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FAIRFIELD EDITION February 3, 2025

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(L-R): Renee Chenetski, Gabrielle Corns, Hannah Corns, Charlee Corns, Sydney Chenetski and Nolan Chenetski. submitted

Local nurses who saved child's life honored with Great Save awards

LANCASTER, OHIO – Two nurses were honored with a Great Save Award on Jan. 17 at Fairfield Medical Center after they rescued a family member from drowning over Labor Day weekend. Great Save Awards are presented by Community Heart Watch to individuals who provide lifesaving intervention in situations where a person's heart stops beating.

Sydney Chenetski, who works at FMC, and Renee Chenetski, who works at the Diley Ridge Emergency Department, were at a family gathering on Aug. 31 when 2-year-old Charlee Corns jumped into the pool unnoticed and began to drown. Charlee, who is Sydney's niece and Renee's granddaughter, was quickly pulled out of the water by Sydney after another child spotted

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"Around The Lake"
See page 4

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Page 6

Continues on page 2



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Around Towne With Amy



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Deadline for Feb. 17th issue is Feb. 14th
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“My Heart Will Go On”

by Amy Carpenter, Ph.D.

September 29, 2000, was like a normal day for 14 year old Rachel Ball. It was a Saturday, and she had volleyball practice. Her dad Mark dropped her off at school, and he went home to mow and take a nap.

As Rachel and her teammates were running laps, Rachel fell down and hit her head. When her coach and teammates checked on her, Rachel wasn't breathing. By the time the squad arrived to give her CPR, Rachel's skin was blue.

Rachel's coach was finally able to get ahold of her dad, and he and Rachel's brother Ben raced to the school. They followed the ambulance to Berger Hospital, as paramedics gave Rachel CPR the whole way. They weren't able to revive her until they reached Circleville.

Once Rachel got to the hospital, she had another episode. Berger Hospital got Rachel stabilized, and they decided to send her to Children's Hospital. While at Children's, Rachel was diagnosed as having a heart attack. She was placed in intensive care, as doctors tried to figure out why a 14-year old girl had just had a heart attack.

After lots of extensive tests, doctors realized that Rachel had two things wrong with her. First, Rachel was diagnosed with Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome. The Mayo Clinic explains that Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome is a syndrome in which an extra electrical pathway in the heart causes a rapid heartbeat. The extra electrical pathway appears between the heart's upper and lower chambers, and is present at birth. Symptoms most often appear between the ages of 11 and 50, and include a rapid pounding heartbeat, dizziness, and lightheadedness. This condition is very rare and there are fewer than 20,000 cases in the United States each year. Doctors described Rachel's heart, "Like an engine of a car that is wired wrong." It is usually found in athletes, but is usually only found on autopsy.

The second problem with Rachel's heart was arterial bridging. Arterial bridging is also commonly referred to as myocardial bridging. The Cleveland Clinic shares that myocardial bridging is a "bridge" of heart muscle that goes over, instead of under, part of an artery that brings blood to your heart muscle. Some people can have chest pain or other issues from it, because the muscle compresses the artery that it covers. Myocardial bridging can be genetic, but for Rachel it was a birth defect. To fix this condition, doctors at Ohio State



Rachel in the hospital with her mom Diana and sister Michelle submitted



Rachel and her dad Mark as she was being released from the hospital submitted

University had to do a procedure called Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting. This procedure would improve the blood flow to Rachel's heart, and create new pathways around narrowed or blocked coronary arteries.

When Rachel's mom (Diana) and her dad were able to finally see their daughter, they were surprised to see her condition. She was like a two-year-old. She acted like an animal and tried to bite them. Due to lack of oxygen, Rachel had muscle paralysis in her throat, and she had to be fed through her nose. Doctors placed a defibrillator into Rachel to control her heart. She had been in the hospital for 78 days.

After being released, Rachel had to go through months of therapy to learn how to walk and talk again. Luckily Groveport Madison allowed Mark time off school to drive Rachel to her morning and evening therapy appointments, and she made great progress. Rachel's young brain had a greater capacity for reorganization and rewiring, due to the ongoing development of neural connections. Rachel was able to go back to school in May as a "high schooler," but only for half days. She had problems with her short-term memory, and she had to be in special classes, but for everything she had been through, she had made "great strides."

Rachel was 95 percent back to

where she was. She got to be the "water girl" when her school, Amanda Clearcreek, went to state play offs in 2002. When Rachel couldn't pass her driving test, her dad set up a driving course for her. He practiced her written test over and over with her, so the information went into her long-term memory. Not only did Rachel pass her test, but she got a higher score than her younger sister did on her driving test. Rachel got a job as a hostess at Bob Evans, and saved up enough money to buy her first car.

After getting a defibrillator, Rachel couldn't play sports, and she lost contact with many of her friends. Having her own car helped her deal with everything that had happened to her. Not only had Rachel's heart issue taken a toll on her, but her parents as well. Her dad shares, "After Rachel's heart attack, I would wake every morning and go to her room and check on her to make sure she was still alive." During Rachel's health battle, her mom Diana learned to lean on God. She explains, "I always carried a lot of faith, and I was able to put my feelings in God's hands. It was an emotional roller coaster, but I stayed focused on God and tried not to think "What if?"

To find out more about Rachel's story "My Heart Will Go On," check out a future edition of the Towne Crier.

Cover story continued

Charlee at the bottom of the pool. Both Sydney and Renee performed chest compressions and rescue breaths on Charlee, saving her life. Now 3, Charlee was among those who helped honor her aunt and grandmother on Jan. 17 at FMC.

According to the American Red Cross, drowning is the No. 1 cause of death for children between the ages of 1 to 4, with 87 percent of those fatalities happening in home pools or hot tubs.

Charlee's mother, Hannah Corns, said it only took a minute for Charlee to slip away from her sight and jump into the pool. Despite being CPR-certified, Hannah said she froze at the sight of her lifeless daughter, and is extremely grateful that Sydney and Renee were able to remain calm and collected in the moment so they could save Charlee's life.

"Words will never be enough for me to express my gratitude to Sydney and my mom for performing CPR in the 'real world' to save Charlee after her near-

drowning accident," Corns said.

"I know it wasn't easy and I am thankful for their courage to step up in such a traumatic situation. I would like to remind others to take CPR training and be ready as you never know when an emergency can occur and whose life you could save."

Des Belcher, RN, FMC STEMI Coordinator and Community Heart Watch member, also stressed the importance of CPR training.

"This is a truly amazing lifesaving story; statistics say that only around 50% of people trained in CPR can actually perform the intervention when necessary," Belcher said "Not only did Sydney and Renee overcome the obstacle of needing to use their training on a beloved family member, but they were able to do it on a minor child."

FMC offers CPR & AED training for both individuals and businesses. To learn more, contact FMC Community Educator Resa Tobin at 740-687-8477 or resa@fmchealth.org.

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Lancaster Festival Board names John Devlin as Music Director & Conductor of Lancaster Festival Orchestra



John Devlin photo credit Don Mew

LANCASTER, Ohio – After an extensive search The Lancaster Festival Board of Directors has announced John Devlin as its new Music Director to lead the orchestra. Devlin will be working with Festival board members and staff to plan and conduct the 2025 Lancaster Festival.

Devlin was selected after a thorough international search from more than 100 highly qualified applicants. A selection committee comprised of members of the Board of Directors and representatives from the Lancaster Festival Orchestra narrowed the pool of candidates and interviewed several individuals, and Devlin rose to the top.

“From his first interview with us, John had a unique understanding of the mission of the Festival and the important role the Music Director plays both during the Festival and throughout the year,” said Jeff Spangler, Board President. “Combined with expertise and creative vision, John is bringing an exciting new perspective to the Lancaster Festival that will complement and enhance our tradition of delivering an incredible 10 days of music, art and community.”

Conductor John Gennaro Devlin is an ardent champion of American music, an innovator of concert design, and a thought leader in the field of classical music. Currently in his sixth season as Music Director of the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra (WSO), Devlin is only the ninth conductor in its 90-year history to hold that title.

For his work with the WSO, Devlin was named a recipient of the 2023 Georg Solti Foundation Career Assistance Award. Also in 2023, Devlin was honored by Wheeling’s mayor, Glenn F. Elliott, with the Mayor’s Award for “distinguished service, loyalty, and dedication to our city.”

Devlin’s artistry and versatility make him a frequent guest conductor with major orchestras across the nation. His engagements have included performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, Utah

Symphony, Louisville Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Hawai’i Symphony Orchestra, Columbus Symphony, Omaha Symphony, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Greenville Symphony Orchestra, Allentown Symphony Orchestra, Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, and the American Repertory Ballet. Of his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and violin soloist Joshua Bell, Anne Midgette of The Washington Post wrote that Devlin “led the evening with flair ... and was visibly in his element.”

John Gennaro Devlin is an American conductor of Italian and Irish heritage. He completed his master’s and doctoral degrees in orchestral conducting under the tutelage of James Ross at the University of Maryland School of Music. As an undergraduate student, Devlin attended Emory University as a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar, graduating summa cum laude with a double major in Clarinet Performance and Latin. Devlin has also benefited enormously from his time as a member of the New York Youth Symphony, at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and at the Pierre Monteux School. His professional career has been shaped by his time

as an assistant to conductors Gianandrea Noseda, Christoph Eschenbach, Rossen Milanov, and Victoria Gau.

For more information about Devlin’s impressive career, please visit www.JohnDevlinMusic.com.

“I am thrilled to begin my time as part of the Lancaster Festival family in the summer of 2025. Throughout the search process, it was evident that the leadership team of Executive Director Deb Connell, the board of directors led by Jeff Spangler, and the entire group of staff and supporters of the Festival are all committed to bringing arts experiences of the highest level to the Lancaster community and beyond. Working with the Lancaster Festival Orchestra, led by concertmaster Dmitri Pogorelov, will be a deeply rewarding experience for me, as the Orchestra is made up of some of the nation’s best players, drawn from top symphonies around the country.”

“I find it very inspiring that the Lancaster Festival places equal emphasis on community-connected programming, top-level national touring artists, and the inclusion of a symphony orchestra. I believe this to be a model of how an orchestra, and an institution, can best deliver meaningful programming to the people of its region. I want to thank the entire organization for its belief in my ability to lead the next chapter of the Lancaster Festival Orchestra’s artistic endeavors, and I want to pay tribute to Maestro Gary Sheldon, who helped shape the Festival in so many ways over his more than 30 years of service. I look forward to meeting everyone in the Lancaster Festival community this summer, and to a great season of music together,” Devlin said.

Devlin officially began his employment with the Festival on January 1, 2025. Festival leaders plan to host a welcome reception and other activities to help Devlin learn more about the community. “We are looking forward to watching John work with our incredible orchestra and to see what inspiring and exciting new programming we can create together,” said Connell. “His fresh perspective coupled with his understanding of the importance of preserving our traditions will allow us to try new things, continue delivering high quality programming and engage current and new festival audiences.”

More information about this year’s Lancaster Festival will be announced soon at www.lancasterfestival.org and on the Festival’s social media platforms.



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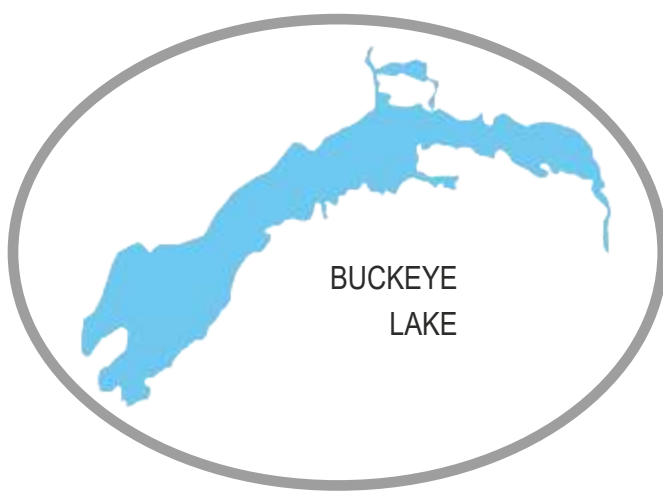
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Eagles do it again!



submitted

by Vince Popo

Those Pesky Birds from The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2801 have made another round

of donations to the local communities around Buckeye Lake.

The Village of Millersport received a \$5,000 donation to begin the revitalization of American Legion Building and turn it into a

Millersport/Walnut Township Museum and Community Center. The building was donated to The Village of Millersport along with a 1928 fire truck by Drs. Anna and Paul Whetstone. The building has a new metal roof and new siding and the indoor phase of renovation will be new waterlines and bathroom facilities.

The night the village received the money, The Walnut Township Fire Department and a Veterans Hunting Experience all received \$5,000. The Eagles donated money all week of January 5, 2025.

On behalf of The Village of Millersport, THANK YOU #2801. Consider joining the Eagles and be a part of the "Giving Spirit."

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Millersport Council Report

Village Council met on Tuesday January 14, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building. In attendance were Council Members President Pro Tem Dustin Bidwell, Elizabeth Butler, Nicole Crossan, Stephanie Helle, and Jim McKittrick. Also present were Fiscal Officer Susan Ramsey, Zoning Administrator Bill Simpson, Lt. Justin Wiseman Mary Wiseman and Village Administrator Vincent B. Popo. Rick Thompson and Dustin Bidwell were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said. Roll call was taken and everyone was present except Rick Thompson and Dustan Bidwell.

NEW BUSINESS:
Police Department: Chief Mark Consolo sent statistics for the month of December. The department issued (4) four traffic warning, (1) one traffic citation, (1) one dispatch run and (0) zero mutual aid runs and worked (105) One Hundred Five hours.

Fire Department: Chief Robert Price sent the run totals for the month of December. Station 631 made (21) twenty-one runs; Station 632 made (22) twenty-two runs; Station 633 made (16) sixteen runs; and Walnut Township made (30) thirty 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.

The committees are to remain the same for 2025 with the exception that Beth Butler was elected President Pro Tem. Dustin Bidwell is to resign because of employment promotion and will be leaving the community.

Events for 2025 are 1) Community Bicentennial Dinner Saturday April 12, 2-25; Memorial Day Ceremony Monday May 26, 2025; Bicentennial Festival on Saturday July 5, 2025; Monster Mash V on Thursday October 23, 2025 and Christmas parade Sunday December 7, 2025. Music in the Parks and the Time Capsule rededication will be set at a later day.

RESOLUTION 1392 is a resolution establishing dock fees for 2025. This is the 1st Reading. A motion to waive the three readings was made by Councilor Beth Butler and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0. A motion to pass the resolution was made by Councilor Beth Butler and seconded by Councilor Stephanie Helle. All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0.

ORDINANCE 872 is an ordinance establishing right of way fees for 2025. This is the 1st Reading.

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. Bill received a \$2,600.00 bid for drywall work. Tim Morris approached the Fraternal Order of Eagles #2801 for financial assistance for the future museum and the village received \$5,000.00 on Friday January 10, 2025.

The Village of Millersport is celebrating its Bicentennial in 2025. Plans are now being set to form committees to plan the celebration. Residents that are interested in being part of this event should contact Vince Popo (614-562-7320). Plans for a Bicentennial community dinner on Saturday April 12, 2025 is scheduled and a Family Festival Day is set by council on Saturday July 5, 2025. Jim Johnson is to coordinate a car show for the day. Contacts from the Sweet Corn Lions Club include Steve Shover (Vice Chair for Facilities), Diana Keller (President of the Millersport Lions Club), Tamarra Parker-Stephens (Sweet Corn Festival Heritage Chair), Dan Booze (Sweet Corn Festival Assistant Marketing Chair), and Lindsay Drumm (Sweet Corn Festival Major Prize Chair).

Last month Councilor Rick Thompson suggested a Poker Run as part of the Bi-centennial 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 Elizabeth Butler All voted yes and the motion carried 4-0.

*A copy of the recorded Village of Millersport Council Meeting dated Tuesday January 14, 2025 is available upon request.

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Interested candidates will participate in a training program that covers the fundamentals of hospice care, with specialized instruction tailored to their specific area of interest.

Current training classes began January 22 and will be held every

Wednesday for six weeks at the FAIRHOPE Pickering House, 282 Sells Road in Lancaster. Spring training sessions will commence on April 2 and proceed through the second week of May. Summer and fall training classes are also available later this year. For more information about volunteering or to register for training, contact Twylia Summers, Volunteer Manager, at (740) 657-7077, or visit <https://fairhopehospice.org/volunteer/>.

To learn more about FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, visit www.fairhopehospice.org, or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FairhopeHospice.

Fairhope offers free grief support services to community

LANCASTER, Ohio - 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, or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FairhopeHospice.

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Governor signs highway memorial naming bill - legislation includes two Fairfield County veterans

COLUMBUS - Governor Mike DeWine has signed House Bill 81, which honors fallen military members, first responders, and elected officials. Included in this legislation are Senate Bills 114 and 145, sponsored by State Senator Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster), to honor Lance Corporal James F. Kimple and Corporal David A. Johnston of Fairfield County.

"These road designations will be incredible tributes to two fallen heroes who served our country with distinction," Schaffer said. "It is a privilege to be part of this effort and to have both the Kimple and Johnston families in attendance for the signing. May we all remember our nation's fallen heroes for their selfless sacrifice."

House Bill 81 names a portion of U.S. Route 33 in Fairfield County as the "Lance Corporal James F. Kimple Memorial Highway." Kimple was born in Logan and raised in Carroll. He went on to serve the country as a member of the United States Marine Corps Combat Logistics Battalion 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. Lance Corporal Kimple was killed in action while supporting combat operations in Anbar province, Iraq on May 2, 2008 during his second deployment to Iraq.

The legislation also designates a portion of Refugee Road in Fairfield County as the "Corporal David A. Johnston Memorial Highway." Corporal Johnston was a 1967 graduate of Pickerington High School and was killed in action in South Vietnam on March 3, 1969. He was Pickerington High School's only casualty during the Vietnam War and is the namesake of American Legion Post 283 in Pickerington.

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Planting trees & shrubs for wildlife



Arrowwood Viburnum submitted

by Lauren Vires,
Wildlife & Education Specialist,
Fairfield SWCD

With spring right around the corner, you may be thinking ahead to warmer days spent working in your yard or garden. What might you plant this year? Have you considered adding more trees and shrubs to your landscape? There is a lot that goes into selecting the right tree. You'll want to consider the size and shape of the tree, what light requirements it has, and what soil conditions it will thrive in. You'll also want to consider what your goals are. Trees are a long-term investment as they will often outlive the ones who planted it. Your interest in producing a certain product, providing shade, adding beautiful aesthetics to your yard, or increasing wildlife habitat will benefit generations to come. If benefiting wildlife is your goal, there are many trees and shrubs you can consider that provide excellent food sources and fill habitat needs for a variety of species.

Nutrient dense nuts, fruits, and seeds are very important food sources for many wildlife species. This is especially true during the winter when insects and other food sources are no longer available.

Black tupelo trees, also known as black gum, produce clusters of dark blue berries that ripen around October. These berries are well loved by many bird and mammal species like robins, mockingbirds, woodpeckers, foxes and black bears. It also doesn't hurt that these trees have an attractive pyramidal shape, and striking red- and orange-colored leaves in the fall. It's important to note that



Black Tupelo submitted

these trees are dioecious with some trees producing male flowers and others producing female flowers and only those with female flowers will produce the berries.

Oak trees provide great food sources for wildlife in multiple ways. Acorns that are produced by oak trees are high in fat and protein. Acorns are a favorite of deer, turkey, squirrels, mice, wood ducks, and blue jays. Squirrels will even gather and hide these acorns in a cache that they pull from all winter long. Oak trees also serve as a host for hundreds of different kinds of caterpillars. Many of these caterpillars will be eaten by warblers and other songbirds all summer long, many others will complete their lifecycle and go on to reproduce such as luna and imperial moths.

There are several other trees and shrubs that benefit our native insect and pollinator populations as well.

Spicebush is a shrub that serves as a host for the eastern tiger swallowtail and spicebush swallowtail butterflies, as well as several moth species. When these caterpillars aren't eating away at the leaves of this plant, you might find them in a rolled-up leaf tunnel they've created with their silk. An interesting feature of this plant is the pleasant aroma of their leaves when crushed. It smells like a mix of spices, which is where this plant gets its name. The red berries produced by this shrub are also

great food sources for many bird species.

Arrowwood viburnum is a shrub that is highly adaptable to many growing conditions and can be a great addition to your landscaping. By mid-to-late spring these shrubs will be blooming with creamy white flowers full of nectar that attract a variety of bees and butterflies. It also serves as the host plant for the spring azure butterfly. By mid-to-late summer these shrubs will produce dark berries that attract a variety of birds.

Overwinter, wildlife are in need of shelter that will protect them from the wind, snow, and cold temperatures. Thicket forming shrubs and coniferous trees can provide that as the intertwined branches and pine needles create more of a barrier to the wintry conditions. When shrubs like the red osier dogwood are planted close together, they can create a protective hedge. An added bonus of this plant is its attractive red bark and the berries and flowers it will produce in the spring and summer. The eastern white pine can also provide excellent winter cover but also serves as a great source of seeds for many wildlife species as well as nest cover in the spring. Wildlife that may benefit from these winter covers are chickadees, nuthatches, woodpeckers, rabbits, squirrels, and more.

While this is not an all-inclusive list of the trees and shrubs that benefit wildlife, these are a few species that you will find available in the Fairfield Soil and

Water Conservation District's seedling tree sale. Please visit fairfieldswcd.org for more information and order forms. Orders by check/cash are due to the Fairfield SWCD office by March 7. Orders by credit card can

be placed online at lickingswcd.com by March 21. If you have questions about this year's sale, please call the Fairfield SWCD office at 740-653-8154.



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Fairfield County District
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This program is all about learning to create art in different mediums from simple beginnings. This class will focus on exercises and instruction that you can take with you on your artistic journey. Beginners welcome

Continues on page 9

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Fairfield County Farm Page Has a New Look!

For over 12 years the OSU Extension Farm page was a staple on WLRV 88.9FM Radio programming efforts featuring upcoming events, farm news and 4-H and FFA youth interviews. The Saturday Morning Farm Page was sponsored by several local businesses and groups. The show was hosted by Mike Lamneck and Connie Smith, from OSU Extension. As of December 31, 2024, the 88.9FM WLRV Farm Page no longer exists and the radio station has been sold.

But there is a new opportunity for you to enjoy the Fairfield

County Farm Page each week or anytime you want to listen in via our new YouTube Channel at Fairfield County Farm page. Simply search YouTube for the Fairfield County Farm Page and listen to a recent interview with Lauren Vires of Fairfield SWCD about Bird Feeding, Stan Smith about Cold Weather Livestock Care and Erin Harvey of Keller Market House. All good stuff! Connie Smith and Mike Lamneck are still teaming up to offer this great new programming effort available 24/7 at the click of button for all to enjoy.

Take a minute to check it out on YouTube search for the Fairfield County Farm Page and subscribe!

Fairfield SWCD Scholarship

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.

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.

Eight Easy Exercises for Financial Fitness

Thursday, February 6, 2025 - 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Location: Pickerington Public Library, 201 Opportunity Way, Pickerington, OH 43147

The steps in the budgeting process can be overwhelming if you haven't done them before or if you don't understand how to do them. The tool that will be shared in this session, Eight Easy Steps to Financial Fitness, will help you plan for a budget that will work for you. Come join Shannon Carter from OSU Extension to learn about resources and activities you can use to get your household finances on track. Contact phone: 740-653-5419

Advanced Winter Tree ID Program

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 - 9:30am to 3:00pm

Location: Fairfield County Ag Center, 831 College Ave, Lancaster, OH 43130

Contact email: ohiowoods@osu.edu

Can you identify trees with leaves? What about without leaves? Identifying trees in winter can be a real challenge. This is an advanced class for individuals who are familiar with using a dichotomous key. This one day workshop is designed to give participants in-depth training and practice on identifying trees without the leaves.

The class begins indoors with some introductory identification clues and samples. A guide for identifying trees by fruit and twigs will be utilized for a major portion of the class. The afternoon portion of the class may be outside—weather and time depending. Complete details can be found by visiting woodlandsstewards.osu.edu.

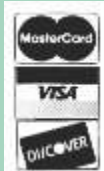
Class fee: \$40. Registration: web.cvent.com/event/cdfb93be-93fc-480c-845e-379811bf70dc/regProcessStep1 by February 12, 2025.

New Library Hours for The Wagnalls Memorial

New hours have started for the Wagnalls Memorial Library for 2025. In response to reduced public funding, the library will be closed on Tuesday evenings. The new library hours are Monday through Wednesday, 10 am to 5 pm; Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm; and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm. The Wagnalls Memorial will still offer all the programs and services that it has been offering. To keep up-to-date on all the events and programs of the library, as well as art and community programs, please visit www.wagnalls.org. For more information about the Wagnalls Memorial Library funding or to make a donation, please email executive director, Deb Silvia, at dsilvia@wagnalls.org or call 614-837-4765 x132.

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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 Falter Hams, Falter Bacon, Turkeys and money shoots Feb 9, 23 March 9, 23 April 27

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For Sale Early 1900's Sleigh \$250. Vintage Coke Cooler \$125. Vintage 1940 Tricycle \$65. Call 740-862-4023

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

Cabbage Roll Maker - Almost New, Automatic, unbelievable, works great, was \$200 new. Need

help taking down Christmas lights? Willing to barter! No morning calls. 440-420-7838

Is Your Home Getting A Little "Overcrowded"? Sell some of your stuff! Place a Towne Crier classified ad at fairfieldtownecrier.com. It's quick, safe and easy.

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.



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OSU Extension Update



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Time to Renew Fertilizer and Pesticide Licenses

Have you checked your fertilizer or pesticide license recently? Do either of those certifications expire this year? Do you need your 3 hours of Pesticide Training and Updates? Or do you need your 1 hour of Fertilizer Update? If you answered, YES to any of those questions, take time now to register for the Private Pesticide and Fertilizer Re-certification classes being offered in February and March at OSU Extension in Fairfield County.

OSU Extension in Fairfield County will be offering two opportunities for Private Pesticide and Fertilizer Re-certification in 2025.

Fertilizer Re-certification* (Cost: \$10)
Monday, February 10, 2025, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Pesticide Re-certification* (Cost: \$25)

Monday, February 10, 2025, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*Please bring your current card with you to the training.

Are Your Stressed by All the NEW YEAR'S "TO DO" projects?

Did you know your diet can help you manage stress? We all experience stress, but the good news is that what you eat can make a big difference! Here are some simple tips to support your well-being:

Add more fresh fruits and veggies to your meals.

Cut back on processed foods and fast food whenever possible.

Be mindful when eating - ask yourself if the food truly satisfies you.

Ditch distractions like your phone or TV during meals and enjoy the moment.

Want to learn more? Search for the Managing Stress with Diet, OSU Family Consumer Sciences Fact Sheet # 1007 at

<https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/fcs-1007>

Be Aware of Bat Behaviors...

Have you heard of White-nose Syndrome? This is a disease that affects bats with the potential of killing them. Symptoms include a white nose and unusual behaviors such as flying in cold weather. White-nose Syndrome gets its name from the characteristic white, fuzzy fungus that coats the nose and wings of hibernating bats. WNS is caused by a cold-loving fungus, *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd). Pd infects the exposed skin on bat's wings during hibernation, which ultimately causes the death of the bats infected. The fungus is irritating and causes bats to wake up more frequently during hibernation, depleting their stored fat reserves. It also weakens the epidermis, skin, on the wings causing abrasions and holes to form. Bats play a crucial role in controlling insects, so losing them impacts all of us!

Here's how you can help protect bats:

Report unusual behavior or signs of White-nose Syndrome to the Ohio Division of Wildlife at wildinfo@dnr.ohio.gov or by calling 1-800-Wildlife

Follow all cave closure rules Avoid entering caves where bats might be hibernating

Learn more here: <https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/W-22>

Subscribe to the Fairfield County Farm Page

Be sure to take minute to check out Fairfield County Farm Page each week or anytime you want to listen in via our new YouTube Channel at Fairfield County Farm page. Simply search YouTube for the Fairfield County Farm Page and listen in. Connie Smith from OSU Extension and retired radio expert, Mike Lamneck are teaming up to offer this great new programming effort available 24/7 at the click of button for all to enjoy. Take a minute to check it out on YouTube search for the Fairfield County Farm Page and subscribe!

Farm Accounting Workshop with Quicken

Wednesday, February 12 & Thursday, February 13 6:00pm to 8:30 pm

Fairfield County Agriculture Center, 831 College Ave, Lancaster, OH 43130

Re-evaluate how your farm keeps financial records in 2025 with Quicken, a simple cash accounting system familiar to farmers and farm families. Each hands-on workshop brings a mobile OSU computer lab and example farm data to an OSU Extension office near you.

Cost: \$65 per farm business (2 people per computer) limited to 10 farm business. A payment link will be provided at registration.

This is a two evening program on February 12 and 13. Call 740-653-5419 or visit go.osu.edu/FCQuicken to register.

Heart Healthy Living Feb. 13, 2025 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Heart-healthy living involves understanding your risk, making healthy choices, and taking steps to reduce your chances of getting heart disease. By taking preventive measures, you can lower your risk of developing heart disease that could lead to a heart attack. You can also improve your overall health and well-being. Come learn about the steps you can take to live a heart-healthy lifestyle.

Register at: fdclibrary.libnet.info/event/11994621.

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Obituary Eric Kayser

Eric Kayser, a beloved son, brother, and friend, passed away on January 14, 2025, at the age of 54. Eric was born on November 13, 1970, in Huntington, West Virginia. He was a wonderful person whose kindness and generosity left an indelible mark on all who knew him. He found joy in helping others, especially his loving mother. Eric was always there for his friends and family with a warm smile and a helping hand.

Eric's quick wit and mischievous sense of humor brought laughter to those around him, and his artistic talent was nothing short of remarkable. A true artist, he had an extraordinary ability to bring his vivid imagination to life through his drawings, leaving behind a legacy of creativity and beauty.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dayton Kayser. He is survived by his devoted mother, Linda Ruth Kayser; his brother, Victor Kayser (Alexandra); and many other cherished relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.

Eric's celebration of life was held on February 1, 2025 at Wallace Funeral Home in Milton, West Virginia. Friends and family came together to honor and remember Eric and the joy he brought to their lives.

In this time of loss, may we find comfort in the love Eric shared with the world and the memories that will live on in our hearts forever.



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The Fairfield County Alcohol, Drug, Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Services Board is

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The ADAMH Board of Fairfield County, provides treatment, recovery and prevention services for anyone in Fairfield County through its 15 community nonprofit agencies:

- Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Southeastern Ohio
- Fairfield Center of Hope
- Fairfield County 2-1-1
- Fairfield County Family & Children First Council
- Integrated Services for Behavioral Health
- Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency
- Lancaster Recovery Services
- The Lighthouse
- Lutheran Social Services Faith Mission of Fairfield County
- Meals on Wheels of Fairfield County
- Mental Health America of Ohio
- Mid-Ohio Psychological Services
- New Horizons Mental Health Services
- Ohio Guidestone
- The Recovery Center

Please visit www.fairfieldadamh.org for more information!

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