENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.**

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To reach our newsroom, email news@morningjournal.com or call 440-245-6901, ext. 90723.

To reach our advertising department, email advertising@morningjournal.com or call 440-245-6901, ext. 90711.

Local brief

Nathan Manning to hold office hours in Grafton

State Senator Nathan Manning (R-North Ridgeville) has announced upcoming district office hours in Grafton, according to a news release.

No appointment is necessary. Office hours for Manning will take place between 4:30 and 5 p.m., Sept. 27, at the Grafton Midview Public Library, 983 Main St.

OHIO

Rep. Tim Ryan contracts COVID-19

By Farnoush Amiri
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS • U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio tested positive Monday for COVID-19 despite being vaccinated against the virus.

In a statement, Ryan said he was experiencing mild symptoms from his breakthrough case and will continue to quarantine from his northeast Ohio home.

Ryan

"While I'm currently experiencing mild symptoms, I'm grateful to have the protection of a safe and effective vaccine and I know without it, this illness could be much, much worse," the Democratic congressman said.

"I urge all Ohioans to help us crush this pandemic by wearing a mask and getting vaccinated so that we can get back to normal," he said.

How many in Congress have had COVID-19

The 47-year-old lawmaker joins the list of more than 80 members of Congress who have contracted the virus since it began to spread in the U.S. in March 2020, according to an Associated Press analysis.

Ryan said he will continue to fulfill his congressional duties virtually until he can return to Washington.

Senate bid

The 10-term representative from the state's blue-collar Mahoning Valley officially launched his Senate bid in April, becoming the Democratic frontrunner as the party goes after Republican Rob Portman's seat.

Ryan entered the crowded race in hopes to rein in control for his party in Ohio. Progressive Morgan Harper, a Stanford-educated attorney, also is running for the Senate seat.

Republicans in the race include former state party chair Jane Timken, former Ohio treasurer Josh Mandel and "Hillbilly Elegy" author JD Vance.

Also on Monday, GOP state Sen. Matt Dolan formally entered the race, providing voters a choice of a centrist candidate more in tune with establishment Republicans like Portman.

Farnoush Amiri is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

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Improve

FROM PAGE 1

Kidder said labor shortages are delaying pickups, with about 110 daily residential routes in their service area and only 95 drivers.

Republic Services is competing for commercial drivers more now than ever before, he said.

"We'll get it under control. It's just going to take a little longer," Kidder added. "We certainly understand the frustration of residents. Nobody gets more frustrated when we don't get routes done than me."

The hauler has been hiring since February and reassured council that it will address the situation.

Ward 1 Councilman Bob Rutkowski asked Kidder if Republic Services would consider rolling back a three percent price increase invoked in August as part of a five-year memorandum of understanding with the city signed in 2019.

Kidder said he would look into the issue, but noted their costs have increased across the board.

"We're paying more for everything we're doing," Kidder added.

Council President Brian Fischer commended Republic for the improvements in communicating with residents on changes and delays, and stated it has gotten 100 times better.

The frustration dates to an Aug. 2 work session following complaints from several municipalities due to delayed yard waste pickup.

CELEBRATE SENIORS

They say 50 is the new 30 or 60 is the new 40 or 70 is the new 50. It keeps shifting later and later as more and more folks are reinventing just what it means to be a senior.

This premium edition will introduce you to some of the many inspiring Northeast Ohioans who are proving that age really is just a number.

For Monday, Sept. 27, subscription rates will be changed to reflect the cost of this special magazine at a rate commensurate with the cost of each subscription but not less than $5. To opt out, please contact customer service at 888-757-0727 prior to Wednesday, Sept. 22. If you do not opt out, the cost of your subscription will not change but the length will be shortened.

NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Positive kid power

Lake Ridge Academy instills kindness, collaboration during year of service

By Aliah Kimbro
akimbro@morningjournal.com

Lake Ridge Academy, 37501 Center Ridge Road in North Ridgeville, has kicked off its annual commitment to community service.

The school's annual Year of Service Kick-off day was Sept. 24.

Megan Zahler, director of Enrollment, said the day is just the beginning of a year filled with service.

"Throughout the year, we do so many different service projects," Zahler said. "We wanted to recognize that it is a year-long effort and commitment, so we wanted to get students excited about it and do a kick-off day."

Students traveled to Lorain County parks to clean up grounds and learn about plants, animals and resources in their natural settings, she said.

"Our students, grades K-12, do projects both on and off campus," Zahler said. "It's a way for us to recommit ourselves to the relationships which happen on campus, but also recognize the importance of those which occur off campus as well."

Mitch White, head of School, said this year marks the 12th year of the service initiative.

"It highlights what makes Lake Ridge Academy so special," White said. "We are a small K-12 school, where younger students are mentored by older students, and where a natural world education makes our curriculum come alive."

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy Upper School students maintain the garden in the rear of the campus.

Zahler says she hopes that through service, students recognize the importance of caring for the environment around them.

"Our educational philosophy teaches them to love their natural surroundings and get out there," she said. "Our students understand that love comes first, and the service and protection comes naturally afterwards.

"They're learning the connection, not only between themselves and their internal learning, but also the connection to the greater world and community," she said.

Lake Ridge Academy senior and Student Body President Joel Lacoste said he always looks forward to participating in community service efforts.

"I think it's a really great opportunity to work with younger kids that I wouldn't see on a regular basis," Joel said. "I like to connect with them over the fact that we both have a love for Lake Ridge and our campus.

"The best way to give back in that regard is working together as a community."

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy students K-12 participate in the annual Year of Service Kick-Off Day on campus.

Joel said as he graduates this spring, he will recall the values instilled during service.

"I'll always remember the concept of teamwork and being able to come together, no matter our differences," he said.

ALIAH KIMBRO — THE MORNING JOURNAL

Lake Ridge Academy senior and Student Body President Joel Lacoste works with a kindergarten student.

NORTHEAST OHIO

NOACA funds grants in regional development, investment strategies

Staff report

The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency secured two grants to address economic development planning and finance investment strategies for Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina counties, according to a news release.

The agency will receive $122,544 from the United States Economic Development Administration to coordinate the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and $295,000 from the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement a Regional Infrastructure Accelerators Demonstration Program.

Both programs support the agency's vision statement to strengthen regional cohesion and support economic development in Northeast Ohio, the release said.

Accelerate regional infrastructure

NOACA was one of five national recipients designated in the 2021 funding round as a Regional Infrastructure Accelerator.

It shares this latest funding with other cities, including Chicago, San Diego, Seattle and Fresno.

Under the two-year demonstration program, accelerators would provide assistance and act as a resource to regional entities as they develop significantly high-cost infrastructure projects that could be eligible for USDOT credit assistance.

Economic Development

As the first Greater Cleveland regional area Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy or CEDS, NOACA will work with stakeholders to lead a strategic planning process designed to build capacity and guide economic and community development opportunities across the five-county region.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy provides a vehicle for individuals, organizations, local governments and private industry to engage in a meaningful conversation about what strategies would best serve as a blueprint for economic development growth.

It is also a prerequisite to access $13 billion of federal American Rescue Plan Act program funding.

"This is a significant step," said Grace Gallucci, executive director and CEO of NOACA. "As our region continues to grows, NOACA will build consensus and facilitate discussions on how to plan and best prioritize economic development opportunities.

"As part of the planning process, NOACA hopes to form alliances to bring more federal funding to communities and to identify opportunities to grow together as a diverse region."

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West Jeff expands Fall Festival fun

By Kristy Zurbrick
Madison Editor

A zombie mechanical bull, haunted hayrides, and a pumpkin carving contest–and that's only the half of it. The village of West Jefferson is going all out with a fall festival scheduled for 6-9 p.m. Oct. 23 at the Community Center, 230 Cemetery Rd.

"There's always been Trunk Or Treat. We added the bonfire last year. This year, we're really expanding things," said Shelton Stanley, West Jefferson's special events and recreation manager.

Among the new features are a haunted house inside the community center and haunted hayrides. Both are geared for children ages 12 and older unless accompanied by an adult. Stanley is looking for volunteers to "scare people" who participate in these activities. Those interested need only provide their own costume; a face painter will be on hand to do makeup. The festival also will offer a tamer hayride for younger children.

A pumpkin carving contest and demonstrations by a professional pumpkin carver also are new to the event. For the contest, entrants will bring their own pumpkins, and the public will choose the winners. The professional carver likely will carve three creations on site.

A D.J. will spin tunes, and all ages are invited to take a turn on the zombie mechanical bull. Mayor Ray Martin will cook up hotdogs near the bonfire where visitors can make s'mores and enjoy chips and drinks.

Stanley already has 26 volunteers lined up to hand out candy during the Trunk Or Treat portion of the evening, which runs from 6 to 8 p.m. He has room for 10 more. Participants are asked to park their cars at the community center for the two-hour event and supply candy for youngsters who go from car to car, filling their bags and buckets with treats. Participants are encouraged to decorate their trunks, though it is not required. A group of four judges will award prizes to the owners of the trunks they deem to be the best decorated.

Due to COVID-19, Trunk Or Treat was one of the few public events that took place in West Jefferson last year. Stanley said he is excited to return to offering events for the community to enjoy, expanding on old ones and adding new ones.

"I'm looking to grow each event that we have each year. I'm already looking at next year and trying to expand on what we've already done. I like to give people new things," he said.

Stanley has served as West Jefferson's full-time special events and recreation manager since the start of this year.

"I am thankful for the opportunities that Mayor Ray Martin, public service Director John Mitchell, and council give me and the community," he said.

Anyone who would like to set up their car for Trunk Or Treat or volunteer as an actor for the haunted house and hayrides at the Fall Festival can contact Shelton Stanley at sstanley@westjeffersonohio.org or (614) 307-6543.

Competing for top honors

Anastasia Medici, a senior at Jonathan Alder High School, is among approximately 16,000 semi-finalists in the 67th Annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Medici has the opportunity to continue in the competition for 7,500 scholarships worth nearly $30 million to be offered next spring.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semi-finalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 95 percent of the semi-finalists are expected to attain finalist standing. Half of the finalists will win National Merit scholarships.

High school juniors entered the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

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50 years later

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the merger of Plains High School and Madison South High School to form Madison Plains High School. During homecoming week (Sept. 20-24), students and staff celebrated with a variety of activities. One day, Kenzie Valerie (left) wore her grandfather's Madison South Lions varsity sweater. Carly Kelly (right) wore her grandmother's Plains Blue Devils varsity jacket. Kenzie's grandfather is Phil Eades. Carly's grandmother is Pam Kelly, who worked for the school district for 26.5 years, retiring in 2020. Phil and Pam graduated in 1972 as part of the first graduating class from the newly formed Madison Plains High School.

Messenger photo by Jeff Pfeil

Catching up at Review

Aprile Parsons and Jake Stryker from RL Parsons & Son Equipment in West Jefferson chat with Madison County Sheriff Deputy Randy Sibbalds on the afternoon of Sept. 21 at the Farm Science Review. Attendance was down due to rain in the morning that day, and rain shut down the review on Sept. 22. The event was back in action for the last day on Sept. 23.

Pro-Kremlin party keeps large majority

MOSCOW (AP) – Russia's ruling party retained its supermajority in parliament, further cementing President Vladimir Putin's grip on power following elections that excluded most opposition politicians and were marred by multiple reports of violations.

The vote was watched closely for signs that Putin's control might slip, however slightly, ahead of the 2024 presidential election. It's not yet clear whether he will run again, choose a successor or outline a different path – but he is expected to keep his hand on the tiller whatever he decides, and an obedient State Duma, or parliament, will crucial to those plans.

Results released Monday from nearly 99% of the country's polling stations gave the ruling United Russia party 49.8% of the vote for the 225 seats apportioned by parties, according to the Central Election Commission. Another 225 lawmakers are chosen directly by voters, and the results showed United Russia candidates leading in 198 of those races.

Ella Pamfilova, the head of the commission, confirmed that United Russia has retained the so-called constitutional majority in the parliament, or at least two-thirds of the 450 seats required for a party to make changes to the country's constitution.

In fact, the results indicated there would be almost no opposition voices in the Duma at all, with three other parties that usually toe the Kremlin line set to take many of the remaining seats, along with the New People party, which was formed last year and is regarded by many as a Kremlin-sponsored project.

According to Pamfilova, candidates from three other parties each won a seat, so in all eight political parties will be represented in the Duma. Voter turnout stood at 51%, she said.

The Communist Party received 19% of the party-list vote, a sizable improvement from the 13% it got in the 2016 election. United Russia got about 54% five years ago, so the results indicate some falloff in support.

But concerns that the results had been manipulated mounted Monday, with many decrying that a breakdown of the online voting in Moscow was still not available to the public. The results in the other six regions that were allowed to vote online have been detailed. In Moscow, approval of the ruling party has always been particularly low and protest voting has been widespread. Candidates from the Communist Party called for demonstrations later in the day.

Fraud allegations aside, the Kremlin sweep was widely expected since few opposition candidates were even allowed to run this year after Russian authorities unleashed a sweeping crackdown on Kremlin critics.

Organizations linked to imprisoned opposition leader Alexei Navalny have been declared extremist, and anyone associated with them was barred from seeking public office by a new law. Navalny is serving 2 ½ -year prison sentence for violating parole over a previous conviction he says is politically motivated.

Other prominent opposition politicians faced prosecution or were forced to leave the country under pressure from the authorities.

Navalny's team hoped to make dents in United Russia's dominance with their Smart Voting strategy, which promoted candidates who had the best chance at defeating those backed by the Kremlin. However, authorities undertook a massive effort to suppress the strategy in recent weeks.

The government blocked the Smart Voting website and pressured Apple and Google to remove an app featuring it from their Russian online stores – a move the tech giants took as voting began Friday. Google also denied access to two documents on its online service Google Docs that listed candidates endorsed by Smart Voting, and YouTube blocked similar videos. In addition, the founder of the Russian messaging app Telegram, Pavel Durov, on Saturday disabled a Smart Voting chatbot set up by allies of Navalny.

Durov said he wanted to respect the laws prohibiting campaigning on voting days, but critics quickly pointed out that the didn't disable similar chatbots imitating Smart Voting and didn't remove the Moscow mayor's call to vote for United Russia candidates.

Apple and Google did not respond to a request for comment. However, a person with direct knowledge of the matter who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said that Google was forced to remove the app because it faced legal demands by regulators and threats of criminal prosecution in Russia.

Voting was marred by numerous reports of violations, including ballot-stuffing. Some videos on social media showed people trying to stuff thick piles of ballots into boxes, with only flimsy attempts at blocking the view of surveillance cameras by raising mops or pieces of cardboard.

Brawls with election monitors were also caught on camera.

AP Photo

A demonstrator holds a Russian national flag during a protest against the results of the Parliamentary election in Moscow, Russia, Monday. The results in the other six regions that were allowed to vote online have been detailed. In Moscow, approval of the ruling party has always been particularly low and protest voting has been widespread. Candidates from the Communist Party called for demonstrations later in the day.

Greek authorities begin moving migrants into new camp

ATHENS, Greece (AP) – Greek authorities have begun moving asylum-seekers living in a squalid camp on the island of Samos into a new facility on the island, where access will be more strictly controlled.

About 200 people were to be moved to the new camp in the hills of Samos on Monday, with around 200 more scheduled to be transferred Tuesday.

Authorities have stressed the new camp, dubbed a "closed controlled access center" and built to house 3,000 people, will have far better facilities than the old, dilapidated camp on the edge of the island's main town.

But rights groups have raised concerns about the controlled nature of the camp, with some describing it as prison-like.

Entry to the European Union-funded, 43-million-euro ($50 million) facility will be strictly supervised, with the entrance open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and access controlled by entry cards and fingerprints. The new facility is relatively remote, and authorities have said a bus will run to and from the main town four times a day.

The old camp on the edge of Vathy, the main town of Samos, will be shut down. Originally constructed to house just over 600 people at the height of the refugee crisis in 2015, it quickly became Greece's most overcrowded camp, with around 7,000 people living in the facility and a shantytown that developed around it.

On Sunday night, a small blaze broke out in the old camp, with authorities saying the flames were limited to abandoned structures in one section of the camp. No injuries were reported.

Greece's eastern Aegean islands like Samos, which lie close to the Turkish coast, have been one of the preferred routes into the European Union for people fleeing poverty and conflict in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

But Greece's conservative government has been cracking down on migration, increasing patrols along its land and sea borders and making clear it doesn't want to accept any more asylum-seekers. Authorities have been particularly alarmed at the prospect of an increase in Afghans attempting to reach Europe after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

Migration Minister Notis Mitarachi said Greece was following developments in Afghanistan "with particular attention."

Speaking during a meeting with ambassadors from EU countries in Athens, Mitarachi said that "our country will not be a gateway for flows of illegal migrants to Europe and will continue to follow the policy of protecting decisively the external borders of the EU."

AP Photo

Migrants sit behind a fence at the new closed monitored facility in Zervou village, on the eastern Aegean island of Samos, Greece, Monday. Greek authorities have begun moving asylum seekers living in a squalid camp on the island of Samos into a new facility on the island, where access will be more strictly controlled.

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CAIR, advocate groups sue legislative maps

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) – The newly drawn legislative district maps in Ohio were contested for the third time Monday, when state and national civic groups filed suit alleging the Republican-controlled redistricting process violated voters' rights.

The newest lawsuit, filed in the Ohio Supreme Court by three advocacy organizations and six individual Ohioans, seeks to block the maps of Ohio House and Senate districts passed Sept. 16 along party lines by the GOP-dominated Ohio Redistricting Commission and require the commission to draw new districts.

"These maps should not be allowed to exist," Pierette "Petee" Talley, one of the named plaintiffs, said in a statement. "If the maps remain in place, millions of Ohioans, particularly Black Ohioans and other people of color who live in these gerrymandered communities like Toledo, won't have a voice in any policies impacting their lives that come out of the Columbus statehouse."

The litigation follows in line with legal action taken by the National Democratic Redistricting Committee's legal arm and the ACLU on behalf of the League of Women Voters, A. Philip Randolph Institute and individual voters, each alleging the maps violate Ohio's constitution.

In addition to Talley, the plaintiffs in the lawsuit include five individual voters, as well as the Council on American-Islamic Relations of Ohio, Ohio Organizing Collaborative and the Ohio Environmental Council. The plaintiffs are represented by the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University's School of Law and law firm Reed Smith.

The complaint asserts the new maps would maintain the GOP veto-proof supermajorities in both chambers of the Ohio Legislature, in contradiction with the Republicans' share of the vote in statewide and federal elections over the past decade of 54 percent.

"Ohio's general assembly should fully represent Ohio's Black and brown communities, not serve as a power trip for one political party," Jeniece Brock, policy and advocacy director of the Ohio Organizing Collaborative, said in a statement Monday.

AP Photo

In this file photo, Republican Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, foreground, speaks to state Sen. Vernon Sykes, seated, the co-chair of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, as other members of the panel prepare for a meeting on at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio.

"We need a representative and responsive government that hears our communities' voices on everything from healthcare costs, to student debt, to police accountability."

Republican Senate President Matt Huffman, who led the Republican map-making effort, has defended the maps as fair and constitutionally compliant – criticizing Democrats and special interest groups for thwarting a bipartisan deal.

John Fortney, a spokesman for Huffman, called the latest legal challenge an example of "another elitist D.C. think tank representing more far left groups attempts to lecture Ohioans about the liberal definition of fairness."

The Ohio Supreme Court has original and exclusive jurisdiction in deciding the map challenges.

Justices face some pressure to act quickly, should they decide to send the maps back to the drawing board. Candidates must register for 2022 elections on Feb. 2.

Earth-monitoring Landsat 9 satellite launches in California

LOS ANGELES (AP) – The latest in a series of U.S. satellites that has recorded human and natural impacts on Earth's surface for decades was launched into orbit from California on Monday to ensure continued observations in the era of climate change.

Landsat 9 was carried into space aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket that lifted off from foggy Vandenberg Space Force Base at 11:12 a.m. The satellite successfully separated from the rocket's upper stage more than an hour later.

A project of NASA and the U.S. Geological Survey, Landsat 9 will work in tandem with a predecessor, Landsat 8, to extend a nearly 50-year record of land and coastal region observations that began with the launch of the first Landsat in 1972.

Landsat 9 will take the orbital track of Landsat 7, which will be decommissioned.

Landsat 9 carries an imaging sensor that will record visible and other portions of the spectrum. It also has a thermal sensor to measure surface temperatures.

Capturing changes in the planet's landscape ranging from the growth of cities to the movements of glaciers, the Landsat program is the longest continuous record of Earth observation from space, according to NASA.

Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, who went to Vandenberg to see the launch, said the Landsat program provides "a rich form of data" that helps people's everyday lives and is vital in dealing with climate change.

"We're in the thick of the climate crisis right now, we see that every day – drought, wildfires, hurricanes, Hurricane Ida that devastated parts of the South and went all the way up to New England," Haaland said during a NASA TV interview.

"Images like the ones that Landsat 9 will bring back to us will help us tremendously to guide us in how we are approaching climate change, working to make sure that we can make the best decisions possible, so that folks have water into the future, that we can grow our food into the future," Haaland said.

The Landsat program has amassed over 9 million multispectral images of Earth's land and coastal regions, according to Jeff Masek, Landsat 9 project scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

"Using this record we can really document and understand the changes that have occurred to the land environment over this period from human activities as well as natural events," he said at a prelaunch briefing.

Center

FROM PAGE A5

Couch said utilizing the building for 911 is a good idea with something that could be in place for 25-50 years that can also accommodate future growth if the state does regional 911 centers.

"We will be in a position to be able to handle that," he said.

Contact Brett Dunlap at bdunlap@newsandsentinel.com

Vienna

FROM PAGE A5

The county has sent project requests to its lawyers reviewing them in Charleston to see what would qualify under the requirements to use the recovery money.

"We know this is a worthwhile project," he said. "We want to be participatory. I don't think there is any doubt there. To what level? I think we will have to figure that out."

Rapp said they are ready to go with this project, they just need the funding. He said it can take time to sell bonds and other measures to raise the money. They have a reserve, required by law, with around $158,000 in it for such projects.

Rapp said the city is looking at raising its water rates and other measures.

"The problem is it is a long process to get that done," he said.

He felt this project is a good investment for the county to be involved in it.

"I think the whole Mid-Ohio Valley benefits from our economic base has done so well," Rapp said. "We continue to open new businesses everyday."

The commission will have the request reviewed to see if it qualifies for use of its recovery money and it will discuss what its participation could be.

"We will discuss it and try to figure it out," he said.

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Large General Service (LGS) Large General Transportation Service (LGTS) Full Requirements Large General Transportation Service (FRLGTS)	15.1%
Full Requirements Cooperative Transportation Service (FRCTS)	12.6%

These increases in proposed operating revenue do not necessarily equal the increases in total expected monthly charges for any customer. For example, if the Commission approves Columbia's Application, a SGS customer using 10 Mcf of gas from Columbia Gas would see a total monthly bill increase from $93.53 to $105.70, an increase of approximately 13.0% (including gas costs). Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, any person, firm, corporation, or association may file an objection to the increased rates that Columbia has proposed by alleging that Columbia's proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

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Additionally, Columbia is seeking Commission authority to continue its DSM Program and its associated DSM Rider from 2023 through 2027. Columbia's DSM Program offers cost-effective energy efficiency programs and rebates to help customers save energy and lower utility bills. Projected budgets for the DSM Program (excluding WarmChoice® funding included in base rates) range from approximately $29.8 million in 2023 to approximately $31.9 million in 2027.

Boys

Continued from Page 1B

a 43. For the Vikings, Jevin Beard led with a 44, Thomas Kaufman with a 45 and Logan Runyon with a 46. Jacob Beaschler shot a 41 for Harding with Alix Goney and Caden Scott getting 49s.

» River Valley held its golf senior night at Kings Mill and fell to Shelby 161-167. Beard was medalist with a 37, while Kaufman had a 40, Lane Kanagy a 45 and Brock Mosher a 45.

» Harding stopped River Valley 176-186 at Kings Mill. Beaschler was medalist with a 36, Goney had a 45, Connor McCoy a 46 and Nick Hecker a 49 for the Presidents. In a 172-192 loss to Clear Fork at Deer Ridge, Beaschler was medalist with a 37, and Goney had a 48.

» Galion nipped Pleasant 161-162 at Valley View with Newell getting a 37 for medalist, the Shahs getting 39s and Connor Beebout and Jacob Kowalczyk getting 47s. The Spartans rebounded for a 163-179 victory over Buckeye Valley. Newell led with a 37, Minoy Shah with a 38, Kowalczyk with a 42, Beebout with a 46 and Hunter Yancey with a 49. Pleasant is 66-15 so far this season.

» Emerson Grassbaugh recorded a 41 for Highland in a 160-188 loss to Shelby. Grassbaugh shot a 33 and Luke Cain a 36 in a 153-159 loss to Galion.

» North Union's Zach Vernon carded a 42, Nathan Matlack a 48 and Wyatt Davis a 49 in a 166-189 loss to Urbana at Mill Creek. In a 189-189 match with Benjamin Logan, won by BL on the fifth-player tie-breaker, Vernon shot another 42.

» Elgin's Isaac Dillon fired a career-best 33, which was one shot from the school record, but the Comets fell to Shekinah Christian 184-191 at Marysville Golf Club. Bernie Lehman had a 49 and Jonny Snyder a 52 in the match.

In a 201-235 victory over Hardin Northern at Colonial Golf Club, the Comets remained undefeated in the Northwest Central Conference. Dillon shot 37, and Lehman and Snyder added 52s. In a 167-200 loss to Upper Sandusky at Lincoln Hills, Dillon had a 42 and Lehman a 47.

» The Galion Cross Country Festival was held on Saturday, and Marion Harding was eighth in the Division I race. Payne Ratliff finished 11th in 16:42, which was a personal record and the 15th-best time in the history of Harding cross country. Khanyae Scott was 35th in 17:44 and Kade Sutherland 43rd in 18:15.

» In the Division II race at Galion, Pleasant was seventh with Mason Cluff and Jonah Bowdle leading them with times of 17:31 and 17:42 for 16th and 23rd. Highland was 10th with Joel Roberts going 34th in 18:07 and Grath Garee going 44th in 18:34.

» In the D-III race at Galion, Northmor was eighth with Ryan Lehman clocking 17:23 for seventh and Connor Radojcsics clocking 18:53 for 25th. Mount Gilead was 10th with Cole Hershner going 39th in 19:12. Cardington finished 18th with A.J. Brehm getting a PR with a 19:04 for 35th.

» North Union was seventh at the Central Ohio Cross Country Invitational as Traven Reber was their fastest runner for the first time, ending 63rd in 21:22.

Coaches and statisticians are encouraged to send their results to Rob McCurdy at rmccurdy@gannett.com, 419-610-0998, Twitter @McMotorsport and Instagram @rob_mccurdy_star.

Girls

Continued from Page 1B

In the championship match against fifth-ranked Bishop Hartley, RV took the title 14-25, 25-22, 25-19. Green paced the Vikes with 22 digs and 21 serve receptions, while Logan and Creps combined for 22 kills and along with Brooklyn Mosher produced 17 blocks, and Hinton added 17 assists, 11 digs and three aces.

Meanwhile, Ridgedale hosted and won its own volleyball invitational on Saturday.

The Rockets edged Mount Gilead 2-1 with Lauren Leslie getting 22 points, four aces and six kills and Grace Staton getting nine points, six aces and five kills. In a 2-0 win over Horizon Science, Leslie scored 16 points and nine aces, and Jordyn Nutter had 12 points, five aces and four kills. Ridgedale topped East Knox 25-15, 25-16 in the finals as Nutter had 13 points and five kills and Caitlyn Thiel had 11 assists and six points.

Earlier in the week, the Rockets fell to Centerburg 3-1 with Nutter serving 18 of 18 for 12 points and Staton getting 10 kills and six blocks.

Here is a closer look at the results and best performances over the last week by area high school girls athletes and teams:

» Buckeye Valley topped North Union 3-1. Sienna Ballinger had 10 kills for the Wildcats, while Zoe Wedding had 13 assists and four aces, and Candace Holloway had 15 digs. In a 3-0 loss to Northwestern, Holloway carded four aces and Kayla Sedgwick 16 digs. Wedding served three aces, Sedgwick dug up 14 sots, and Ballinger blocked four shots in a 3-0 loss to Graham.

» Audrey Brininger put down 23 kills for Cardington as Jadine Mills had 34 assists and Emalee Artz had five aces in a 3-0 win over Mount Gilead

» Highland topped Clear Fork 3-0. Kendall Stover led the Scots with 12 kills, five blocks and three aces and was followed by Kameron Stove with eight kills, Emma West with four blocks and five aces, Brooke Schott with five blocks, Ashlyn Belcher with four aces, and Camryn Miller with three aces.

» Pleasant finished the girls golf regular season with an 8-0 record in the MOAC after a 156-188 win over Clear Fork.

» Elgin's Kylie Rhodes shot a 58 in a 233-258 loss to Fredericktown in golf.

» Highland and Lancaster both shot 205s at Wyandot Golf Course, but the Scots prevailed on a fifth-player tie-breaker. In the match, Ceci Grassbaugh set Highland's school record with a 40, breaking the former mark of 42. Mallory Jones had a 49 for HHS, while Ellen Michela had a 56, Maddie Tack a 60 and Stevie Asher a 65. Grassbaugh and Jones carded 53 and 55 in a 213-236 loss to Fredericktown.

» In soccer, Highland got by Marion Harding 5-2. Emma Hinkle scored a hat trick, while Destiny Carpenter had a goal and an assists, Izzy Arnett-Tomasek a goal, Guinevere Jackson two assists and Kaley Smith eight saves on 10 shots by the Presidents. For Harding, Taylor Iden and Emily Little scored with Iden getting an assist and Abbie Peters getting 10 saves.

» Hinkle scored two goals and set a school record with five assists in an 8-1 win over Galion. Amarie Morgan scored twice, and Arnett-Tomasek, Bryn Orr, Destiny Carpenter and Jackson also scored.

» Harding faced an understaffed Toledo Waite squad and played them 9-on-9 in a 17-0 victory. Iden scored five times, while Grace Sherer, Shelby Stimson, Abrianna Smith and Nicci Pigott scored twice, and Aubrey Boehm, Corlei Morris, Little and Nichole Manley scored once.

» Iden scored three goals in the second half of a 4-1 victory at Tiffin Columbian, the first road win for the Presidents this season. Sherer had the other goal, while Stimson had two assists, and Sherer and Morris the other assists.

» Earlier in the week, Shelby beat Harding 3-1 with Iden getting the goal off a Stimson assist. Peters saved 10 shots. Exandra Moore, Lexie Davis, Suzannah Houpt and Manley were cited for their good defense.

» In an 11-0 win over Pleasant, Kenzington Hage scored five goals with an assist, while Halle Snyder had three goals and an assists, and Kelsi June Pickens had three assists. Others for RV were Maddie King and Makyha Rodgers with goals, Vincenza Alves with her first goal for the Vikings, Gianna Alves, Sydney Petterr and Jocelyn Delgatto with assists, and Kaya Brown with seven saves.

» In girls tennis, Harding lost 5-0 to Shelby, but three of the matches went three sets and the other two were close two-setters. The Prexies bounced back for a 5-0 win over Upper Sandusky with Taryn Simmers (6-4, 6-4), Ryleigh Tillman (6-1, 6-1), Sofi Tinnerello (6-2, 6-1), Karli Harris/Anya Reynolds (6-3, 6-3) and Kenzie Parrish/Jayde Pineda (6-3, 6-0) getting points.

» Ontario slipped by RV in tennis 3-2 with Gabby Cametti in third singles and Megan Diven and Shayla Pappert in first doubles getting points for River Valley. In a 4-1 win over Kenton, Kalyn Meade in second singles, Cametti, Diven/Pappert, and Olivia Frazier/Macyn Danals in second doubles scored for the Vikings. Winning points in a 3-2 loss to Pleasant were both RV doubles teams.

» North Union competed in the Central Ohio Cross Country Invitational and finished sixth as Ashley Hayward (20th, 22:52) and Savannah Amstutz (23rd, 23:13) earned medals.

» Cardington was runner-up by a point to Wynford in the Division III race at the Galion Cross Country Festival. Loey Hallabrin ran 21:08 for fourth for the Pirates, while Magi Hallabrin was eighth in 21:35, Gracie Meade 15th in 22:01, Morgan White 26th in 22:57 and Hazel Jolliff 34th in 23:42.

» Northmor was 10th in the D-III race at Galion with Lauren Johnson getting 28th in 23:25, Riley Johnson getting 31st in 24:07 and Maddison Yaussy getting 38th in 24:23. Pleasant's Casey Kimball was 10th in 21:40 in the race.

» In the D-II event at Galion, River Valley was 12th and Highland 15th. Catherine Starrs paced RV with a 21:46 for 30th, while Highland's Jade Disbennett had a 21:57 for 36th.

» In the D-I race, Harding was 10th with Kamryn McDonald going in 26:49 for 53rd and Brooklyn Holycross going in 27:26 for 56th.

Coaches and statisticians are encouraged to send their results to Rob McCurdy at rmccurdy@gannett.com, 419-610-0998, Twitter @McMotorsport and Instagram @rob_mccurdy_star.

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For Approval of an Alternative Form of Regulation,
to Continue its Demand Side Management Program, and
For Approval of a Change in Accounting Methods
PUCO Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, 21-638-GA-ALT, 21-639-GA-UNC, 21-640-GA-AAM

Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia") gives notice that it filed an Application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") on June 30, 2021, requesting authority to amend its filed tariffs to modify its rate structure; to increase the rates and charges for its natural gas distribution and transportation services; to amend its tariff to make various changes to how Columbia provides distribution and transportation services to customers; to incorporate various minor formatting and stylistic changes into its tariff; and to modify its accounting methods as necessary to effectuate its Application. Columbia also applied, under R.C. Chapter 4929, for approval of an alternative rate plan, which includes its existing Infrastructure Replacement Program ("IRP") and Capital Expenditure Program ("CEP") and their associated riders, and a request to implement a new Federally Mandated Investment ("FMI") Rider, described below. Additionally, Columbia applied for authority to continue offering its Demand Side Management ("DSM") Program. The Application affects rates and charges and terms and conditions for natural gas service for all Columbia customers in each of the 61 Ohio counties where Columbia offers service.

This notice summarizes the substance of Columbia's Application. Anyone seeking more detailed information regarding Columbia's Application may inspect a copy of the Application, including its supporting schedules and Columbia's current and proposed rate sheets, by any of the following methods:

- visiting the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793;
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The Staff of the Commission and any interested parties that intervene in the proceeding may make recommendations that differ from the Application, and the Commission may adopt those recommendations.

Columbia has not filed an application to increase its base rates since 2008. Columbia's Application proposes various changes to its rate structure, including:

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Workers

Continued from Page 1A

bus, said he's worked in the service industry for more than 20 years and has never once been offered paid sick days.

The pressure on restaurant workers to come in, even if they aren't feeling well, is intense, said Scott, who asked to be identified only by his middle name for fear of retribution.

"If you're sick and you're not dying, you need to come in and that's the end of the story," he said. "Especially for the service staff."

Restaurants tend to schedule only as many servers as they think they need for each shift. If they schedule too many, some servers don't make enough in tips and quit, Scott said. But that means a restaurant needs every server to work a given shift.

Before the coronavirus, one bartender at a northeast Ohio Red Lobster said he frequently went to work sick. If he doesn't, he risks losing his job.

"We don't have sick days and yes, I go into work when I'm sick. If we call off, we get written up," said the worker, who asked that his name not be used for fear of retribution.

He said if he gets four write-ups, he would be fired.

"I don't ever call off. I don't want to get written up," he said.

What about tipped workers with families?

Restaurant workers with families face a harrowing choice when they're sick: Go to work and risk sickening co-workers and customers (a frightening prospect during a global pandemic), or stay home and risk not making enough to provide for their children.

"I have a family that I take care of," said Erika Douglas, a line cook for Rise and Dine, a mom-and-pop diner in Chesterland in northeast Ohio. "Me not going to work? That's less money. It puts you in a position that you cannot call off, even if you should." Offering paid sick leave is in an employer's best interest, she added.

"If I was sick, why would you want me to come in sick to serve people?" Douglas said. "The management) will say, but who is going to do your job? That's not my problem; that's your problem."

Private employers are not required to offer paid sick time in Ohio. The federal Family and Medical Leave Act does allow workers to take unpaid time off from work for qualified medical and family reasons, such as dealing with a serious medical problem or taking care of a sick family member. It also allows time off for the birth of a child.

Most employers do offer paid sick time to be attractive to applicants, said Catherine Burgett, an employment-law attorney with the Frost Brown Todd law firm in Columbus.

"In today's job market, not offering any kind of paid leave is hard," she said. But employers wouldn't want the government making them offer paid sick time, she said.

"I have yet to meet an employer who likes a mandate," Burgett said.

Since the pandemic, employers are talking more about the issue, she said. They recognize they need to keep sick employees out of the workplace, even as they remain concerned that some workers may abuse offers to stay home if they've been exposed to the coronavirus, she said.

Brigid Heid, a senior attorney at Eastman and Smith who specializes in employment law, said there's been some movement in Congress to mandate paid sick leave, especially since the pandemic.

Coronavirus "really started the conversation about how we protect essential workers who aren't making enough," she said.

"Employers shouldn't want sick employees coming to work."

The $3.5 trillion budget bill being debated in Congress includes provisions that would help employers offer paid sick leave.

While it's unclear what Congress will do, Heid said, "I don't expect it to go backwards with respect to paid sick leave, and I think something is going to happen at the federal level."

"We just need to have paid medical leave for workers," said Michael Shields, a researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, a liberal-leaning think tank.

Before COVID-19, a lack of paid sick time was an issue for workers, he said. The problem has been exacerbated since then because so many of the jobs that come without paid sick leave interact with the public and are jobs that can't be done from home, he said.

"Missing out on a paycheck, that's a problem for individuals and families all the time now," he said. "In the time of COVID-19 and the pandemic, it's been a major public health concern."

Policy Matters would like to see a mandate to allow emergency medical leave. One idea that's been discussed is for employers to pay into a state fund similar to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation that could provide a source of payment for workers who are sick, he said.

MJ Willow of Columbus has worked 17 years at Columbus State Community College.

Because she is considered part-time — she works 29 hours a week — she previously was not eligible for paid sick time and holidays. The college extended sick time and holiday pay to those workers effective Sept. 1.

"It was just a very long time coming," she said.

Over the years, workers such as her routinely came to work sick, and if she did take a day off, she would struggle to make up the lost hours the rest of the week, she said. If she got sick on a Thursday or Friday, there was not enough time in the week to make up for being sick.

She said that she and her office mates routinely shared colds and the flu. "You don't take time off because you're coughing and sniffling," she said.

IN BRIEF

Rail crossing closings planned this week and next

Norfolk Southern rail crossing improvements will mean the following closings:

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1: Likens Road, just east of Ohio 4 North Main Street; Ohio 4, just north of Marion Williamsport Road; and Marion Williamsport Road, just west of N. Main St. (Rte. 4)

Oct. 4 – 5: Fairground Street, between Leader Street and Kellogg Parkway; Silver Street, between Bartram Street and Chester Street; and Center Street, between Davids Street and Park Boulevard

Oct. 5 - 6: Darius Street, between Mound Street and Park Boulevard; Bellefontaine Avenue, between Cheney Avenue and Olney Avenue; and Prospect Street, between Evans Road and Malo Drive.

These dates may fluctuate slightly based on weather conditions. Detours will be in place to direct traffic.

Ribbon cutting held at new Buckeye Community School

Members of the Marion Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors along with local officials were on hand for a ribbon cutting and open house at Buckeye Community School's new location at 366 W. Center St.

Buckeye Community School (BCS) serves students ages 14-21 with locations in Mansfield, Marion and London. Defined as a drop-out prevention and credit recovery school, BCS offer an alternative approach to traditional high school that is individualized based on each student's unique needs and interests. Students work at their own pace, choose their own path to graduation and can work around their schedule. They provide opportunities for students to prepare for future careers, college and training programs while earning their diploma.

To learn more about Buckeye Community School – Marion call toll free at 833-544-4BCS, send an email to info@buckeyecs.org, visit their website: buckeyecs.org or follow them on Facebook.

Richardson to hold district office hours in Marion

COLUMBUS – State Representative Tracy Richardson (R-Marysville) will be holding office hours in the 86th Ohio House District. Richardson encourages residents to schedule a time they can stop by and share ideas or ask questions.

Office hours are planned Oct. 8 at the Marion Public Library, 445 E. Church St.

Richardson encourages anyone who would like to speak with her to schedule a meeting with her office at 614-466-8147 or rep86@ohiohouse.gov.

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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
MARION COUNTY, OHIO
Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2017-6
Plaintiff,
vs.
John Doe(s), Name(s) Unknown, the Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams and their unknown spouses and creditors; and, the unknown spouse of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams, et al.
Defendants.
Case No. 2021 CV 0260

Judge Warren T. Edwards

LEGAL NOTICE

John Doe(s), Name(s) Unknown, the Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams and their unknown spouses and creditors; and, the unknown spouse of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams, whose last known address is 350 Fairview Street, Marion, OH 43302, Kathryn Reams, whose last known address is 350 Fairview Street, Marion, OH 43302, will take notice that on August 26, 2021, Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2017-6 filed its Complaint in the Marion County Court of Common Pleas at 100 North Main Street, Marion, OH 43302, assigned Case No. 2021 CV 0260 and styled Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2017-6 vs. John Doe(s), Name(s) Unknown, the Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams and their unknown spouses and creditors; and, the unknown spouse of Donald V. Reams, AKA Donald Reams, et al. The object of, and demand for relief in, the Complaint is to foreclose the lien of Plaintiff's mortgage recorded upon the real estate described below and in which Plaintiff alleges that the foregoing defendant has or claims to have an interest:
Parcel number(s): 121080101700
Property address: 350 Fairview Street, Marion, OH 43302
The defendant named above is required to answer the Complaint within twenty-eight (28) days after the last publication of this legal notice. This legal notice will be published once a week for three successive weeks.
Angela D. Kirk
Manley Deas Kochalski LLC
P. O. Box 165028
Columbus, OH 43216-5028
614-220-5611
adk@manleydeas.com
(MS,Sept 21, 28, Oct 5,'21#4918298)

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Sancta Clara Monastery in Canton turns 75

Charita M. Goshay Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

CANTON – With its lush flora, manicured lawns, a pond, and shrines honoring the Virgin Mary, the grounds of Sancta Clara Monastery are an oasis from the busyness of life.

For 75 years, it has been home to the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, a cloistered order of nuns who devote their lives to prayer and contemplation.

Next month, the Poor Clares will celebrate their platinum jubilee with two special Masses and a gala brunch. One of the highlights is Bishop David J. Bonnar of the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown celebrating a Mass of Celebration at 11 a.m. Oct. 4.

"The 75th anniversary of Sancta Clara Monastery gives us a chance to not only celebrate a holy place but also the powerful presence of women with a particular mission," Bonnar said. "In an action-oriented world where people find it hard to be alone and sit still, the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration choose to be contemplative and pray. And in a world that appears to lack a center or grounding, they share an identity centered in the Holy Eucharist and total dependence on God."

Sancta Clara was established after Charles and John and Ida O'Dea, a childless, devout Catholic couple donated their Tudor mansion and its surrounding 15 acres to the Youngstown diocese in 1945 to be transformed into a monastery dedicated to eucharistic devotion.

Led by the Rev. Mother Mary Clare, six members of the Franciscan Nuns of the Most Blessed Sacrament arrived in Canton from Cleveland on Oct. 1, 1946. Among them was young Rita Rizzo, a former McKinley High School majorette. Rizzo would leave Canton again in 1962 to establish her own order in Alabama as Mother Mary Angelica, the founder of EWTN, the world's largest Catholic media outlet.

The monastery's first chapel was set up in the O'Deas' former living room. The Shrine of Perpetual Adoration, was dedicated in 1951.

The current abbess, Mother Mary Gertrude Espinella is celebrating her 20th year at Sancta Clara. Prior to taking her vows, the Philippines native worked as a nurse in Iowa.

"I've always been drawn to religious life and eucharistic adoration," she said. "The calling was always there."

In 2001, Mother Mary Gertrude visited a friend who was a nun at Sancta Clara.

"I was planning to return to the Philippines, but when I came to this place, I felt like I was home," she said. "It's been a very fruitful journey these past 20 years."

Mother Mary Gertrude said what makes Sancta Clara special is that it is the only contemplative order in the Diocese of Youngstown where prayers are offered day and night.

"We're here offering our lives in prayer not just for the church, but for everyone," she said. "It's a silent ministry others don't know about."

The monastery includes a chapel where Mass is celebrated at 9 a.m. every day by one of the retired local priests. The chapel and grounds are open daily to the public for individual prayer from 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cloistered does not mean completely cut off from the world. Newspapers are read to keep up with current events, and the monastery operates a website, through which the 11 nuns in residence receive prayer requests from around the world.

Also, the Poor Clares regularly conduct a popular bread and soup sale and recently converted a former priests' five-bedroom residence into a retreat center that's open to the public.

"People find peace here," Mother Mary Gertrude said.

Forty-seven years ago, Mother Mary Magdalen Colson arrived from St. Petersburg, Florida, wtih long blond hair and red flip-flops.

"What brought me here is my relationship with God," she said. "What has kept me here is my relationship with God. My relationship with God is what brought me through fragile times."

Mother Colson said many people misunderstand what it means to be a cloistered nun.

"People think we come here and escape the world. No," she said.

Their days begin shortly after midnight in accordance with ancient tradition when an appointed "knocker" wakes up her fellow sisters for about two hours of prayer for the poor.

Adoration begins a few hours later.

"Prayer is very much a part of our day," Mother Mary Gertrude said. "We pray the Divine Office, which is seven hours (total). Basically, our life is in and out of the chapel. The Lord calls us day and night to pray in the chapel."

Mother Colson said their devotion to God includes concern for people.

"The prayer of the church is universal," she said. "It strongly focuses on the Psalms and original writings of the church."

These days, churches of all denominations are challenged with how to attract and grow their congregations, with young many people describing themselves as "spiritual, but not religious."

Scandals and increasing mistrust of authority and institutions have exacerbated the exodus.

"People focus on people instead of on the Lord," Mother Colson said. "(Faith) does not excuse others, it's the perspective through which we see things. People leave the church because of an encounter with a person, or priests. They don't understand that is not the focus; that's not the core of the church. Christ is the core of the church."

The Poor Clares are a diverse sisterhood, with a member from Japan, two from the Philippines, two from Tanzania. There also are two first-year nuns.

"We have three more sisters in formation and are in contact with four college students," Mother Mary Gertrude said.

Becoming a Poor Clare is a process that takes nine years. Not everyone completes it.

Some are called to stay for a lifetime, Mother Mary Gertrude noted, while others are not.

"It's a very serious commitment," Mother Colson said. "Whatever time they spend in the monastery is not a waste of time. We still maintain contact with some of them (candidates)."

Mother Mary Gertrude is the abbess at Sancta Clara Monastery in Canton, which celebrates its 75th anniversary in October. The nuns who reside at Sancta Clara are members of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, a cloistered order.
KEVIN WHITLOCK / MASSILLON INDEPENDENT

Mother Mary Gertrude said no one at the monastery has contracted COVID.

"We have been so blessed," she said.

With a very small paid staff, the monastery has enjoyed the support of thousands of individual donors, volunteers, and local businesses as well as various religious organizations, including the Servants of the Paraclete (chaplains), the Monastery Guild, the Third Order, the Fatima Club, and the Precious Blood Fathers of Brunnerdale Seminary who celebrated the daily Mass.

A new outdoor Rosary Walk is being installed by Caroline Katigbak, Dan Lopez, and Curtis DiMarzio. The Joseph A. Jeffries & Co. is resurfacing the parking lot, both of which should be done in time for the anniversary.

Another current benefactor is John Proach, owner of Green & Things Nursery & Landscaping in North Canton, who has donated plants and his expertise to beautify the grounds for about four years.

Proach, who goes to the monastery every night to care for the plants, said he's been working on the grounds in preparation for the anniversary since January, with assistance from Maureen Austin and Tony Peldunas.

A member of St. Paul's parish, Proach said he met Mother Mary Gertrude when she came to the nursery to buy some plants.

"It just kind of snowballed into this," he said. "I enjoy doing it. I've done some other churches, too, including St. Peter's. They're (monastery) just so appreciative. The people that go there are also appreciative. It makes you want to do more."

Though none of the sisters has contracted COVID-19, the pandemic has put a crimp in their fundraising projects.

In a bid to be more self-sufficient, the nuns maintain a garden where they grow vegetables, and in 2019 they added a chicken coop and a goat.

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Ohio State welcomes largest, most diverse class this fall

Sheridan Hendrix
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio State University welcomed its most diverse class and the greatest number of students to its Columbus campus this fall semester, according to recently released enrollment data.

The university has released its annual autumn semester report, which includes data about Ohio State's undergraduate, graduate and professional students at all its campuses.

This fall, total enrollment at Ohio State's Columbus campus hit a record-high enrollment of 61,677 students, up half a percent from 2020. Undergraduate enrollment also increased to 47,106, another record high and a 0.3% increase from last year.

Ohio State also saw its minority student populations in Columbus increase 5.3% to 2,196 students. Minority students across all its campuses also saw a nearly 5% increase, totaling 17,019 students. Both statistics were record highs for the university.

Asian student enrollment increased the most at all campuses and all levels with 5,222 students, a record and a 7.6% increase from last year.

Hispanic and Latino student enrollment at all campuses, across all levels, also increased to a record high 3,669 students, up 3.4%. African American student enrollment is up 4.5% from last year to a record high 5,238 students across all campuses.

Ohio State University welcomed its largest and most diverse class this fall.
DORAL CHENOWETH III/DISPATCH

"A talented and diverse community is central to our goal of being a great 21st-century land-grant university," said Ohio State President Kristina M. Johnson. "It speaks to the value of an Ohio State education that so many students choose to join this university, believe in our mission and aspire to become Buckeyes. They will share a life-long affiliation with hundreds of thousands of other committed, caring and inquisitive individuals making a difference each and every day in a wide range of disciplines."

After a severe dip during last school year likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, new international students are back at the university in the same numbers seen in 2019. This semester 693 first-year international students are attending Ohio State's Columbus campus, a 78.6% increase.

Other public universities in the state are also seeing more diverse student bodies this year.

Ohio University's Athens campus saw continued growth in its Hispanic and Latino student populations, as well as record-breaking growth in the number of African American students on campus. About 6.5% of Ohio University's incoming freshman class, about 240 students, identify as African American, which is a 60% increase over last year's class.

International students are also returning to Athens. This semester's first-year international students exceeded those in last year's class by 28%.

Miami University saw similar gains this semester with minority student enrollment up 9.6% this fall over last year.

shendrix@dispatch.com
@sheridan120

Station

Continued from Page 1A

space to properly clean and store the firefighters' clothing.

"It's a real nice situation," Hawk said. "We had some safety issues but they have been addressed."

The layout before the renovation had turnout gear stored next to vehicles and vehicles were parked just feet from the kitchen, exposing food and the firefighters to diesel fumes.

"Our residents are going to be impressed," he said. "It's a state-of-the-art place."

The biggest benefit to taxpayers is the addition of 24-hour staffing. A paramedic will be on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The department has seen a steady increase in calls over the last three to four years, Colucy said. Officials believe the 24-hour staffing will mean quicker response times and improved crew availability.

For the last 14 years, the fire department has had a paramedic available from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Now the department staffs a medic for an additional 12 hours during the night. If a medic is not available, the shift will be filled by an emergency medical technician.

Both Colucy and Hawk hope to add another paramedic to cover the station 24 hours.

This is the third addition to the station, which was built in 1933. The original station was added onto in 1972.

Hawk said a portion of the old building will be converted to a meeting space to be used by first responders and the community.

"As it progresses it will be nice to have another person there 24/7 and not have to miss any calls," Hawk added. "For a village (our) size, we are blessed to have what we have."

Reach Amy at 330-775-1135 or amy.knapp@indeonline.com.

Summa

Continued from Page 5A

best protection against severe illness and death from COVID-19," the health care system said in its statement.

The Clinic also is experiencing staffing challenges at all of its hospitals, which "have contributed to longer than expected wait times in our emergency departments, the need to closely manage capacity, and to move patients to different facilities within our health system. Some of our locations, including Cleveland Clinic Akron General, Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Union Hospital, are scheduling fewer nonessential surgeries that require an inpatient stay."

Essential and urgent inpatient surgeries – including heart, cancer, pediatrics, transplantation and neurological cases – will continue as scheduled, the Clinic said.

Western Reserve Hospital in Cuyahoga Falls also is experiencing staffing issues, a spokesman said, but the hospital has "no plans for reducing inpatient hospital beds, nor temporarily stopping some elective surgeries."

Earlier in the pandemic, Akron Children's Hospital had offered to help by treating adult patients as other hospitals were overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients. However, with pediatric COVID cases and other respiratory diseases spiking, Children's on Monday said it's no longer in a position to treat adults aside from those in the burn unit and select other areas.

Beacon Journal staff reporter Betty Lin-Fisher can be reached at 330-996-3724 or blinfisher@thebeaconjournal.com. Follow her @blinfisherABJ on Twitter or www.facebook.com/BettyLinFisherABJ To see her most recent stories and columns, go to www.tinyurl.com/bettylinfisher

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BACKYARD

From A5

If there is a weed that is more prevalent than purslane, it is dandelions. Dandelions are more prevalent than anything. After the nuclear apocalypse or the alien destruction, all that will be left on Earth will be cockroaches roaming through the dandelions.

Which is fortunate for them, because dandelion leaves are edible. They were actually in vogue at fancy restaurants a few years ago, and I think we can all agree we are happy that fad is over.

Unless you get them when they first pop up in the spring, dandelion leaves are fairly bitter. They're not unpleasant, exactly, but neither are they particularly pleasant. Like a less tasty version of arugula, they are best used sparingly, as an astringent counterpoint to somewhat sweeter lettuces.

I served mine with a light vinaigrette, and I used wild strawberries as a visually appealing garnish. Wild strawberries also grow with abandon in poorly tended yards, like mine, and are easily foraged. They taste essentially like nothing, but it's the taste of nothing with the faintest hint of strawberry.

Grape leaves are also easily accessible, if you know where to find them. You can simply pick them off a grapevine if you have one, or your neighbor does. Our community garden has grapevines, but I forgot about them, and I knew I could steal a few from a neighborhood restaurant with the vines. But I decided to do the honorable thing and buy them in a jar.

I'm sure there are other things you can do with grape leaves, but why bother when you can make dolmades?

Dolmades are the popular Greek, Turkish and Cypriot dish of grape leaves stuffed with rice and other ingredients. Lamb is a popular choice, but I followed tradition and kept mine vegetarian. Along with the rice, I stuffed them with onions, pine nuts, tomatoes and currants.

The key is to simmer them in water with plenty of lemon juice in it. The lemon juice really brings this treat to life.

I had also thought about cooking some pokeweed, which is almost as ubiquitous as dandelions, and even went so far as to pick some leaves. But even though pokeweed is fairly commonly eaten, unless it is prepared correctly it is also toxic.

It is poisonous when eaten raw, despite the misleading name poke salad. To make sure you are safe, you have to boil it in three changes of water for a half hour or so.

I decided I didn't want to bother boiling anything for a half hour in the hopes of having it not kill me. So I went to the grocery store instead and picked up something nice for dinner.

GRILLED SUNFLOWER HEADS

1 sunflower head
Olive oil
Salt and pepper
Optional toppings such as butter, garlic butter, garlic salt, paprika, chopped fresh herbs, sundried tomatoes, vinaigrette or spices.

1. Prepare a medium-hot grill.
2. Remove the sunflower's petals, if any, and use your fingers to brush off the yellow fuzzy flower part. Rinse thoroughly. Brush with plenty of olive oil or flavored olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Add dry optional toppings, if you want: garlic salt, paprika or spices.
3. Place the sunflower head face-down on the grill. Cover and cook 5 minutes.
4. If desired, add optional wet or fresh toppings: butter, vinaigrette, fresh herbs. Eat as you would a corn on the cob; forks are also suitable.

Recipe by Daniel Neman

SALAD WITH DANDELION LEAVES

5 large leaves of romaine lettuce, rinsed and dried
5 leaves of leaf lettuce (red or green), rinsed and dried
20 fresh dandelion leaves, preferably in the spring
12 cherry tomatoes
1/3 cup sweet onion, diced
1/3 cup toasted walnuts
4 large strawberries, rinsed and sliced
6 tablespoons your favorite vinaigrette

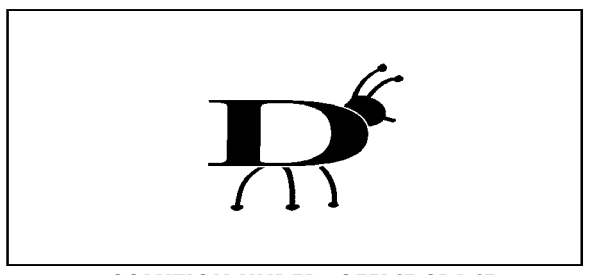
1. Mix together all ingredients.

Yield: 4 servings

Recipe by Daniel Neman

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



SOLUTION UNDER: OFFICE SPACE

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MEDINA COUNTY GAZETTE
CHRONICLE TELEGRAM

From pre-K to college, expansion sought in $3.5T plan

By Collin Binkley and Lisa Mascaro
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As Democrats push ahead with President Joe Biden's $3.5 trillion rebuilding plan, they're promising historic investments across the arc of an education — from early childhood to college and beyond — in what advocates describe as the most comprehensive package of its kind in decades.

The education provisions in Biden's "Build Back Better" proposal would serve as a bedrock for schooling opportunities for countless Americans and test the nation's willingness to expand federal programs in far-reaching ways.

Equity is a focus, as it seeks to remove barriers to education that for decades have resulted in wage and learning disparities based on race and income. And by expanding early education and child care programs, it aims to bring back workers, especially women, who left jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic to look after children whose schools were closed.

All told, Americans would be entitled to two years of free preschool plus two years of free community college. Millions of families would be eligible for expanded child care subsidies. And there would be more federal financial aid for low-income college students.

MIRANDA CYR / LAS CRUCES SUN-NEWS VIA AP

Kindergartners in Las Cruces, New Mexico, put their arms straight out to help keep social distance between the person in front of them on their way to lunch earlier in the month.

"We haven't done anything like that in my memory," said Jessica Thompson, associate vice president of the Institute for College Access and Success, an education nonprofit. "It's the dream."

The $3.5 trillion proposal reaches nearly every aspect of American life, from health care and taxes to the climate and housing, largely paid for by raising taxes on corporations and the wealthy.

The price tag will likely drop and ambitions scaled back to appease more centrist lawmakers wary of big spending. But the cuts are drawing concerns from progressives and others who say they have already compromised enough.

Funding for historically Black colleges and universities, for example, has been slashed from Biden's earlier plans. As lawmakers eye other possible cost-saving moves, money to repair aging school buildings could lose out.

At a recent House committee hearing, Rep. Frederica Wilson, D-Fla., argued that any more cuts could jeopardize the success of its education programs.

"Even with the robust investments proposed here, we are still shortchanging vital programs," she said.

Democrats are pushing ahead on their own because Republicans decry the proposal as a step toward socialism that will worsen inflation and strain the economy. They argue that free community college will benefit wealthier students who access the resource, at the expense of those with lower-incomes. And even on child care, which typically brings bipartisan support, Republicans say the plan goes too far.

"We should be focused on ensuring hardworking taxpayers can find the best care for their children rather than blindly throwing money at the problem and calling it a solution," said Rep. Virginia Foxx of North Carolina, the top Republican on the House Education and Labor Committee.

Taken together, the $761 billion in education investments make up a fifth of Biden's total package. They're intended to provide a stronger academic start for children, especially those from low-income families. The higher education plans aim to get more adults into college and help them graduate with degrees that will lead to higher-paying jobs.

Even if the package is approved over solid GOP opposition, some of the marquee education proposals would face a big hurdle: getting buy-in from states.

For example, the community college and preschool plans would apply only in states that opt in and cover a portion of the cost. Supporters worry that some states will reject the programs over political grounds or to avoid the cost.

Democrats' proposal for universal preschool — one of Biden's campaign promises — would create new partnerships with states to offer free prekindergarten for all 3- and 4-year-olds. The federal government would cover the entire cost for the first three years before scaling back until states are paying 40 percent. After seven years, it would end or need to be renewed.

A separate provision would expand child care benefits to a wider swath of families, and cost for families would be capped at no more than 7 percent of their earnings. Unlike other aspects of the agenda, it wouldn't require state participation — cities or counties could opt in even if their states don't.

With free community college, Biden hopes to deliver a benefit that he's been pushing since the Obama administration. Under the proposal, anyone in a participating state would be eligible attend two years of community college without paying tuition.

States that opt in would get federal funding through a formula; they eventually would be asked to cover about 20 percent of the cost. The bill would provide enough funding to support the program for five years.

Other provisions include a $500 increase to the maximum Pell grant for low-income college students, new investments in teacher training programs and $82 billion for school infrastructure. In a move heralded by college affordability advocates, it would also make federal college aid available to students in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The plan has been lauded by education advocacy groups, even though many were hoping for a bigger increase to the Pell grant program.

GOP blocks bill to keep government going

WASHINGTON — Republican senators blocked a bill Monday night to keep the government operating and allow federal borrowing, but Democrats aiming to avert a shutdown are likely to try again — at the same time pressing ahead on President Joe Biden's big plans to reshape government.

The efforts are not necessarily linked, but the fiscal yearend deadline to fund the government past Thursday is bumping up against the Democrats' desire to make progress on Biden's expansive $3.5 trillion federal overhaul.

In Monday night's vote, senators voted 50-48 against taking up the bill, well short of the 60 "yes" votes needed to proceed. Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer switched his "yes" to "no" at the end in order to allow Democrats to reconsider the bill later.

With days to go, Democrats are likely to try again before Thursday's deadline to pass a bill funding government operations past the Sept. 30 fiscal yearend, stripping out the debate over the debt limit for another day, closer to a separate October deadline.

— from wire reports

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THE BEAT

Brunswick teacher following dream

Lucy Robbins
BEAT reporter

Brunswick Middle School has many amazing teachers, and the sixth grade Maverick pod has Emily Russell, a language arts teacher whose teaching style is inventive and modern.

Russell's class makes for an interesting one, as her teaching style is all about talking to students about how they can use what she is teaching. She likes to point out ways the subjects they're discussing can be utilized in the real world as well as the classroom.

Russell wanted to be a teacher her whole life. When she was younger, she often would tutor her little brother and help him with his math facts. In fact, Russell's mom was a teacher as well, which was part of what inspired her.

Russell started her teaching career fresh out of college in 2007.

Russell

"I believe that every grade should have a teacher who likes working with the age group, and I just really like sixth grade," Russell said.

Russell's real-life teaching style has had a large impact on many students she's taught. She is very excited to continue working with these students for the rest of the 2021-22 school year.

Lucy Robbins, a sixth-grader at Brunswick Middle School, is one of over fifty student "backpack journalists" (grades 6-12) in the award-winning BEAT Video Program. The program is sponsored by Scene75 (scene75.com), Plum Creek Assisted Living Community, Baskets Galore, Medina County Women's Endowment Fund, Medina County Community Fund, Brunswick University Center, Brunswick Eagles 3505, 100+ Women Who Care Medina, and the Brunswick Rotary Club. Go to brunswickschoolsvideoprogram.org to learn more about the Program, or visit thebeat.viebit.com to view videos produced by the students.

Your Right to Know

From Pg. 2

Township in a 2012 Ford F-450 when he struck a deer. The Ford had functional damage. There were no apparent injuries.

Aug. 28, 2:33 p.m., Andrew William Peck, of Marietta, was traveling south on SR 7, in Jackson Township in a 2017 Kia Niro, when he went into opposing lane of traffic and struck Kevin Gene Lumbatis, of Woodsfield, who was in a 2019 Kenworth T880. Both the Kia and Kenworth had disabling damage, the Kenworth was towed by Bill's Towing and the Kia was towed by Stephen's Towing. Peck was transported to Wetzel County Hospital by Sardis EMS with a possible injury.

Aug. 29, 10:55 a.m., Matthew Duane Treiber, of Follansbee, West Virginia, was traveling on SR 255 in Lee Township in a 2013 International, when he was ran off the road by an unknown unit that was traveling in the opposing traffic lane, once Treiber was off the road it rolled and came to final rest on its side. The International had disabling damage and was towed by Bill's Towing. Treiber was treated at the scene by Sardis EMS he had no apparent injuries.

Aug. 30, 5:20 a.m., Brandon Joe Borski, of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, was traveling west on State Route 78 in Salem Township in a 2011 Dodge Ram, when he was negotiating a right turn he crossed the center line and went off the left side of the road striking an embankment and two road signs. The Dodge had disabling damage and was towed by Stephen's Towing. There were no apparent injuries. Borski was cited with failure to control.

Sept. 1, 7:04 a.m., Hayley Holskey, of Beallsville, was traveling north on Kings Highway in Sunsbury Township in a 2016 Chevy Malibu, when she struck a tree that had fallen over the road. The Chevy had functional damage. There were no apparent injuries.

Sept. 1, 7:38 p.m., Rachel Alyssa Haak, of Woodsfield, drove off the left side of the road in Center Township in a 2019 Toyota Camry when she went down an embankment before striking a fence post. The Toyota had disabling damage and was towed by A&S Towing. There were no apparent injuries. Haak was cited with reasonable control.

REAL ESTATE

Adams Township

John E. McConnell to Sharon Crook, Lot No. 28 Village of Cameron, warranty deed.

Lori Carpenter, Dale Edward Pletcher, AKA Edward Pletcher, Julie Pletcher, Merle Jean Pletcher, Anthony Pletcher to John A. Gillepsie, .842 acres, Village of Cameron, Former Lot 21, warranty deed.

Adams & Center Township

Julius F. Carter to Max Jeffrey Maroni, 103.109 acres, warranty deed.

Benton Township

Joseph B. Hise Jr., Rachelle R. Hise to Scott Butler, Travis Homan, 1.043 acres, warranty deed.

Busy week

From Pg. 2

Upon completion of the investigation, Nicholas Smith, of South Main Street, was arrested and charged with two counts of sexual battery.

Hershal Smith, 45, of South Main Street, was arrested in late August on charges of assault on a police officer and resisting arrest.

According to the Woodsfield Police Department, Woodsfield Police Officers and a deputy from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office were investigating a complaint involving Hershal Smith on Sunday, Aug. 22. He alleged became disorderly and an altercation ensued.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office also announced several arrests last week.

According to a release from Monroe County Sheriff Charles Black, the Monroe County Sheriff's Office received a call from a male caller on Thursday, Sept. 16 who was actively in a domestic incident. The caller stated that Ambar Henthorn, of Beallsville, allegedly struck him in the head with a hammer and he was bleeding.

While on the phone, dispatch heard both individuals arguing.

Deputies arrived on the scene and arrested Henthorn on charges of domestic violence.

Also on Thursday, Sept. 16, the Monroe County Sheriff's Office received a call from a male who said he was allegedly stabbed in his ear by his father at his residence in Sardis.

Deputies arrived on the scene and made contact with the victim, who had multiple injuries to his head and neck and was bleeding from his ear. The victim was transported to the hospital and deputies processed the scene. A short time later, deputies located the suspect, Timothy Horne and placed him under arrest. Horne was charged with attempted murder.

Four other individuals were taken into custody on drug-related charged stemming from two separate incidents.

At approximately 12:56 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, Sergeant Andrew Ridley observed a vehicle hauling a trailer that was blocking a roadway in Jackson Township.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Isaac Bryan, 42, of Richmond, and a passenger as Jason Peterman, 51, of Amsterdam.

While processing their identification, deputies discovered that Peterman had a felony warrant out of Harrison County for drug possession. He was placed under arrest and a search of the vehicle recovered two bags of what is believed to be methamphetamine and unknown pills.

In addition, deputies recovered marijuana, methamphetamine and paraphernalia that allegedly belonged to Bryan, leading to his arrest.

Peterman was charged with possession of methamphetamine (bulk amount). Bryan was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drugs and possession of drug abuse instruments.

Deputy Miller initiated a traffic stop at approximately 2:32 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 on State Route 7 near Z Hill Road.

The driver was identified as Donald Skelton, 65, of Fly, and the passenger as Teira Grimes, 50, of Alma, West Virginia.

While speaking with Miller, Grimes admitted that she was currently out on bond for possession of drugs.

Miller then performed an open-air sniff on the vehicle with K-9 officer, Max. Max indicated the presence of narcotics in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle recovered a substance believed to be methamphetamine.

Skelton and Grimes were placed under arrest and charged with possession of methamphetamine (bulk amount).

The incidents remain under investigation.

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Bumpy Road

From Pg. 5

with the kids while their mommy and daddy were gone. A whole week without parents is a golden gift from heaven, I know! For nine years, my grandkids were a 7-hour drive from me. You just don't hop in the car and drive to see them without some planning even if you are retired.

This past week Monroe County has just seen its 44th death from Covid. Our country has had more than 600,000 people die from Covid. We know after a year and a half of dealing with this virus what it will take to keep the numbers low, yet still here we are! I believe very strongly in everyone's right to choose what he or she wants to do about the shots. No one should have to get a Covid shot if they don't want to, but we live in a country that cured polio, smallpox, and severely limited all of the childhood diseases. (Yes, I had mumps, measles, and chickenpox.)

As much as I love The Ohio State University football games, I will not attend a game in person this year even if someone gave me the ticket, dropped me off at the opening to The Shoe, and drove me back home! Although this year, I must admit being a true FAN is going to be difficult. I think my much beloved Buckeyes are going through some growing pains.

I am very glad Philip and I live at the top of the Bumpy Road because our neighbors aren't going to hear us yelling at the TV on Saturdays as we watch the college football games.

Friends! Please stay safe out there and have a great week!

Say Whaaaat?!

From Pg. 5

On the first trip down fancy lane, the corkscrew decided to blow a gasket, making it a one-use fancy wine package, which is pretty high-class in a certain point of view.

Only peasants use their fancy wine kits more than once. Right, #alex?

So we might have crapped out on our first go at the exhilaration of the mystery gift, but I'm no quitter. Honest Tom is the Ashy Larry of the mystery gift game.

Shake 'em up, shake 'em up, shake 'em up, shake 'em.

Crap. Snake eyes again.

Mystery gift No. 2 is a Mickey Mouse thermal insulated food cover.

What's worse is they spoil the mystery by telling you what the mystery gift is on the confirmation email.

If you think you'd hate it, wait until you see it. Office speculation was that it would be something you could put a casserole in and zip it up to keep it hot or cold, depending on your mood.

Nope. It's some type of weird food tent. I think you put it over the casserole on camping trips. I'll ask the sommelier to be sure.

For some, two lousy mystery gifts would be enough to go back to the cookies. But what's the fun in that?

I have a feeling next time will be better – or worse, which at least provides amusement. So it's a win-win, really.

And really, what could be worse than a Mickey Mouse food tent?

I like those odds.

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Call 740-472-0734 or email ads@mcbeacon.com

Hannah's surprise homecoming

From Pg. 1

In reality, Hannah was already stateside; preparing to do something she hadn't been able to do in close to two years – hug her mother.

But first, she wanted to have a little fun.

She let her family think it was a nice little lunch with the plan of surprising them.

The waitress took their drink order, but it was a familiar face that brought out the beverages.

There she was, smiling at them with a tray full of drinks.

"What are you doing here?" Dawn exclaimed, not believing Hannah could be standing there.

That's when things started making more sense.

That's why they had to go to lunch. That's why there were so many friends at the restaurant.

Hannah wasn't sure if her mother would be mad or excited or a mixture of both.

But she wasn't mad.

Instead she wanted to hold her daughter.

"I don't know (I feel)," Dawn said. "I'm overwhelmed. I'm so happy."

Hannah had been planning the surprise for a while now, coordinating with friends back in Monroe County.

But it was no easy feat to pull off, especially in the age of COVID.

There were plenty of hoops to jump through in order to get clearance from the military to go home.

Family and friends joined together to help Hannah Rose surprise her family with her return from deployment in Okinawa, Japan.

But Hannah made it work. She took several COVID tests and filled out plenty of paperwork.

A family friend helped her get the plane tickets home and back to Okinawa. She even came up with a cover story and turned off her location on her devices so her parents wouldn't be tipped off.

Even with all the planning, it was still hard for Hannah, who talks to her parents almost every day. But it was worth it.

"I haven't been home in so long," she said. "I'm sure (my mother) will be crying like crazy."

That assumption was correct, as after the initial shock wore off, Dawn jumped out of the booth to embrace her daughter. A teary-eyed Marissa also relished the chance to hug her sister.

There will be plenty of time to hold her close as Hannah planned on spending the next several weeks at home, spending time with her family and enjoying real American food.

Her mother said she was looking forward to that, despite the fact that she was still recovering from the shock.

"This was very unexpected," Dawn said. "I'm still shaking."

Additional clinics offered to combat COVID

From Pg. 1

Unfortunately, two new deaths were reported last week, giving the county 47 deaths as a result of the COVID-19 virus.

The Monroe County Health Department announced new vaccination clinics for the month of October.

The Pfizer vaccine will be available for county residents age 12 and older from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30, Thursday, Oct. 7 and Thursday, Oct. 14.

The Moderna vaccine will be available for county residents age 18 and older from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5 and Tuesday, Oct. 12.

All vaccination clinics will be held at the Monroe County Health Department on Home Avenue in Woodsfield.

Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information, you may contact the Monroe County Health Department between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at 740-472-4299.

FALL AUTO TOUR 2021
Tour Brochures & Maps are available at the Monroe Theatre
October 2 • 11am - 6pm
20 Stops/Sites • 9 Unmanned
11 Stops/Sites with a variety of entertainment & displays

Beacon Deadline: Friday @ NOON

Corn maze

From Pg. 1

accompany younger children through the maze. However, adults with walkie-talkies will be staffing the maze to assist if a helping hand is needed.

The grassy area across from the corn maze will hold various children's games, including corn hole, ring toss, tic tac toe and bowling. Parents will be able to rest on straw bales while watching their little goblins play.

In addition, handmade decorations, pumpkins and gourds from the pumpkin patch will be for sale.

"Even though this is just for a season, we're hoping to bring this back so that it becomes a tradition," said Tonja Schumacher. "Let's go out to The Other Farm to their pumpkin patch and corn maze this year."

For example, the farm will have a "How Tall This Fall" banner where parents can take children's pictures. When they return next year, they could repeat the photo to see how their children have grown.

The Schumachers have also arranged for photographer Kayla (Ruble) Richter to provide mini-photo sessions around the property. For example, the rustic 1952 GMC pickup, decorated with straw bales and pumpkins, would make an attractive portrait setting.

In addition to the afternoon corn maze hours, several special events have been scheduled.

Two-person teams can enter the pumpkin-carving contest for $5 per team on Saturday, Oct. 16. Teams will be divided into age divisions.

A 21-and-older brew maze event has been scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. The cost is $20 per person. The season will wrap up with an $8 haunted maze event from 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30.

For more information on the corn maze events, find The Other Farm LLC on Facebook. To schedule a photo session, contact Richter at Kayla Renee Photography LLC on Facebook.

NOTICE
County Road 29
(SUNFISH CREEK ROAD)

will have **DAYTIME CLOSURE**, starting October 11, 2021, for approximately 3 weeks, Monday - Thursday, 7am - 5pm, 0.50 mile east of SR 26, for slip repair, weather dependent.

Thank You for Your Patience

NOTICE
County Road 79
(BRACKEN RIDGE ROAD)

will have **DAYTIME CLOSURE**, Monday - Friday, 7am - 5pm, starting September 22, 2021, for approximately 3 weeks, between CR 73 and TR 307, for slip repair, weather dependent.

Thank You for Your Patience

NOTICE
County Road 15
(WITTEN CREEK ROAD)

will have **DAYTIME CLOSURE**, Monday - Friday, 7am - 5pm, starting September 22, 2021, for approximately 3 weeks, between CR 73 and TR 307, for slip repair, weather dependent.

Thank You for Your Patience

NOTICE
County Road 81
(KREBS HILL ROAD)

will have **FULL CLOSURE**, starting October 12 -13, between TR 218 and TR 2160, for culvert replacement, weather dependent.

Thank You for Your Patience

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For Approval of an Alternative Form of Regulation,
to Continue its Demand Side Management Program, and
For Approval of a Change in Accounting Methods
PUCO Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, 21-638-GA-ALT, 21-639-GA-UNC, 21-640-GA-AAM

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These increases in proposed operating revenue do not necessarily equal the increases in total expected monthly charges for any customer. For example, if the Commission approves Columbia's Application, a SGS customer using 10 Mcf of gas from Columbia Gas would see a total monthly bill increase from $93.53 to $105.70, an increase of approximately 13.0% (including gas costs). Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, any person, firm, corporation, or association may file an objection to the increased rates that Columbia has proposed by alleging that Columbia's proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

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Morgan Marching Band starts competition season

The Morgan High School Marching Band kicked off its contest season this past Saturday with a performance at the 41st Annual Cambridge Cavalcade of Bands.

The return to competition is a great morale booster after the OMEA Marching Circuit took the year off last year. More than just personnel has changed since the band last competed, as OMEA completely revamped its judging system. The updated system consists of five scored captions, with two more adjudicators evaluating the auxiliary (color guard) and the percussion section. The five adjudicators whose scores tally into the bands final rating judge in Music (2 Adjudicators), General Effect (2 Adjudicators) and Visual (1 Adjudicator).

The captions break down exactly how one would expect them to. The music judges analyze and evaluate music, and the visual judge analyzes how the band looks, and the general effect judge oversees the entire production; considering not just how it sounds, or how it looks, but how it all ties together into one grand theme and show. Each judge gives a rating on a scale from 1-5 (one being the highest) and a raw score rating that is out of 100. It is quite comparable to a grade card at that point. (80-100 = I, 70-79.9 = II, 60-69.9 = III, 50-59.9 = IV, <50=V)

In their first week of competition, the band received a II (Excellent) rating. Their full break down was: Music III (62), Music II (71), GE II (72.88), GE III (63), Visual II (72). This all combined for a total raw score of: 68.176. Compared to other bands at Cambridge, the band ranked 3rd in Class B.

In total, the band will be travelling to five contests during OMEA's seven-week season. Morgan's next performance will be at 7 p.m. this coming Saturday in the John D. Sulsberger Memorial Stadium for the Zanesville High School's Bonanza of Bands.

"They are excited and looking forward to growing over the next five weeks to finish out their marching season," shared Band Director Chase Myers.

MCH Photo / **JANIS KELLER**

Field Commander Camille Gillespie and fellow senior band members accept their third-place trophy from Saturday's competition at Cambridge; Corps Captain Ki Jones, Caleb Keller, Maqwala Baker, Emily Carletti, Will Griesmyer.

Wildcat Watch – Volleyball wins two of three; Football game canceled

By KEITH SPARE

Volleyball defeats Hocking Division Foes Federal Hocking and Southern

The Lady Wildcat Volleyball team evened their Tri-Valley Conference record at 1-1 with a sweep of Federal Hocking at the Cooper Annex on September 4.

Lilly Franchino and Lily Roberts had 11 points each in the 25-12, 25-13, 25-15 victory. Franchino had eight kills and three aces along with 14 digs. Roberts contributed three aces, six kills and two blocks. Julia Cooper served up four aces, clubbed four kills, and recorded a block for nine points. Cara Taylor passed out 28 assists with ten digs, four kills, one block, and one ace. Mackenzie Pottmeyer added two assists and 15 digs. Avery Wagner had four kills and four blocks each. Mackenzie Suprano finished with six kills, one block and ten digs. Maya Wilson provided three digs.

Waterford hosted Shenandoah in a nonleague contest between the two conference matches on September 13. The Lady Zeps outlasted the home team in five sets. Waterford won the first set 26-24. Shenandoah evened the match with a 25-16 game-two victory. The Lady Cats won game three 25-17. However, the Lady Zeps won the final two sets 25-18, 15-5.

Roberts had a 16-point night as she smashed 11 kills, served up three aces and blocked two shots. Taylor handed out 24 assists to go with 22 digs, four kills, and one ace. Pottmeyer pounded nine kills with four blocks. Suprano had an all-around night of three aces, four kills, two blocks, and nine digs. Wagner tallied nine kills and four blocks. Franchino recorded six kills, one ace, one block, and 11 digs. Roberts tallied three aces, 11 kills, two blocks, and four digs.

It was back to Hocking Division play with a trip to Southern on September 14. The Lady Cats (3-5, 2-1) won in four 25-18, 19-25, 25-13, and 25-16. Taylor doled out 32 assists with 24 digs, eight kills, and one ace. Pottmeyer dug up 32 shots and passed out three assists. Suprano went for one ace, ten kills, one block, and 19 digs. Wagner finished with eight kills, five blocks and five digs. Roberts added nine kills, two aces and seven digs. Franchino notched 13 digs and two kills. Cooper had a six-kill, one-ace, one-block, and four-dig night.

Waterford/South Gallia Football Game Canceled

Waterford's home game with South Gallia was canceled due to COVID issues in the Rebel program this past Friday night.

The Wildcats are slated to return to the field on Friday night, Sept. 24. Waterford (2-2, 0-1) travels to Eastern (1-3) for a TVC Hocking encounter. It will be the Eagles' conference opener. Eastern lost a 29-27 nonleague home game to Caldwell last week.

This week's OHSAA football rankings has Waterford moving from eighth position into seventh. 1. Newark Cath. (5-0-0) 9, 2. Sugar Grove Berne Union (5-0-0) 7.4776, 3. Shadyside (5-0-0) 7.3813, 4. Glouster Trimble (3-1-0) 5.657, 5. Howard East Knox (4-1-0) 5.649, 6. New Matamoras Frontier (4-1-0) 4.4129, 7. Waterford (2-2-0) 3.9942, 8. Hannibal River (2-3-0) 3.6367, 9. Racine Southern (3-1-0) 3.3401, 10. Caldwell (3-2-0) 3.1714, 11. Danville (2-3-0) 2.85, 12. Corning Miller (2-1-0) 2.7939, 13. Bowerston Conotton Valley (2-2-0) 2.2639, 14. Morral Ridgedale (2-2-0) 2.1433, 15. Lancaster Fisher Cath. (2-3-0) 1.7646, 16. Lancaster Fairfield Christian Acad. (2-3-0) 1.7608, 17. New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Cath. (1-4-0) 1.4071, 18. Cardington-Lincoln (1-3-0) 1.3889, 19. Reedsville Eastern (1-3-0) 1.2727, 20. Beallsville (1-3-0) 0.875, 20. Woodsfield Monroe Central (1-3-0) 0.875.

Volleyball sweeps Maysville on senior night

By KEITH SPARE

A three-set slugfest on senior night favored the Morgan volleyball team during a Muskingum Valley League crossover match with the Maysville Lady Panthers. The Lady Raiders clubbed Maysville 25-23, 29-27, 25-15 at the Morgan High School gym on September 16.

Seniors Kenzie Zumbro, Emma Woodard and Elizabeth "Izzy" Fesler were honored.

All three seniors had big nights from the serving line. Zumbro was 11 of 11, Fesler hit 14 of 14 (two aces), and Woodard was 15 of 16. Zumbro doled out 41 assists and notched 19 digs. Woodard dished out four assists to go with 12 digs, one block, and one kill.

On the night, Morgan had a 96.2 serving percentage. Ashtyn Filkins led the way going 18 for 18 serving with 17 digs. Jensen Peyton tallied 15 points as she smashed 14 kills with a block. Grace Pinkerton went ten of 11 on serves. She contributed 17 points by clubbing 16 kills and recording an ace. Odessa Smith tallied five kills, one block, one ace, and 17 digs. She hit on seven of eight at the serving line. Evelyn Newton registered 11 kills and two blocks.

The Lady Raiders (2-4, 2-3) traveled to Coshocton for an MVL Small School Division battle on September 16. The Lady Redskins won in four 22-25, 25-17, 25-9, and 25-14.

Smith was nine for nine serving. She added four kills, one block, and ten digs. Zumbro handed out 23 assists with two blocks and ten digs. She connected on 12 of 14 serves with an ace. Peyton scored nine points as she smashed seven kills and blocked two shots. Pinkerton went ten for ten at the serving line. She also had eight kills, one block and 11 digs. Fesler had an ace in a 10 of 11 night at the service line. Filkins was 12 of 12 serving. She registered 18 digs. Newton scored eight points (7 kills, 1 block).

Ringgold Locals

By CAROL WILSON COLLINS
740-962-2977 or rglocals@yahoo.com

The community offers our sympathy to the family and friends of Rebecca Lee, Barbara Marshall, Mark White and Keri Davis.

Congratulations to Chance and Camry Stoffel. They just got married on Saturday.

Happy Birthday to Amaya Seyfried, Tamahra Harlow, Curtis Husk, Barbara Sue Mayle, Kate Montgomery and Iris Kessler.

The Scott Family had their reunion this past weekend. They said the food was good. The weather was good, and it was great seeing all who could be there.

Malachi Kovaleski was in his first marching band competition this weekend. His family attended a wedding, a sleepover and a birthday party also. They had quite a busy weekend.

Shirley Bellville and Helen Seyfried both posted photos of the last of their pepper crops on social media. They still look very nice. Oddly enough, all the red and green made me think of Christmas. Daughter Molly Gregg told me that they have gotten all their inside and outside Halloween decorations out to get started putting them out. Much better, take one holiday at a time and don't rush the seasons.

Uncle Brooks Wilson made a trip to West Virginia this weekend. He joined his nephew, Larry Mitchell. While there, they visited two cemeteries. They went to the Hamrick Cemetery and also the Mitchell Cemetery. Uncle Brooks and I were comparing notes on the Hamrick Cemetery. I hope to make that trip again with Uncle Bailey and maybe with Uncle Brooks.

Farm Bureau Annual meeting will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. This year it will be held at the Heck Harkins Center in Stockport. I hope there is a good turnout for the meeting and program.

Wolf Creek Church of Christ Sunday Bible Study begins at 9:45 a.m. and worship service at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday evening Bible Study will be at 7 p.m. Kent Parks will be the speaker on Sunday morning, Sept. 26.

6838

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Morgan County Sheriff's Office Daily Call Reports

Editor's Note: The following are initial incident reports from callers to a Morgan County Sheriff's Office Dispatcher. Any details, charges or situations may have been distorted by the caller, or perhaps may have been found to be different after the officer further investigated the incident.

Tuesday, June 29, 2021

• A vehicle was traveling on SR 266 headed towards Lick Run Road and was refusing to stop. The vehicle was going 65mph. Someone notified the sheriff by phone. During communication, one deputy said the car had run a stop sign. The car continued to head towards Washington County.

• A man on Tieber Road in Stockport called saying he heard loud banging noises at a neighboring camper. He said a window was broken and he could hear moaning noises inside.

• A woman called from the Windsor Village Apartments saying a fight was happening between a male and a female. A deputy responded but made negative contact with anyone.

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

• A woman called saying a man knocked on her door at her home on Bald Eagle Road in Stockport saying a truck had flipped over and two people were stuck inside. Both the Fire Department and the Ohio State Highway Patrol were contacted to respond.

• A man called saying a boy had come running out of a house on 10th Street in McConnelsville and dropped a bag in the middle of the street. The caller believed the bag and the items inside may have been stolen.

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Protect yourself from severe thunderstorms

In an annual coordinated effort with the National Weather Service (NWS), the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is promoted National Lightning Safety Awareness Week in June, and encourages all Ohioans to know what to do before, during, and after thunderstorms, and to practice severe weather safety and preparedness throughout the year.

When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

According to the NWS, every year in the United States, there are approximately 25 million cloud-to-ground lightning flashes, and roughly 300 people a year are struck by lightning. Of those struck, an average of twenty people are killed, and others may suffer lifelong disabilities.

Two people recently died after being struck by lightning in the United States: A 70-year-old man in New Jersey died on June 9, and a 15-year-old girl in Georgia died on June 12. In 2020, a total of seventeen people in eleven states, died from being struck by lightning. There were no lightning-strike fatalities in Ohio last year.

The number of lightning-strike fatalities is down in part because of COVID-19 Stay at Home orders last year, and in part because people are more aware of what to do when thunderstorms threaten such as seeking shelter inside a sturdy building or a vehicle.

"It is imperative to know lightning safety. Lightning is one of the world's most underrated weather hazards," said Ohio Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Sima Merick. "According to the National Weather Service, lightning is not confined to just thunderstorms. Lightning has been recorded in volcanic eruptions, snowstorms, hurricanes, tornadoes, and even wildfires. Everyone must learn that there is no safe place outdoors when severe storms are in the area."

The NWS and the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) encourage Ohioans to be safe this summer, and to have an emergency plan for not only severe thunderstorms, but for all weather hazards. All Ohioans are encouraged to follow the noted safety precautions:

• Make listening or reading weather reports a part of planning your day. If the weather forecast calls for thunderstorms, you may need to postpone your trip or outdoor activity.

• Know the difference between a Thunderstorm Watch and a Thunderstorm Warning.

"When thunder roars, go indoors!" Stop outdoor activities and seek a safe, enclosed shelter immediately. This includes all water activities.

Remember the 30-30 Rule. After observing lightning, start counting to 30. If you hear thunder before reaching 30, go indoors. Suspend outdoor activities for at least 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

If shelter from the storm is not available, crouch down low, with as little of your body touching the ground as possible. Lighting can cause electric currents along the top of the ground that can be deadly up to, and exceeding, 100 feet away.

Prepare Before the Storm

• Know your area's risk for thunder and lightning. Spring and summer are typical seasons for thunderstorms, but they can occur year-round, day or night.

• Sign up for your local emergency notification system or download a weather app. The Emergency Alert System and NOAA Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

• Cut down or trim trees that may be in danger of falling onto your home.

• Consider buying surge protectors, a lightning protection system, or lightning rods to protect your home, appliances, and electronic devices.

Survive During the Storm

• When you hear thunder or see lightning, move to safe shelter immediately, such as a substantial building, or a metal-topped vehicle (not a convertible), with the windows rolled up.

• Pay attention to weather reports and thunderstorm warnings.

• Get out and away from bodies of water. If boating, fishing, or swimming, move to land and find a sturdy, grounded shelter or vehicle immediately.

• If indoors, avoid running water or using landline phones. Electricity can travel through plumbing and telephone lines.

• Never drive or walk through flooded roadways. Turn Around Don't Drown®. It takes just six inches of fast-moving water to knock an adult down, and about twelve inches of moving water can sweep away most vehicles.

Be Safe After the Storm

• Listen to local authorities and weather forecasts for storm watches or warnings or for any instructions regarding potential flash flooding.

• Wait 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder before resuming outdoor activities.

• Watch for fallen power lines or broken tree limbs. Report hazards immediately.

For additional information on lightning safety, follow OCSWA on Facebook and Twitter.

6838

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For Approval of a Change in Accounting Methods
PUCO Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, 21-638-GA-ALT, 21-639-GA-UNC, 21-640-GA-AAM

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Holbrook retiring from Marion CVB

Submitted story

After six years of service to the Marion community as director of the Marion Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, Mark Holbrook has announced his plans to retire at the end of January, 2022.

Holbrook was named executive director in January of 2016. During his tenure at the Visitors Bureau, the organization:

- Increased revenue generation an average of 9.7% annually.
- Developed the Cultural Corridor project to initiate Marion's downtown revitalization.
- Increased marketing spending from 20.5% to 45.5% of the annual budget.
- Created the Cultural Corridor Walking Map to assist visitors in the downtown.
- Created the Eaterarian Trail to feature Marion's unique dining locations.
- Upgraded web presence and social media impact.
- Helped to recruit a new hotel that will keep more visitors staying in Marion.
- Helped to found the Marion Community Coalition — a partnership between the Marion Area Chamber of Commerce, Marion CanDo!, Downtown Marion Inc., and the Regional Planning is in the process of moving the Visitor Center and offices from its current location near U.S. 23 to the historic downtown.

Holbrook and his wife Melissa recently moved to Marengo, where they look forward to becoming more involved in community activities and local ministries.

"I have greatly enjoyed my time here in Marion. And I am grateful to have been here to watch this community rise up to meet challenges and create their own future. The courage they have shown to take responsibility for their community is the reason why it is growing and thriving today. And it is those attributes that help make Marion a great place to visit," he said.

Current Visitors Bureau board chairperson Ellen Messenger said, "Mark's love for history, background in television and radio, years with the Ohio History Connection, business acumen and his expertise in marketing helped to guide the Marion Area Convention & Visitors Bureau to new heights.

"I have greatly enjoyed my time here in Marion. And I am grateful to have been here to watch this community rise up to meet challenges and create their own future."

– Mark Holbrook
Director of the Marion Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

"He has been a change agent. But, most of all his passion to tell Marion's stories has drawn tourists to our area and helped our community to grow and be proud of our past and excited for our future. We thank him for his leadership and wish him the best in his new adventures."

Bev Ford will become the new director at the CVB.

Upon Holbrook's announcement of his coming retirement, the Visitors Bureau executive board began the process of seeking a replacement. A local candidate with the experience and skills became available when Ford announced her retirement as director of the Marion Palace theatre.

Messenger said, "Bev is going to pick up where Mark left off. We have no doubt that it will be a smooth transition and that she will use her leadership abilities, marketing skills and connections to continue to grow and enhance the CVB much the way she grew the Palace with wise decisions, hard work, a strong vision and a heart for doing what is good for our community."

The Marion Area Convention and Visitors Bureau is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote the Marion area to potential visitors and assist local businesses and organizations in attracting business from outside the county.

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In the Heart of Amish Country
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OH-70254858

Gleaners hear Ground Zero account

By Evelyn Long
For The Sentinel

Guest speaker at the recent meeting of Chester Arbor of the Gleaners was Jeff Slider, chaplain, who described his experience when he was on the scene at Ground Zero on 9/11.

Slider shared his personal recollections of the events during his time "on duty" and displayed a number of items from that unforgettable day.

The 27 members and guests, meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Edison Baptist Church, discussed the conclusion of the remaining three IMPACT activities (Hygiene with Hidden Lakes; Food Pantries and 4-H at Headwaters this month). The group is anticipating support of the Tomorrow Center and the Cemetery Walk in Cardington during October. In addition, nine members plan to attend the 60th Biennial Convention at Belterra Resort, Florence, Indiana later this month.

Courtesy photo

Jeff Slider speaking to the Chester Arbor of the Gleaners.

The next regular meeting of the Arbor will be held Oct. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Park Avenue Elementary School, Mount Gilead, with a program being planned by Robin Conrad. Reservations must be made for this meeting by calling 419-864-7520. Guests are also welcome.

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OH-70254027

C-L Schools monitoring COVID activity

By Evelyn Long
For The Sentinel

CARDINGTON — Superintendent Brian Petrie reviewed the COVID-19 status in the school system when the Cardington-Lincoln Board of Education met Sept. 13.

Petrie referred the public to the school web site and link where he gives a daily report on the number of quarantines and absences in each building. He said they have a spread sheet by building.

Petrie is using 20 percent as the threshold for making a change. "I want to stress the fact that each of the district's three buildings is being monitored daily. Staff members are helping."

"My goal is to keep our doors open and keep the kids safe. Social distancing, hand washing and masking are a combination of what we have to consider."

In other business:

• Leading the discussion on the indoor track program was Todd Jolliff.

• The board approved the modification of substitute teacher rates for FY 22 effective Sept. 7 at $100 per day effective the first day of work.

• Approval of severance in the amount of $794.80 upon resignation was approved for Jennifer McConnell effective June 30. The contract of Lynn McCoy, middle school intervention, was approved effective Aug. 23 and the contract of Jennifer McClenathan, aide was approved effective Sept. 13.

• Public input on future calendars will be accepted from Oct. 1, 2021 to Nov. 1, 2021. The public hearing on the calendar will be held Oct. 6 at 5:30 p.m. The board vote on the calendars for 2022-2023 school year and for the 2023-2024 school years will be held Nov. 8.

• The board will meet Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Note change of date and time.

Northmor homecoming court

Courtesy photo

Northmor High School's homecoming court includes, front, from left: Olivia Finfgeld, Mia Marshall. Reagan Swihart, Emma Marshall, Paige Caudill, and Ella Creswell. Back, Bohdi Workman, Grant Bentley, Andrew Armrose, Niko Christo, Gavin Whited, Nick Armrose. Game is Sept. 24 and dance is Sept. 25.

Edison holds alumni banquet

Submitted

EDISON — The 104th and 105th Edison Alumni Banquet was held Sept. 4 at the Edison Enterprise Baptist Church's recreation room.

Fifty-two people attended with a meal served by the Galion KFC.

President Donna Osborn presided over the business meeting. A discussion concerning next year's banquet was held. No date was set and officers will make that decision.

New slate of officers: President, Phyllis Miller; Vice President, Cody Bedwell; Secretary, Karen Benson; Treasurer, Walter Benson. Trustees: Jim and Donna Osborn, Paul Darling, Billie Pangborn, Charlene Fliger and Harold Wren.

Oldest man present was Jim Osborn and oldest woman present was Virginia Hetrick. There were 13 present from the honored classes of 1950, 1951, 1955, 1956, 1960 and 1961.

There were several first-time attendees. Several states were represented, including Washington, Nevada, Florida and Tennessee.

Courtesy photo

Pictured from top: Kameron Stover, Kaymi Lewis, Guinevere Jackson, Ashlynn Belcher, Brylinn Tuggle, and Emma West.

Highland plans homecoming

Submitted story

SPARTA — Highland's 60th annual homecoming will be held on Friday, Sept. 24. The ceremony will begin at 6:25 p.m. prior to the football game against Danville.

The court will be escorted by the senior football players and their fathers. The newly elected Queen will be crowned at this time. The 2021 Highland homecomingcourt consists of freshman attendant, Ms. Kameron Stover; sophomore attendant, Ms. Kaymi Lewis; junior attendant, Guinevere Jackson and the three senior attendants, Ms. Ashlynn Belcher, Ms. Brylinn Tuggle and Ms. Emma West.

Highland will be having dress up "spirit days" during Homecoming week to build excitement for the ceremony. Frank Darst, Hamburg Fireworks Display Inc., will be providing fireworks for every Highland touchdown and as always he will give an amazing display after the game.

The traditional homecoming dance will be held on Saturday night, Sept. 25.

Forbes names Park National one of Ohio's best banks

Submitted story

NEWARK, Ohio — Park National Bank was recently named to Forbes' fourth annual listing of America's Best Banks in Each State for 2021.

The ranking from Forbes recognizes the top financial institutions in each state that best serve their customers' needs. Park National Bank was listed as one of the Best-In-State Banks 2021 for Ohio.Banks were rated on overall recommendations and satisfaction, and were also assessed in these areas: trust, terms

See BEST | 12

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OH-7025 4027

MOUNT VERNON POLICE BLOTTER SEPT. 1 - 6

MVPD

Police responded to more than two dozen incidents from Sept. 1-6.

MOUNT VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date and time: 09/01/21 09:55
Street names: GAMBIER ROAD / EDGEWOOD ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Temporary instruction permit

Date and time: 09/01/21 11:49
Street names: EAST HAMTRAMCK STREET / NORTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Driver's View/Control Unobstructed

Date and time: 09/01/21 12:43
Street names: 104 NORTH DIVISION STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Assist (Other Than Local Units)

Date and time: 09/01/21 18:35
Street names: NORTH PARK STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Failure to Control/Weaving Course

Date and time: 09/01/21 19:51
Street names: 855 COSHOCTON AVENUE SUITE S, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Threats

Date and time: 09/02/21 12:40
Street names: 1 SYCHAR ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Assist (Other Than Local Units)

Date and time: 09/02/21 13:17
Street names: SYCHAR ROAD / PLEASANT STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Seat Belts Required Driver

Date and time: 09/02/21 15:56
Street names: BELMONT AVENUE / NORTH MULBERRY STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Operation @ Stop Sign

Date and time: 09/03/21 08:45
Street names: 5 NORTH GAY STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Theft from Vehicle

Date and time: 09/03/21 11:07
Street names: COSHOCTON, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Driving Under Suspension - FRA or Random

Date and time: 09/03/21 11:52
Street names: WEST GAMBIER STREET / SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Warrant

Date and time: 09/03/21 13:06
Street names: 525 BOYLES STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Theft from Vehicle

Date and time: 09/03/21 14:20
Street names: 807 WEST CHESTNUT STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Drugs

Date and time: 09/03/21 14:31
Street names: 1451 GAMBIER ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Theft from Vehicle

Date and time: 09/03/21 14:36
Street names: WEST GAMBIER STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Overtake/Pass Left of Center

Date and time: 09/03/21 16:29
Street names: CHESTNUT, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Starting and Backing Vehicles

Date and time: 09/03/21 20:23
Street names: 806 WEST GAMBIER STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Disturbance

Date and time: 09/03/21 22:11
Street names: 120 NEWARK ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Drunk

Date and time: 09/03/21 22:15
Street names: 120 NEWARK ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: OVI - Under the influence

Date and time: 09/04/21 10:49
Street names: SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: DUS Failure to Reinstate License

Date and time: 09/04/21 13:27
Street names: BLACK WALNUT ALY / COSHOCTON AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Traffic Stop

Date and time: 09/04/21 13:27
Street names: BLACK WALNUT ALY, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Operation @ Stop Sign

Date and time: 09/04/21 13:27
Street names: BLACK WALNUT ALY, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: No Operator's License

Date and time: 09/04/21 13:27
Street names: COSHOCTON, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Operation @ Stop Sign

Date and time: 09/04/21 13:27
Street names: COSHOCTON, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: No Operator's License

Date and time: 09/05/21 02:50
Street names: GAMBIER STREET / NORTH MULBERRY STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Suspicious Vehicle

Date and time: 09/05/21 02:51
Street names: WEST GAMBIER STREET / SOUTH MULBERRY STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Having Physical Control of Vehicle

Date and time: 09/05/21 08:37
Street names: NORTH PARK STREET / EAST HAMTRAMCK STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Operator/Chauffeur License Required

Date and time: 09/05/21 10:11
Street names: EAST HIGH, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Operation @ Stop Sign

Date and time: 09/05/21 11:45
Street names: 1 COLUMBUS ROAD, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: DUS - FRA & Random Verification Suspension

Date and time: 09/05/21 11:52
Street names: 1490 COSHOCTON AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Harassment

Date and time: 09/05/21 12:23
Street names: 941 COSHOCTON AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Right of Way When Turning Left

Date and time: 09/05/21 18:33
Street names: 1 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Investigate Complaint

Date and time: 09/05/21 16:45
Street names: NORTHWEST STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Driving Under an FRA Suspension

Date and time: 09/06/21 12:18
Street names: 600 WEST HIGH STREET, MOUNT VERNON
Incident description: Drunk

Columbia Gas announces Hunger Action Month partnerships to raise awareness of hunger across Ohio

SUBMISSION

STOCK PHOTO

Columbia Gas is partnering with several nonprofits to tackle hunger in Ohio.

This month, Columbia Gas of Ohio will partner with local agencies around the state to raise awareness about hunger and inspire others to take action to end hunger in their communities.

"So many of our neighbors don't know where their next meal will come from – a fact that should be unacceptable to all of us," said Vince Parisi, president and chief operating officer of Columbia Gas of Ohio. "To our customers and neighbors: Columbia cares and we're here for you."

Since the beginning of this year, Columbia Gas has given more than $850,000 in contributions through the NiSource Charitable Foundation to local nonprofits dedicated to helping our customers and neighbors struggling with hunger across Ohio. As part of the September campaign, Columbia Gas of Ohio will contribute more than $170,000 in additional dollars through the NiSource Charitable Foundation to local hunger focused nonprofit organizations across the Columbia Gas of Ohio service area.

Along with financial support, Columbia Gas employees will be participating in volunteerism and helping to raise awareness about these life-changing organizations, which include Children's Hunger Alliance, Mid-Ohio Food Collective, Second Harvest Food Bank, Connecting Kids with Meals, LifeCare Alliance, Local Matters and Harvest for the Hungry. Columbia Gas will be using their social channels to raise awareness and encourage others to speak out against hunger by sharing pictures, stories and hunger facts. Follow Columbia Gas of Ohio on Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and LinkedIn.

For customers who may have fallen behind on their energy bills, Columbia Gas has several flexible payment programs available to help get back on track. More information on these programs is available at ColumbiaGasOhio.com. Customers can also reach out at 800-344-4077 or through Facebook, Twitter or Nextdoor to work with us to devise a solution that fits your budget and circumstances.

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for Authority to Increase Rates and Charges for its Gas Distribution Service,
For Approval of an Alternative Form of Regulation,
to Continue its Demand Side Management Program, and
For Approval of a Change in Accounting Methods
PUCO Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, 21-638-GA-ALT, 21-639-GA-UNC, 21-640-GA-AAM

Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia") gives notice that it filed an Application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") on June 30, 2021, requesting authority to amend its filed tariffs to modify its rate structure; to increase the rates and charges for its natural gas distribution and transportation services; to amend its tariff to make various changes to how Columbia provides distribution and transportation services to customers; to incorporate various minor formatting and stylistic changes into its tariff; and to modify its accounting methods as necessary to effectuate its Application. Columbia also applied, under R.C. Chapter 4929, for approval of an alternative rate plan, which includes its existing Infrastructure Replacement Program ("IRP") and Capital Expenditure Program ("CEP") and their associated riders, and a request to implement a new Federally Mandated Investment ("FMI") Rider, described below. Additionally, Columbia applied for authority to continue offering its Demand Side Management ("DSM") Program. The Application affects rates and charges and terms and conditions for natural gas service for all Columbia customers in each of the 61 Ohio counties where Columbia offers service.

This notice summarizes the substance of Columbia's Application. Anyone seeking more detailed information regarding Columbia's Application may inspect a copy of the Application, including its supporting schedules and Columbia's current and proposed rate sheets, by any of the following methods:

- visiting the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793;
- visiting the Commission's website at http://dis.puc.state.oh.us/, inputting 21-637 into the Case Lookup box, and selecting the application filed on June 30, 2021;
- visiting Columbia's business office, 290 W. Nationwide Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43215, during normal business hours;
- visiting Columbia's website at https://www.columbiagasohio.com/our-company/about-us/regulatory-information.

The Staff of the Commission and any interested parties that intervene in the proceeding may make recommendations that differ from the Application, and the Commission may adopt those recommendations.

Columbia has not filed an application to increase its base rates since 2008. Columbia's Application proposes various changes to its rate structure, including:

- Increasing the volumetric breakpoint between its SGS / SGTS / FRSGTS rate classes and its GS / GTS / FRGTS rate classes, from 300 Mcf/year to 600 Mcf/year;
- Removing the seasonal load factor requirement for the LGS / LGTS / FRLGTS rate classes;
- Incorporating the IRP and CEP Riders into base rates;
- Establishing a Monthly Delivery Charge for the FRCTS rate class;
- Adding new LGS/LGTS/FRLGTS Schools Services, for primary and secondary school customer accounts consuming at least 18,000 Mcf per year; and
- Eliminating the Mainline Delivery Charge in the LGTS tariff.

Columbia also seeks to recover historical expenses that the Commission had authorized Columbia to defer, and to defer new expenses related to a leak detection pilot program.

Columbia's current base rates were determined in a rate filing that became effective December 3, 2008. Columbia's Application states that the current rates and charges do not provide a just and reasonable rate of return on Columbia's used and useful property as of March 31, 2021 (the date certain in this case). The Application further states that Columbia requires a revenue increase to provide Columbia an opportunity to earn a fair return on its assets and recover its costs of operation. For purposes of Columbia's Application, Columbia's revenues and expenses reflect its actual and projected costs of rendering natural gas service during calendar year 2021, with adjustments as described in the Application and supporting schedules. Columbia has requested the following increases in operating revenue for its rate classes:

Rate Classes	Requested Increase in Operating Revenue
Small General Service (SGS) Small General Transportation Service (SGTS) Full Requirements Small General Transportation Service (FRSGTS)	31.4%
General Service (GS) General Transportation Service (GTS) Full Requirements General Transportation Service (FRGTS)	11.4%
Large General Service (LGS) Large General Transportation Service (LGTS) Full Requirements Large General Transportation Service (FRLGTS)	15.1%
Full Requirements Cooperative Transportation Service (FRCTS)	12.6%

These increases in proposed operating revenue do not necessarily equal the increases in total expected monthly charges for any customer. For example, if the Commission approves Columbia's Application, a SGS customer using 10 Mcf of gas from Columbia Gas would see a total monthly bill increase from $93.53 to $105.70, an increase of approximately 13.0% (including gas costs). Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, any person, firm, corporation, or association may file an objection to the increased rates that Columbia has proposed by alleging that Columbia's proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

Columbia is also seeking authority to implement an alternative rate plan, which would consist of its existing IRP and CEP (and their associated riders) and a new proposed FMI Rider. Columbia seeks Commission approval to continue the IRP and Rider IRP, with minor changes, from 2021 through 2026. Changes to the IRP include shifting capital projects in which less than 50% of the retired pipe is priority pipe to the CEP and eliminating the 5% limit on plastic pipe replacement for priority pipe-replacement projects under Columbia's Accelerated Mains Replacement Program ("AMRP"). Columbia would continue its CEP and CEP Rider through 2026, with updated caps for the CEP Rider charge for 2021 through 2027. The new FMI Rider would be a monthly charge for customers in all rate classes to allow Columbia to recover incremental costs associated with federally and state-mandated safety investments.

Additionally, Columbia is seeking Commission authority to continue its DSM Program and its associated DSM Rider from 2023 through 2027. Columbia's DSM Program offers cost-effective energy efficiency programs and rebates to help customers save energy and lower utility bills. Projected budgets for the DSM Program (excluding WarmChoice® funding included in base rates) range from approximately $29.8 million in 2023 to approximately $31.9 million in 2027.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: The Laurels of Mt. Vernon
A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Knox County Seniors

Knox County SENIOR TIMES

How to make aging pets more comfortable

METRO CREATIVE

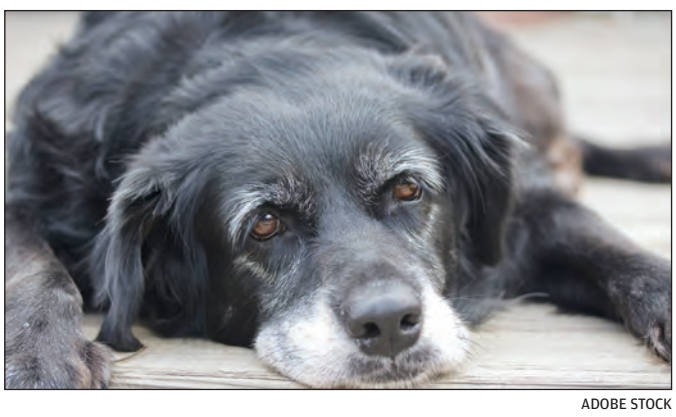
Pets are valued members of many families, and their owners typically do everything they can to ensure their furry friends live as comfortably as possible.

Care becomes even more important as pets get older. Just like people, aging pets may eat less and sleep more. They may have reduced stamina and even experience stiffness when getting up from sleep. Certain pets may experience failing eyesight, hearing loss and/or incontinence.

According to an American Pet Products Association survey, 67% of U.S. households have a pet and will have to cope with that pet becoming a senior at some point. Senior animals might need a little extra help as they age, particularly with regard to comfort. These tips can help.

- Visit the vet more often. Senior pets may need to see the vet more frequently than they used to. Pets typically visit the vet every year. Senior pets may require two visits per year. Speak with a veterinarian about how often your aging pet should come in for checkups. Checkups can help identify illnesses earlier and ensure any aches and pains are addressed immediately.
- Invest in comfort devices. Pets may need items that can accommodate aches and pains or other conditions. For example, aging pets may benefit from a high quality orthopedic pet bed. Pet strollers and raised food bowls also can make aging pets' lives a little more comfortable.
- Address mobility issues. Aging pets may need help getting around. Non-skid carpet runners in high-traffic areas can help pets walk around securely. Steps or ramps can make it easier to get on or off beds or in and out of vehicles.
- Install doggie doors. Senior pets may need to relieve themselves more frequently. A doggy door can allow for faster access to the outdoors. Similarly, a litter box with a lower opening makes it easier for aging cats to use the litter box.
- Ensure ample protection against the elements. Aging pets may feel the weather more than younger pets. They may need sweaters and coats or booties to protect their paws from the snow and ice. Cooling or heating mats may improve comfort indoors.
- Purchase animal diapers. Some senior pets may not be able to control themselves. Diapers and absorbent pads can keep them dry and prevent soiling around the house.
- Help the animal lose weight. Pets should maintain a healthy body weight, which can relieve pressure on joints and reduce risk for certain illnesses, including difficulty breathing and skin irritations. Speak with a veterinarian about the right foods and types of exercise for your pet to keep its weight in check.

Aging pets need extra patience and care. Pet owners can improve comfort and accessibility for their senior pets.



ADOBE STOCK

Senior animals might need a little extra help as they age, particularly with regard to comfort.

Effective exercises for seniors

METRO CREATIVE

Losing interest in an exercise regimen is a situation many fitness enthusiasts have confronted at one point or another. Overcoming a stale workout routine can be simple for young athletes, whose bodies can typically handle a wide range of physical activities. That flexibility allows younger athletes the chance to pursue any number of physical activities when their existing fitness regimens grow stale. But what about seniors who have grown tired of their workouts?

Even seniors who have lived active lifestyles since they were youngsters are likely to encounter certain physical limitations associated with aging. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the likelihood of dealing with one or more physical limitations increases with age. CDC data indicates that 8% of adults between the ages of 50 and 59 have three or more physical limitations. That figure rises to 27% among adults age 80 and over.

Physical limitations may be a part of aging for many people, but such obstacles need not limit seniors looking to banish boredom from their workout routines. In fact, many seniors can successfully engage in a variety of exercises that benefit their bodies and are unlikely to grow stale.

- Water aerobics: Sometimes referred to as – aqua aerobics,– water aerobics may involve jogging in the water, leg lifts, arm curls, and other activities that can safely be performed in a pool. The YMCA notes that water aerobics exercises are low impact, which can make them ideal for seniors with bone and joint issues like arthritis.
- Resistance band workouts: Resistance band workouts can be especially useful for seniors who spend a lot of time at home. Resistance bands are inexpensive and don't take up a lot of space, making them ideal for people who like to exercise at home but don't have much space. Resistance bands can be used to strengthen muscles in various parts of the body, including the legs, arms and back. Resistance bands can be pulled or pushed in any direction, which allows for more versatility in a workout than weight machines and dumbbells. That versatility allows seniors to spice up their workout regimens when things get a little stale.
- Pilates: Pilates is another low-impact exercise that can be ideal for seniors with bone and joint issues. According to SilverSneakers, a community fitness program for seniors that promotes living through physical and social engagement, Pilates can help seniors build overall strength, stability and coordination. SilverSneakers even notes that seniors can experience improvements in strength and stability by committing to as little as 10 to 15 minutes of daily Pilates exercises.
- Strength training: Seniors on the lookout for something more challenging than a daily walk around the neighborhood should not overlook the benefits of strength training. The CDC notes that seniors who participate in strength training can stimulate the growth of muscle and bone, thereby reducing their risk for osteoporosis and frailty. In fact, the CDC notes that people with health concerns like arthritis or heart disease often benefit the most from exercise regimens that include lifting weights a few times each week.

Physical limitations are a part of aging. But seniors need not let such limitations relegate them to repetitive, boring workouts.

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Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

12/6/2021 4:35:40 PM

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Case No(s). 21-0637-GA-AIR

Summary: Proof of Pub Proof of Publication (Part 4 of 6) electronically filed by Mr. John R. Ryan on behalf of Columbia Gas of Ohio