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February 17, 2025

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## Liberty Union Hall of Fame inducts new members

Five new members were recently inducted into the Liberty Union Hall of Fame. Pictured (left to right): Logan Lawhorn, Class of 2020; James Peck, Class of 1987; Tyler Miller, Class of

2004; Chuck Bauer, Class of 1986; Kenley French, Class of 2017.

See page 2 for more information about the new inductees.



**Shop & Dine**  
**"Around The Lake"**  
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**AUCTION!**  
Page 11

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**Deadline for Mar. 3rd issue is Feb. 28th**

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## Liberty Union Athletic Hall of Fame

**Tyler Miller - Class of 2004**  
4 Varsity Letters in Football  
2nd Team MSL 2002/1st Team MSL 2003  
1st Team Central District 2003  
2nd Team All Ohio 2003  
1st Team Lancaster Eagle Gazette Offense 2003  
Honorable Mention Columbus Dispatch Running Back 2003  
School Records in Single Game Yardage/Single Game Scoring/Season Scoring  
Central District All Star Game  
2 Varsity Letters in Basketball  
2nd Team Mid State League 2002-2003, 2003-2004  
Honorable Mention Central District 2002-2003, 2003-2004  
3 Varsity Letters in Baseball  
2nd Team Mid State League 2003, 2004  
2nd Team Central District 2003 - Honorable Mention 2004  
Lancaster Eagle Gazette Media Team 2003, 2004  
Central District All Star Game 2004

**Chuck Bauer - Class of 1986**  
3 Varsity Letters in Football  
1st Team Mid State League Football 1985  
School record 7 interceptions 1985  
Mid State League Runner up 1985  
AP All Ohio Honors 1985  
API All Ohio 2nd Team Defensive Back 1985  
106 Tackles 1985  
4 Varsity Letters in Baseball  
1st Team Mid State League Baseball 1985, 1986  
Central District All Star Game 1985  
Career Batting Average .429 / Season Batting Average .505 in 1985  
Single Season Hits (45), Singles (33), Doubles (9)  
Mid State League Champions 1985, 1986  
Chuck returned to Liberty Union as a teacher and coach, dedicating over 16 years in the football program and 4 years in the baseball program.

**Kenley French - Class of 2017**  
4 Varsity Letters in Cross Country  
1st Team Mid-State League 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016  
1st Team Central District 2014, 2015, 2016  
OHSAA Regional Qualifier 2014, 2015, 2016  
OHSAA State Cross Country Qualifier 2014, 2016  
OHSAA Division III State Cross Country Meet 13th Place 2016  
Academic All Ohio Cross Country 2014, 2016  
Member of the 2015 District Championship Team  
4 Varsity Letters in Track & Field  
Mid State League Champion 1600M, 3200M 2017  
All Central District 1600M, 3200M, 4X800  
Regional Qualifier 2014, 2016, 2017  
State Qualifier 1600M 2017  
Academic All Ohio – Track 2017  
School Record – 4X800 Relay 2017

**James Peck - Class of 1987**  
2 Varsity Letters in Cross Country  
1st Team Mid State League 1985, 1986  
Central District Honors 1986 / Regional Qualifier 1986  
2 Varsity Letters in Basketball  
3 Varsity Letters in Track  
1st Team Mid State League 4X800, 1600  
Central District Honors 4X400, 4X800, 3200M  
State Qualifier 4X400  
Team Mid State League Champion 1986, 1987  
Team Central District Champions 1987  
Team 5th Place in State  
School Records in 3200M, 4X400 Relay, 4X800 Relay,  
Distance Medley Relay, 6400M Relay, Sprint Medley Relay and Cross Country  
James continued his athletic career at Rio Grande University where he was a  
2-time National Qualifier in Cross Country. James has coached Cross Country, Basketball and Varsity Track at Liberty Union for many years.

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**Logan Lawhorn**  
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Central District Champion 2017, 2018 / 2nd Team 2019, 2020  
1st Team Mid State League 2017, 2018  
50 Yard Freestyle  
7th in State 2018 / 5th in State 2019/ 9th in State 2020  
Central District Champion 2020 /2nd Team 2019  
1st Team MSL 2019 /2nd Team MSL 2018, 2020  
200 Yard Free Relay - 7th in State 2018 / HM CD / HM MSL 2017  
100 Yard Freestyle Relay MSL Honorable Mention 2019, 2020  
200 Medley Relay - 14th in the State 2017  
HM CD 2017 / 1st Team MSL 2019 / 2nd Team MSL 2017, 2018 / HM 2020  
200 Individual Medley -Placed 16th in State 2017  
HM Central District 2017 /1st Team MSL 2019 / 2nd MSL Team 2017  
School Records in 50 Free, 100 Breast, 100 IM, 200 IM, 200 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay

Page 2

February 17, 2025



Lancaster holds its annual Greenhand Degree Ceremony at Lancaster High School



Greenhand recipients and officers. photo credit: Brandon Thomas

By Spencer Swartz,  
FFA Reporter

On December 13th, 2024, the Lancaster FFA Chapter held their Greenhand Ceremony at the Lancaster High School. This ceremony is the first degree an FFA member can achieve in high school. FFA members must do the following to receive the Greenhand Degree: enroll in an agricultural education program, have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience (SAE), and earn and explain the FFA Creed, FFA

Motto, Salute and FFA Mission Statement. 45 members of the Lancaster FFA were able to meet these requirements. The pin FFA members receive for this award is made of bronze which stands for a strong sense of strength and durability for FFA members. I reached out to FFA student advisor Kendra Justice, who was in charge of getting the awards in order and ready for the ceremony. She had a lot of responsibility for this event, so I wanted to see how she thought the event went. She responded with, "My basic expectations for the ceremony was to allow students and parents

to see what a true Greenhand Ceremony looks like." Some feedback I heard from the audience after the ceremony was that there was a lot of joy and excitement seeing their children receiving rewards. I heard from the recipients that they liked how they got recognized in front of their peers. Overall, the Greenhand Ceremony was an amazing experience for FFA members and parents. The Lancaster FFA Chapter hopes to see everyone at the next ceremony, and we thank you!

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ClearSky holds ribbon cutting



A ribbon cutting took place on February 12, 2025, for ClearSky Rehabilitation Hospital of Lancaster. Located at 1201 River Valley Blvd., the new 36 bed medical rehabilitation hospital specializes

in providing comprehensive rehabilitative care and will treat patients with disabling injuries or illnesses caused by stroke, brain injuries, hip fractures, spinal injuries, Parkinson's disease,

multiple sclerosis and other medically complex conditions. For more information or to tour the new facility please contact Rachel Boerema at [rboerema@clearskyhealth.com](mailto:rboerema@clearskyhealth.com). or call 740-303-4300.

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\*THE BOOK OF WILL is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatic Play Service collection. (www.dramaticplay.com)



(Left) The man cutting the ribbon is Steve Sprockett, Lancaster CEO and speaking (Above) is Darby Brockette, ClearSky Health CEO

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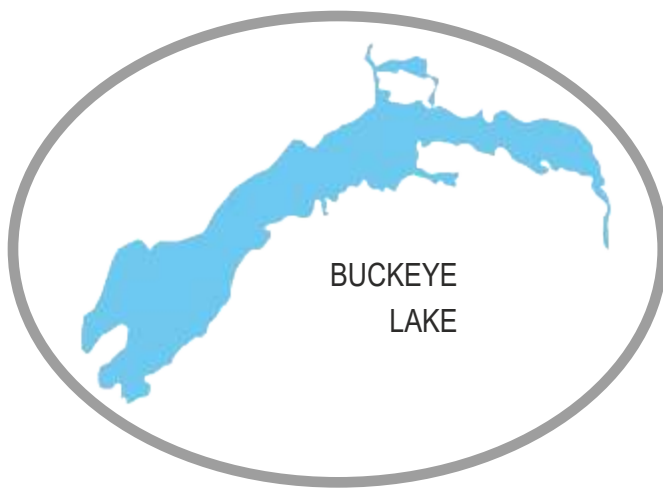
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## Millersport Council Report

Village Council met on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building. In attendance were Council Members Nicole Crossan, Stephanie Helle, Rick Thompson and Jim McKittrick. Also present were Fiscal Officer Susan Ramsey, Village Administrator Vincent B. Popo Police Chief Mark Consolo and Bob Slater Jr. Dustin Bidwell resigned and Beth Butler was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll call was taken and everyone was present except Beth Butler and Dustan Bidwell.

Mayor Gary Matheny read a letter of resignation from Dustin Bidwell. Dustin has taken a new employment position and is relocating to Dayton, Ohio. Mayor Matheny recommended Jody Naylor as a replacement and council voted 4-0 and Mayor Matheny swore Jody in to fill the remainder of Dustin's term

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Police Department:** Chief Mark Consolo sent statistics for the month of January. The department issued (3) three traffic warning, (1) one traffic citation, (1) one dispatch run and (1) one mutual aid runs and

worked (90) Ninety hours. Officer Fox is released from Field Training Officer, Officer Kellum is attending the academy and Officer Muster is beginning Field Training Officer.

**Fire Department:** Chief Robert Price sent the run totals for the month of January. Station 631 made (30) thirty runs; Station 632 made (21) twenty-one runs; Station 633 made (27) twenty-seven runs; and Walnut Township made (23) twenty-three mutual aid runs.

We had two complaints concerning brown water. The water is tested every day and three times per week MASI in Dublin independently tests the water and the results are sent to us.

Discussion revolved around the storm water that infiltrates the sewer system. We are exploring options to help residents remove their sump pumps and gutters/down spouts from the sanitary system and run them into are storm sewers.

Events for 2025 are 1) Community Bicentennial Dinner Saturday April 12, 2-25; 2) Memorial Day Ceremony Monday May26, 2025; 3) Bicentennial Festival on Saturday July 5, 2025;

4) Monster Mash V on Thursday October 23, 2025 and 5) Christmas parade Sunday December 7, 2025. Music in the Parks and the Time Capsule rededication will be set at a later day.

**RESOLUTION 1390** is a resolution approving supplemental appropriations. A motion to pass the resolution was made by Councilor Stephanie Helle and seconded by Councilor Rick Thompson. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0 with Councilor Naylor abstaining.

**RESOLUTION 1391** is a resolution approving price increases for cemetery plots and opening and closing costs. This is the 2nd Reading.

**RESOLUTION 1392** is a resolution establishing a planning Commission. This is the 1st Reading.

**ORDINANCE 872** is an ordinance establishing right of way fees for 2025. This is the 2nd Reading.

**ORDINANCE 873** is an ordinance approving the 2025 Appropriations. A motion to waive the three readings was made by Councilor James McKittrick and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0 with Councilor Naylor abstaining. A motion to pass the ordinance was made by Councilor James McKittrick and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0 with Councilor Naylor abstaining.

The American Legion building has a new roof and siding. The next phase is to redo the plumbing and upgrade the restroom facilities. Zoning Administrator Bill Simpson will oversee the upgrade and Matt Clark started doing the plumbing work for the village. The dry wall has been hung and is prepped to be painted. The target date of completion is March 1, 2025.

The Village of Millersport is celebrating its Bicentennial in 2025. The logos are set for ball caps, mugs and T-shirts and we will begin the purchasing process. Two Hundreds tickets have been printed for the Saturday April 12, 2025 commemorative dinner at the Lions Club, Social time is 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm and dinner at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and each ticket holder receives a ball cap, t-shirt and mug. The Family Festival is set for Saturday July 5, 2025 and will feature a car show, 5-K run, three live bands, a bike rodeo for kids and a Monster Truck.

Councilor Rick Thompson is looking at the calendar to set a date for a Poker Run as part of the Bicentennial Celebration. The money could be used for the Fire Truck addition at the American Legion.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Stephanie Helle and seconded by Councilor James McKittrick. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0.

\*A copy of the recorded Village of Millersport Council Meeting dated Tuesday February 11, 2025 is available upon request.

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**7:00 pm**

**Millersport Lions Club - 2905 Chautauqua Blvd. Millersport, Ohio 43046**

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Looking for a Logo to Celebrate 175 Years of the Fairfield County Fair

The Fairfield County Agricultural Society is looking for a logo to celebrate the 175th Fairfield County Fair slated for October 5-11 at the historic Fairfield County Fairgrounds.

We would like to invite you to submit your creative ideas electronically as a .jpeg file to Senior Fairboard staff member Sondra McCabe at [smccabe@fairfieldcountyfair.org](mailto:smccabe@fairfieldcountyfair.org) or by dropping off flash drive and/ or small drawing or sketch no larger than 8.5" x 11" to the Fair Administration building located at 157 E. Fair Avenue by the white residence house. Office hours are 8:30 am until noon Monday thru Friday. The deadline for submission is Friday, February 28, 2025 at noon.

Please be sure to include your name, address, email address and phone number with your submission. Following submission, all logos will become the property of the Fairfield County Agricultural Society (FCAS), which will have the right to publish and promote the winning logo. One logo submission per participant.

The artist submitting the winning logo will receive a week-long pass to the 2025 Fairfield County Fair and 175th Celebration apparel.

We are excited to celebrate this special anniversary with our community and fair supporters. Please consider sharing your talents. This contest is open to all ages and open to all Fairfield County Fair fans, with one submission per participant, please! For additional details, please call the Fairfield County Fair office at 740-653-3041.

2025 Ohio BEEF School Slated for February 26

The focus is "High Cattle Prices and Drought Recovery" OSU Beef Team Virtual Beef Schools are held Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30 p.m. The February 26 session will feature Post Drought Pasture Management with Christine Gelley, OSU Extension Noble County and Jason Hartschuh, OSU Extension Field Specialist discussing Annual Forages as Supplemental Feed. Interested attendees can register for any of these webinars for free by visiting: [go.osu.edu/beefschool25](http://go.osu.edu/beefschool25). For more information, contact OSU Extension Beef Field Specialist Garth Ruff.

New 4-H Families: Save the Date, 4-H Day on March 1st

New 4-H families who need assistance with choosing projects and/or clubs are invited to attend 4-H Day on Saturday, March 1st from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the AAA Building at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. We ask that all prospective 4-H families complete our 4-H interest survey to pre-register for the event. This will assist us with club placement tracking on the day of the event.

4-H members will be set up with various 4-H project displays

to share their experiences in the program. Additionally, 4-H advisors will be attending to assist with answering any questions and club placement. For more information, visit: [u.osu.edu/fairfield4h/join4h](http://u.osu.edu/fairfield4h/join4h)

Fairfield County Cattlemen's Banquet Planned

Make your reservation today and plan to celebrate beef during the 36th annual Fairfield County Cattleman's Association banquet and annual meeting. The event

will be held on Saturday, March 8 at the Lithopolis United Methodist Church (80 N. Market St., Lithopolis) with registration beginning at 6 p.m. Supper will feature locally prepared smoked beef brisket!

Tickets are \$10 with local Junior Fair exhibitors and youth under age 9 admitted free!

The evening's festivities will include Director elections, the award of three cattleman's college scholarships (did you know since 1999 when the college

scholarship program was begun, the FCCA has awarded a total of \$36,800 in scholarships to local youth?), and a brief industry update. And as in the recent past, the annual benefit auction will also highlight the evening!

Make your reservations by March 1st (including Junior beef exhibitors – we need your reservations too). For more information about the banquet please contact FCCA President Nate Horn at (740) 475-7375 or any of the Directors.

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Fairfield Federal President Mary Snider Elected to Ohio Bankers League Board of Directors



LANCASTER, Ohio – Members of the Ohio Bankers League (OBL) elected Mary Snider, Fairfield Federal President, to its Board of Directors to serve for a two-year term effective January 1, 2025. Based in Columbus, the OBL is the trade association for the Ohio banking industry and is comprised of over 170 FDIC-insured financial

institutions varying in size and services. The Ohio Bankers League plays a pivotal role in shaping banking policies and strategies across the state, advocating for its members' interests and promoting cooperation between financial institutions. Snider will leverage her 41 years of experience at Fairfield Federal, including eight of those years as President, to

contribute to the strategic direction of the OBL, ensuring that the interests of community banks are represented. “Being elected to the OBL Board presents a valuable opportunity to work with financial leaders from across the State to address issues that impact the banking industry and community banks,” said Mary Snider, Fairfield Federal President.

To learn more about Ohio Bankers League, visit [www.ohiobankersleague.com](http://www.ohiobankersleague.com). For more information about Fairfield Federal, visit [www.fairfieldfederal.com](http://www.fairfieldfederal.com). Follow @Fairfield.Federal.Savings.and.Loan on Facebook to stay up to date on the organization’s commitment to the community.



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The Lancaster Playhouse stops the presses



Some of the cast and crew of *The Book of Will* doing a read through and checking out the performance space at Maria's at 129 E. Main St. in Lancaster. submitted



The Kings Men, actors from *The Globe Theatre* (left to right seated: Darnell Lautt, Gary Brose, and John Pekar) enjoy a beverage provided by Kaya Cridfield who runs the taphouse. submitted

The Lancaster Playhouse is opening its 10th Anniversary Season with a production of *The Book of Will* by Lauren Gunderson. Did you know that almost half of Shakespeare's plays were almost lost forever? This play tells the story of Henry Condell and John Heminges, actors and friends of the bard, who banded together to find, preserve, and publish the true versions of 36 of Shakespeare's plays.

On its surface, *The Book of Will* is a play about the printing of the First Folio, but in reality, it is so much more. The show is directed by Shelly Riggs who also directed last year's sold-out

production of *The Curious Savage*. While that show was first produced over 70 years ago, this script is only seven years old and Lauren Gunderson is currently one of the most produced playwrights in America. According to Riggs, "Lauren Gunderson is such an incredible playwright. She does her research and has a unique skill in creating compelling characters who are based in reality. *The Book of Will* shows us the love these characters have for Will, while skillfully weaving history into the story. Shakespeare's stories are real in their own way, and so many of his words are part of our everyday language now. I think audiences

will be in turn delighted and moved by this play, and I hope they come away with a curiosity about The Bard. Don't let the name Shakespeare scare you! It's NOT ye mama's Shakespeare!"

Set in colorful London, the play is being presented by The Lancaster Playhouse by special arrangements with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com)). Director Riggs encourages everyone to attend: "The production features fifteen local actors, some of whom you've not seen on stage before, as well as a large technical crew that creates the props, costumes, lighting, set, sound - all the things that enhance the work of these amazing actors."

Showtimes are Friday, March 7 at 7:00pm; Saturday, March 8 at 2:00pm; Friday/Saturday, March 14 & 15 at 7:00pm; and Sunday, March 16 at 2:00pm. Performances are in the historic event space at Maria's Mexican Restaurant at 129 E. Main Street, Lancaster, Ohio.

Reserved seat tickets are on sale now for \$20 each or \$10 for students, with no additional fees. To order online, visit [www.thelancasterplayhouse.org](http://www.thelancasterplayhouse.org), or leave a message for the box office at 740-407-2784.

# THANK You!

## Patient Appreciation Day

Patient Chiropractic Adjustments to Benefit  
Millersport Community Food Pantry - OUR GOAL \$5,000!

**Wednesday, March 12th**

The Keller Family Chiropractic Clinic is holding our annual fund raiser. This is our way of giving back to our patients by giving all our proceeds (Office Visits and Basket Raffles) raised that day to the Millersport Community Food Pantry. Call to schedule your appointment.

**ESTABLISHED PATIENTS: Wednesday, March 12th** all chiropractic treatments are \$30 donation (not billed to insurance).

**NEW PATIENTS: MARCH 3-11th** can enjoy an initial office visit for their donation of \$30.

A percentage of all massages that week will be donated as well!  
**RAFFLE** baskets to raffle and the **GRAND PRIZE** of a Thumper Massage like Dr. Keller uses in the office.

With our Fundraiser, the Millersport Community Food Pantry will be able to purchase food & supplies needed for patrons. We accomplish this goal due to the generosity of you, our patients.

Thank You!

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# My heart will go on (part 2)

by Amy Carpenter, Ph.D.

When Rachel Ball was in high school, she was excited to go on a field trip to the zoo. While she was on the school bus, Rachel passed out. The emergency squad got her to the hospital where she flat lined. Doctors were able to bring Rachel back, but she was unconscious. In a twist of fate, life flight was arriving at the hospital for an older gentleman. Doctors talked to the man's family about the severity of Rachel's condition, and they agreed to let Rachel have the flight instead.

Rachel's defibrillator worked a few times, but then it reset. Rachel continued to flat line for hours. Her defibrillator had gone off so many times that it would not work anymore. The hospital sent a priest into Rachel's hospital room to talk to her parents.

Doctors were able to finally get Rachel stable. It was prom

weekend when most teenagers were enjoying life, and Rachel Ball was fighting for hers. Rachel's parents were struggling with the thought that they were going to lose their sweet daughter. Sometimes God sends angels on earth just as we need them. As Rachel's mom and dad were sitting in her hospital room, they were surprised to look up and see that some of Rachel's friends came to see her, all dressed up in their prom outfits.

Rachel was put on ECMO. According to the Mayo Clinic, ECMO is when extracorporeal membrane oxygenated blood is pumped outside of the body to a heart-lung machine. The machine removes carbon dioxide and sends oxygen-rich blood back to the body. Blood flows from the right side of the heart to the heart-lung machine. It's then rewarmed and sent back to the body.

After so many days on ECMO,

a patient has to be taken off and transferred to another system. Doctors talked to Rachel's parents about a heart transplant. Rachel was put at the top of the list. Rachel's parents didn't know whether to pray to keep her alive, or to let her go.

As Mark and Diana Ball were dealing with all of these mixed emotions, three doctors entered Rachel's hospital room. Rachel's parents prepared themselves for what the doctors had to say. All of a sudden, doctors began to smile and said, "We have a heart for Rachel!" Doctors explained that a 16-year-old boy had been an organ donor, and he had lost his life in a car accident. Diana was overcome with emotion. She was so happy that her daughter would have a second chance at life, but she was so sad that another mom had to lose her child.

Rachel's new heart was coming from Georgia, and it would take 6 hours to get to Ohio. Doctors let Mark and Diana know where the heart was, every step of the way. Everything had to be lined up just right, so the heart was in good shape by the time it reached Ohio. Rachel's dad got to see the heart transport team bring his daughter's new heart into the hospital. As soon as doctors put the new heart into Rachel's body, it instantly began to beat, even before it was massaged. Doctors told Rachel's parents that was a good sign. Her new heart was "very strong."

Rachel's parents were so happy that their daughter would be given a second chance at life, but then doctors told them that her kidneys were shutting down. Also, Rachel's liver was not working, and she started to hallucinate that she had snakes crawling all over her. Mark and Diana continued to "Pray for Pee" and doctors were able to get Rachel's kidneys working with dialysis. Finally, on July 29 Rachel was able to leave the hospital. She had been in the hospital for 54 days.

When Dino and Stacy (from Sunny 95) heard about Rachel missing her prom, they sent a limo to pick her up and take her to dinner.

After recovering from her ordeal, Rachel wanted to meet the family that gave her a second chance at life. She wrote them a letter, but Rachel did not get a response back. Rachel's parents found out later that the boy's family did write her a letter back,



Rachel and her son Andrew submitted



Diana Ball, Faith Tipton Smith, Ben Ball, Missy Tipton and Emily Smith submitted

but it had gotten stuck in a worker's desk at LifeLink. Two years later, Mark and Diana Ball got a call from Children's Hospital that "Final Extreme Makeover Home Edition" wanted them to fly to Georgia to meet the family of the boy who gave their daughter a second chance at life. It would be the trip of a lifetime.

While in Georgia, Mark and Diana got to meet Ty Pennington and the heart donor (Ranson's) family. They learned that not only had the family lost Ranson, but they had also lost their father and their home.

Rachel was invited to the 2008 Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. LifeLine had made a float with a picture of Ranson made out of seeds. Rachel and Ranson's sister Missy walked 5

miles in the parade. While at the Rose Bowl, Rachel's brother Ben met the girl whose brother saved his sister's life, and he was instantly infatuated with her. Now, 17 years later, they are married with three children of their own. Rachel's story had come full circle. Ranson had given her life, and this chance encounter of two families coming together, created three more lives.

Rachel was also able to create a life of her own. Her son Andrew was born on January 9, 2012. He is the light and love of Rachel's life.

If you are interested in being an organ, eye and tissue donor, register today at <http://bit.ly/DonateLife8>.

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## Baltimore Bicentennial kicks off March 2

Bells will be ringing in Baltimore on March 2 as the village kicks off its 200<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

Trinity UCC, Baltimore United Methodist Church and St. Michael's UCC will be sounding their bells 200 times at noon on March 2 to ring in a year-long schedule of Bicentennial events, starting with a kick-off open house at the Victoria Opera House at noon on March 2. All are welcome to attend and enjoy the music of Flutasia, meet State Representative Jeff LaRe and enjoy a free light lunch.

If you want to learn more about the history of Baltimore and Basil, the Baltimore Museum will host special hours from 12-4 on March 2. The museum contains a plethora of historical

artifacts, including tools, cars, planes, military artifacts, school memorabilia and much more!

In addition, make sure you stop by the Baltimore Branch Library between March 1 and March 8 during regular business hours and make a paper birthday cake for the village with a message of why you love your hometown.

RSVPs for the open house are not mandatory but appreciated by calling Debbie Schaffner at 740-739-2909 or e-mailing [sticks@frontier.com](mailto:sticks@frontier.com).

Stop by anytime during open hours to help us celebrate the Village of Baltimore's Bicentennial by making a paper cake and sharing what you love about Baltimore.

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# Everything else can wait



by Rick Schneider

Most of FAIRHOPE HOSPICE’S volunteers come from families who have had a loved one experience our compassionate comfort. And some of our volunteers find out about volunteering at FAIRHOPE Hospice from a friend. One of our volunteers, Pat, told me that a couple of her friends who were volunteers talked to her about hospice and how much they loved doing what they did there.

She decided to give it a try and signed up to be a volunteer. Pat said the training opened her eyes to the wide variety of the volunteer opportunities that are available in hospice. Trying out different areas Pat quickly found that being a patient-contact volunteer was very appealing. She discovered how visiting someone on our service brought a sense of normalcy to a situation that, up to the point of being on hospice service, had been anything but calm.

The reaction from her family and some friends when she told them that she became a hospice volunteer was a mixed bag. Pat said people questioned her by asking, “How do you do that? How can you sit for hours with a patient? How do you deal with the sadness and death?”

She said her answer was, and still is,

“I do it for families who can’t be there for their loved one all the time or in some cases not at all.”

One of Pat’s favorite stories involves a “sweet lady” she agreed to visit as a new volunteer. Pat told me, “When I first met my little lady it was an instant connection. I knew I wanted to be the person to take care of her.”

The woman lived in a nursing facility and was in the early stages of dementia. She had difficulties completing her sentences. This caused her frustration. Pat would help her complete her words and that made the woman very happy. Over the months Pat guided the woman through the physical and emotional changes that accompany dementia. She went from walking a little or riding in her wheelchair to being bedbound.

“I miss our little trips to the lunch room to “steal” cookies from her facilities’ cafeteria. She really thought we were taking the cookies and no one knew. I miss her cute and ornery smile when we were on our way back to her room. Sometimes when I would arrive for a visit she would just want sit, hold hands and watch TV. One thing I noticed while watching was her love for babies. Whenever she saw one she would giggle and point.

Through her experiences as a FAIRHOPE volunteer Pat told me, “I came to realize that sometimes you (the volunteer) are the only friend or non-professional contact that someone on our service may have.”

“I now feel like I have a purpose and try to answer every call (From FAIRHOPE) if I can. Everything else can wait ‘til later.” Pat said.

“I thank my friends and God for getting me involved with one of the greatest opportunities of a lifetime.”

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# Save the Date & Nominate



The Friends of  
ADAMH  
Annual Dinner  
April 29, 2025  
Crossroads Event Ctr  
Lancaster, Ohio

The Fairfield Alcohol, Drug Addition and Mental Health Services Board is accepting nominations for the Friends of ADAMH Awards. Three individuals or organizations will be awarded and recognized the night of the event. Visit the Fairfield County ADAMH website @ [www.fairfieldadamh.org](http://www.fairfieldadamh.org) to submit a nomination by March 10.



The Fairfield County ADAMH Board provides mental health counseling and substance use treatment through partnerships with 15 local nonprofit agencies in Fairfield County. For more information, visit [fairfieldadamh.org](http://fairfieldadamh.org)



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# THIS 'N' THAT



Local Events, News, Happenings & More!

The deadline for the March 3 Issue is Noon, Feb. 28



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**We Want Your News Items!**  
Submissions for This 'n' That accepted only by email at [freedomptg@roadrunner.com](mailto:freedomptg@roadrunner.com) in Microsoft Word, .TXT, or RTF (Rich Text Format) only. We can no longer accept "hard-copy" submissions by mail or fax. Please include your name and phone number in case we have questions. Non-profit events only please. We reserve the right to select which items are published. Group flea markets, yard/garage sales and craft bazaars should be submitted as a classified ad at \$10 for 25 words, or a display ad (call 740-403-0265 for pricing).

**Fairhope Offers Free Grief Support Services to Community**  
FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care is offering free grief support services to individuals in the community who may need it. These services are available to adults, children and families, regardless of whether their loved one was a FAIRHOPE patient. FAIRHOPE's Adult Grief Support Group is a free resource that meets on select Fridays each month from 10-11 a.m., providing a supportive space for participants to understand their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors related to grief.

Individual grief support is also available for adults at no cost via Facetime, Microsoft Teams, over the phone, or in-person. To view the current support group schedule or to learn more about our offerings, call 740-304-0869 or visit <https://fairhopehospice.org/grief-support/adult-grief/>.

Supplemental material for all ages and grief stages can be accessed on our website at <https://fairhopehospice.org/grief-support/grief-resources/>. These documents are free and downloadable for yourself, or to share with friends and family as they navigate these experiences. To learn more about FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, visit [www.fairhopehospice.org](http://www.fairhopehospice.org), or find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FairhopeHospice](https://www.facebook.com/FairhopeHospice).

**Fairfield SWCD Scholarship Announced**  
The Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will offer up to three \$1,000 college scholarships per year.

Applicants must be graduating from high school and be residents of Fairfield County. Home-schooled students are eligible as well. At the time of application, applicants must have achieved at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).

Applicants need to be pursuing a degree in the fields of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation or Environmental Education. Examples of some eligible degrees include: Agriculture, Ag Engineering, Aquatic Ecology, Biological Sciences, Conservation Planning, Environmental Education, Environmental Science, Forestry, Natural Resource Conservation, Soils, or Wildlife. Call the SWCD office if you have a question about your area of interest.

Eligible post-secondary institutions include technical colleges, two-year associates, or four-year bachelor's degree programs. If you plan to attend something other than the above, please call the SWCD office to check on eligibility.

Scholarship applications are due to the Fairfield SWCD office by March 31. Applications can be mailed or emailed to [scholarship@fairfieldswcd.org](mailto:scholarship@fairfieldswcd.org).

**Fairfield County Foundation 2025-2026 Scholarship Application Available Online**

The Fairfield County Foundation is currently accepting applications for more than 100 different scholarship funds for local students for the 2025-2026 school year using one online application, which can be found at <https://www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org/scholarships/application>. The application officially opened December 1, 2024, and the deadline to submit applications is Friday, March 7, 2025. Applicants are encouraged to check out the scholarships page on our website for more details, criteria, tips and frequently asked questions to assist in filling out the application. The Foundation's application system filters down which scholarships students are eligible to receive based on the criteria of each scholarship fund.

Generally, scholarships are reserved for residents of Fairfield County or graduates of a high school in Fairfield County; however, there are a few that are available to students outside of the county. Applicants can be graduating high school seniors, current undergraduate, graduate, non-traditional or vocation/technical school students.

## Lancaster Area

**Save the Date - A Master Gardener Plant Sale!**  
The first-ever Fairfield County Master Gardeners Plant Sale is being planned for May 31 in the Fairfield County Fairgrounds, Building #50, Show Arena near the Broad Street gate.

We aim to have this event explode with plants, color and creativity. We will include perennials, some annuals, herbs, tomatoes, succulents and anything that grows, as well as books, garden art, crocks, and this and that. Please mark your calendars now!

## Chess Club Meets Tuesday Nights

The Lancaster Community Chess Club is now meeting at the Lil Stuffins Workshop in the River Valley Mall in Lancaster. The club meets from 6:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesday nights in the party room. All are welcome. Any children must be accompanied by an adult. Sets are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. If you have any questions call Chris Miller at 740-607-3308.

## The Ohio Genealogical Society Meeting

The Ohio Genealogical Society, Fairfield Chapter meeting is Thursday, February 20 at the Genealogical Research Library, 503 Lenwood Drive in Lancaster. Refreshments at 6:30 pm, business meeting at 7 pm. Program to be determined at a later date. All are welcome.

## Visit the History Room at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The museum is open the first Sunday of each month for tours from 10:00-11:30 a.m. immediately after church services, or by appointment. You can expect to see the Andrew Bauman scale model of the church, portraits, photographs, and treasured historical objects. St. Peter's Lutheran Church is located at 105 E. Mulberry St., in Lancaster, Ohio. Church office (740) 653-1950.

## Thurston Area

### Lenten Fish Fry

The Thurston Methodist Church will be having Lenten Fish Fry's on the following Friday's: March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4 and 11 from 4:30-7:00 PM. Suggested donation \$13. Fried cod, baked or green beans, Au gratin potatoes or French fries, coleslaw or applesauce, roll, ice cream. Carry out only. Call 740-862-6943 or drive thru to place order.

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, military status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." State and local laws forbid discrimination based on factors in addition to those protected under federal law.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

If you feel you have been wrongfully denied housing or discriminated against, call your local Fair Housing Agency for information.



### NOTICES

**The Basil Joint Fire District's 2024 Annual Financial Report** is complete and available at the office of the Fiscal Officer, 410 Washington St., Baltimore, OH 43105

### EVENTS

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TURKEY SHOOTS** at Fairfield Fish and Game 2270 Bickel Church Rd NW Baltimore, OH

43105 Shoots start at noon Tickets go on sale at 11:30  
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## Fairfield DD announces new board members



LANCASTER, OHIO --- The Fairfield County Commissioners have named Dr. Jason Boothe, Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of Lancaster and Fairfield County, and Mrs. Becky Schaade, Executive Director of the Fairfield County District Library as the two newest members of the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Dr. Boothe has a passion for our community and lends his experience as a seasoned leader who combines problem-solving and team-building skills to bring stability and focus to those with whom he works. "I am honored to join the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities and contribute to the vital work of supporting so many important individuals in our community. I look forward to collaborating with the Board, staff, and families to create opportunities that empower individuals to thrive and achieve their fullest potential."

Mrs. Schaade brings a vast knowledge and passion for Fairfield County, working in the



Jason Boothe submitted



Becky Schaade submitted

local library system since 2004. Her experience as the leader of a levy-funded organization will add great insight to Fairfield DD. "Fairfield DD has a wide range of resources to support all kinds of needs. I am honored to serve such an important mission in our community."

Dr. David Uhl, Superintendent/CEO of Fairfield DD, is excited to welcome two new board members. "The Fairfield County Board of DD has a legacy of being led by passionate members of the Fairfield County community. I am excited to welcome Becky and Jason to the Fairfield DD board. Their involvement will help ensure Fairfield DD continues to

move its mission forward and brings about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions."

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March 7  
Ohio Game Birds

March 22  
Leprechaun Hunt

March 29  
Flying Squirrels

SMECK PARK

March 8  
Woodcock Walk

March 15  
First Flowers Hike

March 16  
Wellness Hike

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