



**SECTIONAL CHAMP**  
Pirates' McDaniel earns medalist honor, qualifies to district tourney



**FORECAST**  
▲ 74  
▼ 60



**YOUR NEIGHBOR**

# Stephanie Ketchell: 'It's OK to Not Be OK'

BY SHARYN KOPF  
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

She drew the photo out of the film developing envelope and slid it across the table.

"This," she said, a shimmer of tears in her eyes, "is Kamden. He was 11 years old."

Stephanie Ketchell's story doesn't begin with the freckled redhead with a shy smile, but that is where the trajectory of her life changed.

Though she's lived in Bellefontaine for a decade, Stephanie grew up in Mechanicsburg. At the age of 3, she suffered her first loss when her 10-year-old sister succumbed to the flu.

Too young to understand what it meant at that age, it wasn't until Stephanie entered her early teens that she fell into depression and needed counseling. Those difficulties would prepare her for what was to come.

Stephanie tried college, but it wasn't a good fit. She quit after the first year and joined the workforce. She eventually accepted a job in the group homes at Adriel School in West Liberty, and, she admitted, "I loved my work there."

During that time, Stephanie was involved



Stephanie Ketchell poses with her goldendoodle, Remy. The two recently completed training to be a certified therapy dog team. "He helped me through a difficult time," Stephanie explained, "and now that I'm in a better place, we can go out and do the same for others." (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

with Urbana Church of the Nazarene. And that's when she met her husband, Jamie.

Jamie had two young children. On the day Stephanie married him in 2007, she instantly became mom to Kamden and his older sister.

Kamden enjoyed sports

and making people laugh and telling them about Jesus. He had "the sweetest smile" and loved the Lord, yet the young boy faced mental health issues and would tell his parents he hated his life.

But though Kamden struggled socially and personally, he was in treat-

ment and surrounded by support.

Then, one day in April 2012, Stephanie and Jamie went to Kamden's room and discovered he'd died by suicide.

"You never expect to bury your own children," Stephanie said, her voice breaking. "Though I wasn't his birth mom, I loved him like my own son."

In her grief, Stephanie cherished the support of her community. Even strangers rallied around their family, offering hope and encouragement. And the Ketchells realized they wanted to do something. They needed to serve other people in their situation.

She soon connected with Molly Smith, who worked with the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors, or LOSS, and was chairperson of the Suicide Prevention Coalition (SPC) of Logan and Champaign Counties.

"Molly had a very inspirational role in my healing," Stephanie said, "but she also got us involved, so we could help others."

In 2014, Stephanie began what she called "a new life." Recently single, she moved to Bellefontaine and, though still at Adriel, she took on a new job with what is now TCN Behavioral Health as a mental health case manager and prevention specialist.

She had already joined the LOSS team, which provides crisis response for those who've lost someone to suicide, and she became events coordinator for the SPC. Stephanie goes from place to place and school to school, hoping to reduce the stigma of suicide and let people know they're not alone.

"I love doing this pro-

See OK on Page 3



Ronald Dean Roby, second from the left, and his wife, Connie, are pictured with the Logan County Commissioners, from the left, Mike Yoder, Joe Antram and Mark Robinson, during the flag presentation Tuesday. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

**LOCAL HONOR BESTOWED**

## Marine Corps veteran lauded for dedicated service

BY MANDY LOEHR  
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER



A decorated U.S. Marine Corps veteran and hard-working Quincy resident received a special honor Tuesday, Sept. 24, from the Logan County Commissioners.

Ronald Dean Roby was presented with the U.S. flag that flew over the Logan County Courthouse during August as part of the Distinguished Citizen tribute offered each month.

"Thank you all for thinking of me; this is a truly an honor," the Vietnam War veteran said to the commissioners and those gathered at the commissioner's office for the ceremony. "I appreciate my family being here with me today.

He was joined by his wife of 57 years, Connie, along with his daughter and son-in-law Kimberly and Leonard Taylor, granddaughter Danielle Prater and grandson Lane Shepherd. In addition, Mr. and Mrs. Roby's son, David D. Roby, is an active member of the military, currently serving in the Ohio National Guard near Cincinnati.

During his early years, Mr. Roby lived in several different villages around Logan County, and he graduated from West Liberty-Salem High School in 1965.

Oct. 19, 1966, he entered into service with the Marine Corps, and then in July of 1967, and he and Mrs. Roby were married.

The following year, Mr. Roby participated in the Vietnam Conflict from February through October 1968.

"There were good times, bad times and many times in between," he said of his time in Vietnam.

"The time you gave was so precious," Logan County Commissioner Joe Antram said, joined by Commissioners

See HONORED on Page 3



Eighteen mums, which represent the 18 lives lost to suicide in 2023, surround the HOPE (Hold On Pain Ends) sign at the National Suicide Prevention Month remembrance event on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Ohio Caverns. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

## Board of Elections deputy director details voter registration for BLHS pupils

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

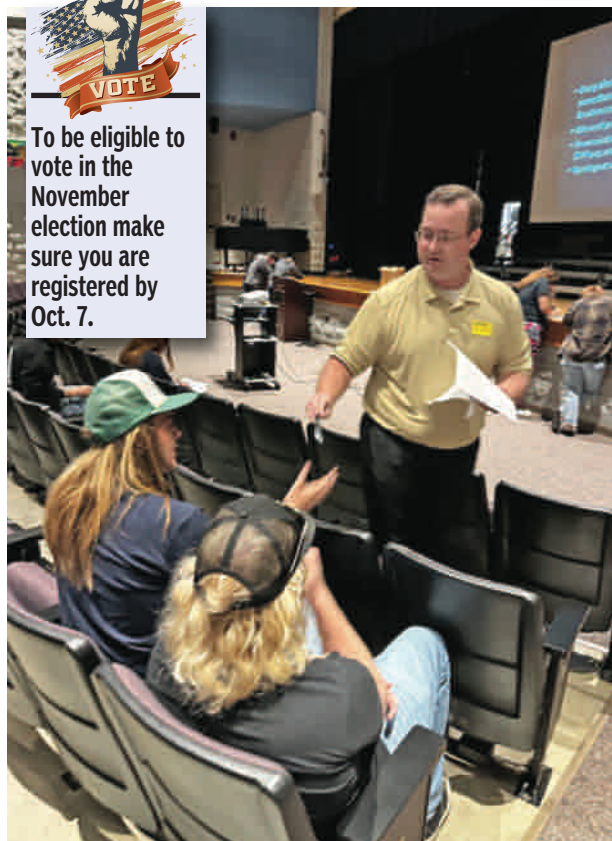
Adam Brannon, Logan County Board of Elections deputy director, met with Benjamin Logan High School juniors and seniors Monday, Sept. 23, to discuss the voter registration process and the importance of participating in the upcoming elections.

This timely presentation highlighted the significance of being an active participant in democracy, particularly for students who will be eligible to vote in the Nov. 5 election.

Brannon provided key information on how students can register to vote and the various voting methods available. Students were reminded that those who are 18 years or older and eligible to vote in the November



To be eligible to vote in the November election make sure you are registered by Oct. 7.



Adam Brannon, Logan County Board of Elections deputy director, provides voter registration information to Benjamin Logan High School students. (BENJAMIN LOGAN PHOTO)

election should make sure they are registered by the deadline of Oct. 7.

**How to Get Registered:**

- Pick up registration forms at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, local library, or from high government teachers; or
- Register online at [olvr.ohiosos.gov](http://olvr.ohiosos.gov).

"We all have a voice. Don't let your chance to make a difference pass you by. Your vote matters," Brannon emphasized to students, encouraging them to take advantage of their right to vote and get involved in shaping the future of their community and country.

Students who were eligible and interested in voting were encouraged to attend the session, with further information about registration available both in person and online.

For additional details on voter registration or upcoming elections, visit [olvr.ohio.sos.gov](http://olvr.ohio.sos.gov).

**TAGLINE ABOVE**



About 30 students, staff members and parents gathered outside Calvary Christian School (CCS) at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 25, for See You at the Pole. This global, annual event, which has been around since 1990, invites students to join in prayer at their school's flagpole, lifting up their friends, families and nation to God. CCS's participation was organized by members of their chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. (EXAMINER PHOTO | KATY JARVIS)



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**Bellefontaine Examiner**  
 www.examiner.org  
 webmaster@examiner.org

**E-MAIL**  
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 sports@examiner.org  
 ads@examiner.org  
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"Nothing is stronger than public opinion; given the facts, nothing is wiser."



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**The Forum**  
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**ABE MARTIN**



"Gardening is good exercise, an' when that's said all is said."

Written prior, 1931, by Kin Hubbard, a world-famous newspaper humorist and father of late T.E. Hubbard, former Examiner owner/publisher

## BELLEFONTAINE BEAT

### POLICE & FIRE

**Unlicensed motorist cited in crash**

Key Paul Jenkins, 52, of Bellefontaine, was cited Tuesday, Sept. 24, for driving under suspension and for failing to stop at a red light following a two-vehicle crash that occurred around 8:15 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Chillicothe Avenue.

Officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department report Jenkins was east-bound on west Chillicothe Avenue when he failed to yield at the stop light and pulled into the path of a northbound vehicle driven by Brent Swartz, 55, of Bellefontaine. Swartz reportedly attempt-

ed to brake but slid on the wet roadway and struck the Jenkins vehicle.

Jenkins said the vehicle belonged to his roommate who was asleep when Jenkins drove it from their residence to Bellefontaine Municipal Court to pay a court fine. He also told officers his mind was elsewhere at the time of crash and said he treated the intersection like a stop sign and proceeded on through before the light turned green.

Officers also learned that Jenkins did not have a valid driver's license at the time of the crash. No injuries were reported. Damage was minor to both vehicles.

## LOGAN COUNTY BEAT

### SHERIFF & HIGHWAY PATROL

**K9 Tega assists in felony traffic stop**

Paul Shoffner, 47, of Belle Center, was arrested on multiple drug charges Sunday, Sept. 22, following a traffic stop executed by deputies from the Logan County Sheriff's Office in the area of State Route 235 near Ash Avenue in Stokes Township.

Deputies on patrol around 3:30 p.m. observed the defendant operating his vehicle northbound in that location with an obstructed license plate and initiated a traffic stop.

Upon making contact with Shoffner, he appeared overly nervous, deputies said. The vehicle Shoffner was driving reportedly had orange wheels sitting at a house in the area within the last week that deputies to have users of narcotics and methamphetamine present.

K9 Officer Tega was requested to conduct an open air search of the vehicle and he returned a positive hit on the vehicle.

A search of the trunk turned up a clear glass pipe and a small bag containing a white crystal-like substance, identified as methamphetamine. The total weight of the methamphetamine was approximately 2.42 grams.

Shoffner was arrested and charged with fifth-degree felony possession of a controlled substance and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was lodged in the Logan County Jail.

**Workplace altercation leads to arrest**

A fight between two Honda of America Manufacturing associates that occurred Tuesday, Sept. 24, in the break room at the East Liberty plant resulted in the arrest of the individuals involved.

Fatina Martin 44, of Bellefontaine, was charged with assault following the confrontation and was lodged in the Logan County Jail.

Deputies from the Logan County Sheriff's Office were dispatched around 11:35 a.m. to the manufacturing plant at 11000 State Route 347 on a report of an assault. The incident reportedly began when Martin told another Honda associate not to sit with the victim because she was two-faced.

A verbal argument ensued which reportedly resulted in Martin claiming that was her last day at work anyway and then eventually Martin slapped the victim multiple times with an open hand.

Martin said the victim got in her face first and she pushed her away. More words were exchanged and Martin said the victim brought up her race and she lost control of her and smacked her.

**No injuries reported in S.R. 117 crash**

Deputies of the Logan County Sheriff's Office responded to a two-vehicle crash about 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, on State Route 117 at State Route 273.

Shawn Detwiler, 62, of Lakeview, was driving a 2018 Dodge Journey south-bound on S.R. 117 and slowed while attempting a left turn onto S.R. 273 when her vehicle was struck from the rear by a southbound 2007 Mercedes-Benz. The Mercedes then traveled off the left side of the road and struck a stop sign along S.R. 273.

Detwiler did not report any injuries. The Mercedes driver, Renee Fathy, 55, of New Haven, Ind., and a passenger in her vehicle, Makenzie Saunders, 17, also of New Haven, were also reportedly uninjured.

All were wearing seat belts, according to the crash report.

Damage was light to both vehicles. Deputies were assisted by Richland Township fire personnel.

Fathy was cited for failure to maintain assured clear distance ahead.

## Ohio sheriff deletes political online post after public outcry

(AP) — After a public outcry and under threat of litigation, an Ohio sheriff has deleted a social media post in which he said people with Kamala Harris yard signs should have their addresses written down so that immigrants can be sent to live with them.

Portage County Sheriff Bruce Zuchowski, a Republican running for reelection, took down a Facebook post that likened people in the country illegally to "human locusts" and said that Harris' supporters should have their addresses noted so that when migrants need places to live, "we'll already have the addresses of their New families

... who supported their arrival!" Zuchowski, a supporter of former President Donald Trump, waded into the immigration debate shortly after Trump and his GOP running mate, Ohio Sen. JD Vance, spread unfounded rumors that Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, were eating household pets.

The sheriff's comment about Harris' supporters — made on his personal Facebook account and his campaign's account — sparked outrage among some Democrats who took it as a threat. His supporters called that reaction overblown, arguing he was making a political point about unrestrained

immigration and that he was exercising his right to free speech.

Nevertheless, the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio demanded that Zuchowski remove the post and threatened to sue him, asserting he'd made an unconstitutional, "impermissible threat" against residents who wanted to display political yard signs.

Zuchowski has not said why he acquiesced, but the ACLU said it was gratified and declared victory.

"The threat of litigation by the ACLU of Ohio, amidst the outrage of Portage County residents amplified by voices across the country, apparently convinced Sheriff Zuchowski.

## LOCAL NOTES

**Last Thursday meal served tonight**

The First United Methodist Church, 201 N. Main St., serves the free Last Thursday meal from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26.

The menu includes: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggie and dessert.

Next month, the Last Thursday meal on Oct. 31 features: goulash ("ghoulash"), veggie, bread and dessert.

**Ben' Logan's Let's Talk School' session planned for Oct. 1**

All members of the Benjamin Logan School Community are invited to the "Let's Talk School" session at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, at the Belle Center Cornerstone Church, 202 E. Main St., Belle Center, for an open discussion about Benjamin Logan Schools.

Topics to be discussed include: District and building-level report cards and financial updates impacting the district.

The superintendent, treasurer and two board of education members will be present to answer your questions, listen to your concerns, and hear your suggestions.

**Solvita Bellefontaine Mary Rutan Hospital Oct. 2 Blood Drive**

Mary Rutan Hospital hosts a community blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 2, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Schedule a blood donation with Solvita (formerly Community Blood Center) on the Donor Time app, by calling (937) 461-3220, or at [www.donortime.com](http://www.donortime.com).

Everyone who registers to donate Sept. 30 through Oct. 26 at any Solvita blood drive is automatically entered in the drawing to win two tickets to the Ohio State vs. Michigan game Nov. 30 in Columbus.

## TIGER ROYALTY CROWNED



Isabella Hardwick, right, was crowned the West Liberty-Salem High School homecoming queen in a ceremony Friday evening, Sept. 20, by 2023-24 queen Brooklyn Wilcoxon. Teagun Miller was crowned homecoming king by 2023-24 King Carter Titus. Teagun is a son of Scott and Meghan Miller and Isabella is the daughter of Keith and Trista Hardwick. (WEST LIBERTY-SALEM PHOTO)

## LAKER HOMECOMING COURT



Indian Lake homecoming court members are, from the left, seated: freshman attendant Bre Wisener, senior attendant Haylee McCafferty, queen Halle Roby, sophomore attendant Quinn Imm and junior attendant Lili Mackesy; and standing: freshman attendant Aaron Rapp, senior attendant Quest Clay, king Bryce Burton, sophomore attendant Tyler Tidwell and junior attendant Joe Cummins. (INDIAN LAKE SCHOOLS PHOTO)

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Indian Lake High School Homecoming Court will represent their school this week during the Community Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally in downtown Russells Point Thursday, Sept. 26, and at the Indian Lake Homecoming Game on Friday night, Sept. 27.

Russells Point Police and Indian Lake Schools invite families, neighbors and all Indian Lake Laker fans and alumni to line Main Street for the 16th annual Homecoming Parade.

This spirit-filled tradition will take place in downtown Russells Point beginning at 6:30 p.m. The parade will feature dozens of floats showcasing Indian Lake student athletes, band members, local law enforcement, student organizations, staff and the 2024 homecoming king and

queen and their court. Groups will hand out candy and other small prizes.

All Indian Lake area businesses are encouraged to decorate their exteriors. The ILHS Student Council and ILHS Football Cheerleaders will present an award for the Business with the Best Spirit.

This year's Homecoming slogan is "Laker Strong-Power Over the Falcons!" and all class floats will feature a superhero theme.

After the parade, Gathering Grounds will host a Pep Rally in the gravel parking lot next to the coffee shop to get the students, players, parents and fans excited about the game against Graham.

Cheerleaders and student council officers will introduce the coaches, the fall sports teams and the Homecoming Court.

## Examiner's new home celebrated



The Bellefontaine Examiner hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house Friday, Sept. 20, with the help of the Logan County Chamber of Commerce at the newspaper's new location, 1213 W. Sandusky Ave., Bellefontaine. Family, friends and elected officials dropped by for the celebration in conjunction with PeakFiber's staff at the shared office space for the two businesses. "Thanks to everyone who attended our ribbon cutting Friday. We truly appreciate the community's support and look forward to continue serving Logan County from our new 'digs,'" said T.J. Hubbard, publisher and general manager. Examiner customers and subscribers can visit the office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE @ [www.examiner.org](http://www.examiner.org)

# HONORED



Quincy area resident Ronald Dean Roby, left, shakes hands with Logan County Commissioner Mike Yoder Tuesday at the flag ceremony. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

## Continued from Page 1

Mark Robinson and Mike Yoder for the presentation. "You are loved and honored today."

Antram listed Mr. Roby's many accolades earned during his service, including the Combat Action Ribbon (Vietnam), Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service medal with 3 Bronze Campaign Stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Ribbon Bar (Gallantry Civil Action Color with palm and frame), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device, Rifle Expert Badge, Marksmanship for Pistol Expert Badge and the Good Conduct Medal.

Following his time in the Marines, Mr. Roby was

employed at a variety of area workplaces, first at Humble Construction, and also at Mid-States Container. He spent 24 years working for Airstream, he noted, and most recently, he worked for MDI, retiring from there this year.

Now he's occupying his time with his favorite hobbies of hunting, woodworking and spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Other elected officials joining in for the ceremony included Logan County Recorder Pat Myers, Logan County Treasurer Rhonda Stafford and Logan County Appointed Clerk of Courts Jackie Prater; along with commissioner's office staff Logan County Administrator David Henry and Administrative Clerk DeDe Doss.

## OBITUARIES

### Michael (Mike) Jerome Dee

Michael Jerome Dee, beloved father, grandfather, brother and friend, passed away Sept. 19, 2024, at the age of 70 in his sleep at his home in Homestead, Fla.

Born Jan. 24, 1954, to the late James E. and Virginia Ritter Dee, Michael and his family relocated to Southern Florida when his children were young.

Michael was known for his kindness, humor and love for his family. He is survived by his son, Michael Jerome Dee Jr., daughter-in-law Nicole Dee, his daughter Erin Byers, his son-in-law John Byers, his sisters Barbara Coons-Coder and Katherine McClure, sister-in-law Gale (Edwin) Dee, and his cherished grandchildren, Roman, Blakely, Chase and Kendall, who brought great joy to his life.

Michael's life was filled with moments of laughter and good times. He spent his time telling stories with friends, fishing and playing pool. He spent his days doing what he loved, being on the water and conversing with all types of people. He will be deeply missed, but forever remembered by all who knew him.

A private celebration of life will be conducted at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made in Mike's honor to a charity of the donor's choice.

Mr. and Mrs. John (Erin) Byers, 6831 S.W. 53 St., Miami, FL, 33155; and Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Nicole) Dee, 6370 S.W. 68 St., Miami, FL, 33143.

### Rosilee A. 'Aunt Rosie' McClain

Rosilee A. "Aunt Rosie" McClain, 55 of Bellefontaine passed away suddenly Saturday, September 21, 2024 at Mary Rutan Hospital.

Rosie was born October 29, 1968 in Bellefontaine to the late Robert Arthur and Deborah R. (Argabright) McClain.

Rosie enjoyed flowers, the outdoors and Mt. Dew. She also loved spending time with her family, especially her kids and grandkids. She was a loving mother, grandmother, companion, sister, aunt and friend. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her loving daughters, Chalsea (Michael) McClain and Kimberlee (Kyle) McClain; grandkids, Logan, Blake, Peyton, Taylor and Kaylee; sister, lifelong companion of 25+ years, Greg Young; Deborah McClain; brother, Art (Crystal) McClain; numerous nieces and nephews; many special and dear friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; son, Travis Stayrook; brother, Bobby McClain.

A Celebration of Life will take place Friday, September 27, at Jennings Farley & Seeley Funeral Home & Crematory from 2 to 4 p.m. Per Rosie's request there will be no formal service.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.jenningsfarley.com](http://www.jenningsfarley.com).

### C. David Vogel

C. David Vogel, 85, beloved family man and attorney, passed away on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at his home in Marion, Ohio. David was preceded in death by his parents, Ardel Charles (Buck) Vogel and Jesse Faye (Wessel) Vogel.

Born January 5, 1939, in O' Fallon, Illinois, David graduated from Southern Illinois University with an English degree in 1961. David taught high school English and coached baseball while studying law at Saint Louis University.

Upon receiving his Juris Doctor degree in 1967, David began his law career in East Saint Louis, Illinois. In 1970, David moved his family to Pontiac, Illinois, where he practiced law and served as the elected State's Attorney in Livingston County from 1976 to 1982. In 1982, David and his family relocated to Bellefontaine, Ohio. David moved to LaFeria, Texas in 1995 where he practiced law until 2021 when he moved back to Ohio to "retire". David loved practicing law and saw the beauty of our country's rich history embedded in it; and his vanity license plate, CDV LAW, embodied his devotion. David was an avid collector and a master at trivia games. He loved sports, especially his holy trinity, the Green Bay Packers, the Boston Red Sox, and the Ohio State Buckeyes. He was known as the Memorabilia Man for good reason. Seldom was he seen, barring weddings and funerals, without a sports jersey that came with an associated story. His ability to recall names, dates, and occurrences was truly uncanny.

Storytelling was an art for David and kept people tuned in, particularly on his many fishing excursions to Baraboo, Wisconsin. David maintained a close relationship with his children and stepchildren, and proudly attended events to cheer on his grandchildren. David lived a robust life full of laughter, thought, and emotion.

David is survived by his wife of 40 years, Kay (Rehrer) Vogel; his former wife and lifelong friend, Karen (Jackson) Medaris; his children, Jeffrey (Teresa) Vogel, Jason (Ann) Vogel, Erika (Colby) Furlong; his stepchildren, Natalie (Mike) Justice, Monty Cummins (Michelle McIntire), Brian Cummins (Trayce Winegarner); his grandchildren, Jessica Goggin, Justin Vogel, Adam Vogel (Stephanie Caracciolo), Matthew Vogel, Meghan (Chris) Vogel-McCormick, Ella Furlong, Hudson Furlong; his step-grandchildren, Nikita (Evan) Redding, Kylie (Johnny) Schorr, Kara (Andrew) Sutherland, Brison Cummins, Devin (Shelby) Cummins, Jocelyn Cummins; his great-grandchildren, Ensey Goggin, Emma Goggin; and his step-great grandchildren, Brayden Redding, Owen Redding, Audrena Redding.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024, from 4 to 7 p.m. at The Syndicate, 213 S. Main St., Bellefontaine, Ohio.

# Huge Hurricane Helene is expected to hit Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — An enormous Hurricane Helene swamped parts of Mexico on Wednesday as it churned on a path forecasters said would take it to Florida as a major storm with a surge that could swallow entire homes, a chilling warning that sent residents scrambling for higher ground, closed schools, and led to states of emergency throughout the Southeast.

The storm's center was about 110 miles (175 kilometers) northeast of Cozumel, Mexico, on Wednesday, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said, and Helene was expected to intensify and grow as it crosses the Gulf of Mexico.

"Just hope and pray that everybody's safe," said Connie Dillard, of Tallahassee, as she shopped at a grocery store with thinning shelves of water and bread in preparation for hitting the highway out of town.

The hurricane ranks in the 90th percentile for its sheer size, and it could create a storm surge as high as 18 feet (5 1/2 meters) in places, forecasters said. The fast-moving storm's wind

and rain could penetrate far inland, even as it weakens after landfall in Florida late Thursday, authorities warned.

One insurance firm, Gallagher Re, is expecting billions of dollars in damage in the U.S. Around 18,000 linemen from out of state have staged in Florida, ready to help restore power. Airports in St. Petersburg, Tallahassee and Tampa were planning to close on Thursday, and 62 hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities evacuated their residents Wednesday.

Helene became a hurricane Wednesday morning and was moving at nearly 10 mph (17 kph) with top sustained winds of 80 mph (130 kph) later in the afternoon, but it was expected to intensify over the warm, deep waters of the Gulf. Forecasters said it should become a major Category 3 or higher hurricane Thursday with winds above 110 mph (177 kph). Its center is projected to hit Florida's Big Bend area, the curving stretch of Gulf coastline in the state's north.

In Tallahassee, where stations had started to run

out of gas, 19-year-old Florida A&M student Kameron Benjamin filled sandbags with his roommate to protect their apartment before evacuating. Their school and Florida State shut down.

"This hurricane is heading straight to Tallahassee, so I really don't know what to expect," Benjamin said.

As Big Bend residents battened down their homes, many saw the ghost of 2018's Hurricane Michael. That storm rapidly intensified and crashed ashore as a Category 5 that laid waste to Panama City and parts of the rural Panhandle.

"People are taking heed and hightailing it out of there for higher ground," said Kristin Korinko, a Tallahassee resident who serves as the commodore of the Shell Point Sailboard Club, on the Gulf Coast about 30 miles (48 kilometers) south of Tallahassee.

For toughened Floridians who are used to hurricanes, Robbie Berg, a national warning coordinator for the hurricane center, warned: "Please do not compare it to other storms you may have experienced in the past."

# OK

## Continued from Page 1

gram because I get to talk to students, not just in a classroom but one-on-one," Stephanie said, the truth of the statement obvious on her face. "I'll never know the impact that's had, but I have an opportunity to let someone hear their life has a purpose.

"We often don't know the why, which is what makes the loss complicated. Since my teen years I've had moments where I thought, 'I can't do this anymore.' Life is hard. But God has been so faithful to me. He's given me people who have lifted me up, strengthened and encouraged me."

September has been a busy month for Stephanie and SPC as it's National Suicide Prevention Month. Part of that is a remembrance event that takes place every September at the Ohio Caverns. Stephanie has been involved in it for 12 years and coordinated it for the last nine.

This year, it was held on Sept. 14. It included a

one-mile walk/run, a 5K, a kids fun run and a color run, followed by the closing ceremony.

"A lot of emotions are attached to this," Stephanie concluded. "We were adopted into a family we never wanted to be a part of, but it brings us together ... and we have become family now."

Through it all Stephanie has learned a powerful but simple message: "It's OK to not be OK. There's hope. There's help. There's healing."

If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide, the National Suicide Prevention lifeline is available 24/7. Just call or text

988.

A local survivors of suicide support group meets on the second Thursday of every month at TCN Behavioral Health, entrance F, 1521 N. Detroit Street, West Liberty, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

You can connect with Stephanie through the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services Board at [mhdas.org](http://mhdas.org) or call (937) 631-2803.

For more information about the support group or to get involved with the SPC, contact Ceci Yelton at the MHDAS board by visiting [mhdas.org](http://mhdas.org) or calling (937) 465-1045.

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## RAIDERS VISIT FARM SCIENCE REVIEW



Seventy members of Benjamin Logan FFA recently attended the 2024 Farm Science Review in Madison County. The juniors attended a seminar about turning your SAE project into a small business, while freshman and sophomores completed a goose chase scavenger hunt. Seniors collected different items for adviser Lora James. "I was glad that I got to learn more about the beef industry," said senior Micah Ackley. "I enjoyed learning about things that I never knew anything about and doing the virtual welding," said sophomore Peyton Kindle. (BENJAMIN LOGAN FFA PHOTO)

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# BELLEFONTAINE SERVING LOGAN COUNTY SINCE 1891 Examiner

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

To make updates contact the Newsroom at (937) 592-3060 or news@examiner.org

## BELLEFONTAINE

**Auburn Avenue Baptist Church**  
Rev. Settle Townsend, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bible study, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

**Bellefontaine Apostolic Temple**  
500 Lawrence St.  
(937) 539-0906  
Praise worship, Sunday school, 10 a.m. Evangelistic service, 6 p.m. Sunday Bible study, 7 p.m. Tuesday.

**Bellefontaine Church of Christ**  
109 Township Road 217  
(next to Lee's Chicken)  
(937) 593-2938  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. Bible study; Wednesday: 6 p.m.

**Bellefontaine Open Bible**  
516 Eastern Ave.  
(937) 844-6721  
Justin DuVall, pastor  
Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
1140 Rush Ave. (Associated with GARBC)  
Jeffery D. Willetts, pastor;  
Brandon Slifer, worship pastor; Josh Willetts, youth/family pastor  
9:15 a.m. Discipleship class, 10:30 a.m. Worship; Awana 6:30 p.m. Student Ministries 6:30 p.m.; Prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Wednesday; Deaf ministry.

**Christ's Covenant International**  
400 Ludlow Rd.  
Shelley Stephenson, pastor  
Don Patton, associate pastor  
Adult Sunday school, 9:15 a.m. Sunday worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study 6 p.m.

**Christ Our King Church**  
1325 County Road 9  
(937) 599-4464  
Robin Ricks, pastor  
Sunday Supper Church, 8:45 a.m., worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m.

**Church of Christ in Christian Union**  
1669 County Road 11  
(937) 404-4002  
Rev. Mike Phillips  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**  
1603 Road 183 (extension of E. Brown)  
(937) 592-6576  
Jason F. Miller, president  
Testimony & Sacrament, 10 a.m., Primary & Sunday school 11:20 a.m. Priesthood, Relief Society & Young Woman 12:10 p.m.



143 W. Chillicothe Ave.  
Bellefontaine, OH 43311  
(937) 592-4896



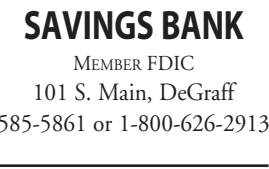
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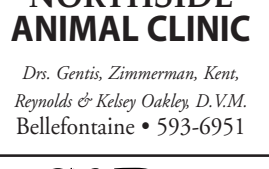
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**Church of the Brethren**  
534 S. Detroit St.  
(937) 599-2251  
Mike Roberts, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Church of the Nazarene**  
345 Washington St.  
Kenneth Neighoff, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Evangelistic service, 6 p.m. Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Common Ground Church**  
613 Hamilton St.  
Sunday worship gathering: 10 a.m. cgchurch.net; fb.com/cgchurchteam

**Covenant Fellowship**  
136 W. Columbus St.  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; worship 10:30 a.m.; Bible study, 7:15 p.m. Wednesday.

**First Assembly of God**  
2833 S. U.S. Route 68  
(937) 593-4778  
John Musgrave, lead pastor  
Sunday: 10:35 a.m. Worship & Children's Church; Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. adult Bible studies, youth and children's ministry.

**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
215 E. Sandusky  
Rev. Kevin Greenwald, minister  
Sunday school and Cafe Grace Praise and Worship led by Rev. Greenwald, 9:15 a.m.; Grace Care ages 1-4, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday school 10 a.m.; sanctuary worship, 10:45 a.m. bellefontaine.fc.org

**First Church of God**  
1000 E. Brown Ave.  
(937) 592-2546  
Gary Brown, lead pastor  
Ray Headings, senior adult pastor  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school; 10:30 a.m. worship service; Wednesday, 6 p.m. youth meeting and 6:30 p.m. prayer meeting, Bible study.

**First Friends Church**  
808 W. Columbus Ave.  
(937) 592-9461  
Matthew Sandlin, pastor  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.; InSight, Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
208 W. Sandusky Ave.  
Larry Novak, pastor  
(937) 592-7699  
(Dial-a-Prayer, 593-3531)  
Sunday: coffee/fellowship 9 a.m.; worship 10 a.m.; Bible Study: Monday 1:30 p.m. & Wednesday 7 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church**  
201 N. Main St.  
Rev. Joe Ziraldo, pastor  
Traditional worship, 9 a.m. (broadcast at 11 a.m. on WBKO 98.3 FM radio); contemporary service and Children's Church, 10:30 a.m.

**First United Presbyterian Church**  
117 N. Main St.  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., Worship service 10:45 a.m. streaming weekly through Facebook and YouTube

**Grace A.M.E. Church**  
233 S. Main St.  
Rev. Kenneth Kelley, pastor  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Grace Chapel**  
Centre City Mall, Downtown Bellefontaine  
Sunday, 6 p.m. Wednesday, 6 p.m.

**Greater Christ Temple**  
616 W. Chillicothe Ave.  
Karen Cane, pastor  
Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship, noon; Bible study, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday; Brotherhood, 10 a.m., Women's prayer, 11 a.m.; Saturday; last Sunday of month, prayer 6 p.m.

**Gretna Brethren Church**  
1564 S. Township Road 46  
Rob Starnes, pastor  
9 a.m. discipleship classes for children, adults; 10 a.m. praise and worship.

**Hillcrest Baptist Church, S.B.C.**  
1505 S. Main St.  
Daniel McCarty, senior pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. FaithWeaver Friends, 6:30-8 p.m. Childcare provided during worship. Radio message 9 a.m. Sunday, 1390 WBLL-AM.

**Hi-Point Church of Christ**  
1815 State Route 540  
John James, Minister  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Lunch Bunch: 1st & 3rd wednesdays at 1 p.m.; Rocket Club: 1st-5th-grade, 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

**Hi-Point Free Will Baptist Church**  
311 County Road 11  
(937) 935-5752  
Scott Wisniewski, pastor  
Bill Jones, assistant pastor  
Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.; Bible study, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Hopewell Church**  
Global Methodist  
3746 U.S. Route 68 N.  
(937) 539-6351  
Cynthia Defibaugh, pastor  
Worship 9:30 a.m., Wheelchair accessible. Live streamed on Facebook

**Jehovah's Witness, Kingdom Hall**  
1801 Wright St.  
(937) 599-5483  
Charles Taylor, secretary  
Sunday: Public meeting 10 a.m.; Watchtower 10:35 p.m. Thursday: Congregational Bible Study, 7:30 p.m. Theocratic School, 8:05 p.m. Service meeting, 8:35 p.m.

**Jubilee Mennonite Church**  
820 W. Sandusky Ave. (Lutheran Community Services)  
937-592-8101  
June-August, Worship 10 a.m.; September - May, Sunday school 9:30 a.m. & Worship at 10:45 a.m. FB@jubileemno

**Pilgrim Fellowship, Congregational & Reformed**  
(937) 592-6387  
Dr. Marshall Pierson, pastor  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Meeting at Shawnee Springs, 400 Kristina Dr.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
1910 County Road 130  
Saturday afternoon services, Bible study hour 12:50 p.m. Worship service 2:30 p.m.

**St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
316 E. Patterson Ave.  
Fr. Shawn Landenwitch  
Mass: Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.; Tuesday, 8 a.m.; First, third Thursdays, 6:15 p.m. followed by Adoration and Confession.

**Solid Rock Baptist**  
1470 W. Sandusky  
(937) 844-1400  
James Frost, pastor  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday: Bible study, 7 p.m. solidrockbaptistchurch.info

**Vineyard Christian Fellowship**  
624 Township Road 55  
(937) 593-0981  
Eric Cook, pastor  
Worship, Children's Worship & Childcare, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.; Student/Children ministries, Small Groups, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. vcfbellefontaine.org

**Wake Up The World Ministries**  
600 E. Brown Ave.  
(567) 674-2722  
Terry Robinson, pastor  
Sunday worship and children's church, 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

**Walnut Grove Methodist**  
David Moore, pastor  
Corner of county roads 12 & 26  
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday school, 10 a.m.

## BELLE CENTER

**Belle Center Church of Christ**  
Corner of State and Walnut St.  
(937) 464-2611  
Kris Langstaff, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible study.

**Belle Center Cornerstone Church**  
Kevin Smith, pastor  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Reformed Presbyterian Church**  
Philip H. Pockras, pastor  
For time and place of meetings, call 464-6851; listen at sermonaudio.com/bc-rpcna; prayer meeting 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. bcrpchurch.org

**United Presbyterian Church**  
202 Walnut St.  
(937) 464-2695  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 worship.

## DeGRAFF

**Cornerstone Fellowship of DeGraff**  
(937) 585-5511  
Mike Mitchell, pastor  
Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Junior Church, 10:30 a.m.; Senior lunch 11:15 a.m. Thursday. cornerstonedegrass.org

**DeGraff Baptist Church**  
State Route 235  
(304) 415-1728  
Rev. Bruce Keeling  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wed.: Prayer and Bible study, 7 p.m. degraffbaptistchurch.com

**Logansville Community Church**  
(937) 441-1473  
Dana Kidder, pastor  
Sunday: 9:30 Sunday school; 10:45 a.m. worship. logansvillechurch.net;

**New Beginnings Community Church**  
127 N. Main  
Mark Weaver, pastor  
Sunday worship and praise, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Bible study, 7 p.m.

**Stony Creek Church**  
Harold Liess, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Bible study/prayer meeting and youth group, 7 p.m. Wednesday. stonycreekcob.com

## EAST LIBERTY

**East Liberty Church of Christ**  
Dr. Jason E. Robson, pastor  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.

**East Liberty Community Church**  
3045 Main St.  
Worship: 11 a.m.

**North Greenfield Church**  
9609 County Road 2  
Worship: 9:45 a.m. Sunday school, 11 a.m.

## HUNTSVILLE

**The Cornerstone Church at Huntsville**  
6611 Fruit St.  
(937) 686-7101  
Bryan Meadows, pastor  
Ashley Sloan, youth pastor  
Worship, 10 a.m.; Burnt Bagel Cafe, 9:15 a.m.; live stream worship and archived worship services online; staffed nursery, toddler programs; Junior Church programs. cornerstonehuntsville.com

**Huntsville Presbyterian Church**  
6490 Fruit St.  
(937) 686-2131  
Ben Beres, pastor  
Church school, 9 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m. Children's Church, 10:15 a.m. huntsvillepresbyterianchurch.com

## LAKEVIEW

**Christ United Methodist Church**  
110 Brown & State Route 235  
(937) 843-3029  
David Moore, pastor  
10:15 a.m.; coffee and doughnuts, 10:45 a.m., worship, 10:15 a.m.

**Hope Harbor Baptist Church**  
8330 S. R. 235  
(937) 935-9314  
Fred Albert, pastor  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday; carry-in dinner and youth group, 6 p.m. Wednesday.

**Indian Lake Baptist Church**  
225 W. Lake  
(937) 596-6880  
Donald D. Faulder, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.

**Indian Lake Northside Church of the Nazarene**  
13699 N. State Route 235  
(937) 843-5946  
Tim Moebs, pastor  
Sunday school, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m.; Sunday evening service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday service, 7 p.m.; nursery provided.

## LEWISTOWN

**Lewistown-Trinity United Methodist Church**  
8088 County Road 54  
(937) 686-8355  
Rod Brower, pastor  
Sunday school 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; wheelchair lift available. LTUMC.com

## MIDDLEBURG

**Middleburg Community Church**  
(937) 666-2844 or (937) 666-4694  
Carolyn Christman, pastor  
9:30 a.m. worship; 10:45 Sunday school.

## PICKRELLTOWN

**Monroe Community**  
6458 County Road 29, West Liberty  
(937) 935-8293  
Rob Kilgore, pastor  
Sunday School, 9 a.m.; last Sunday Friends and Family breakfast; 10 a.m. worship; Bible study first three Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Find them on Facebook

## QUINCY

**Buckeye Gospel Barn**  
8291 State Route 235  
(937) 585-6090  
Jerry & Bobbi Allen, pastors  
Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Kids class, 10 a.m.

**Quincy Chapel Church of Christ**  
New Street and Miami Street  
(937) 465-4786  
Worship services, 10:30 a.m. with junior church; Sunday school 6 p.m.

**Quincy Methodist Church**  
Mark Vincent, pastor  
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. Ramp, hearing assisted devices available; Wednesday 6:30 p.m., choir practice; Five Loaves Food Pantry for Riverside Local school District residents served 5 to 7 p.m. third Wednesday.

## RIDGEWAY

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30

**First Church of God**  
Tim Kohl, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:35 a.m. and 6 p.m. ;Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Bible study, prayer meeting jfcog.com

**Ridgeway United Methodist Church**  
Mike Raypholtz, pastor  
Adult Bible Study 9 a.m., Church 10a.m.

## RUSHSYLVANIA

**Big Springs Methodist Church**  
John Rozewicz, pastor  
Sunday school, 10 a.m., Worship, 11

**Church of Christ**  
(937) 935-9651  
office@rushchurch.com  
John Watkins, senior pastor;  
Cody Caudill, student pastor;  
Ashlee Phillips, children's minister  
Sunday 9:30 worship, adults, youth (7th-9th grade), nursery and children's classes; 11:30 worship, adults, youth (10th-12th grade), nursery and children's classes rushchurch.com

**First United Presbyterian Church**  
Rev. David Girbert, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30

**United Methodist Church**  
April Phillips, pastor  
Rushsylvania: Sunday School: 8:30 a.m., Worship: 9:30 a.m.

## RUSSELLS POINT

**Galilee Lutheran Church**  
301 Lincoln Blvd.  
(937) 843-3906  
galileeoffice@embarqmail.com.  
Karen Torrez, pastor  
Coffee fellowship 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion 10 a.m. Sunday; Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m. Tuesday; Community Outreach center homework help, 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

**Indian Lake Community Church/ Lighthouse of Indian Lake**  
(937) 843-5636  
Ministry team: Jim Ellington, Karen Blackburn, Dave Hafenbrack and Tara Cascioli  
10 a.m. traditional service. 11 a.m. contemporary service. Children's programs are offered during both services. No nursery care. Good Samaritan-Outreach program, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Thursdays; free community meal, 5-6:30 p.m. last Wednesdays of the month (at the Lighthouse); Ignite program 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Lookout youth center). indianlakecommunitychurch.org

**Quest Community Church**  
Indian Lake  
8081 State Route 366  
(937) 524-9821  
Nick Shaner, pastor  
Contemporary worship and children's ministry 10 a.m. Sunday. questindianlake.com

**Russells Point Church of God**  
430 State Route 708  
(937) 843-3297  
Worship, 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school 9:30 a.m., 6 p.m. Bible study, 7 p.m. Wednesday.

**St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church**  
464 Madison Ave.  
(937) 843-3127  
Rev. Shawn Landenwitch, Pastor  
Sunday Mass Schedule -Saturdays 6 p.m. and Sundays 8 a.m.; additional 10 a.m. Sundays Memorial Day through Labor Day/ Weekday Mass - 8 a.m. Wednesdays and Fridays; 2nd and 4th Thursdays 6:15 p.m., followed by adoration/reconciliation; reconciliation by appointment also.

## WEST LIBERTY

**Bethel Mennonite Church**  
416 Washington St.  
Rebecca Kauffman, pastor  
Worship, 10:40 a.m. bethelchurchwl.org

**First Church of God**  
315 Liberty St.  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, children's church, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Grace Chapel**  
Zach Dudenhofer, pastor  
Sunday. Sunday School, 9 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

**McKees Creek Chapel**  
(937) 887-8080  
Chris Starbuck, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove Mennonite Church**  
1525 Mennonite Church Road  
(937) 465-4749  
Alex Dye, lead pastor  
Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. (livestream available) church@oakgrovemennonite.org

**Quest Community Church**  
110 South St.  
(937) 465-0141  
Jessica Dolan, interim assoc. pastor  
Sunday: 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.; contemporary worship and Quest Kids children's ministry; Student Ministry Sunday 6-7:30 p.m. questchurchonline.com

**South Union Mennonite Church**  
56 State Route 508  
(937) 465-6085  
Matthew Williams, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. southunionchurch.org.

**Union Chapel Community Church**  
State Route 287  
Jeremy Sarver, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Connection Group.

**United Church of Christ, Congregational Christian**  
212 W. Newell  
(937) 465-2761  
Karen Griswold, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**United Methodist Church**  
Rod Brower, pastor  
Traditional worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. F:westlibertyunitedmethodistchurch

**United Presbyterian Church**  
Keith Landis, pastor  
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

## WEST MANSFIELD

**Baptist Church**  
Sam Newell, Interim pastor  
Sunday School: 9 a.m. church service: 10 a.m.

**Byhalla Evangelical Friends Church**  
31654 State Route 31  
(937) 982-3561  
Jim Gardner, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Children's church, 10:30 a.m. nursery available; Every other Monday, Hour of Power Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; Free Love Supper, 5-6:30 p.m. last Saturday of month.

**Church of Christ**  
Jack Knox, minister  
Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m.

**Heart of God Ministries**  
20529 Treaty Line Road  
Jane and Junior Hileman, pastors  
Worship, 10:15 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday.

**West Mansfield Methodist Church**  
(937) 355-2401  
Rev. John Rozewicz  
Sunday school, 10:45 a.m. Worship, 9:30 a.m.

**York Center United Methodist**  
28170 State Route 739  
April Phillips, pastor  
Worship, Sunday 9:15 a.m.

## ZANESFIELD

**Goshen Friends Church**  
5527 County Road 153  
Wayne Downing, pastor  
Sunday: Worship 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 11 a.m.; Wednesday: Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m. goshefriendschurch.org

**New Salem Lutheran Church**  
6646 E. State Route 540  
Worship, 9:30 a.m.

**United Methodist Church**  
April Phillips, pastor  
Corner of Columbus & Main Streets  
Blended worship, 11 a.m., Sunday school, 10 a.m. zanesfieldumc.org

**Zanesfield Community Chapel**  
Keith Matthews, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Bible study, 7 p.m. Thursday.

**Other Churches**  
Harper Community Church  
3679 N. County Road 25, Bellefontaine  
(470) 345-8506  
Anthony Davis, pastor  
Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school 10:30 a.m.

**Millcreek Church of Christ**  
24538 Lunda Road, Raymond  
Jack Knox, minister  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m., 7 p.m.

**Mt. Carmel Friends Church**  
3470 Kennard-Kingscreek Road, Cable  
(937) 652-3252  
Jerome Proudman, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer service, youth program and children's program, 7 p.m. mtcarmelfriends.com

**Mt. Tabor**  
Worship, 9 a.m., Church school follows.

**Mt. Tabor Church of God**  
Nathan Price, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Wednesday: Prayer meeting, 7 p.m., Friday: Young people, 6:30 p.m.

**Muchinippi Church**  
Edward Shady, pastor  
Worship, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Wed.: Bible study, 7:30 p.m.

**New Hampshire Church of the Nazarene**  
Curtis Randolph, pastor  
Bible school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thurs.: Prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Teens and Junior services, 7:30 p.m.

**New Hampshire United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Hal Argabright, pastor  
Sunday school, 9:15 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Bible study, 7 p.m. Wednesday.

**New Richland Baptist Church**  
8651 County Road 39, Belle Center  
Steve Smith, pastor  
Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship, singing and praising; Wednesday: Prayer meeting, 6 p.m.

**Philadelphia**



# Entertainment

## Can AI make video games more immersive? Some studios turn to AI-fueled NPCs for more interaction

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For decades, video games have relied on scripted, stilted interactions with non-player characters to help shepherd gamers in their journeys. But as artificial intelligence technology improves, game studios are experimenting with generative AI to help build environments, assist game writers in crafting NPC dialogue and lend video games the improvisational spontaneity once reserved for table-top role-playing games.

In the multiplayer game "Retail Mage," players help run a magical furniture store and assist customers in hopes of earning a five-star review. As a salesperson — and wizard — they can pick up and examine items or tell the system what they'd like to do with a product, such as deconstruct chairs for parts or tear a page from a book to write a note to a shopper.

A player's interactions with the shop and NPCs around them — from gameplay mechanics to content and dialogue creation — are fueled by AI rather than a pre-determined script to create

more options for chatting and using objects in the shop.

"We believe generative AI can unlock a new kind of gameplay where the world is more responsive and more able to meet players at their creativity and the things that they come up with and the stories they want to tell inside a fantasy setting that we create for them," said Michael Yichao, cofounder of Jam & Tea Studios, which created "Retail Mage."

The typical NPC experience often leaves something to be desired. Pre-scripted interactions with someone meant to pass along a quest typically come with a handful of chatting options that lead to the same conclusion: players get the information they need and continue on. Game developers and AI companies say that by using generative AI tech, they aim to create a richer experience that allows for more nuanced relationships with the people and worlds that designers build.

Generative AI could also provide more opportunities for players to go off-script and create their own stories if

designers can craft environments that feel more alive and can react to players' choices in real-time.

Tech companies continue to develop AI for games, even as developers debate how, and whether, they'll use AI in their products. Nvidia created its ACE technologies to bring so-called "digital humans" to life with generative AI. Inworld AI provides developers with a platform for generative NPC behavior and dialogue. Gaming company Ubisoft said last year that it uses Ghostwriter, an in-house AI tool, to help write some NPC dialogue without replacing the video game writer.

A report released by the Game Developers Conference in January found that nearly half of developers surveyed said generative AI tools are currently being used in their workplace, with 31% saying they personally use those tools. Developers at indie studios were most likely to use generative AI, with 37% reporting use the tech.

Still, roughly four out of five developers said they worry about the ethical use of

AI. Carl Kwoh, Jam & Tea's CEO, said AI should be used responsibly alongside creators to elevate stories — not to replace them.

"That's always been the goal: How can we use this tool to create an experience that makes players more connected to each other?" said Kwoh, who is also one of the company's founders. "They can tell stories that they couldn't tell before."

Using AI to provide NPCs with endless things to say is "definitely a perk," Yichao said, but "content without meaning is just endless noise." That's why Jam & Tea uses AI — through Google's Gemma 2 and their own servers in Amazon — to give NPCs the ability to do more than respond, he said. They can look for objects as they're shopping or respond to other NPCs to add "more life and reactivity than a typically scripted encounter."

"I've watched players turn our shopping experience into a bit of a dating sim as they flirt with customers and then NPCs come up with very realistic responses," he said. "It's

been really fun to see the game react dynamically to what players bring to the table."

Demonstrating a conversation with a NPC in the game "Mecha BREAK," in which players battle war machines, Ike Nnole said that Nvidia has made its AI "humans" respond faster than they previously could by using small language models. Using Nvidia's AI, players can interact with the mechanic, Martel, by asking her to do things like customize the color of a mech machine.

"Typically, a gamer would go through menus to do all this," Nnole, a senior product marketing manager at Nvidia said. "Now it could be a much more interactive, much quicker experience."

Artificial Agency, a Canadian AI company, built an engine that allows developers to bring AI into any part of their game — not only NPCs, but also companions and "overseer agents" that can steer a player towards content they're missing. The AI can also create tutorials to teach players a skill that they

are missing so they can have more fun in-game, the company said.

"One way we like to put it is putting a game designer on the shoulder of everyone as they're playing the game," said Alex Kearney, cofounder of Artificial Agency. The company's AI engine can be integrated at any stage of the game development cycle, she said.

Brian Tanner, Artificial Agency's CEO, said scripting every possible outcome of a game can be tedious and difficult to test. Their system allows designers to act more like directors, he said, by telling characters more about their motivation and background.

"These characters can improvise on the spot depending on what's actually happening in the game," Tanner said.

It's easy to run into a game's guardrails, Tanner said, where NPCs keep repeating the same phrase regardless of how players interact with them. But as AI continues to evolve, that will change, he added.

### COMICS

**MODERATELY CONFUSED** Jeff Stahlter



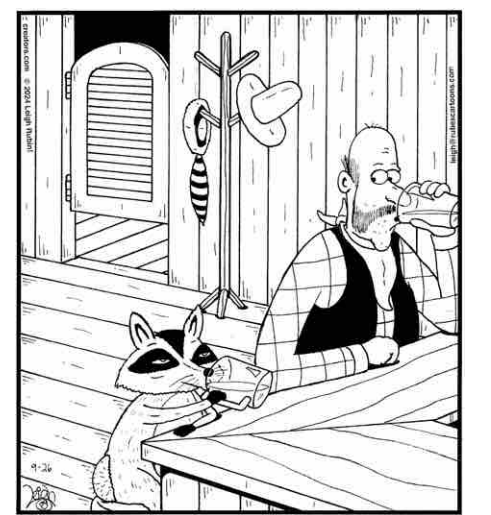
**DENNIS THE MENACE** Hank Ketcham



**REALITY CHECK** Dave Whamond



**RUBES** Leigh Rubin



**PEANUTS** Charles Schulz



**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE** Stephan Pastis



### CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 "Mamma Mia" group

5 Kimono ties

9 Harpy

12 Beholds

13 Mentor

14 Sense of self

15 Tech workstations

17 Conducted

18 Complete

19 Where the Styx flows

21 Baseball great

22 Young

22 Caught sight of

24 Folk singer

27 Year in Cancún

28 "The Voice" coach

31 Kanga's kid

32 Prohibit

33 MSN rival

34 Go sight-seeing

36 '50s president

37 Enfold

38 Peculiar

40 Circle ratio

41 "Top Chef" host

43 Mouthed off to

47 Paul Newman film

48 Just swell

51 Com-mo-tion

52 Skin care brand

53 Garfield's pal

54 Comic Notaro

55 Diminutive suffix

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

B	A	B	E	S	G	T	A	H	E	M	
E	X	E	C	P	A	D	E	U	R	O	
A	E	R	O	S	O	L	S	R	B	I	S
U	L	T	A	O	L	N	O	S	E	S	
		A	R	F	H	A	S				
M	E	D	E	A	J	E	E	P	E	R	S
E	V	E	R	W	A	N	A	G	U	A	
L	A	Y	O	V	E	R	S	C	O	T	T
		S	I	B	P	I	E				
F	L	A	M	E	B	A	L	B	L	T	
L	O	D	I	A	E	R	O	N	A	U	T
A	L	O	T	O	A	K	I	D	L	Y	
W	A	S	H	K	M	S	T	E	L	L	

**DOWN**

1 Queens stadium name

2 Existed

3 Karate level

4 Jellied entrees

5 Curved molding

6 Greyhound vehicle

7 Annoy

8 Japanese fish dish

9 Cherished

10 Pulitzer winner

11 Pantheon members

16 Parched

20 —

22 Serpentine

23 Corn concoction

24 Scrap

25 Bill's partner

26 Elvis hit

27 Slightly

29 Fluffy scarf

30 Swiss peak

35 Pirates' potation

37 Insight

39 Western resort lake

40 Salary

41 Excellent, in slang

42 German car name

43 Terrier type

44 Fizzy drink

45 "— Brockovich"

46 Turns blue?

49 Last (Abbr.)

50 — King Cole

Yesterday's answer 9-25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18							19	20			
			21			22	23				
24	25	26				27		28	29	30	
31						32			33		
34			35			36			37		
		38		39				40			
41	42					43			44	45	46
47				48	49	50					
51				52					53		
54				55					56		

**NON-SEQUITUR** Willy Sequitur



**SUDOKU** KING FEATURES



### SUDOKU

9	1							4	
	5		9					7	1
	7					4	6	9	
5		1				9	2		
8		3	6	7			4		5
		9	5		6			7	
			7	2			3		
			4	9				2	

Answer to previous puzzle

7	1	8	2	4	3	5	9	6
5	6	4	9	1	8	3	7	2
9	3	2	6	7	5	4	1	8
8	7	9	4	5	6	1	2	3
1	5	3	8	2	7	6	4	9
2	4	6	3	9	1	7	8	5
3	8	7	1	6	9	2	5	4
6	2	1	5	8	4	9	3	7
4	9	5	7	3	2	8	6	1

Difficulty: ★★

### Horoscopes

**ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE** By Georgia Nicols

**Moon Alert:** Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. EDT today (3 p.m. to 4 p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Cancer into Leo.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024:

You are tenacious and disciplined. You demand excellence of yourself. You hate to make a mistake. This is a year of learning and teaching. Take time to renew your spiritual or religious beliefs. Explore philosophies that will give you a better idea of who you are.

**The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:** 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
 ★★ Discussions with family members will be warm and supportive today. Someone might want to confide in you. They might want your help in some way. Or possibly you are the one who wants assistance. Although this conversation might be unexpected, someone will listen. Tonight: Socialize!

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 ★★ Because your imagination is heightened today, you can visualize things and dream up all kinds of possibilities. This is an excellent influence for writers, especially fantasy and sci-fi writers. However, today also holds surprises. Pay attention to everything you say and do to avoid an accident. Tonight: Cocoon.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 ★★ Be smart and guard your possessions and money today to avoid loss, theft or damage. Meanwhile, you will be tempted to spend money on luxurious, fanciful items. You might discover something new that you never saw before, but you wanted it all your life.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 ★★ This is a restless day for you. Surprising news or unexpected events might catch you off guard. In turn, you might feel impulsive. However, you will also feel concern for those who are suffering in another country. The welfare of children matters to you. Tonight: Check your belongings.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 ★★ A boss, parent or someone in a position of authority might surprise you today. They might have unexpected news or they might do something you least expect. In turn, you have sympathy for this person. You will help co-workers today if you can. Tonight: Friendships.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 ★★ Today your idealism is aroused, along with your appreciation of beauty. Which means because your senses are so finely tuned, you will enjoy museums, art galleries and seeing the beautiful creations of others. You also might be attracted to a philosophy or a religion. Tonight: You're admired.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 ★★ Check banking details and anything to do with shared property, inheritances, taxes and debt. Something unexpected could impact these areas. Meanwhile, you might be generous to someone because you feel sympathetic. Generosity is a good thing, but don't give away the farm. Tonight: Explore!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 ★★ A partner or close friend might surprise you today. Nevertheless, you will have a meeting of the minds, because it's easy to have a mutually sympathetic understanding with someone. You have a sense that this person has your back and you have theirs. That's reassuring. Tonight: Check your finances.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 ★★ Your work routine might be interrupted today. Whatever happens, you will feel sympathetic to a co-worker or anyone who needs your help. Possibly, you are the one who needs help from someone. Either way, people are caring and supportive today, which is gratifying. Tonight: Cooperate.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 ★★ Parents should keep their eyes open today because this is an accident-prone day for their kids. You also might encounter a child who needs your help. Meanwhile, this is a great day for artists and creative projects. You are in touch with your imagination today. Trust your dreams. Tonight: Play!

**BORN TODAY**  
 Tennis champ Serena Williams (1981), actress Zoe Perry (1983), hockey player Henrik Sedin (1980)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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**CRISIS HOTLINE**  
Call and give operator first name and brief comment about service needed.  
1-800-224-0422

**Domestic and Sexual Violence 24/7 Crisis Line**  
TCN Domestic Violence Program  
877/394-1046  
TCN's Soteria Shelter  
937/404-2365  
TCN's New Directions Outreach Office  
937/593-5777

FOR INFORMATION Concerning American Red Cross Blood Services Program, call 650-5000.

**NEW PATH**  
Pregnancy Resource Centers  
www.newpathprc.com  
709 N. Main St., Bellefontaine  
937-592-7734

**POISON CONTROL CENTER**  
1-(800)222-1222  
24 Hour Hotline

## WORK WANTED

**CARMAN BUILDERS**  
Vinyl siding, replacement windows, seamless spouting, roofing. Free estimates. 585-6472 or 937-726-7714.

## HELP WANTED

**FEED MILL MANAGER**  
Wanted for Nature Pure Farm in Logan Co. Full-time w/benefits, \$31-\$36/hour. Lead the daily operations at the feed mill, manage employees, inventory control & procurement & assist in capital improvement planning. APPLY ON INDEED OR HERE: <https://go-hr.breezy.hr/p/0e30588974ed-feed-mill-manager>

## HELP WANTED

**ADEA RULINGS**  
The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept help wanted advertisements in violation of the Age Discrimination Employment Act. The ADEA prohibits arbitrary age discrimination of persons age 40 or over and applies to employers with 25 or more employees, employment agencies and labor organizations. Advertising containing such terms as "young", "boy", or "girl" or designating a certain age such as "age 35 to 55" or other similar specification indicates discrimination against employment of older persons and are considered in violation of the act. Information about the Act may be obtained by calling or writing the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division.

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9919 Co Rd. 153  
E. Liberty  
Thurs. Fri. & Sat. 9-6  
Lots of Everything!

## TRUCKS

**1940 CHEVY P/U**, disassembled, all sheet metal, glass, frame, no eng/trans, build it your way. \$5500 cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

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**2014 ISUZU NPR-HD** with 16 ft. box. 229,314 miles. \$10,000 FIRM. Call or text TJ at 937-407-0205.

## MOTORCYCLES/SCOOTERS

**2008 HARLEY DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 1200FI**, less than 19k miles, lots of extras, nice bike. Asking \$5000 firm, cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## BOATS & JET SKIS

**STARCRAFT 18 ft.** alum. boat, big Mercury 4 cyl. 10, new fish finder, bimini top, custom cover, needs driver's seat rebuilt, old but solid w/single axle steel frame trailer. \$3500 firm, cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## LAWN & GARDEN

Need your grass cut?  
Call Cool Stripes  
937-935-6837

**YARD MACHINE** 20hp Briggs & Stratton, 42" cut, needs battery & safety start switch. \$250 cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## FOR RENT

APTS., ROOMS, HOUSES starting at \$400.00. Call or Text 937-407-2126, 441-2243.

**NOTICE**  
Housing advertisements published in this newspaper are subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise discrimination based on race, color, religion, nationality, sex,

## FOR RENT

age (including children), handicap or familial status. This also includes limitation to number of persons desired. The Bellefontaine Examiner will not knowingly accept advertising which is in violation of the law.

## STORAGE

**540/33 SELF-STORAGE**  
1st month free, free locks, beside Love's Gas Station on 540 near 33. Call 593-0000.

**ALL AMERICAN Storage.** Monthly rentals. Free locks. Behind Harbor Freight. 592-9100.

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## FINANCIAL

**NOTICE LENDING OPPORTUNITIES**  
Borrow Smart. Contact the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions' Office of Consumer Affairs BEFORE you refinance your home or obtain a loan. BEWARE of requests for any large advance payment of fees or insurance. Call the Office of Consumer Affairs toll free at 1-866-278-0003 to learn if the mortgage broker or lender is

## FINANCIAL

properly licensed. (This notice is a public service of the Bellefontaine Examiner.)

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOTICE

As required by law, those who plan to exercise their right to vote in the November 5, 2024 General Election must be registered to vote at least thirty days before the election. The deadline to register with the Board of Elections is October 7, 2024. In addition, anyone who has moved since they last voted and has not done a change of address with the Board of Elections should do so by the same deadline. Registration forms are available at the following locations:  
Logan County Board of Elections  
225 S. Main Street  
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311  
Regular Business Hours  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Monday through Friday  
Special Voter Registration Hours  
8:30 AM - 9:00 PM on October 7, 2024

**Online Voter Registration**  
Registrations are also accepted by the following authorized agencies during their regular business hours:  
Libraries: Knowlton District Library and Logan County District Libraries  
Public Agencies: Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Department of Job and Family Services, Logan County Women, Infants, & Children Clinic, Logan & Champaign Counties Mental Health, Drug, and Alcohol Services, Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Logan County Treasurer, and the Ohio Secretary of State  
Qualifications to Vote in the November 5, 2024 General Election  
· Must be a US citizen  
· Must be a resident of Ohio for 30 days before the election  
· Must register to vote 30 days before the election  
· Must turn 18 years old on or before November 5, 2024  
Sept. 26, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held

## PUBLIC NOTICES

before the Bellefontaine City Planning Commission on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 135 N. Detroit St., Bellefontaine, OH. The Planning Commission will be reviewing the Final Plat for Ludlow Ridge Phase I Subdivision. Phase I consists of 22.626 acres generally located on the south side of Bellefontaine, south-east of the intersection of Ludlow Road and Lake Avenue. The Property is currently zoned under the City of Bellefontaine R-3, Multi-family Residence District, zoning classification. The development would consist of 63 single family lots, approximately 8.642 acres of open green space. The green space will be owned and maintained by the Homeowner's association. The development will promote a walkable community style and include connections to the existing school property to the north. In addition, the Planning Commission will review proposed changes to Part 11-Planning and Zoning Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bellefontaine. The proposed changes include the development of a new chapter regulating Solar Energy Systems within the City of Bellefontaine. A copy of the maps, description and other pertinent information are on file in the Office of the City Engineer in the Municipal Building, 135 N. Detroit St., Bellefontaine, OH for public examination Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sept. 26, 2024

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\$20 ..... \$13
- CLANCY'S (SIDNEY)**  
\$6 ..... \$4
- DONATOS PIZZA, SUBS, SALADS**  
\$10 ..... \$7
- DONUT SHOP & BAKERY (RUSSELLS PT.)**  
\$10 ..... \$7  
\$20 ..... \$13
- EASTON WATER**  
\$30 ..... \$18  
\*NOTE: (Limit 2-per purchase)
- INDIAN LAKE ROLLARENA**  
\$6 (Fri & Sat 7-10:30 p.m.)..... \$4.50
- KIRKMONT CENTER HABITAT HOUSE**  
\$100 (Good for (1) night rental) ..... \$70  
\$600 (Good for (1) week rental) ..... \$420
- KNEAD MORE MASSAGE**  
\$85 (Good for (1) ONE HOUR MASSAGE) ..... \$52  
(Only 3 available per month)
- LEE'S COMFORT SHOES**  
\$20 (Only 25 per month, 5 per customer) ..... \$14
- McDONALDS (BFN. NORTH & SOUTH)**  
\$10 ..... \$8  
\$20 ..... \$15
- OHIO FITNESS & MARTIAL ARTS**  
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\$70 ..... \$49  
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## FRIDAY NIGHT PREVIEW

# London's powerful ground attack to pose a big challenge for Bellefontaine's defense

BY MATT HAMMOND  
EXAMINER SPORTS EDITOR

The more things change, the more they stay the same. That saying could aptly apply to London's football program.

Despite losing a host of standouts from last year, including co-Central Buckeye Conference Kenton Trail division defensive players of the year Andrew Sims and Zach Jones, the Red Raiders are off to a 5-0 start this fall.

"London is London," said Bellefontaine head coach Jason Brown, who will take his Chieftains on the road Friday to face the Red Raiders in the opening week of CBC divisional play. "They are doing the same things they have done for years. They just plug in new guys."

"From our standpoint, we are very excited about the opportunity we have on Friday. We have had a couple of great days of practice and our kids are really looking forward to getting out there on the field Friday."

London went 10-0 during the regular season last year (including a 36-6 win over the Chiefs) and won the outright CBC Kenton Trail championship.

Bellefontaine then earned revenge in the second round of the playoffs, knocking off the Red Raiders 35-28 on their home field.

London graduated five first-team all-CBC players from last year's squad. However, it has been utter domination so far this season for the Red Raiders.

They have outscored their first five opponents by a combined score of 268-21.

Offensively, London's recipe for success continues to be ground and pound. The Red Raiders are averaging 349 rushing yards per game. They have scored 28 rushing touchdowns.

"They want to get you in a phone booth and control the tempo of the game," said Brown. "It's important for us to get some tackles for loss, do some things to get them behind the chains."

London's running game is led by the duo of senior Noah Sollars (5-8, 214) and sophomore Daquanne Parks (5-10, 183).

Last season, Sollars rushed for 386 yards and five touchdowns during the first four games of the season before sitting out the



Bellefontaine and London met twice last year, with the Chiefs avenging a regular-season loss by beating the Red Raiders in the second round of the playoffs. The two teams meet again Friday in a Central Buckeye Conference game in London. (EXAMINER PHOTO | TONY BARRETT)

rest of the campaign with an injury.

In five contests this fall, he has 468 yards and nine touchdowns on the ground.

Parks has been incredibly efficient, putting up 410 yards on just 24 carries, averaging 17.1 yards per rush. He has seven touchdown runs.

In last Friday's 63-7 win over Graham, Parks ran for 125 yards and two touchdowns on only three carries.

To go along with Sollars and Parks, London has four other players with at least 100 yards rushing.

London has attempted just 25 passes. Chris Mason and Blake Reay are a combined 18-of-25 for 327 yards with six touchdowns and no interceptions.

For Bellefontaine (4-1), the big question is which St. Clair brother will start the

game at quarterback.

Five-star senior Tavien St. Clair was injured late in the first half of last week's win over Indian Lake and his brother Reign, a freshman, took over in the second half.

Brown said Tavien St. Clair is "day-to-day" and was "not sure" if his star quarterback would play against London.

If Reign St. Clair is needed again this week, Brown said the team is confident the rookie can operate the offense at a high level. He was 5-of-5 passing for 56 yards and a touchdown in the second half against the Lakers.

"We have complete and full trust in Reign," said Brown. "If we are in the position that we need him to play, we know we will have a great game plan for him and our offense."

# Quest for a league title starts Friday for Indian Lake

BY MATT HAMMOND  
EXAMINER SPORTS EDITOR

Through the first five games of the season, Indian Lake has emerged as a favorite to win the Central Buckeye Conference Mad River division title this fall.

As division play begins Friday with a homecoming game against Graham, the Lakers and Northwestern are both 3-2 on the season. No other team in the division has won more than one game.

Indian Lake, which saw a three-game winning streak end with a 49-14 loss to Bellefontaine last Friday, has a very business-like approach to the start of league play.

"We have talked about this being our first league game and are referring to it as our first championship game of five," said Laker head coach Jonn Rapp. "No one knows what games will become the most important, so we better treat them all like the championship game. This is one of five."

The 2024 campaign has been a monumental struggle so far for the winless Falcons. They have only scored 28 points in five games while giving up 215.

Graham has been shut out two of the last three games and lost to London 63-7 last week.

Sophomore Gage Stull is in his second season as the Falcons' quarterback. He has completed 27-of-64 passes for 303 yards and two touchdowns with five interceptions.

The team's lead running back is sophomore Daniel Hoke. He has rushed for 243 yards on 48 carries. He had 70 yards on 16 rushes in last Friday's game against London.

Hoke hasn't received much help in the rushing department. The rest of the team has combined for 157 yards on 66 attempts, an average of 2.4 yards per rush.

Indian Lake's main focus this week is learning from the things that went wrong in the Bellefontaine loss.

"The basics are the foundation to all game plans," said Rapp. "We have to keep perfecting the basics. Perfect execution is pointless without great effort and toughness. Teams/families that pull in the same direction are tough to beat and teams/families that pull against each other have a tough time succeeding."

The Lakers turned the ball over twice and were penalized seven times against the Chiefs.



Indian Lake's Brodey Reisinger and his teammates hope to have a happy homecoming game Friday night when Graham visits for a Central Buckeye Conference Mad River division opener. (EXAMINER PHOTO | TONY BARRETT)

"We need to play a clean, error-free game with lots of effort," said Rapp. "We need to execute our game plan and rely on what's allowed us to have success this year."

Elsewhere around the area Friday:

**Troy Christian at Riverside**  
Riverside will look to get back into the win column Friday night when it hosts Troy Christian for homecoming.

The Pirates, who are 2-3 overall and 1-1 in the Three Rivers Conference, fell to Northridge 14-7 last Friday.

It was a rough first half of the season for Troy Christian. The Eagles (0-5) have been outscored 231-6. Their lone points came in a 44-6 loss to Meadowdale in Week 3.

In last week's 49-0 loss to Milton-Union, the Eagles had just 11 yards of offense. They had 24 passing yards and minus-13 rushing yards.

After getting into the end zone just once last week, the Pirates hope to get their offense surging again.

Riverside quarterback Gavin Orsborne is currently third in the TRC in passing yards

(1,198) and Damien Smith is third in the league in receiving yards (447).

**Northwestern at Ben Logan**  
The homecoming theme around Logan County continues at Benjamin Logan, where the Raiders will host Northwestern for a Central Buckeye Conference Mad River division opener Friday night.

Ben Logan (0-5) is coming off a 34-0 loss to Jonathan Alder.

At 3-2, the Warriors have already equaled their win total from last season when they went 3-7.

Northwestern opened the 2024 campaign with a 41-6 win over Southeastern and then shut out Greenon 35-0 in Week 2.

The Warriors' first loss of the season came in a 21-20 defeat to Miami East in Week 3. That was followed by a 27-21 overtime loss to Kenton Ridge.

Northwestern returned to the win column last Friday with a 34-0 shutout of Tecumseh.

See PREVIEW on Page 8

## OUTLOOK/PICKS

### Bengals and Browns both searching for answers in early going this season

It has not been the start the Browns and Bengals were hoping for so far this season.

While the Browns do have the 18-13 win over Jacksonville in Week 2, they are 1-2 and coming off a listless effort in a 21-15 loss to the Giants.

It was the Giants' first win of the season. Cleveland managed just 217 total yards while giving up 340 to a Daniel Jones-led Giants offense.

The loss revealed some glaring issues for the Browns' offense. A patchwork offensive line gave up eight sacks and Deshaun Watson was mediocre again with a 21-of-37, 148-yard passing performance.

The ground game was even more concerning with just 69 yards on 18 attempts.

Cleveland has to develop some type of identity on offense and its defense also needs to be better.

Doom and gloom hangs over the Bengals as well. Cincinnati is 0-3 after a 38-33 home loss to Washington on Monday night.

The Bengals showed some promise in their narrow 26-25 loss to Kansas City in Week 2, but any positive momentum went out the windows against the Commanders.

The Bengals' defense has been extremely disappointing. They were absolutely shredded by Washington rookie Jayden Daniels (21-of-23 for 254 yards and two touchdowns).

Offensively, the Bengals seem to be finding a groove. They put up 436 yards of offense against Washington. However, if the defense doesn't start stopping people, wins are going to be hard to come by.

Now, on to this week's prep football picks:

#### Bellefontaine over London

Kyle Cutler runs a very impressive program at London. His system doesn't ever seem impacted by personnel losses as the Red Raiders turn in one successful season after another.

London has yet to be challenged this season. They have given up only 21 points and they are averaging 53.6 points per game on offense.

However, while the Red Raiders have definitely done a great job retooling their arsenal after being hit hard by graduation, their competition has been very weak.

Four of London's five opponents are currently 0-5 and the other is 1-4.

The Red Raiders have yet to face a team anything close to the talent level they will see from the Chiefs. *Bellefontaine 21, London 14.*

#### Indian Lake over Graham

This is a get right game for the Lakers. They struggled defensively against Bellefontaine last week but that won't be a problem against a Falcons offense that has scored 28 points in five games. Indian Lake will dominate on both sides of the ball on homecoming night. *Indian Lake 41, Graham 0.*

#### Riverside over Troy Christian

The Pirates should have no problem entertaining their homecoming crowd Friday against winless Troy Christian.

The Eagles have struggled mightily in every facet of the game and they will be exposed by a hungry Pirate team coming off a tough loss at Northridge last Friday. *Riverside 47, Troy Christian 0.*

#### WL-Salem over Northeastern

This has the makings of a being a classic down to the wire battle.

Both the Tigers and Jets played some very good football over the first half of the season and this will be a great matchup to begin OHC North division action.

Although Northeastern's offense will not be easy to slow down with quarterback Diezel Taylor leading the way, the Tigers will get enough stops to pull out the win. *WL-S 31, Northeastern 26.*

#### Northwestern over Ben Logan

Ben Logan just had the unenviable task of back-to-back games against Bellefontaine and Jonathan Alder.

While the Raiders will be more competitive against Northwestern this week, the Warriors have shown a lot of improvement this season. *Northwestern 20, Ben Logan 14.*

#### Fairbanks over Triad

The Cardinals had a rough go of it last Friday in a 39-7 loss to Greeneview.

Unfortunately for Triad, the road doesn't get any easier this week.

The Panthers are playing solid football under first-year coach Dave Carroll and they have a talented running back in Ryker Green. *Fairbanks 27, Triad 7.*

#### USV over Ridgemont

Ridgemont head coach Travis Rettig and his Gophers deserve a ton of credit after a 4-1 first half of the season.

However, the schedule gets more challenging the rest of the way, starting with a battle vs. Upper Scioto Valley on Friday.

Ridgemont will give the Rams all they want, but I envision USV pulling out a win in crunch time. *USV 27, Ridgemont 26.*



# SPORTS

Phone: (937) 592-3060 Matt Hammond x1122  
eMail: sports@examiner.org

ONLINE @ [examiner.org/sports](http://examiner.org/sports)



Riverside's Reaghan McDaniel won the Division II sectional tournament at Stillwater Valley Golf Club in Versailles on Wednesday. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

## Pirates' McDaniel takes 1st in Division II sectional tourney

### WL-Salem girls earn team berth to districts

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Riverside junior Reaghan McDaniel fired a round of 78 to win the Division II girls golf sectional tournament at Stillwater Valley on Wednesday.

The top four teams and the top four remaining individuals qualified to the district tournament, which is Oct. 2 at Pipestone Golf Club in Miamisburg.

McDaniel edged Graham standout Zoey Merritt by one stroke for the medalist title.

Also earning a district berth was Indian Lake's Alex Kinney, who shot a 95. She defeated Arcanum's Brooke Anderson on the first playoff hole to claim the last individual spot for the district tourney.

Graham won the team title with a score of 398. Ft. Loramie was second with 418, Russia took third with 422 and Versailles was the final district qualifying team in fourth with 437.

Indian Lake was sixth with a 438, the Pirates were 12th with a 502 and

Triad finished 14th with 538.

Ben Logan also competed but did not have enough golfers to post a team score.

In addition to the 945 of Kinney, the Lakers received a 98 from Emma Meyer, 119 from Tayler Klofta, 126 from Ariel



Brielmayer and 155 from Lillian Michael.

Joining McDaniel for Riverside on Wednesday were Zoie Armbruster with a 120, Kirstyn Carpenter with 135, Adalynn Calaway with a 160 and Lei Hurley with 176.

Chloe Honchell led Triad with a 118. She was followed by Ashtyn Millice with 123, Kameron Dingleline with a 128, Amira Gonzales with a 169 and Sophie Rogers with a 183.

For Ben Logan, Kate Hahn shot 113, Catherine Bramlage had 116 and Kaylynn Crumm had 119.

Lady Tigers advance to districts

West Liberty-Salem's girls golf team finished third in the Division II sectional at WGC Golf Course on Wednesday to earn a district berth.

The top four teams and the top four individuals not on a qualifying team advanced to the district tourney, which is Oct. 2 at Pipestone Golf Club.

Northwestern won the tournament with a 382. Kettering Alter was second with 400, WL-S had 411 for third and Kenton Ridge shot 413 for fourth.

Olivia Reichardt led the Tigers with a 95. Geneva Estep and Kennedy Wallace both shot 103, Teagan Boyd had 110 and Taylor Cook shot 119.

Marley Young represented Calvary Christian and shot 132.

Kenton Ridge's Emma Shaffer was the tournament medalist with an 80.

The four individual district qualifiers were Southeastern's Alexis Dornon (89), Northeastern's Lindsay Heskett (91), Bethel's Lilly Mihelcic (94) and Waynesville's Amanda Tudela (95).

## Spartans keep winning, bounce Spencerville 4-2

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Calvary Christian's soccer team improved to 11-1-1 on the season Tuesday with a 4-2 victory over visiting Spencerville.

Nehemiah Dillon gave the Spartans an early lead and Trent Comer followed with a goal to make it 2-0. Spencerville scored on a penalty kick to make the score 2-1 at halftime.



Daniel Young and Comer each scored a goal in the second half for Calvary,

while Spencerville converted another penalty kick. Young notched three assists on the night.

**GIRLS SOCCER**  
Bellefontaine ties North Union

Bellefontaine's girls soccer team tied North Union 4-4 on Wednesday.

Callie Shumaker led the Chiefs with two goals. Ava Watson had one goal and Chloe Stolly also had a goal.

Addison Wical, Shumaker and Ava Watson each had an assist.

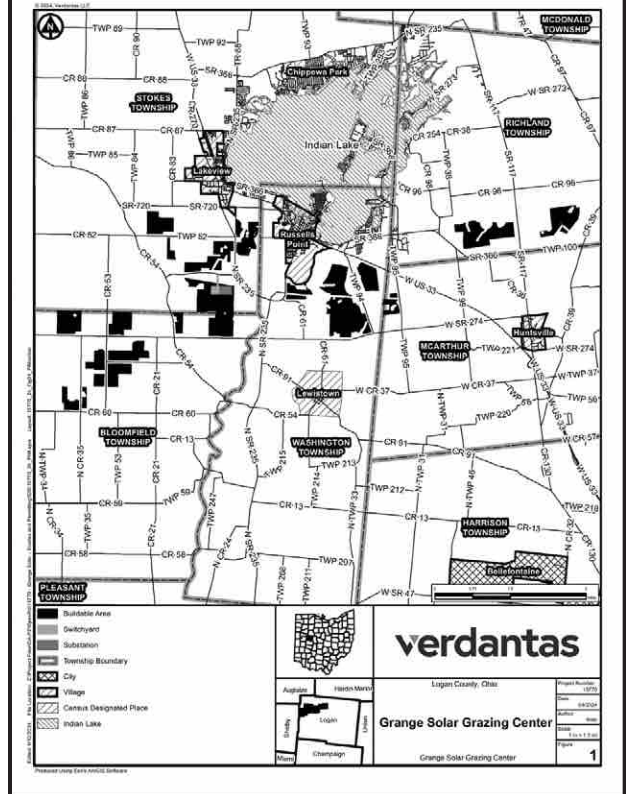
Emma Watson had nine saves in goal for the Chiefs. Bellefontaine plays at Xenia on Saturday.

## Notice of Public Information Meeting for Proposed Utility Facility

Grange Solar, LLC schedules second public meeting for October 8, 2024, to outline plans for an up to 500 megawatt solar-powered electric facility in Washington, Stokes, Richland, McArthur and Bloomfield Townships, Logan County, Ohio, combined with a planned sheep grazing operation.

Grange Solar, LLC ("Grange") invites residents and other interested members of the public to participate in a public informational meeting to hear its plans to build the Grange Solar Grazing Center ("Project") in Washington, Stokes, Richland, McArthur and Bloomfield Townships, Logan County, Ohio. Grange is proposing to develop, construct, and operate a facility that combines up to 500 megawatts of solar-powered electric generation with sheep pasture and grazing. The general purpose of the Project is to maximize energy production from solar resources in order to deliver clean, renewable electricity to the regional transmission system to serve the needs of electric utilities and their customers while supporting and growing livestock agriculture in Logan County and the surrounding region. The Project will be located on approximately 2,584 acres of privately-owned land and consist of arrays of solar panels on racking, along with inverters, electric collection cables, a collection substation, an electric interconnection line, access roads, an operation and maintenance building, pyranometers, laydown areas for construction staging, and livestock-related infrastructure. All above-ground structures and equipment will be fenced for safety and security, as well as to confine the livestock and exclude predators. Grange plans to file its application in October 2024, begin construction in the second quarter of 2026, and begin commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2027.

The meeting will be on **October 8, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., at the Indian Lake Middle School Cafeteria, 8920 Co Rd 91, Lewistown, Ohio 43333.** Maps of the area where the Project will be built will be available to review and Grange representatives will also be available to answer questions.



## Chiefs get wins over Wildcats, Hillclimbers

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Bellefontaine's volleyball team beat North Union 25-13, 25-21, 25-12 on Tuesday and then defeated Urbana 25-12, 25-15, 25-13 on Wednesday.

The Chiefs are now 13-3 overall and 4-2 in the CBC.

In the win over North Union, Madi Zedecker sparked the BHS offense with 37 assists. Kelsie Snapp tallied 20 kills and Ava Campbell and Taylor Banta each had nine kills. Zedecker also had eight digs and was 8-8 with perfect serving. Snapp had 13 digs and was 13-13 serving, Campbell was 7-8 serving with an ace and had two blocks and Banta had eight digs, a block and was 17-17 serving with an ace.

Also for the Chiefs, Ava Layman and Presley Vigansky each had two blocks. Reagan Standley had eight digs while Ava Reeves added three aces and 13 digs.

Against the Hillclimbers, Standley went 12-12 serving, Banta went 13-14 serving with an ace and had 11 kills, 14 digs and a block.

Snapp tallied 17 kills and eight digs and was 10-11 serving and tallied two blocks. Campbell had two blocks, four kills and an ace, Zedecker was 16-16 serving with 34



assists, Layman had five kills and a block, Vigansky had two kills and Ava Reeves chalked up 16 digs.

Bellefontaine's junior varsity Red Team also earned wins over both schools.

The Red Chiefs beat North Union 18-25, 25-18 and 28-26.

For the winners, Kaeleigh Flora led the Chiefs with 20 kills, 10 digs and was 8-8 serving, Jillian Ullom tallied 13 digs and two aces, Celine Blinn had five digs, Alayna Boyd had seven digs, 24 assists and four aces, Ari Rangel tallied three digs and was 9-10 serving, Zoey Conner was 10-11 serving with an ace and three kills and Ava Oppy chipped in with 15 digs and two aces.

The Red Chiefs defeated Urbana 25-13, 25-12. Boyd had 14 assists, four aces and five digs, Rangel tallied two blocks and three aces, Conner had two aces and eight kills, Ullom had nine digs, Kaeleigh Flora tallied seven kills and six digs and Oppy had six digs.

Bellefontaine's junior varsity Black team lost to both North Union and Urbana.

In a 25-22, 25-20 loss to the Wildcats, Rangel had five aces on 16-16 serving, Blinn had 13 digs, Lyla Conner had three kills and two aces, Kinley Dunn had six kills and four digs, Hailey Augustus had two kills and seven digs and Airiane Moser had four digs.

Urbana defeated the Black squad 25-18, 25-22. Lyla Conner had 10 digs and three kills, Blinn tallied 12 digs and two aces, Augustus was 9-10 serving with one kill, Rylee Yelton had three digs, Dunn had three digs and two kills and Rangel had 14 assists.

**Cougars claw past Lakers**  
Kenton Ridge defeated Indian Lake 25-15, 25-23, 25-22 on Tuesday.

Courtney Altstaetter had 11 kills and four blocks for the Lakers. Cami Bailey had five kills and was 13-13 serving, Riley Ross was 7-7 serving and had 12 digs, Halle Roby tallied 13 assists and six digs and Addyson Roby was 9-10 serving with two aces and had 11 assists.

In the junior varsity match, Kenton Ridge won 25-22, 22-25, 25-22.

For the Lakers, Ady Oldiges was 8-10 serving with two aces and was 38-39 setting with 12 assists, Miley Humble was 6-7 serving, Bre Wisener was 10-12

serving with two aces and had five kills and 16 digs, Kit Miller was 9-10 serving with three aces and had 10 kills and 13 digs, Quinn Imm had seven digs, Izzi Mackesy had five digs and Kenzley Pertuset was 15-16 serving with three aces.

**Lakers down Braves**  
Indian Lake cruised past Springfield Shawnee 25-11, 25-22, 25-20 on Wednesday.

The Lakers are now 14-3 overall and 4-1 in the Central Buckeye Conference.

For the Lakers, Halle Roby had five aces, three kills, 11 digs and 24 assists, Cami Bailey had 10 kills and five digs, Kenzie Dixon tallied 10 kills and nine digs, Courtney Alstaetter had nine kills and two blocks and Riley Ross had three aces and 10 digs.

The junior varsity Lakers won 25-16, 19-25, 25-23.

For the reserve Lakers, Ady Oldiges was 11-11 serving and 50-51 setting, Miley Humble was 10-11 serving, Madison Davis had three kills, Bre Wisener had six assists, nine digs and six kills, Kit Miller had 14 digs and five kills, Quinn Imm tallied nine digs, Kenzley Pertuset had five kills and six digs, Izzi Mackesy had three digs, Jessica Savage had two kills and Piper Warnecke had three digs.

## Preview

Continued from Page 7

The Warriors' offense has been extremely balanced.

Junior quarterback Reid Smith is 95-of-134 through the air for 865 yards and seven touchdowns to go with four interceptions. He has rushed for 320 yards and five TDs on 62 attempts.

Hard running junior Preston Allen (6-0, 220) leads the ground attack for Northwestern with 425 yards and eight touchdowns on 69 carries.

**WL-Salem at Northeastern**

West Liberty-Salem opens Ohio Heritage Conference North division action Friday with a big game at Northeastern.

The Tigers (4-1) are coming off a 33-6 win over Madison Plains.

Northeastern (4-1) is riding a four-game winning streak.

The Jets lost to Urbana

44-35 in the season opener, but have reeled off four straight wins since.

Northeastern's offense is spearheaded by talented junior quarterback Diezel Taylor.

Taylor is 35-of-51 passing for 308 yards and eight touchdowns with three interceptions. He has rushed for 253 yards and four TDs on 52 attempts.

The Jets' leading rusher is junior Jackson Jones, who has 464 yards and three TDs on 73 carries.

Providing support in the running game are senior Garrett Chadwell (27 carries, 214 yards, four TDs) and junior Cody Houseman (30 carries, 160 yards, three TDs).

Chadwell has been the favorite target of Taylor in the passing game with 18 catches for 311 yards and five TDs.

**Triad at Fairbanks**  
Triad will begin Ohio Heritage Conference North division play Friday at

Fairbanks.

The Cardinals (1-4) lost to Greeneview 39-7 last week.

The Panthers, under first-year head coach Dave Carroll, are off to a 3-2 start.

After opening the season with losses to Jonathan Alder and Indian Lake, the Panthers have won three games in a row. They rolled past Greenon 56-21 last Friday.

The Panthers feature the leading rusher in the Ohio Heritage Conference in senior Ryker Green. He has rushed for 686 yards and eight touchdowns on 74 carries. He also has nine catches for 117 yards and one TD.

Senior Carter Miller has been a threat both through the air and on the ground for the Panthers. He has completed 43-of-80 passes for 573 yards and seven touchdowns, while rushing for 178 yards and three TDs on 60 attempts.

**Upper Scioto Valley at Ridgemo**

In a huge Northwest Central Conference clash Friday, Ridgemo will host Upper Scioto Valley.

USV is currently tied atop the NWCC standings at 4-0 along with Hardin Northern, while Ridgemo sits third at 3-0 in the league.

The Gophers (4-1 overall) are riding a four-game winning streak. They beat Montpelier 53-28 last Friday.

The Rams (4-1) have also won four straight games after losing to Ada 15-14 in the season opener.

USV is coming off a 38-8 win over Ridgedale. Quarterback Maddox Underwood went 6-of-6 passing for 79 yards and a touchdown and ran for 91 yards and three TDs in the win.

Ryan Roberts had 76 rushing yards on 12 carries and DJ Little added 62 yards and one TD.