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FAIRFIELD EDITION February 26 - March 10, 2024

Liberty Union Athletic Hall of Fame 2024 inductees

Liberty Union Athletic Boosters would like to recognize five individuals for their accomplishments within the Liberty Union athletic community.

Our first inductee from the Class of 1973, Jack Garey:

Jack earned 2 varsity letters in basketball and 3 varsity letters in baseball. Jack earned Honorable Mention Mid State League in 1971, 2nd Team Mid State League in 1972 and 1st Team Mid State

League in 1973. Jack was 1st Team Central District and earned All Ohio honors in 1973. He was voted Mid State League Player of the Year in his senior year. Jack was selected to be a member of the 1973 OHSAA All Ohio East-West All Star Series Baseball Team. Jack went on to play baseball for Morris Harvey College, now the University of Charleston West Virginia.

After college, Jack moved back to the area to work at a car

dealership in Lancaster. At his passing in 2005, Jack requested any donations in his memory be gifted to the Liberty Union baseball team. Jack's cousin Janet Kuhn accepted the plaque in honor of Jack.

Congratulations to Jack Garey.

Next, from the Class of 1981, Leslie Orr Steinlage:

Leslie earned 4 varsity letters in track & field. Her freshman year, Leslie qualified for the OHSAA

continues on page 2



Pictured left to right: Janet Kuhn (accepting the award for her cousin Jack), Leslie, Kyle, Megan, and Sydnee. submitted

IRON PONY
See page 7

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AUCTION!
Page 11



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Happenings on Page 7

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State track meet in the 880 Yard Run. Her Sophomore year, she earned 1st team Mid State League in the 1600 M run, 880 Yard Run, qualifying for the state track meet in the 1600M and Mile Relay. In 1980, the 880 Yard Run was converted to the 800 M Run, and again Leslie earned 1st Team Mid State League, qualifying again for the state track meet competing in the 2 mile relay and taking 6th place in the 800 M Run. In her senior year, Leslie earned 1st Team Mid State League in the 800 Meter Run, qualified for the state track meet in the 1600 Meter Run, 1600 Meter Relay and placed 4th in the state in the 800 Meter Run. Leslie is the current 4X400 Relay Liberty Union record holder and held the 800 Meter Record for 35 years until incoming hall of fame inductee Sydnee Mangette broke her record in 2016.

Leslie is a lifelong restaurateur, currently working to buildout family owned Morning Fog Coffee & Eats. Leslie lives in North Carolina with her husband of 30 years, Curt Steinlage. They have 3

children, one grandchild with another on the way.

Congratulations, Leslie!

Our third inductee is from the class of 1992 – Kyle Farmer:

Kyle earned 4 varsity letters in football, earning 1st team Mid State League in 1990 and 1991. He was selected MSL Cardinal Division Lineman of the Year in 1991. Kyle was selected 2nd Team Central District in 1990, and 1st Team Central District in 1991. In his junior year, he was selected as special mention Division IV All Ohio, and 2nd Team All Ohio his senior year. Kyle was a member of the Columbus Dispatch-Agonis Club All-Star Football Team and a Sports Medicine Grant Central Ohio All-Star Football Game Participant in 1991.

In track, Kyle earned 4 varsity letters and 1st Team Mid State League and Shot Put Champion in 1990, 1991, 1992, setting a Mid State League Cardinal Division record for being the first 3X Shot Put Champion. In his senior year, he was also the Mid State League Discus Champion. Kyle won the

Central District Indoor Shot Put Championship in 1991, and was the Outdoor Central District shot Put Champion in 1992. Kyle qualified for the OHSAA State Track & Field Meet in Shot Put in 1991.

After college, Kyle returned to Liberty Union as the Varsity Assistant Football Coach from 1993-2003, the Varsity Track Coach in 1998, 1991 and 2001 earning Cardinal Division Coach of the Year in 2001. Kyle was also the Varsity Softball coach in 2020 and 2021.

Kyle and his wife Kristi are both educators and live in the Liberty Union school district with their 2 children.

Congratulations, Kyle!

Our next inductee is from the class of 2011, Megan Van Almsick:

Megan earned 4 varsity letters in volleyball, earning 2nd Team Mid State League and 2nd Team All District in 2010, as well as Honorable Mention All-District in 2009.

In softball, Megan earned 4 varsity letters in softball, earning 2nd Team Mid State League in 2008, Honorable Mention MSL in 2009 and 1st Team Mid State League in 2010 and 2011. Megan was a 4-year member of the 1st team Lancaster Eagle Gazette All County Team, and was selected Columbus Dispatch All Metro 1st Team in 2011. In her junior and senior year, she earned 1st Team All Central District, and 3rd Team

All Ohio. Her teams were Mid State League Champions in 2008, 2010 and 2011, and runner up in 2009. In 2010 and 2011, her team won the Central District championship. In 2011, the Liberty Union Softball team was the OHSAA Division III State Runner Up. At the time of graduation, Megan held the Liberty Union School Record with 9 homeruns in a single season.

Megan was the 2011 class valedictorian. She went on to earn a bachelor of science in Physics from The Ohio State University and was a 4-year Student Manager for the Ohio State University softball team, earning a varsity letter in her junior year. She earned her MBA from Ohio State in 2023. She is a Senior Category Marketing Manager at Libbey of Toledo. She lives in Columbus with her 2 dogs, Leo and Donatello. Megan would like to thank her coaches and parents, especially her father Bill Van Almsick as this nomination would not have been possible without him and all of the support he provided her and her teammates throughout the years.

Congratulations, Megan!

Our final inductee is from the class of 2018, Sydnee Mangette:

Sydnee had 4 varsity letters in Cross Country, earning 1st Team Mid State League in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017. She was the individual Mid State League Champion in 2015 and 2016. Sydnee earned 1st Team Central

District in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and was the individual Central District Champion in 2015 and 2016. She qualified for the OHSAA State Cross Country Meet in 2015 and 2017, and place 4th in the state in 2016.

In Track, Sydnee earned 4 varsity letters in Track & Field. In her freshman year, Sydnee was League Champion in the 800 Meter run as well as the 1600 Meter run. In her sophomore year, she was league champion in the 4X800 meter relay, the 800 Meter run, and the 1600 Meter run. In her junior year, she earned 2nd team Mid State League in the 3200 meter run, and in her senior year, she earned 2nd team Mid State League in the 4X800 meter relay. At the Central District level, Sydnee earned 1st Team Central District in the 800 Meter run, the 1600 Meter run in both 2015 and, 2016. She earned 1st team Central district, qualifying for regionals in the 3200 Meter run in 2017. Sydnee was a State Qualifier in the 800 Meter run in 2015 and 2016 as well as the 1600 Meter run in 2016.

Sydnee was Academic All Ohio in Track in 2016 and Cross Country in 2016 and 2017. At graduation she held school records in Cross Country and in Track for the 800 Meter and 1600 meter runs.

After graduation, Sydnee continued her Track & Cross Country career at Northern Kentucky University.

Congratulations, Sydnee!



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OSU Extension Update



4-H Day Set for March 2 at the Fairfield Co. Fairgrounds

Come learn more about 4-H and what it can do for your family on Saturday, March 2 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the AAA building at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds.

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:

<https://u.osu.edu/fairfield4h/join4h>

Check out the The Family Guide which is a listing of the 4-H projects offered along with a brief description. Stop by OSU Extension in Fairfield County located at 831 College Avenue in Lancaster to pick up your free copy today.

Project Central is another resource. Check it out at: <https://ohio4h.org/books-and-resources/project-central>. This will show you the first few pages of each project book as well as provide you with any reviews that have been made by 4-H members that have completed the project. Or feel free to stop by OSU Extension in Fairfield County to look over project books to see if there are any that interest the kids for next year.

Take time to indicate your interest by completing the online information request at go.osu.edu/Fairfield4Hinterest before March 1st or come visit us at 4-H Day on March 2 at the Fairgrounds.

Once you have decided to join 4-H, found a club and decided on projects, you need to enroll. Make sure you enroll for all of your projects through 4-H Online by April 15th!

Have additional questions or need more information? Visit our website at fairfield.osu.edu or call our office at 740-653-5419.

Sew Ohio Conference Offered for 4-Hers

A sewing conference is being offered at the Ohio 4-H Center for 4-Hers to improve their clothing and textile skills on April 27. The goal is for 4-Hers to learn from sewing experts, no matter what your level of sewing experience is. Classes will be held for the beginner, intermediate, advanced and adult levels. Registration can

be handled through OSU Extension in Fairfield County. Cost is \$10 per person through March 2. Late registration is \$20 through April 5. No refunds. A box lunch will be provided. No supplies are needed, and a fabric fair will be offered for 4-Hers to obtain free fabric and materials for 4-H projects. For additional details contact Pamela Montgomery at Montgomery.221@osu.edu. The Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau Center is located at 2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, OH.

2024 Annual Sewing Smorgasbord at Sheridan High School

Don't miss the 49th Annual Sewing Smorgasbord on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Doors open at 8:15 a.m. Over 30 classes for all ages will start at 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. 15 vendors on site.

The event will be held at Sheridan Middle School, 8660 Sheridan Road, Thornville, Ohio. Cost: \$10. No pre-registration.

For more information: contact 740-405-7891 or e-mail at crshuster1@gmail.com. Check out the Perry County Ohio Homemakers Facebook Page or Sewing Smorgasbord 2024 Events Page.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Fairfield County Cattlemen's Banquet

Mark your calendars now for the Fairfield County Cattlemen's Association Banquet on March 9 at the Lithopolis United Methodist Community Building. Cost is \$10 per person. Find more details including reservation information at go.osu.edu/fccabanquet.

Dig Into Gardening Educational Day at Christ United Methodist Church in Baltimore on March 23. For details: <https://fairfield.osu.edu/news/2024-dig-gardening-educational-day>

Governor DeWine gets first-hand look at Lancaster City Schools' literacy success



Governor DeWine visited several classrooms during the tour. submitted



After the tour, school board members assembled in the library with Governor DeWine, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Director Steve Dackin, Lancaster City Schools Superintendent Nathan Hale, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jeromey Sheets, the district's team of instructional coaches, including Donna McCance, Brenda Zeiders; and Medill Elementary School Principal Jennifer Woods. submitted

LANCASTER, OH: Lancaster City Schools welcomed Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Director Steve Dackin to Medill Elementary School recently to experience the success the district has had since implementing a rigorous literacy and phonics program in both elementary and middle schools.

While literacy has been a prime focus for the district for decades, the implementation of instructional coaches and a school-wide literacy plan for each school began in 2019 and has led to Lancaster City Schools exceeding Ohio School Report Card standards as high as 68 percent for third-grade students and 67 percent for fifth-grade students in 2023. Currently, the district is uti-

lizing instruction designed by EL Education that involves the entire class in its instruction. The adoption of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) approved 95 percent Group Tier 1 and Tier 2 Phonics Program and the Orton Gillingham Level 2 and Supervisor Training took place in 2023.

The Governor's tour included a visit to a first-grade class taught by Natalie Heltzer featuring 95 percent Phonics instruction, a second-grade class featuring small group discussion led by Christina Hartman, and a third-grade classroom demonstrating the EL Curriculum module with Denise Mauk. School board members then assembled in the library with Governor DeWine, Dackin, Lancaster City Schools Superintendent Nathan Hale, Assistant

Superintendent Dr. Jeromey Sheets, the district's team of instructional coaches, including Donna McCance, Brenda Zeiders; and Medill Elementary School Principal Jennifer Woods.

Steve Dackin was quick to congratulate the district on its initiative. "Kudos to you and your leadership," he said. "I'm really impressed, Governor. I just think they have figured out how you distribute leadership throughout a school district to do what's right for every student."

"And they are doing it with unrelenting focus, too," agreed Governor DeWine. "We have been touring around to a lot of different schools, determining what works, and this is working. So, thank you."

Governor DeWine also asked Dr. Sheets and Superintendent Hale what advice they have for school districts that are in the initial stages of rolling out similar literacy programs.

"You have to be willing to buy into the fact of how important literacy is and be willing to pick the best program," Sheets said. "We had other options for training that would only take 18 hours, but we chose in Lancaster to put our teachers through two years of training because we want our kids to have the best-trained teachers in the state of Ohio."

The question of funding such a program was raised by the Governor and much credit was given by Superintendent Hale to the LCS School Board.

"Our school board understands the importance of literacy and we are fortunate to have the financial capacity to implement these programs right now," Hale said. "What Dr. Sheets and his team have achieved is incredible. We have kindergartners entering schools at a 25th percentile in terms of readiness and we see them climbing up to 60th and 70th percentiles by third grade. It speaks volumes about the programming they have put into place."

For additional information about the literacy programming taking place in Lancaster City Schools, contact Dr. Jeromey Sheets, Assistant Superintendent/Director of Elementary Education, j_sheets@lcsschools.net.

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| <p>Across</p> <p>3. Valentine's treat</p> <p>4. Valentine's Day flowers</p> <p>6. Sheets arrives at people</p> <p>8. Expression often said on Valentine's Day "Be"</p> <p>9. The month of Valentine's Day</p> <p>10. A shape that is a symbol of love</p> <p>11. Valentine's Day color</p> <p>12. Sealed with a</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1. Valentine's Day is a day of</p> <p>2. Something you send to people of Valentine's Day</p> <p>5. Heart-shaped candies with words</p> <p>7. Red and white mixed together</p> |
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Fairfield DD announces \$890K grant to promote accessibility



LANCASTER, OHIO -- Dr. David Uhl, Superintendent of the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Fairfield DD), is pleased to announce the agency has been awarded a grant of \$890,000. "We are excited for the opportunity to invest these funds in Fairfield County as we work to bring about a more vibrant community. This funding will enable us to expand opportunities without putting a

strain on our local taxpayers" said Dr. Uhl.

The funds will impact Fairfield County in the areas of supported connections, accessible communities, universally accessible changing tables, and unserved/underserved communities. "We will be making announcements in the coming weeks about how these funds will be invested and what organizations we are partnering with to make the greatest impact possible for our community," said Dr. Uhl.

"These investments are truly going to make a difference for people with developmental

disabilities and their families by giving them more access to the communities where they live," said Governor Mike DeWine. "People with developmental disabilities deserve opportunities, a reliable workforce, and an accessible state to live, learn, work, and succeed in."

As part of the 14.9 million ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding, the money will be dispersed across 67 counties throughout the state to better serve Ohio residents and their families who have a developmental disability.

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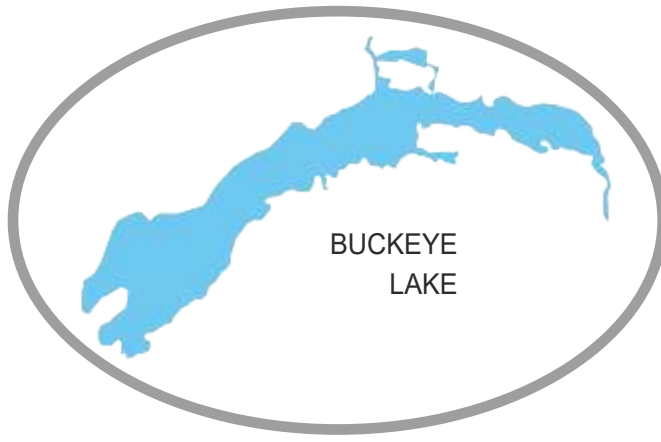
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Millersport Council Report

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Village Council met on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building. In attendance were Mayor Gary Matheny, Council Members present were President Pro Tem Dustin Bidwell, Elizabeth Butler, Nicole Crossan, Stephanie Helle, Jim McKittrick and Rick Thompson. Also present were Park and Rec Tom Nebbergall, Thomas Hart (attorney for the Apostolic), Pastor Gary Keller, Pastor James Stark, Village Zoning Administrator Bill Simpson, Water Tech Chase Wood, Village Administrator Vincent B. Popo and residents Mike Bruckelmeyer. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said. Roll call was taken and everyone was present. A motion to accept the Tuesday January 9, 2024 council minutes was made by Councilor Stephanie Helle and

seconded by Councilor Beth Butler. The motion carried 6-0. A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilor Rick Thompson and seconded by Councilor Jim McKittrick. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Water: Meter replacements are approximately 99% complete. The billing in this cycle is roughly 8 days longer than our normal read time. This will soon be corrected.

Police Department: Chief Mark Consolo sent statistics for the month of January. The department issued (2) two traffic warnings, (0) zero traffic citation, (0) zero dispatch runs and (0) zero mutual aid runs and worked (95) Ninety-five hours.

Councilor Butler reported on the Activities Committee meeting pre council meeting and will establish the summer schedule once we contact the Lions Club and they establish their farmer's Market dates. The committee discussion revolved around Music in the Park and the responsibility of paying the musicians, setting up and meeting the musicians, advertising the events. The dates for 2024 have not been set.

Chief Consolo presented council with a plan to recruit police officers. Chief Consolo and Lt. Justin Wiseman are working to provide the best possible service we can provide to the community.

Councilor Beth Butler followed up to go over the steps needed to establish rules, guidelines, fees and 3% bed tax on short term rentals. The Lancaster City ordinance is one of the models we are looking to implement. A copy of the Buckeye Lake village inspection policy was presented for review. Tim Morris

is exploring possible new crosswalk signage and if we qualify for any available safety grants.

Bonnie Stutske will take over the Miller Park and Holiday Events that require decorations and flowers will be under her supervision. Tom Nebbergall will still be the Code Enforcement officer and maintain the ball field.

A resident requested information concerning the building of a structure on Lecrone. Zoning Administrator Bill Simpson and Mayor Gary Matheny addressed the questions and the resident requested a copy of the zoning manual that will be made available to the resident. The resident alleges that he has not received all of the information that was requested. The new zoning manual has not addressed the issue of buildings on lots that are not living spaces. Ordinance 861 will address the building of structures must include living spaces.

Resolution 1382 is a resolution hiring Bonnie Stutske as co-park and rec director. This is the 1st Reading. Ordinance 857: is an ordinance setting the Right Of Way fees for 2024. This is the 2nd Reading. **Ordinance 859** is an ordinance amending the zoning manual. This is the 1st Reading.

Ordinance 860: is an ordinance providing services for the annexation of the Apostolic Complex. A motion to waive the three readings was made by Councilor Dustin Bidwell and seconded by Councilor Beth Butler. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to pass the ordinance was made by Councilor Dustin Bidwell and seconded by Councilor Beth Butler. The motion passed 6-0. **Ordinance**

861: is an ordinance appropriating the ARP money. A motion to waive the three readings was made by Councilor Dustin Bidwell and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to pass the ordinance was made by Councilor Dustin Bidwell and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. The motion passed 6-0.

After much discussion, council decided to leave the boat dock fees at \$400.00 and the registration papers will be sent out by the end of February and fees are due April 1, 2024.

Little Laker Baseball consists of four teams and will have the first option to practice and play on the village field. Teams that have little or no Walnut Township Local School students will not have precedent over Little Lake Baseball.

The Village of Millersport will be celebrating its Bicentennial in 2025. Plans are now being set to form a committee to plan the celebration. Residents that are interested in being part of this event should contact Vince Popo (614-562-7320).

Council approved the purchase and the upgrade of the crosswalks in the village. A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Jim McKittrick and seconded by Councilor Beth Butler. All voted yes and the motion carried 6-0.

*A copy of the recorded Village of Millersport Council Meeting dated Tuesday February 13, 2024 is available upon request. Mayor Gary Matheny, and Susan A. Ramsey, Fiscal Officer. Please note these minutes have not yet been approved prior to this printing.

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Liberty Union FFA does good for the community



Officers Jack Kaper, Sammy Bader, Bailey Shy, and Ashley Kessler. submitted

From November 16th to the end of December 2023, the Liberty Union FFA chapter ran a high school-wide coat drive. The donation accepted any lightly used coats, jackets, scarves, gloves, and hats. Often there are multiple coats in the houses of high schoolers that do not fit anymore. This drive both helped students and their families de-clutter and helped the lives of homeless or financially struggling people in need of a coat.

These coats were donated to the Community Action Program in Lancaster. The Community Action Program has a food pantry, homelessness assistance programs, and many other community

resources as well. They accept clothing, household, and money donations and disperse these donations to people in need in the Lancaster area.

In total, the Liberty Union FFA chapter donated 50 coats, 4 blankets, and numerous hats, gloves, and scarves. The blankets donated were made by FFA members at meetings as our community service project. President Jack Kaper, says, "It felt really good to give back to the community and make a difference in such a cold winter season". As a FFA chapter it is important to give back to our community and the coat drive did just that.

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Cooper is a trooper



Cooper and his mom Jessie at his "Buzz Party." submitted

By Amy Carpenter, Ph.D.

In February of 2023 Jessie Shirk's son Cooper had a lump on his belly that would come and go. One morning the lump came back, and later that day Cooper came home from school complaining that his throat was hurting. As any good mom would do, Jessie took Cooper to Urgent Care and they said he had strep throat. Later that evening a rash appeared all over Cooper's body and his lips were swollen. Jessie's doctor told her that if the swelling and rashes didn't go away after 10 days to call her. The swelling and rashes never went away. Jessie called the doctor back and the doctor asked her to bring Cooper in again. Cooper's doctor did x-rays that showed he was



Cooper, Travis Kelce, Jessie, Charlie (sister) and Brad (dad) submitted

symptoms Cooper was having and that he wasn't his usual self, Cooper's doctor decided to send Cooper to a GI specialist to make sure that they weren't missing anything. The doctors at Children's Hospital did a CT of Cooper's abdomen and saw a huge mass. The tumor was behind Cooper's abdomen muscles, which is why it didn't show up on the original x-ray. Doctors told Jessie that the tumor was so big that it surrounded Cooper's major artery and was cutting off the blood flow. That is why Cooper had swelling of his lips and private parts. Cooper was in the hospital for three days to find out what kind of cancer he had. All the while, Coop was worried about the mother son dance at school that weekend. He had wanted to take his mom to it all week. Doctors were able to figure out that it wasn't neuroblastoma like they originally thought, but stage 3 Rhabdomyosarcoma. The bad news was that it couldn't be removed since it was wrapped all around Cooper's organs and major artery. The good news was that it was the better of the two cancers. Coop was relieved the doctors finally figured it out so he could take his mom to the "Mother Son" dance.

stop treatment, because Cooper would get VOD again and then his liver would go into full liver failure. After getting several second opinions, every hospital agreed that they should not sit back and hope for the best, but instead Cooper should try a clinical trial and he should be watched closely. The chemotherapy chosen for Cooper was called vinorelbine. It is a clinical trial that has been going on for about 10 years in Europe for patients with Rhabdomyosarcoma. Coop's doctor wanted to just do the weekly IV chemo for the first month and to monitor him closely to make sure his liver functions were staying steady. Then slowly introduce the oral pill at a low dose and monitor Cooper's liver to hopefully increase it to its proper dose. Studies have shown that patients who did the trial had 85% success rate. In Cooper's case (with him stopping treatment and getting VOD 2 times) there isn't much data with this trial, but doctor's think it should give him a 45% chance of relapse. Jessie is hopeful that it will make a difference.

Cooper has taken his cancer diagnosis in stride and instead of focusing on his cancer, he focuses on making memories. When his hair started to fall out Coop decided he wanted a "Buzz Party." His mom ordered 50 pink beanies for anyone who wanted to shave their heads for Coop. He made the first cuts on everyone who showed up! Word got out and his mom ended up buying 350 more beanies. Even a young girl in his grade shaved her head for Coop. Jessie shares that she has learned so much from Cooper's cancer diagnosis. Jessie shares that if something doesn't seem right to trust your gut. She also shares that when you go through something to let other people help you. She wouldn't have been able to get through Cooper's cancer diagnosis, without the help of friends and family bringing dinner and volunteering to help her with her daughter.

According to the National Health Service of the United Kingdom, Rhabdomyosarcoma is the most common soft tissue sarcoma in children. These tumors develop in muscle or fibrous tissue and can grow in any part of the body. The most common areas of the body to be affected include the head, neck, bladder, testes, womb, or vagina. Since Cooper's diagnosis he has had several treatments. The goal was to do 16 proton radiation treatments at The James. Cooper was only able to finish 14 treatments, because he got VOD and was in the hospital for 2 weeks. About Kids Health (a health education website for children, youth and caregivers) explains that Venous Occlusive Disease is an uncommon liver problem in which the liver cannot function properly. It is a complication that can happen after a blood and marrow transplant, but since these don't pertain to Cooper, doctors can't figure out why he got it. Afterwards, Cooper went to Children's Hospital and did 19 treatments there.

The chemo treatment plan Cooper had was VAC. The National Cancer Institute shares that VAC contains the drugs vincristine sulfate, dactinomycin and cyclophosphamide. Combinations of drugs are best since different drugs kill cancer cells in different ways. Cooper was supposed to have a 14-cycle treatment plan, but was only able to finish 11 treatments due to blood clots that lodged in the top of his colon/bottom of his intestines and getting VOD again. On January 4, 2024, Cooper's parents were told that they should

Cooper and his family have had a lot of support from the community, and they call these special people "Cooper's Army." Cooper's mom is in the process of starting a foundation called "Cooper's Troopers." Jessie explains "We wanted to start a foundation in Coop's name, so we can give back to our community and help others the way so many hundreds of people have helped us and supported us through this last year." To find out more about Cooper and upcoming events, go to "Cooper's Cancer Support Page" on Facebook. You can also learn more about Cooper's story in my upcoming show on "Around Towne With Amy" found on Spectrum 1021, YouTube and Facebook.

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Happenings at the Y



The great thing about the Family YMCA of Lancaster and Fairfield County is there is never an end to the amazing things going

on! Whether you sign up for a new class, enjoy an open swim, or come to one of our brand-new events, we have something for everyone!

March promises to be an amazing month at the YMCA. Our 6th street location will be hosting our first ever adult only 1980's themed prom! There will be side ponytails, neon colors, and the best dance music you can imagine. Register online and come in your finest 1980's styles. The prom will be held March 15th, 6pm-8:30pm

and we will host Kid's Night Out at the same time, that way you don't even have to worry about a babysitter!

We will also have some fun Easter activities in March. Jump in the pool and make a splash while you hunt for Easter Eggs during our Aqua Egg Hunt on the 22nd. Then join us for our annual Sunrise Service on top of Mt. Pleasant on Easter Sunday. More information can be found about these events online at ymcalancaster.org.

Regional Planning Commission to hold public meeting to vote on county Comprehensive Plan



LANCASTER, OH —The Comprehensive Plan, which will serve as a guide for Fairfield County to manage growth in a strategic and thoughtful way, will be considered by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) at a public meeting on March 5, 2024, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Fairfield County Workforce Center located at 4465 Coonpath Road NW, Carroll.

At that meeting, the RPC will vote on recommending the

Comprehensive Plan to the Fairfield County Commissioners for their consideration. If approved, it will then be sent to the Fairfield County Commissioners to consider in a public meeting on March 19, 2024, at 9 a.m. at the Fairfield County Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Commissioners' Hearing Room.

The plan development process started in October of 2022, engaging a steering committee of 36 community leaders. Planning NEXT, a professional community planning company, was hired by the committee to oversee the planning process. The company conducted a series of more than 30 stakeholder interviews that included township trustees of every township in the county, leaders of villages and cities and other community leaders and hosted a public meeting at the beginning of the process, followed

by multiple opportunities for in-person and online feedback.

After a public meeting in September, Fairfield County Commissioners determined additional opportunities for public input were necessary, and subsequently conducted meetings with local township and municipal leaders and citizens to obtain additional input. Accordingly, several changes have been made to the plan to address concerns and ideas raised in these meetings.

A copy of the updated plan can be found on the RPC website at www.co.fairfield.oh.us/rpc/.

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THIS 'N' THAT

Local Events, News, Happenings & More!



The deadline for the March 11 Issue is Noon, March 1

We Want Your News Items!

Submissions for This 'n' That accepted only by email at 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 toll-free 1-888-354-1352 for pricing).

Lenten Fish Fry's

The Thurston Methodist Church will be having Lenten Fish Fry's on the following Fridays: March 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 4:30-7:00 PM. Suggested donation is \$13. Menu: fried cod, baked beans or green beans, Au Gratin potatoes or French fries, coleslaw or applesauce, roll, ice cream.

Carry out only. Call 740 862-6943 to place order or drive up.

Meals on Wheels Annual Pie Day Fundraiser Held on March 14 in Conjunction with National Pi Day

Place orders of fresh made pies for pick up at the Meals on Wheels Senior Services Center on Thursday, March 14 between the hours of 9am-4pm. Order of \$100 or more can be delivered in the city of Lancaster. Donation of \$20 for 9" pies or \$10 for mini pies. Selection: apple, cherry, mixed berry, peanut butter, or strawberry/rhubarb. Advanced payment or payment upon pick up is required. Order forms are available on the website www.mowfc.org, on the agency Facebook page, or at the office. Call the agency for more information at 740-681-5050.

Lancaster Community Band Spring Concert

The Lancaster Community Band, under the direction of Judy Rehrer, will hold a concert on Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 p.m. The concert will be held at Faith Memorial Church, 2610 W. Fair Avenue in Lancaster. Admission is free.

Ohio Genealogical Society Meeting

The Ohio Genealogical Society, Fairfield Chapter meeting will be Thursday, March 21 at the Genealogical Research Library, 503 Lenwood Drive in Lancaster. Refreshments at 6:30 pm, short business meeting at 7 pm, followed by a "Library Lock-in". There will be members available to help you with your 'brick walls' or how to get started on your family research. All are welcome.

Community Champions Help Raise Awareness for Meals on Wheels Fairfield County and the Needs of Fairfield County Seniors

During the month of March, Meals on Wheels programs across the country will come together to help raise awareness to senior isolation and hunger. Dur-

ing this campaign, Meals on Wheels will hold Community Champions Week March 18-22 and enlist the help of elected officials, business leaders, and community members to prepare food, deliver meals, speak out for seniors, and raise awareness for the power of Meals on Wheels program.

During these challenging times, now, more than ever, it is important to recognize the important and necessary services provided by Meals on Wheels to ensure health, connections, and independence for older adults living in Fairfield County. Community Champions are everyday people who volunteer to help deliver meals and assist the agency in fulfilling its mission of service to the seniors of Fairfield County. During the month of March, we extend the invitation to business leaders, local officials, and community leaders to join in raising awareness to the issues facing older adults and the solutions that make meaningful impact upon their lives. Meals on Wheels Fairfield County is one such solution.

The annual March for Meals commemorates the historic day in March 1972 when President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older. This March, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining forces to celebrate more than 50 years of success and garner the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation, enable independence, and improve health for years to come.

"We commend all of our 2024 Community Champions for stepping up to ensure that Meals on Wheels is there for all of our senior neighbors in need," said Anna Tobin, Executive Director Meals on Wheels Fairfield County. "The demand for services is already great and will continue to grow as approximately 12,000 Americans are turning 60 every day. We must maintain and expand the programs that have helped so many get through this unprecedented time in our nation's history. We can't do it alone. It takes all of us to keep Meals on Wheels going."

For more information on how you can volunteer, contribute or speak out for the seniors in Fairfield County this March, visit www.mowfc.org or call us 740-681-5050.

Used Books Donation Day!

The Fairfield County District Library will be hosting a "Used Books Donation Day" on Thursday, April 25 from 12 - 6 pm at the Main Library location (219 N. Broad St., Lancaster). Please bring all of your fiction, non-fiction, cookbooks, craft books, and children's books in paperback or hard cover that are in good condition! The Library is NOT accepting: VHS tapes, encyclopedias, text books, legal books, magazines, outdated travel books, and books that are in poor

condition (i.e. stains, tears, or mildew). This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Fairfield County District Library.

Please come and Visit Wildermuth Church

The original chapel is over 200 years old and has been well preserved. Our church bell rings every Sunday at 10am signaling the start of worship.

Pastor Brandon Lewis brings a variety of sermon topics with words of wisdom for you to use throughout the week. Music director Randy Frazier leads our singing of traditional hymns and provides us with his inspiring contemporary solos. Pianist Greg Smith brings a lively spirit to our worship service with his musical talent. Follow us on Wildermuth Church Page on Facebook for upcoming music programs and events for the Easter season.

Wildermuth Memorial Church is located at 3405 Carroll Eastern Rd in Carroll.

3rd Annual Recital Showcase

Otterbein University Department of Music will present its 3rd Annual Recital Showcase on Sunday, March 17 at Hope United Methodist Church, 83 E. Columbus Street in Canal Winchester. The 3:00 pm event will feature a varied program of classical music including works for voice, cello, piano, and saxophone. The FREE event is open to the public. (614-837-7548)

Coffee with a Genealogist

The Ohio Genealogical Society - Fairfield Chapter is having a "Coffee with a Genealogist" event on Friday, March 15 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at Panera Bread, 1374 Ety Rd. NW in Lancaster. Members of Fairfield County (OGS) genealogy society will be present to answer your questions about family research and our local research library.

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.

Used Motor Oil Wanted

Did you know that Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action's Recycling Center is heated by using used motor oil? The following can be accepted into the program; diesel, kerosene, home heating oil (#2), hydraulic fluid, and gear oil (up to 50 weight). Liquids need to be clear of any debris and water. Please no brake fluid, antifreeze, gasoline, water or chlorine. Items can be dropped off at the Recycling Center's Drive Thru Lane Monday-Friday from 9:00am-2:00pm. Questions? Call 740-687-1295.

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Patient Appreciation Day

Patient Chiropractic Adjustments to Benefit Pleasantville United Methodist Church Food

The Keller Family Chiropractic Clinic is holding our annual fund raiser. This year our proceeds will go to the Pleasantville United Methodist Church Food Pantry. It's our way of 'giving back' to our patients by giving all our proceeds (office visits and basket raffles) raised that day to the Pleasantville United Methodist Church Food Pantry.

ESTABLISHED PATIENTS: Thursday, March 14 all chiropractic treatments are \$25 donation (not billed to insurance).

NEW PATIENTS: MARCH 11-13 can enjoy an initial office visit for their donation of \$25.

A percentage of all massages that week will be donated as well!

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Baltimore Branch Library Upcoming Programs

Toddler Storytime

For children ages 18 months to 3 years
Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, 27

April 3, 10, 17, at 10:30am
No registration required, register to receive email reminders

Preschool Storytime

For children 3 to 5 years
Friday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26 at 10:30am
No registration required, register to receive email reminders

Novel Conversations

Tuesday, March 5 at 11am
Shiner by Amy Jo Burns
Rich with epic love and epic loss, and diving deep into a world that is often forgotten but

still part of America, Shiner reveals the hidden story behind two generations' worth of Appalachian heartbreak and resolve. Amy Jo Burns brings us a smoldering, taut debut novel about modern female myth-making in a land of men-and one young girl who must ultimately open her eyes.

No registration required, register to receive email reminders

Dog Tales

For children in grades K-4
Tuesday March 5, April 9 at 5:45-6:45
Call to register 740-862-8505

Music and Movement Storytime

For children up to 5 years
Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26

April 2, 9, 16, 23 at 6:30pm
No registration required, register to receive email reminders

Art Explorers

For children ages 6-12
Thursday, March 7 at 5:00 pm
Thursday, April 4 at 5:00 pm
Come to the library to hear a story and create a one-of-a-kind piece of art to go along with the theme of the week.

No registration required, register to receive email reminders

Baltimore Stitching Circle

Open to all ages and skill levels
Thursday, March 14 at 5:30 pm
Thursday, April 11 at 5:30 pm
Bring your current work in progress to the Baltimore Branch Library to sit and stitch with other local crocheters, knitters, cross-stitchers, and fiber enthusiasts. Discover a new hobby or network with fiber artists who share your interests. Open to all skill levels and all fiber arts.

No registration required, register to receive email reminders



St. Patrick's Day Craft

Saturday, March 16 10am-2pm
No registration required, register to receive email reminders

School Age STEAM

Bottoms Up! Animal Behinds
For children ages 6-12
Thursday, March 28 at 4:30 pm

Camouflage, defensive strikes, territory marking, and more! Get the scoop behind animal backsides with activities and a craft.
Please register

DIY Monstera Leaf Trinket Dish

For Adults and Teens
Saturday, March 30
Baltimore Branch Library

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County agencies to implement Practice in Action Together

LANCASTER, OH — Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) announced the launch of a new shared practice model, Practice in Action

Together (PACT). This new practice model was identified as a key component for modernizing Ohio's children services agencies. Eight county agencies were selected to begin implementation of PACT, one of which was Fairfield County Job and Family Services – Protective Services.

Fairfield County Job and Family Services – Protective Services has successfully concluded its kick-off meeting with PCSAO, marking the commencement of on-site training scheduled for February. Implementation of the model will begin in stages following the training. In Fairfield County, the approach to the PACT model will be family-centered, emphasizing values and fostering positive worker/family relational outcomes. Both families and workers will be encouraged to share their feedback with the research team, playing a crucial

role in guiding and refining the implementation of this model. Fairfield County Job and Family Services – Protective Services aims to enhance its practice by actively participating in grants or pilot programs, ensuring optimal services and support to families.

“The purpose of PACT is to elevate healing and build relationships. Moving forward with this practice will strengthen our collaborative decision making with families and our shared hope for success,” said Sarah Fortner, Deputy Director of Protective Services at Fairfield County Job and Family Services – Protective Services. “Our overall goal is to provide the best services, support, and outcomes for the families and children we serve. My hope is that implementing this behavior-driven approach to practice will ultimately lead to equity for our families, workers and community.”

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(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	\$5.25
\$5.50	\$5.75	\$6.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$6.75	\$7.00
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Classifieds

Respondents to classified ads should buy or sell at your own risk.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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.



EVENTS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Fairfield Fish and Game 2270 Bickel Church Road NW Baltimore, OH 740.862.8679
TURKEY SHOOTS March 10th and 24th April 14th and 21st Shoots start at noon Tickets go on sale at 11:30 Falters meat products also money shoots and raffles. One free shoot for children and women. Kitchen will be open.

HELP WANTED

Bremen Area Historical Society has a part time position available. Call Ken at 740-438-8970 for an appointment. Leave message if no answer.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

For Rent \$1600.00 Month Lancaster Hunter Trace Four Bedroom two bath Basement attached garage call 740-277-6492 Leave Message

For Rent in country 2 bedroom mobile home Amanda-Clearcreek school. \$550.00 month \$550.00 deposit Call Vickie@740-969-3225

For Rent - One Bedroom Apartment - Lancaster, Downstairs all electric \$500 a month, no pets, no smoking, no HUD. Call 750-654-0862 for more information.

SERVICES OFFERED

Are You Looking For A Cleaning Lady!? Affordable Rates & leaving your Home & Offices Krista'll Klean Call Krista Today at 614-907-5661

RK Home Improvements, LLC "Come Home to Quality" www.rkhomeimprovements.com 740-243-7761 *bath/kitchen remodeling *general home maintenance *painting *tiling *flooring installation *ect

Income Tax Preparation - \$100 Most Returns (Includes E-file for Federal, State, & School but paper file for cities). 740-407-5353

Do you need a New Year cleaning? Start off with a Clean Bang!!! Call Krista'll Klean ♥ today to make a appointment! 614-907-5661 ♥

Handyman Services - Roofing, Window Washing, Privacy Fences, remodeling, building, basement finishing, baths, siding, doors, kitchens, decks, hardwood floors, ceramic tile, windows. Call 740-415-7679

Kathy Will Clean Your Home or Office and will make it sparkle, weekly, bi-weekly or once a month, 20+ years experience. 614-549-4071

Need Home Maintenance? Windows, Doors, Siding, Roofing, Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry, Power Wash. 36 Years experience. Call 740-215-1852

Call Beatty Lawn and Tree Service for all your tree needs. We will be offering 14% off for the month of February. 740-653-3331

MISCELLANEOUS

New One Person Complete Folding Bed with Handles \$100. 3 Shelf glass TV Stand 4' x 2.5', perfect condition \$100 OBO. 740-503-6120

Technical/pro RX383 Amplifier 18"W x 14"D x 6.9"H, 1000 watts New In Box Black Color weighs 13.5lbs. \$80.00. Yamaha Mixing Console MG-16/4. Condition New, Instructions Included \$190.00 Call or text Mike @ 740-475-7372

Acorn Stair Lift Chair for Sale \$500. 740-503-1830

Beautiful Hooded Llama Jacket - New. Medium. Super warm! Beige with brown Llamas all over. Made from Llama fiber. \$50. Picture available upon request. 740-605-7400 Somerset area.

Antique Double Concrete Wash & Rinse Tub, used as water trough for horses and cattle. For sale. \$20. Phone 740-653-2033

Maltese Male Puppy - Shots & Vet exam. Parents are pets. One mommy gives me babies. No tearing, shedding. For a Christian home. \$700. Call 740-474-5948

Wanted to Buy - Good 6x10 Utility Trailer. If you have one for sale call 740-969-4835 Ask for Bob.

"Scientific Proof of the Afterlife" - a detailed report which provides absolute evidence for life after death. To order send \$10 to: Henry Hood, 2865 Morning Dew Ln., Lancaster, OH 43130

176 Looking for Elvis CD "I Can Help" Call Sheri at 740-862-0616

Exerpelight Treadmill new 125.00, Electric fireplace mantel 100.00, 2 person whirlpool bath tub 300.00, Inversion table free with purchase Fiesta Ware Antique Pottery 740-569-7193

Female Guinea Pig For Sale. Cream and White in color. 6 months old. Comes with cedar bedding. \$25 Call 740-785-5170

Buying Collectibles - Arrowheads, Sports Cards, fishing lures, older toys, Misc Antiques. Call John at 740-814-2771.

For Sale Queen Bedframe with Mattress, twin steel bed frame with mattress. Phone 740-407-5018

(4) 5,200 lb Capacity Self Loading Positioning Wheel Dollies. Excellent condition. \$400. Weatherguard Black Aluminum 60" in bed truck box. New condition. \$786 new. \$475. 740-653-6687.

For Sale - 5 Inch Top, Treated Wood Posts, used \$5 each, also used Steel post \$3 each. All usable. Phone 740-653-2033

Power Toilet Lift Seat - Stand alone unit required for getting on and off toilet, self install over your existing toilet. Uses new toilet seat, Can be used as a bedside commode, 2 button hand controls \$675. Call 614-329-4547

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SATURDAY-MARCH 9 @ 10:00 AM

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FAIRFIELD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (Ed Sands Bldg) Terrific Auction for Sue & the late Cecil Davis! Sue & Cecil frequented many auctions in the Central Ohio Area. Brief Listing! 35+pcs Furniture (Victorian, Primitive, Modern), Antiques, Collectibles, Fenton, Heisey, EAPG, Pink Depression, Pottery, Primitives, RR items, Early Radios, Advertising, Household; **TOOLS (2nd Ring @11am)**: John Deere Push Mower, Craftsman 5hp Snow Thrower, C-H Vertical Air Compressor, Craftsman Tble Saw, Joiner, Bench Drill Press, Power Tools, Hand Tools, Lot's of Hardware & More! See dafauction.com, gotoauction.com (ID 4217) or auctionzip.com (ID 5526) for 100's Pics & Flyer! **TERMS**: 2-Auction Rings most of the day! Cash or Check (If known to us), Visa/MC w/4% Clerking Fee. Sales Tax, Pos Id. Food.

OWNER: SUE DAVIS

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**JOIN US
FOR AN
OPEN HOUSE at the STARLight CENTER**

Thursday, February 29

Come celebrate as we leap into the future of mental health and substance use care for our community.

336 E. Locust Street, Lancaster
1:30 p.m. - Ribbon-cutting
4:30-6 p.m. - Community Open House

Enjoy refreshments, community tours and an extra day of the month.


The STARLight Center, the first of its kind in Fairfield County, will provide a safe and welcoming environment with 24-7, fully staffed medical professionals. It will be able to treat eight adults struggling with mental health issues and 12 battling substance use who need immediate help. The STARLight Center fulfills a levy promise to the community.



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