

**THUSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025** 

## Logan County to received \$700K grant to improve housing

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Vol. 134 • No. 15

COLUMBUS - The Ohio Department of Development announced this week a

total of \$22.4 million in grants to 27 communities to improve access to housing and provide homeownership and rental assistance for low- and moderate-income families

Logan County will receive a \$700,000 grant to rehabilitate six owner-occupied

homes, repair 10 owneroccupied homes, and Department of Development include a fair housing component. The county will partner with the city

of Bellefontaine.

The Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) program partners with communities to preserve and improve Ohio's housing stock through various housing-related initiatives such as home renovation and repair, rental assistance, and

more.

"We want all Ohioans to have a safe and stable place to call home, and these grants support that mission by improving housing, supporting homeownership and creating opportunities for a better future," said Governor Mike DeWine.

CHIP program grants are funded by the Ohio Housing Trust Fund, the federal Community Development Block Grant, and HOME Investment Partnership Programs.

"When families have access to quality housing, it transforms lives and strengthens communities," said Lydia Mihalik, director of the Department of Development. "We are committed to working alongside our partners to make transformational investments just like these that ensure every Ohioan has the chance to live their best life."

\$1

The Ohio Department of Development empowers communities to succeed by investing in Ohio's people, places, and businesses.

## • • • ARTIST FEATURE • • **Artist finds beauty** in the abstract

BY SHARYN KOPF EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

hen April King found out the **Logan County Art** League wanted her to be a contestant in this year's Not So Bad Art by **Good People contest**, she made a quick decision about her submission based on one simple reality she's not an artist.

"I cannot draw a stick figure correctly, let alone anything amazing," King confessed. "So something abstract would be right up my alley."

Using acrylic paint and plastic wrap, King created something she could be proud of—so much so that she would display it in her office, if she could. But the activity was not without its snags.

For instance, after finishing her first painting, King left it to dry on a table at home. Then "a little cof-

#### See ABSTRACT on P2

April King wanted to create a painting that looked like "the ocean with a wave going through it" for the 2025 Not So Bad Art by Good People fundraiser. (EXAMINER PHOTO I SHARYN KOPF)

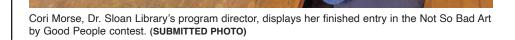
## Paper mosaic idea goes full bloom

• • • • ARTIST FEATURE • • •

BY MANDY LOEHR | EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

he program director at the Dr. **Sloan Library in Zanesfield pulled** together an inspirational art medium from her past and also paid a special tribute to her late grandmother through her colorful floral-themed entry to this years contest.

See MOSAIC on P3





Benjamin Logan Environmental Science Club members study daphnia under a microscope during a recent session. (SUB-MITTED PHOTO)

### **Environmental Science Club** delves into daphnia

#### BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Benjamin Logan Environmental Science Club members launched their activities for 2025 by delving into the study of daphnia, a type of small crustacean that is a crucial part of the food web in many aquatic environments.

Twenty-five members, under the guidance of their instructors, used compound light microscopes to observe and record the surprisingly rapid heart rates of these transparent creatures, with some heartbeats reaching up to 300 beats per minute.

The exploration continued outdoors at the Benjamin Logan Land Lab despite the winter chill, where students engaged in observing and recording the subtle beauties of nature during winter, guided by Catherine Carter, Logan County Land Trust director.

Carter introduced the students to the practice of keeping a nature journal, encouraging them to record and reflect on their surroundings with a scientist's eye.

The session culminated in a creative display of the students' observations through various art mediums back in the classroom. This artistic endeavor was complemented by the warmth of hot chocolate and homemade cookies.

The club, now in its eighth year, continues to offer a diverse range of activities, including guest speakers, dissections, and service projects like constructing habitat structures on school grounds.

It is co-sponsored by the Benjamin Logan School District and the Logan County Land Trust, with leadership from educators Bruce Smith, Bob Stoll, Spencer Reames, Ryan Kerns and Carter.

For more information about the Environmental Science Club or to support its activities, contact Bruce Smith at smithb@benjaminlogan.org. To learn more about the initiatives of the Logan County Land Trust and how you can contribute, visit logancountylandtrust.org.

## Adult winners in Shrine Design **Competition honored Saturday**



The original Our Lady of Fatima Shrine was destroyed by a tornado, (THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF EPHESUS PHOTO)

#### BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The American Society of Ephesus ("ASE"), in cooperation with ArtSpace/Lima, has announced the winners in the adult age category (Over 18) of the Design Competition for the new Our Lady of Fatima Shrine at Indian Lake

Those winners are: Robert Patricy of Columbus; The Faith in Action Team of Minster; and Matt Bensman of Anna.

A reception takes place at ArtSpace/Lima, 65 Town Square, in Lima, from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, during which the top three winning entries in this age category will be displayed.

Cash prizes will be presented to the winners by ASE board members.

"The amount of creativity put into these designs by artists of all ages has been very impressive. We are very excited to host this reception for the adult age group," said Sally Windle, Executive Director of ArtSpace/Lima.

Youth winners were honored during a previous reception Oct. 26.



The design entry from The Faith in Action Team. (THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF EPHESUS PHOTO)

The statewide design competition for the new shrine opened last June after the original shrine in Russells Point was destroyed by a tornado that hit the Indian Lake region March 14.

The Our Lady of Fatima Shrine was one of the tallest statues of the Virgin Mary in the United States. Dedicated in August 1964, the 43-foot tall monument included a rotating 19'-6" fiberglass statue on a concrete pedestal with fountains, music and lighting. The shrine property is located at 261 Chase Ave., Russells Point.

"We held a statewide design competition to get community input as well as new ideas from Ohio artists of all ages," said Bill Quatman, president of ASE.

A five-person jury reviewed the design submissions and selected the winners in several age groups.

"The three finalists in the over 18 age category will receive cash prizes at the upcoming reception," Sally Windle said. "After interviewing multiple firms, ASE has hired an architect and a sculptor to design the new shrine. I know they hope to use the best ideas from several of the winning entries."

"We were very impressed with the quality and variety of designs that were submitted," Quatman said. "Now comes the hard part of creating a new shrine that uses the best ideas that we have received. Our architect, Freytag & Associates, will help us to do that.

"Once we have the site design finalized and plans drawn up, we will solicit bids from area contractors to build the new shrine.

ASE plans for an Aug. 15, 2026, dedication for the new shrine at Indian Lake.

For more info, visit www.ase-gbqfoundation.org



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"Nothing is stronger than

## LOGAN COUNTY BEAT

SHERIFF & HIGHWAY PATROL

#### Minor injuries reported in crash

Ina Pratt, 67, of Wapakoneta, was transported by a Macochee Joint Ambulance District squad to Mary Rutan Hospital for suspected minor injuries following a two-vehicle crash that occurred Sunday, Jan. 19, in the area of State Route 508 near County Road 187.

Deputies from the Logan County Sheriff's Office were dispatched around 8:30 a.m. the intersection in Liberty Township on a report of truck crashing into a car.

Azamat Adylov, 28, of Illinois, reportedly was operating a 2024 Dodge Ram westbound along S.R. 508 when he attempted a left turn onto C.R. 187 and pulled into the path of 1987 Pontiac Firebird driven by Pratt.

Adylov was cited for failure to yield the right of way when turning left. Damage was minor to the pickup truck. Heavy damage was reported to the Pontiac.

WEST LIBERTY POLICE

#### Woman missing for more than 10 days found safe

An adult who reportedly had been

missing for nearly two weeks has been located unharmed in a neighboring county, officers of the West Liberty Police Department report.

Rhonda Fleming, 42, was last seen leaving her residence Sunday, Jan. 10. Witnesses reported seeing her walking in the area of north Detroit Street in West Liberty and getting into an unknown vehicle.

The West Liberty Police Department was notified of her disappearance on Monday, Jan. 20, at approximately 4 p.m. Following an investigation involving multiple agencies, Fleming was found safe at a residence in Cable, located in Champaign County. Authorities confirmed her well-being and instructed her to contact her family.

Chief of Police Shane Oelker expressed gratitude for the coordinated efforts of law enforcement.

"I would like to thank the Logan County Sheriff's Office Communications Center, Logan County Sheriff's Office Detective Section, the Champaign County Sheriff's Office and the Bellefontaine Police Department for all of there assistance in locating Ms Fleming in a quick manner," Oelker said.



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If I were principal for a day: I would increase the lunch budget for better quality food.

#### JACOB FREYHOF

Parents: Joe and Brandy Freyhof

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS: Soccer, Track and Field, Quizbowl, NHS, Laker Leadership Council, Musical, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band and Symphonic Band

My advice to parents: Help your kids to enjoy learning new things, but don't force it so much that a kid will

#### **Mary Rutan Foundation** medical scholarship, loan program underway

The Mary Rutan Foundation offers Logan County students an opportunity to apply for healthcare career scholarships and medical school loans for the 2025-26 academic school year.

Completed applications including all required documents must be submitted to Mary Rutan Foundation through the online application process no later than April 1, 2025.

The online application and detailed information are available on the health system's website at

https://foundation.maryrutan.org/scholarships.

Since 1992, more than \$2.5 million has been awarded to Logan County residents pursuing a degree in the medical field as an investment in the community and in the future of healthcare.

For additional information about Mary Rutan Foundation's scholarship program or how you may make a financial contribution, visit the Foundation's website at

https://foundation.maryrutan.org or contact the Foundation

## ABSTRACT

#### **Continued from Page 1**

fee incident" ruined that work, forcing her to start over again. Fortunately, she feels the second effort came out even better.

And then there was the family response.

"My daughter watched me make the second rendering of my art and made fun of me the entire time," she said. Emma, who's 19, even sent photos of her mom's painting to an art teacher friend. Still, King admitted, she enjoyed the process.

That process involved putting blobs of paint on the canvas and covering it with plastic wrap. She smeared the paint, lifted the wrap off, then balled up more plastic wrap and dabbed it on the canvas. After the first coat dried, King applied white paint, which she also let dry before adding the gold streak.

King is a lifelong Logan

County resident and still lives on her family farm outside Huntsville. After graduating from Indian Lake High School, she worked in education for the Indian Lake School district as well as at Noah's Ark preschool and Adriel School. King has been employed as the news director for V-Teck Communications since August 2023.

In addition to their daughter, King and her husband of 22 years, Doug, have a son, Jacob (21), who is the new agriculture and natural resources educator for The Ohio State University Extension Office in Logan County. Emma, a sophomore at Miami University, is pursuing a political science degree.

Overall, King is happy with the piece she created and honored to have been asked to participate.

'The Art League is such a vital part of our community," she concluded.



public opinion; given the facts, nothing is wiser."



#### FORUM GUIDELINES

Letters of less than 500 words will be given preference. Writers should limit their letters to one per month. For verification purposes, all letters must include the writer's address and telephone number. The writer's name and city will be printed with each letter. No anonymous letters will be printed. Letters of thanks will not be printed in the Forum, nor will disputes between customers and businesses

The *Examiner* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Forum letters and guest editorials are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Examiner*. E-mail letters may be sent to:

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Letters can also be sent by fax to 592-4463, or by mail to

**The Forum Bellefontaine Examiner** P.O. Box 40 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

#### **ABE MARTIN**



"Some fellers pay as they go an' others stick around.'

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

Favorite school memory: My favorite memory is going to Hershey, Pennsylvania with the band.

People who have inspired me include: My parents, Mr. Steinbarger and Mr. Levingston

Lately I've been reading: Fahrenheit 451 for Mr. Levingston's class



If I were principal for a day: I would host a Spikeball tournament and let the students out two hours early.

Favorite school memory: My favorite memory is the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip. I liked learning about all of the historical monuments while spending time with my friends.

People who have inspired me include: People who have been an inspiration to me include my parents, grandparents, teachers and friends.

Lately I've been reading: Fahrenheit 451, The Alchemist, The Great Gatsby loathe it.

My biggest regret: I regret not taking Choir.

Next year I will be: Attending an undecided 4-year university for Nursing.

#### ADELINE ROBINSON

Parents: Matt and Anna Robinson

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS: National Honor Society, Kiwanis Key Club, Science Club, Softball, Meistersingers, Vocal Jazz, Honors Choir, and the ILHS Musical. 4.0 Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance, Academic Hall of Fame, and Honda Achievement Breakfast CBC Scholar Athlete.

My advice to parents: Push your kids to be the best they can be, but don't put too much pressure on them! Let them learn from their mistakes and continue to grow.

My biggest regret: I regret not taking Spanish earlier in high school.

Next year I will be: Attending college to pursue Nursing in hopes of becoming a CRNA.



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Several Benjamin Logan High School seniors and alumni braved the cold to experience the historic atmosphere of Washington D.C. for the 2025 inauguration of President Donald Trump on Monday, Jan. 20. Pictured, from the left, in front of the U.S. Capital are seniors Harry Stratton, Tristan Sheets, Henry Wall and Nash Schneider and Class of 2023 alumni Evan Wall. "Though we were unable to watch the inauguration due to the move inside it was a great experience to be in D.C. on such an important day. We visited several Smithsonian museums, saw all the major monuments, and got to walk across the frozen Reflecting Pool," shared Tristan, senior and student government president. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

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#### OBITUARIES

#### **Terry Lee Bothel**

Terry Lee Bothel, "Uncle Jack" to his family, and "Pappy" to his coworkers at Honda, 83, of Bellefontaine, passed away on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at home surrounded by his loving wife, children, and grandchildren.

He was born in Sidney, Ohio on April 15, 1941, to the late Kenneth Bothel and Rosemary (Cook) Bothel Castle. He is also preceded in death by his infant brother,



Kenneth Bothel; sisters and brothers-inlaw: Linda (Lee) Ward and Ann (Jim) Layman.

He married Karen "Kay" (Lykins) Bothel in March of 1970, and she survives in Bellefontaine.

He also leaves behind his children: Lisa (Mark) Schroeder of DeGraff, Kenneth Bothel of Oil City, PA, Chris (Kristi) Bothel of West Mansfield, Sandy (Jerry) McBean of Delaware, Ohio, and Jeff (Christie) Bothel of Bellefontaine; ten grandchildren: Breanna (Clinton) Buchenroth, Kristina Bothel, Laura (Allen) Gayhart, Shannon Bothel, Amber (Nick) Woodbury, Dylan (Jessica Hobbs) McBean, Kiarra (Francisco Javier Gutierrez) Coats, Preston Bothel, Kaydence (Hunter Lattimer) Bothel, and Cason Bothel; nine great grandchildren with one on the way; sisters: Pat (Don) Shoffner, Kaye (Greg) Bodenmiller; and Carlene Stearns; and many nieces and nephews.

Terry was a painter by trade, employed at Miller Meteor, Ford Motor Company, Airstream, and Honda of America at Marysville and East Liberty where he retired in 2004.

Terry and Kay became foster parents to several children in 1972 and later moved to Sidney, where they became president of the Shelby County Foster Parents Association while living in Port Jefferson, he was nominated township commissioner.

He was an avid gardener, animal lover, and bird watcher. Terry loved his pine trees and sharing his garden produce with others. Many people benefitted from his gardening wisdom and advice. Other hobbies included sitting on his cabin porch listening to bluegrass, entertaining his grandchildren, and including them in his garden planting.

Terry is a member of the Mt. Tabor Church of God, where he helped build the first dormitory on the church campgrounds. Where he cooked breakfast alongside his wife for the Church of God camp meeting and later in life, they continued to work in the camp meeting kitchen cutting vegetables.

Brother Nathan Price will officiate a funeral service at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 25, at the Mt. Tabor Church of God, 8113 Co Rd 13, De Graff, OH 43318. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 9 to 10 a.m. and also Friday, January 24, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the church. Burial will follow the service in Huntsville Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mt. Tabor Church of God Missionary Fund, 8113 Co Rd 13, De Graff, OH 43318.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Bellefontaine, is honored to serve the Bothel family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at *www.edsfh.com*.

#### **Tammy Hefner**

Tammy Hefner, age 59, of Russells Point, passed away at her residence at 10:20 a.m. on Monday, January 20, 2025. She was born in Marion, Ohio, on May 20, 1965, to the late Kathy Siebeneck and Frank Church, who survives Hefner, and Kyle (Alycia Ballone) Hefner; grandchildren, Chase (Donavin), Marcella, Avery, Eliana, Kameron, Brenna, and Leo; and one great grandchild, Evelyn.

Tammy's primary passion in life was her family. She ensured she attended all of her children's and grandchildren's events. Tammy also cared deeply for her friends and was affectionately known, alongside Kevin, as "grandma and grandpa" to many children beyond their own family. Tammy had a particular fondness for playing cards, especially euchre and rummy, and enjoyed playing UNO with her grandchildren. She collected lighthouses, engaged in word puzzles, and was an avid viewer of "Wheel of Fortune" and loved thrift shopping. Additionally, Tammy was renowned for her green thumb. She maintained numerous house plants, often reviving those that nurseries discarded due to poor health. Tammy will be profoundly missed by all who knew and loved her.

A visitation will be held on Friday, January 24, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 321 N. Main Street, Bellefontaine. Pastor Ben Moore will officiate a funeral service at noon on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery in West Liberty.

Memorial contributions may be made to Logan County Cancer Society c/o Mary Rutan Foundations, 205 Palmer Avenue, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 or your local Cancer Society.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Bellefontaine, is honored to serve the Hefner family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at *www.edsfh.com*.

#### Jim L. Morgan

Jim L. Morgan, 90, passed peacefully in the early hours of Friday, January 17 at his home in Amherst, Ohio.

He was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, on December 29, 1934. He is preceded in death by his parents, John Henry Morgan and Neoma (Grimes) Morgan as well as his 4 brothers, and 3 sisters, Carl (Betty) Smith, Richard (Zaida) Morgan, Marjorie (Tom) Bryson, Dorothy (Harry) Lease,

John (Marilyn) Morgan, Mary Ann (Brian) Downing, Danny (Kay) Morgan; whom he loved.

He is survived by his loving wife of 68 years, Barbara (Young) Morgan. He is also survived by his daughter, Jill (Morgan) Giele, her husband Larry Giele whom he called his Rock in later years

and his son Jim and wife, Kerry (Lenz) Morgan.

Jim really loved his five grandchildren Morgan Giele Wachholz (Jake), Mike Giele (Jeni), Sydney Morgan Marchese (Matt), Mackenzie Morgan Branch (Ryan) and Tucker Morgan as well as his two great grandchildren Charlotte Wachholz and Joanna Wachholz. His eyes lit up whenever they came to see him.

A 1955 graduate of Bellefontaine High School, Jim mastered his skills as an outstanding Tool and Die maker and was sought out from neighboring states for his craftsmanship. He retired in 1999 from Wapak Tool & Die. He was a 32 degree Mason and belonged to Lodge 706 in Lima, Ohio, and was a member of The Scottish Rite in Dayton for 50 years.

A great lover of nature, he always enjoyed being outdoors. He loved walking trails either during his active Volksmarch days visiting many states with Barbara and his Vizsla, Annie or with friends and grandchildren. An avid hunter like his father, Jim knew the backroads throughout Logan County. Jim loved riding horses and joined Jill on Morgan and Mike's first rides. The family thought of him as a dog whisperer because no matter the dog or the behavior he could show you what to do. One of his favorite tricks was walking his dogs with the leash draped over one shoulder. vacations to volunteer at summer youth camps for his children. In his later years he enjoyed deer hunting in southern Ohio and cherished the time down there with his friends.

Jim and Barbara were active members of First Church in Wapakoneta and they loved being chaperones at youth church camp in Lakeside, Ohio.

A memorial service will be at First Church, 504 Glynwood Road, in Wapakoneta on Saturday, January 25, at 11 a.m. which will be followed by a luncheon. He will be interned at Highland Memory Gardens 5591 U.S. Route 68, West Liberty, OH. His family look forward to seeing his nieces, nephews and friends.

In lieu of flowers, they ask that memorial donations be given to First Church or the Auglaize County Humane Society, 616 N. Dixie Hwy, Wapakoneta, Ohio.

#### **Mary Ruth Tuttle**

Mary Ruth Tuttle, 95, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, passed away at 12:06 p.m. on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at Green Hills Care Center with her family by her side. She was born in West Liberty, Ohio on June 12, 1929, to the late William G. and Carrie A. (Strain) Knoff.

On July 27, 1957, Mary married Leland E. Tuttle, and he preceded her in death on May 11, 2020.

She is survived by her daughters, Beverly (Ronald) Dodds, and Karen (William) Topping; four grandchil-



dren, Angie (Roy) Brede, Andrea (Alex) Grundy, Aaron (Peggy Payne) Topping and Leigh Anne (Nate) Meyer; thirteen great grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Alanna, Garrett, Elise, Mitchell, Tristan, Zachary, Evan, Emma, Aeva, Cayden, Bronson and Talia S.; and a

great-great grandchild, Talia N. Along with her husband and parents, Mary was also

preceded in death by her siblings, Phyllis Hartzler, Nora McMellen, James Knoff, and Donald Knoff.

Mary was a member of the Lewistown-Trinity United Methodist Church and a 75-year member of the Eastern Star Masonic Lodge. She graduated from Monroe Township High School as a class Valedictorian. Mary loved to bake and spend time with her family and grandchildren, caring for them all.

Pastor Debra Ketcham will officiate a funeral service at noon Thursday, January 23, at the Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 321 N. Main Street, Bellefontaine. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 11 a.m. to noon at the funeral home. Burial will be in Highland Memorial Cemetery in West Liberty, Ohio.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lewistown-Trinity United Methodist Church, 8088 County Road 54, Lewistown, Ohio 43333 or Alzheimer's Association Miami Valley, Chapter 6077 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45459 or online at www.alz.org/dayton/donate.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Bellefontaine, is honored to serve the Tuttle family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at *www.edsfh.com*.

#### **DEATH** NOTICES

JACKSON, Jay Bradley, 56, of Urbana, Ohio, passed away on Monday, January 20, 2025, in University of Cincinnati Hospital; visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, January 25, in Vernon Funeral Home, Urbana; funeral service will follow at noon in the funeral home, with Pastor Dave Brown officiating; condolences may be expressed to the family at www.vernonfh.com.
 McMILLEN, Donald E. "Don," 90, of Belle Center, passed away Friday, Jan. 10, 2025, at St. Rita's Medical Center, Lima; per his wishes, there will be no services; Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home, Belle Center, handled the arrangements.





her. On October 2, 1982, she married Kevin L. Hefner in the Lafayette Congressional Christian Church and he survives.

Tammy is also survived by her children, Tricia (Jon) McCutcheon, Kristen

He was a long-time member of NRA, and took his

## MOSAIC

#### **Continued from Page 1**

Cori Morse, a Zanesfield native who has lived in Logan County for most of her life, besides a few years she spent in North Carolina, is also a photographer, who runs own a photography and digital design business called This Creative Day.

"When I was invited to participate in this art fundraiser, I had no idea what I was going to do. Photography came to mind, of course. But for some reason that didn't fully click — no pun intended," she said.

Fortunately, some clear inspiration came to her one morning when she remembered a piece of art created by a coworker several decades ago that still has a place in her home.

"Twenty-five years ago, I worked with a young woman who brought her artwork into our workplace and hung it on the kitchen refrigerator for the summer. It was this really interesting and beautiful paper mosaic. "At the end of the summer, she took it down, said she was going to throw it away. I couldn't let that happen, so I asked her if I could keep it. With a raised eyebrow, she said, 'Sure, OK.' So I ended up taking it home, eventually framing it. It still hangs in my home to this day.

"Then, a few years ago, my niece created a similar art piece for a school project, and once again I was struck by this fun, whimsical, impressionistic art medium."

So Morse set to work, reimagining one of her photographs in paper mosaic form — a photo of her grandmother's irises that she dug from her grandmother's home and replanted in her own garden after her loved one passed away. She gleaned some advice from her niece as well during this creative process.

"I tore up little pieces of paper from magazines with the intention of assembling a mosaic. It was way more challenging than I expected! My



Cori Morse assembles her paper mosaic iris piece using tiny pieces of paper from magazines. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

niece graciously helped me get started and encouraged me along the way. Thank you, McKenzie," said the Benjamin Logan High School graduate, who also holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Urbana University. The library program

director has served in her current role for a year, but said the library in Zanesfield has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember.

"I have fond memories of going there to look for books when I was a child," she related. "The thing I enjoy most about working at the Dr. Sloan Library is getting the opportunity to imagine and create community programs that gather people together to explore their own creativity and connect with one another in such a beautiful, historic setting."

When she's not at the library, Morse also loves to spend quality time with her husband, son and her cat. Her hobbies include photography, growing and arranging flowers, snowboarding with her son and sister, and playing pickleball.

Being part of the Logan County Art League's annual contest and fundraiser was enjoyable for the local resident and suits her passion for creativity and community connectedness. "Aside from the initial feelings of vulnerability in sharing my art piece with the entire county, I feel very honored to be chosen to participate in this fundraiser. I really love being a part of something that inspires and encourages people to express themselves creatively," the BLHS graduate said.

"More than the activity of actually working on the piece, I have to say that the time spent learning from my niece was my favorite part."

Morse said working with the paper mosaic has inspired her to continue pursuing paper art, and some other dabbling in this medium. She encouraged others to get involved in the arts, in whatever form speaks to them.

"Over the years, I've learned that we're all artists in different ways, and I've come to trust that expressing myself artistically or creatively leads me to a deeper understanding of myself and helps me embrace the inevitable changes that occur in life."

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## examiner **BRIDAL** section

## **The Knot Unveils Top Wedding Professionals** with the 2025 Best of Weddings Awards

#### AP BUSINESS WIRE

The Knot, a leading all-in-one wedding planning resource offering a comprehensive suite of digital products and tools, today announces the winners of its annual The Knot Best of Weddings and Hall of Fame awards. In their 19th and 13th years respectively, these prestigious awards honor the top wedding professionals in the industry across all wedding vendor categories, determined by real couple reviews on The Knot Vendor Marketplace. The winning vendors represent the best of the best professionals for all wedding budgets, styles and sizes, who consistently deliver exceptional service to couples throughout planning and on their wedding days.

The Knot Best of Weddings and Hall of Fame awards recognize and celebrate the outstanding service from wedding professionals nationwide whom couples trust for expert knowledge and guidance throughout their entire wedding planning journey. Recent data from The Knot\* shows couples increasingly rely on vendors before they even get engaged: One-quarter of proposers enlisted the help of pros for their 2024 proposals, more than double the number in 2019. Outstanding vendors who have earned four or more The Knot Best of Weddings awards are inducted into The Knot Best of Weddings Hall of Fame. Underscoring the awards' representation of the best of the best, this year approximately 5 percent of vendors on The Knot have received the Best of Weddings award, and less than 1 percent were inducted into the Best of Weddings Hall of Fame.

To determine the winners, The Knot assessed hundreds of thousands of user reviews for 200,000+ wedding professionals within its Vendor Marketplace across various categories-planners, venues, officiants, musicians, DJs, florists, photographers, caterers, hair and makeup artists, and more-to find the top vendors of the year. Vendors who have received at least seven reviews on The Knot with an average score of 4.5+ in 2024 received The Knot Best of Weddings award. These winners represent the top wedding pro-



fessionals who best embody and deliver what matters to couples in their wedding planning journey

"At The Knot, we know vendors are critical to every great wedding, and their significance is not lost on couples: They continue to hire an average of 14 vendors year after year to execute their wedding day visions," said Casey Moujaes, Vice President of US Vendor and Global Product Marketing. "We're thrilled to honor the elite wedding professionals whose dedication and excellence set the gold standard for the industry and to provide a platform for couples to find them. These trusted partners deliver above and beyond expectations, provide unmatched guidance and expertise, and make the planning process easier."\*\*

"We feel incredibly honored to receive The Knot Best of Weddings Award along with so many other remarkable wedding professionals," said Tamara Branch Rouse, Founder of Lush Event Design & Floristry in Philadelphia. "This award inspires our dedication to set the benchmark for excellence in the wedding industry. The Knot is our doorway to connect with so many wonderfully brilliant clients and allows us the opportunity to be discovered by our soulmate couples! We are thrilled to be part of such an exceptional community.'

Through The Knot Vendor Marketplace, couples can find the best wedding professionals in the industry, browse real wedding images for inspiration and read reviews from over 3 million couples. Spanning 25 categories-from venues and wedding planners to DJs, videographers, officiants and more-The

#### **Real Couple Reviews** on The Knot Vendor Marketplace:

#### Alchemist Weddings in Asheville & Charlotte, North Carolina

"We were absolutely thrilled with Lee Everette's ability to capture not just photos but feelings and moments. From the first call, it was clear that he had a unique talent for seeing beyond the surface and capturing the unique things that made our relationship so special. Throughout the entire process, Lee was more than just our photographer-he was a dedicated and supportive presence, offering his expertise and guidance whenever we needed it. The photos we have received so far perfectly encapsulate the joy, love and magic of our wedding day. We highly recommend him to anyone seeking a photographer who goes above and beyond to capture their wedding," one couple said of wedding photographer Lee Everette of Alchemist Weddingsin Asheville & Charlotte.

#### **HBIC Weddings in Chicago**

"Diane and her team at HBIC Weddings are truly exceptional. She kept everything organized and stress-free, all while adding warmth and laughter to every interaction. We actually found ourselves looking forward to our calls, and we'll genuinely miss planning our wedding with her. Diane and her team didn't just make sure our wedding ran smoothly-they made the entire planning process an absolute joy. For anyone seeking a planner who combines professionalism with a personal touch, we cannot recommend HBIC Weddings enough," one couple said of wedding planner Diane Brisk of HBIC Weddingsin Chicago

Knot Vendor Marketplace allows couples to search, compare and connect to book any of the hundreds of thousands of local wedding professionals across the country all in one place. The Knot Best of Weddings awards, in combination with years of trusted content and innovative technology from The Knot, give couples the confidence to book expert vendors to help plan a wedding that's authentically them.

Wedding professionals who win The Knot Best of Weddings and Hall of Fame awards are members of WeddingPro, The Knot Worldwide's business-to-business wedding brand. As the largest wedding Vendor Marketplace and community for wedding professionals, WeddingPro connects small businesses with millions of engaged couples each year on The Knot and WeddingWire, as well as with hundreds of thousands of pros in the industry. Through its online marketplaces, performance insights, educational programs and community-building events, WeddingPro is dedicated to giving wedding professionals access to the largest community of couples, a network of pros and data-backed guidance to help them grow their businesses.

For more information about The Knot Best of Weddings and this year's winners, please visit www.theknot.com/vendors/bestof-weddings.

\*Based on The Knot 2024 Jewelry and Engagement Study, conducted among 7,800+ respondents who got engaged in 2024.

\*\*Based on The Knot 2024 Real Weddings Study, conducted among nearly 17,000 US couples who married in 2024.

#### About The Knot

The Knot is a leading all-in-one wedding planning resource offering a comprehensive suite of digital tools to help couples throughout their planning journey. Powering wedding celebrations through technology, the brand offers The Knot Vendor Marketplace, which connects couples with more than 200,000 local wedding professionals, and personalized wedding websites, invitations and registry services. The most trusted authority on wedding planning, The Knot reaches a majority of engaged couples in the US through *TheKnot.com*; a leading wedding planning app with the most 5-star reviews on iOS and Android, The Knot Wedding Planner; The Knot national wedding magazine; and The Knot book series. Since its inception, The Knot has inspired approximately 25 million couples to plan a wedding that's authentic to them. Visit The Knot online at TheKnot.com and follow on social media: @TheKnot on TikTok, Instagram, Pinterest and Threads and Facebook.com/TheKnot.

## Why more Americans are choosing the Maldives resorts for their honeymoon destination

#### MANDY APPLEGATE AP WIRE REPORTS

Choosing a destination that is worthy of celebrating your new marriage is no easy feat. It has to be perfect - romantic, exciting and a place that can evoke a little jealousy from onlookers. Find out why the Maldives has become a paradise for American newlyweds, satisfying even the pickiest brides with its lavish accom-



modations and stunning natural beauty. Highly coveted

scenic views The secret to a magical honeymoon lies in being surrounded by white sandy

beaches and clear turquoise waters, which is what the Maldives effortlessly provides breathtaking scenery. Made up of over 1,000 islands, this country brings lush palm trees and



vibrant marine life, not to mention vivid sunsets that paint the skies with a kaleidoscope of colors, from orange to pink and purple. This serene environment is what newlyweds need to unwind from the hustle of preparations, wedding allowing them to enjoy each

tional hotel accommodations. There is nothing quite like waking up to the soothing sound of waves beneath you and stepping out onto your private deck for a morning swim. For the ultimate lavish experience, you can book an underwater hotel at The Muraka. Here, you can stay in a room with a curved glass ceiling, allowing you to watch marine life

These resorts often go

## examiner **BRIDAL** section

#### MAKING LIFE MORE FUN How To Plan A Big-Group Mountain Vacation

#### FROM NAPSI REPORTS

From destination weddings to family reunions and corporate outings, planning a group affair can be quite a large feat. Whether you're gathering 50 or hundreds of your closest family and friends, you'll need plenty of space and things to do. Big hotels or resorts are often quick-to-mind, but bringing everyone together in one spot to bond can be hard when you're trying to reserve conference rooms or common areas.

To add a touch of homelike hospitality to group gatherings, many people are turning to luxury big cabins instead. From cabins with eight-plus bedrooms to renting out multiple cabins on one street for a private block party, it's a unique option growing in popularity. One new community in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, is taking the trend to heart.

#### Gather in the Mountains

Mountain vacations are often reserved in people's minds for ski groups or avid hikers. But plenty of mountain destinations cater to everyone. Tennessee's Smoky Mountains is a great option for groups because excursions such as white-water rafting and hiking are easily shareable. The area is also home to a theme park, aquarium, minor league baseball games and more, offering plenty of choices for outings. Gatlinburg itself, with restaurants, distilleries, a local craft scene and shopping, gives everyone the chance to head to one place, while spreading out and exploring the area based on their own interests. It's also the gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the country's most visited national park with more than 11 million visitors annually.

Staying active and sharing new experiences can help groups bond and break the ice if it's a corporate or church retreat where people might still be getting to know one another. Heading to the mountains can offer a nice break from the traditional beach retreat, and rest and relaxation are still an option. From a soak in the hot tub back at your rental cabin to visiting an area day spa, calm and peaceful mountains are a great backdrop for a relaxing getaway.

#### Stay Under One Roof

New communities such as Cherokee Orchard are meeting a growing demand for luxury big cabin options in mountain destinations such as the Smokies. The neighborhood recently opened with four cabin rentals ranging in size from eight to 16 bedrooms, along with a pool house. Four more cabins are under construction, varying in size from eight to 20 bedrooms. Once completed, the neighborhood will feature eight log cabins sprawling across more than 1.2 private acres, all within walking distance of downtown Gatlinburg.

In the community's Majestic Pine Retreat, for example, 13 bedrooms include 10 king suites and three rooms with queen-sized bunks, making the cabin fit for 60 guests. A massive kitchen comes fully equipped, while log dining tables can seat everyone for a feast after an action-packed day. A home theater features a large screen, surround sound, stadium seating and plush leather chairs, while two hot tubs join outdoor seating and a grill for entertaining outside.

Depending on the size of your group, The Mighty Crabapple Manor offers eight bedrooms, while The Big Oak Lodge provides 16. Each cabin has an impressive great room where the group can relive the day's memories or break into teams for some board games. Or, everyone can head to the neighborhood's community pool house for a swim.

Whether a single cabin will fit your group or a large event has you renting out the neighborhood, this luxury big cabin trend is a great, unique way to get everyone together.



## WeddingWire 2025 Couples' Choice Awards<sup>®</sup> Winners Revealed

#### AP BUSINESS WIRE

Trusted wedding vendor directory WeddingWire today announces the winners of its 17th annual Couples' Choice Awards® to honor the wedding industry's top local wedding professionals. The Couples' Choice Awards® recognize the exceptional vendors who demonstrate superior quality, service, responsiveness and professionalism, as determined by real couple reviews on WeddingWire.

To identify these distinguished wedding professionals, WeddingWire analyzed thousands of user reviews within its wedding Vendor Directory across more than 20 service categories-from venues and caterers to officiants and photographers-to find the top local vendors of the year. Vendors who have received at least seven reviews on WeddingWire with an average score of 4.5+ in 2024 received a WeddingWire Couples' Choice Award®. The award celebrates top vendors that showcase hard work and outstanding service, exemplifying the qualities that matter most to couples in their wedding planning journey. Less than 3 percent of vendors on WeddingWire have received the Couples' Choice Award®, making this an esteemed honor.

"More than ever, today's couples seek trusted experts to transform their unique styles and shared values into unforgettable celebrations," said Casey Moujaes, Vice President of US Vendor and Global Product Marketing. "The WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards<sup>®</sup> stamp of excellence, alongside nearly 5 million trusted reviews on WeddingWire's Vendor Directory, allow couples to feel confident in booking pros that can bring their authentic and personalized wedding vision to life."

"So many engaged couples go to WeddingWire to begin their wedding planning and find valued vendors," said Cleo Brown, owner of La Bella Luna in Granbury, TX. "Being a WeddingWire Couples' Choice Award® win-

## **Maldives**

#### **Continued from Page 4**

amenities, providing infinity pools and private dining options. It's a place where your wildest travel dreams can come true, like being served crostini appetizers on a floating tray in your private pool. The unforgettable experiences offered in the Maldives make it a highly sought-after destination for American couples looking to celebrate their love in comfort like kings and queens.

#### Romantic activities for honeymooners

Honeymooners won't be bored after spending a few days in the Maldives, as there is something to do for every occasion. Couples looking to rejuvenate can relax with a massage and spa treatment using local ingredients like coconut scrubs and flower baths. Afterward, they can enjoy a romantic candlelit dinner on the beach prepared by top chefs, savoring what might be the best chocolate cake of their lives under starlit skies.

The Maldives also offers water sports for adventurous newlyweds eager to get their adrenaline pumping with activities like snorkeling, diving, sailing and wakeboarding. For a more unique experience, couples can explore the ocean aboard a submarine that navigates through shipwrecks and allows for close encounters with sharks. The adventures continue even after sunset at the Bioluminescent Plankton Beach, which

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ner means couples recognize our 'product' our venue—as an amazing choice. This recognition gives us such gratification that we have satisfied and exceeded couples' expectations for their wedding day."

Wedding professionals who win WeddingWire's Couples' Choice Awards® are members of WeddingPro, The Knot Worldwide's business-to-business wedding brand. As the largest wedding Vendor Marketplace and community for wedding professionals, WeddingPro connects small businesses with millions of engaged couples each year on The Knot and WeddingWire, as well as with hundreds of thousands of pros in the industry. Through its online marketplaces, performance insights, educational programs and community-building events, WeddingPro is dedicated to giving wedding professionals access to the largest community of couples, a network of pros and data-backed guidance to help them grow their businesses.

For more information about WeddingWire's Couples' Choice Awards<sup>®</sup> and this year's winners, please visit *www.weddingwire.com/couples-choice-awards.* 

#### About WeddingWire

Available in the US, Canada and India, WeddingWire is a trusted wedding vendor directory that helps engaged couples search, compare and find the perfect local wedding professionals for their big day. With the Wedding Vendor Manager tool,

## Real Couple Reviews on WeddingWire:

#### Unending Beauty by Maria in Chicago

"I cannot recommend Maria at Unending Beauty enough. Her talent, professionalism and ability to enhance natural beauty are truly exceptional. If you're looking for a makeup artist for your wedding or any special occasion, I highly recommend her services. She will undoubtedly make you feel and look like the best version of yourself," one newlywed said of makeup artist Maria Hernandez ofUnending Beauty by Mariain Chicago.

#### Peachtree Catering and Events in Philadelphia

"Peachtree Catering and Events provided an outstanding experience for our wedding. From the moment we began planning, their team was professional, attentive and truly invested in making our day perfect. We also have to call out the service during the wedding. We can't stress it enough—Peachtree takes care of their guests. They seemingly had eyes everywhere to take an empty glass or refill someone's water but weren't 'in the way,' for lack of a better way to put it. We can say for certain that the Peachtree team added to the experience of our wedding. We wanted guests to feel seen, cared for, welcomed and truly hosted—and they delivered," one couple said ofPeachtree Catering and Eventsin Philadelphia.

couples can discover and message wedding pros, compare reviews and pricing and add reference notes all in one place for easy decision-making. WeddingWire's suite of planning tools and services, inspiration and community make it simple for couples to plan their wedding. Visit WeddingWire online at WeddingWire.com, WeddingWire.ca, and WeddingWire.in and follow on social media in the US on Instagram.

offers a magical experience. Here, you can see tiny fluorescent lights emitted by plankton in the ocean, creating an enchanting scene known as the Sea of Stars. This phenomenon gives the illusion that stars have fallen into the water, making it a sight not to be missed. Increasing accessibility

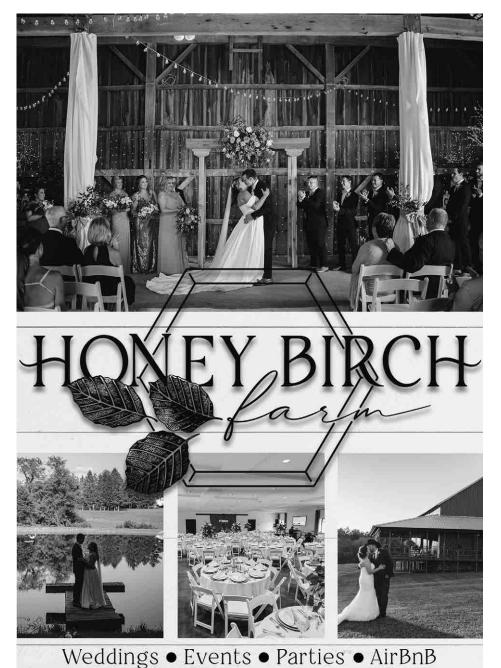
Although the Maldives is quite far from the United States, many flights are available due to the high demand for this destination. Major airlines offer flights from various cities in the U.S., typically with one stop along the way. Despite its remote location, improved flight connections have made the Maldives more accessible to American travelers, particularly those looking to honeymoon in this beautiful island nation.

Once you arrive at Male Airport, many

resorts provide transfer services by seaplane or speedboat, making it easier to reach your final destination. Your dream honeymoon truly begins as soon as you land, as you are whisked away to your resort in snazzy vehicles.

#### A honeymoon to remember

There is no wonder why this beautiful island nation is a top honeymoon destination for Americans. With its breathtaking scenery across hundreds of islands, luxurious accommodations and countless romantic experiences, the Maldives offer everything newlyweds could wish for in a romantic vacation. For an unforgettable start with your new life partner, look no further than the Maldives, where every moment will be filled with romance and serenity.





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New Hampshire

Curtis Randolph, pastor

Church of the Nazarene

Bible school, 9:30 a.m. Worship,

Prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Teens and

**United Methodist Church** 

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m. Worship,

8651 County Road 39, Belle Center

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship,

Wednesday: Prayer meeting, 6 p.m.

Hospitality 9 a.m.. Sunday school,

9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**United Methodist Church** 

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.; FREE

meal - 3rd Thursdays 4:30 - 6 p.m.

United Methodist Church

Corner of County Roads 34 and 59

Woship, 9 a.m. Sunday School,

Santa Fe Grace Chapel

**Christian Union Church** 

9491 Santa Fe Line Rd, Wapakoneta

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship,

10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer

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Rev. Debra Ketcham, pastor

10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship,

10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thurs.:

Junior services, 7:30 p.m.

Rev. Hal Argabright, pastor

10:45 a.m. Bible study, 7 p.m.

**New Richland Baptist** 

**New Hampshire** 

Wednesday.

Church

Steve Smith, pastor

singing and praising;

**Lutheran Church** 

Jonathan Schriber, pastor

Philadelphia

5506 Road 201

(937) 638-1407

philchurch.com.

Roundhead

**Rum Creek** 

(740) 505-1859

Neal Reid, pastor

meeting, 6:00 p.m.

10 a.m.

Abigail Adams, pastor

17958 SR 117

## church directory

#### 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.

auburn-avenue.org **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 Twp. Rd. 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) Jeffory D. Willetts, pastor; Brandan 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 Super 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.



## i'm lovin' it 1780 S. Main St. 1127 N. Main St. Bellefontaine, OH



**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; -orfb.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. bellefontainefcc.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

#### **First Evangelical**

p.m.

p.m.

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

**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 Pilgrim Fellowship, Congregational & Reformed (937) 592-6387 Dr. Marshall Pierson, pastor Sundav 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 Corner of county roads 12 & 26

David Moore, pastor 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. cornerstor

Hope Harbor Baptist Church 8330 S. 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

#### **MIDDLEBURG**

LTUMC.com

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

#### 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 Church of Christ** New Street and Mi (937) 585-4786

#### 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 rfcoq.com

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

#### **RUSHSYLVANIA Big Springs Methodist Church**

#### 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

contemporary worship and Quest Kids children's ministry; Student Ministry Sunday 6-7:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.;

auestchurchonline com

**Mennonite Church** 

Matthew Williams, pastor

southunionchurch.org.

**Community Church** 

Jeremy Sarver, pastor

**Union Chapel** 

State Route 287

212 W. Newell (937) 465-2761

10:30 a.m

Church

Karen Griswold, pastor

Rod Brower, pastor

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Connection Group.

United Church of Christ,

**Congregational Christian** 

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship,

**United Methodist Church** 

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

WEST MANSFIELD

Traditional worship, 9 a.m.;

Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.

**United Presbyterian** 

fb: /westlibertyunited-methodistchurch

Keith Landis, pastor

**Baptist Church** 

Friends Church

31654 State Route 31 (937) 982-3561

Jim Gardner, pastor

of month.

9:30 a.m

Sam Newell, Interim pastor

**Byhalia Evangelical** 

Sunday School: 9 a.m. church service: 10 a.m.

South Union

56 State Route 508 (937) 465-6085

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



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CURT ROACH, R.Ph. PHARMACIST/OWNER 204 N. Detroit St. • West Liberty, OH 43357 Phone: (937) 650-3333 • Fax: (937) 650-3335

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 Sundav 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@jubileemenno

**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

Sundav 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 and 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.

#### ozewicz, pastor Sunday school, 10 a.m., Worship, 11

**Church of Christ** (937) 935-965 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**

(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, 11 a.m. contemporary service. Children's orograms offered during both services No nursery care. Good Samaritan-Outreach, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Thursdays; free community meal, 5– 6:30 p.m. last Wednesdays of the month (Lighthouse); Ignite program 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Lookout youth indian lake community church. or g

#### 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; reconcilation by appointment also

**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.

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

West Mansfield **Methodist Church** (937) 355-2401 Rev. Dr. Timothy Burden Sunday school, 10:45 a.m. Worship,

#### 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, pasto

Sunday: Worship 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 11 a.m.; Wednesday: Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m. goshenfriendschurch.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.

#### **OTHERS**

Harper Community Church 3679 N. CR 25, Bellefontaine (470) 345-8506

Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school

Millcreek Church of Christ

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m., 7 p.m.

**Mt. Carmel Friends Church** 

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer

Mt. Tabor Church of God

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.

Worship, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school,

10:30 a.m. Wed.: Bible study, 7:30

reek Rd., C

Anthony Davis, pastor

24538 Lunda Road, Ra

Jack Knox, minister

3470 Kennard-Kings (937) 652-3252

Jereme Proudman, pasto

service, youth program and children's program, 7 p.m.

mtcarmelfriends.com

Nathan Price, pastor

**Muchinippi Church** 

Edward Shady, pastor

p.m.

10:30 a.m

# entertainment

## 2025 Sundance Film Festival need to know guide

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — As many in the entertainment industry navigate the devastating effects of the California wildfires, some will soon be decamping to cleaner air in the mountains. The annual Sundance Film Festival begins Thursday in Park City, Utah.

The 41st edition of Robert Redford's brainchild will, as always, be a year of discovery and discussion. There are timely films: - "Free Leonard Peltier," which will premiere just days after former President Joe Biden commuted the sentence of the Indigenous activist nearly half a century after he was imprisoned for the 1975 killings of two FBI agents.

— Oscar-winner Mstyslav Chernov's"2000 Meters to Andriivka," a joint production between The Associated Press and Frontline about an attempt to liberate an occupied territory in Ukraine

— Several films about trans rights including "Heightened Scrutiny," about civil rights lawyer Chase Strangio. It's a topic even more pressing after President Donald Trump signed executive orders Monday rolling back protections for transgender people.

There are even some controversies brewing: "The Stringer," from documentary filmmaker Bao Nguyen, calls into question who took the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Napalm Girl" photograph. Retired AP photographer Nick Ut and the AP, which conducted a six-month investigation

into the allegation, are contesting it

and Ut's lawyers have asked for it to

be pulled from the program. The film is an investigation," said Eugene Hernandez, the director of the festival, who is moving forward with plans to screen it. "I think it will be a really important conversation that will come out over the next few days after the film is seen by more people.'

Don't worry, it's not all heavy. There's drama of course, even a film about starting over after a fire ("Rebuilding," with Josh O'Connor), horror, satire, literary adaptations, comedy, documentaries about famous faces, and some that simply defy categorization.

"There's some really funny stuff in the program," Hernandez said. One of those Hernandez cited is "Bubble & Squeak," about a married

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couple accused of smuggling cabbages into a nation where they're banned.

For first time filmmakers, Sundance can be their chance to break through in a big way. That happened last year for "Didi" filmmaker Sean Wang. Some films that debuted last January are still in the awards conversation, like "A Real Pain" and "A Different Man." For actors, the festival is both a casual respite to awards season glitz (snow boots are more likely on red carpets than high heels) and can be a chance to show audiences a new dimension of their talent.

"It's a strong year of renewal for our artist community," Hernandez said. "And we have a lot of really great voices and stories that we get to unveil in the coming days.' Everything you need to know:

#### When is Sundance?

Sundance runs from Jan. 23 through Feb. 2. There are about 90 features premiering across the 11 days, with screenings starting early in the morning through midnight. Award-winners will be announced on Jan. 31.

Hank Ketcham

What celebrities are expected? Stars with films premiering include Jennifer Lopez, Benedict Cumberbatch, Diego Luna, Conan O'Brien, Alison Brie, Dave Franco, Avo Edebiri, Olivia Colman, André Holland, Steven Yeun, Mark Ruffalo, Bowen Yang, Carey Mulligan, Joel Edgerton, Lily Gladstone, Dev Patel, Emily Watson, John Lithgow, Marlee Matlin, John Malkovich, Rose Byrne, Chloë Sevigny, Josh O'Connor, Ben Whishaw, Dylan O'Brien, Lili Reinhart and Willem Dafoe.

What are some of the big movies? One of the greatest things about Sundance is that it's often the underthe-radar movies that become the breakouts.

But some of the higher-profile premieres going into the festival include: Bill Condon's "Kiss of the Spider-Woman," starring Lopez; Ahmir "Ouestlove" Thompson's documentary "SLY LIVES! (aka The Burden of Black Genius)"; "Opus," a horror about the cult of celebrity with Edebiri and John Malkovich; Andrew Ahn's "The Wedding Banquet," with Bowen Yang and Kelly Marie Tran; the war satire "Atropia," with Alia Shawkat; "Pee-

Dave Whamond

MANY LEVELS!

wee as Himself," about the late Paul Reubens; "Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore"; and Andrew Jarecki and Charlotte Kaufman's doc "The Alabama Solution," about a cover-up in one of America's most notorious prison systems.

#### How is the festival addressing the California wildfires?

Festival organizers have been in dialogue with filmmakers, staff, audiences and donors about the effects of the fires, supporting and accommodating where possible including pushing back deadlines to allow filmmakers more time to finish. The festival will also have a QR code displaved before screenings for information on sharing resources or contributing to relief efforts.

#### Is Sundance really leaving Park City?

For the most part, yes. Starting in 2027 the festival will no longer be primarily based in Park City. It may stay in Utah but would operate mainly out of Salt Lake City. Other finalists are Boulder, Colorado, and Cincinnati, Ohio. The Sundance Institute is expected to announce its final decision in the first quarter of 2025.

#### **MODERATELY CONFUSED**



PEANUTS



CROSSWORD

#### **DENNIS THE MENACE**



Charles Schulz

I LEARNED THAT I GET

23 Pageant

#### **REALITY CHECK**

HEY. AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE TO BUY MY FRIENDS, BARBIE!

#### RUBES





#### PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

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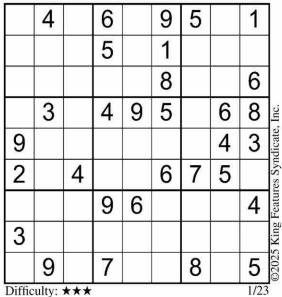
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#### HOROSCOPES

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

This afternoon, Mercury opposes Mars, creating a charged atmosphere where new initiatives may meet resis-tance or skepticism. Conversations can feel confrontational as differing view-points clash, and egos can get easily hurt. It's not the best time to push ahead, especially if you're met with questions of doubts. Intead, paper approach. Fortunately, Mercury forms a harmonious trine with Uranus later, opening doors to fresh perspectives and innovative solutions. While it might be frustrating to hit roadblocks initially, this alignment encourages thinking outside the box and finding unexpected paths forward. Recent-tics you hadn't considered before, mak-ing it an excellent time to regroup, recalibrate and strategize. The key is flexibility. Be willing to pivot your plans or approach problems with a fresh mindset. This is a day for exploi-ing new ideas, brainstorming creative strategies and embracing changes that atime to reflect and consider the poss-bilities that are emerging, even if they feel unorventional or unfamiliar. With patience and ingenuity, this ener-gy can help you navigate obstacles and set the stage for progress in a way that feels both inspired and sustationable.

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or impor-tant decisions from 6:45 p.m. to 11:45 tant decisions from 6:45 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. EST today (3:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Scorpio into Sagittarius.

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

Solverage, 2-30-30, 1-Difficult ARIES (March 21-April 19)  $\star \star \star$  Discussions with parents or bosses might bring about a surprise change at home or within your family. Perhaps you'll receive unexpected assistance. A new direction in life might affect your earnings, your belongings and your private life. It's an interesting day! Tonight: Explore! TAURUS (April 20-May 20)  $\star \star \star \star$  Unexpected travel opportuni-ties might fall in your lap today. Therefore, stay light on your feet, because you might suddenly change

RES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols
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Check your belongings. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\*\* You might have some clever, moneymaking ideas today. Or possibly you have to suddenly deal with or clear up old business about shared property, taxes or debt. This is a busy time for you, which is why you'll enjoy relaxing with family and friends at home, if you get the chance. Tonight: You will C\*\*\*\*\* A friend might surprise you today, or you might surprise them. Social outings, sports events and fun activities with kids might have speed bumps or detours, which means you need to be light on your feet and ready to jump in either direction. An unex-pected invitation might come your way. WOUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\* Thy disruptions will be par for the course today. For some of you, these could be big interruptions, even accidents. Get dressed and prepare for the unexpected. Meanwhile, you might biossom! Tonight: Be friendly. \*\*\*\* Parents should be vigilant, because this is an accident-prone days might suddenly change. Ditto for travel plans. You might be introduced to new faces, especially younger people. Keep an open mind. Novel ideas are flying through the air! Tonight: You're admind.

If your birthday is Jan. 23: You are grounded. You are an uncon-ventional, original thinker. You are magnetic, and others admire you. This is a year of service for you, perhaps service to family. Because you are a resource for others, take care of your-self. Might this be a year for a make-over?

#### BORN TODAY

Retired aviator Chesley (Sully) Sullenberger (1951), actress Mariska Hargitay (1964), actor Randolph Scott (1898)

\* \* \* Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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# Bassifier fields

#### PERSONAL

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

#### ADEA RULINGS

The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept help wanted advertisements in violation of the Age Discrimi- nation Employment Act.

The ADEA prohibits arbitrary age discrimination of persons age 40 or over and applies to employers with 25 or more employees, employment agen- cies and labor organizations.

zations. Advertising containing such terms as "young", "boy", or "girl" or designating a certain age such as "age 35 to 55" or other similar specification indi- cates discrimination against employment of older persons and are considered in violation of the act.

Information about the Act may be obtained by calling or writ- ing the U.S. Department of La- bor, Wage and Hour Division.

#### SERVICES

FOR ONLY \$335, you can place a 25-word classified ad in 133 newspapers across 68 counties. All newspapers within the OhioScan network

#### STORAGE

Monthly rentals. Free locks. Be- hind Harbor Freight. 592-9100.

#### **REAL ESTATE**

PUBLISHERS NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race. color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes chil-dren under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodi- ans, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18 This newspaper will not know- ingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwell- ings advertised in the newspa-per are available on an equal opportunity basis. To com-plain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

#### FINANCIAL

NOTICE LENDING OPPORTUNITIES Borrow Smart. Contact the Ohio Division of Financial Insti- tutions' Office of Consumer Af- fairs 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 properly licensed. (This notice is a public service of the Belle- fontaine Examiner.)

#### LEGALS

#### NOTICE

The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept Help Wanted ads from employers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act if they of- fer less than the legal mini- mum wage or fail to pay at least time and one-half for overtime hours.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Miami Township Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on an application for a conditional use on the 5th day of February, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the Miami Township building located at 112 Jefferson Street, Quincy, OH, 43343. The application, applied for by

#### LEGALS

same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Logan County and/or its partnering City of Bellefontaine at the following addresses on or before February 7, 2025 (which is at least 15 days after the publication of this notice): Logan County Board of Commissioners, 117 East Columbus Avenue, Suite 100, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311, Attention: David Henry, County Administrator, (937) 599-7283; City of Bellefontaine, 135 North Detroit Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311, Attention: Wes Dodds; (937) 592-6807. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Logan County Board of Commissioners Office at the address above. Comments may also be submitted via email at david.henry@logancountyoh.go v and

w dodds @ci.belle fontaine.oh.us.

#### Date: January 23, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Richland Township Zoning Commission, Logan County, OH, will hold a public hearing concerning proposed amendments to the Richland Township Zoning Resolution on February 14, 2025 at 1:30 PM at the Richland Township Hall. The building address is 615 N. Center St., Belle Center, OH 43310.

The Proposed amendments, initiated by motion of the Zoning Commission, propose to amend the zoning district of the following properties:

**Parcel #37-033-00-00-039-000** at address 6586 Twp Rd 95, Huntsville, Ohio, owned by DSG Capital LLC, from low Density Residential District (R-1) to Local Business District (B-2).

The application including text and map(s) for zoning amendment will be available for examination at the Front door of the Memorial Building, 615 N. Center St., Belle Center, OH 43310 between the hours of 12 AM and 12 PM for a period of 10 days prior to the public hear-

#### LEGALS

Enterprises, 4198 St. Rt. 68, West Liberty, OH 43357 is asking for 4 variances (minimum lot width, minimum lot size, minimum side yard, minimum right of way width) for property located at the dead end of Wren Avenue and Roy Avenue (platted but undeveloped), south of Michigan Street. He is requesting to place single-family homes on a 40' wide x 100' deep lot with 5' side yard set back and 50' right of way that matches Wren Avenue. and Roy Avenue. This property is zoned R-3C, Condominium Residence District.

Trey Daring of Daring, Sanford Real Estate LLC and Eichholtz, Daring & Sanford Funeral Homes, 321 N. Main St., Bellefontaine, is seeking a variance for 312 N. Detroit Street and 117 W. High St. Each variance request is asking that the property at both addresses be

#### LEGALS

filled with gravel to make additional parking areas for the funeral home. Both homes on the properties have been approved for demolition through the Logan County Land Bank. The 117 W. High St. parking area would be temporary until later this year when the applicant is expecting to build a garage for funeral home use. Both properties are zoned R3, Multi-Family Residence District.

The application forms, maps and other pertinent information are on file in the office of the City Engineer for public inspection Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Jan. 23, 2025

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Annual Financial Reports for the Greenwood Union Cemetery is complete and avail-

BELLEFONTAINE EXAMINER

#### LEGALS

able at the office of the fiscal officer, 200 S. Carlisle, Quincy, OH 43343. Sheryl Hatfield Fiscal Officer

Union

Fiscal Officer Greenwood Cemetery Jan. 23, 2025

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Union Township 2024 Year End Annual Report is complete and filed with the State Of Ohio. To view the report, please contact Rebecca Robison, Fiscal Officer 2405 Twp. Rd. 46 South Bellefontaine OH 43311. 937-935-9860. Union Township trustees meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM at 5844 Twp. Rd. 201 Bellefontaine OH 43311. Trustees Steve Yoder, Robert Kauffman, Douglas Kauffman. Zoning Inspector Mike Kilgore. Union Township is zoned. Jan. 23, 2025



total a readership of over 2,000,000. Call Bellefontaine Examiner, 592-3060. Visit www.adohio.net.

#### 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.

#### MOTORCYCLES

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

#### WATERCRAFT

STARCRAFT 18 ft. alum. boat, big Mercury 4 cyl. IO, new fish finder, bimini top, cus- tom 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**

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

#### FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT: private bathroom, one person only, very quiet, Bellefontaine. 937-351-3041

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



ALL AMERICAN Storage.

Randy and Doris Berry requests that a conditional use be granted for the following property located in the U-1 district to permit Non-Commercial Recreation as the use of the property. Description: Property located at 5483 C.R. 63, Quincy, OH, 43343 Kaitlyn Bailey, Fiscal Officer and

Zoning Officer Jan. 23, 2025 PUBLIC NOTICE

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Yr/500-Yr Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Logan County Board of Commissioners and the City of Bellefontaine, OH have determined that the following pro-posed action under the PY2024 Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP) Program and B-C-24-1BP-1/2 may be located in the 100-year/500year floodplain, and the Logan County Board of Commissioners and the City of Bellefontaine will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regula-tions at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. General project activity scope includes Private Rehabilitation, Home/Building Repair, and any other eligible activities to low-moderate activities to low-moderate income (LMI) households. For the PY2024 CHIP, Logan County and its partnering jurisdictions, the City of Bellefontaine, propose funding to assist approximately six (6) private rehabilitation and approximately (10)ten home/building repair projects. Proposed project activity located within Logan County, countywide and including its partner-ing City of Bellefontaine, OH.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the ing.

Board of Trustees Richland Township Fiscal Officer 937-464-3789 Office Jan. 23, 2025

PROBATE COURT OF LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO NATASHA R. KENNEDY, JUDGE IN RE: CHANGE OF NAME OF MEGAN C. LOWRY TO MEGAN C. GERLACH Case No. 25-NC-01 Notice of Hearing on Change of Name (R.C. 2717.08 and 2717.14)

Applicant gives notice that the Applicant gives notice that the Applicant of the Application for Change of Name in this Court requesting the change of name of MEGAN CHRISTINE LOWRY TO MEGAN CHRISTINE GER-LACH. A hearing on the Application will be held on March 3, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. In the Probate Court of Logan County, located at 101 S. Main St., Bellefontaine, OH 43311. Megan C. Lowry 117 W. Columbus Ave., Loft

Bellefontaine, OH 43311 Jan. 23, 2025

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Harrison Township Trustees met for a special meeting December 31, 2024. Gary Ginter was elected Chairman, Jerold Wiford, Vice Chairman and David Jackson, Board Member. Judy Hartzler serves as Fiscal Officer and Chris Marlow continues as the Zoning Inspector. Mr. Marlow can be reached at 937-539-1588 for all zoning matters. The 2025 meeting dates will be

The 2025 meeting dates will be the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Harrison Township Office/Maintenance Building, 4246 S.R. 47 W, Bellefontaine, Ohio.

The Annual Financial Reports for Harrison Township, Logan County, Ohio is complete for the Fiscal Year 2024. It is available for review by calling the Fiscal Officer at 937-441-3600 to schedule an appointment. By The Order of the Trustees Judy Hartzler, Fiscal officer Harrison Township, Logan County, Ohio June 23, 2025

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held in Council Chambers before the Bellefontaine City Board of Zoning Appeals on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. for the following requests.

Jeremy LeVan of LeVan

\$10	. \$	7	ř,
\$20	51	3	

#### EASTON WATER

\$30	•••••	••••••••••	\$ 1	8

\*NOTE: (Limit 2-per purchase)

#### INDIAN LAKE ROLLARENA

\$6 (Fri & Sat 7–10:30 p.m.)	\$	4.50	)
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#### • KIRKMONT CENTER HABITAT HOUSE

\$100 (Good for (1) night rental)	\$	7	0
\$600 (Good for (1) week rental)	4	2	0

#### 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		\$ 1	5	

#### OHIO FITNESS & MARTIAL ARTS

\$39.99	\$28
(Good for (1) Month Gym Membership)	
\$70	\$49
(Good for (1) Month Family Gym Membership)	
\$79.99	\$59
(Good for (1) Month Kids Martial Arts)	
\$165	\$119
(Good for (1) Month Family Gym & Martial Arts Members	hip)

### BUSINESSES INTERESTED IN JOINING THE PROGRAM CALL 937-592-3060 TO FIND OUT HOW!



NOTE: Certificates can't be combined with any other offer, coupon or gift certificate. No cash back value and are a non-refundable purchase.

## Tigers grapplers down Madison Plains

#### BY MIKE FRANK EXAMINER SPORTS WRITER

West Liberty-Salem seems to be hitting their stride at just the right time.

The Tigers took a break from the tournament circuit, facing fellow Ohio Heritage Conference member Madison Plains in a dual meet Wednesday. The Tigers came out on top by a score of 55-24.

"It's nice to do something that's not going to take all day and get fans a chance to come out and watch," said West Liberty-Salem head coach Andy Hartshorn.

"We work really hard to peak toward the end of the year, and we're getting close to that. We like an opportunity to see areas where we've been getting better and areas where we need to keep getting better."

On Wednesday, the Tigers won eight of the 10 contested bouts, getting a major decision, tech fall or pin in all of them.

Earning falls for the Tigers were Zayden Shafer (113), Madden Kilgore (120), Lucas Merriman (126), Kyler Langhardt (138) and Sam Bradford (190).

Silas Krabill dominated at 165 for a tech fall, while Derek Wall (144) and Maverick Reames (215) both got major decisions (a win by eight points or more).

West Liberty's Lance Saylor (132) and Robert Park (157) got wins by forfeit, with the Golden Eagles winning at 150 and 285 without an opponent.

Starting the night off at 106 pounds were Peyton Whitt for the Golden Eagles and Wyatt Shoemaker of the Tigers.



Lucas Merriman of West Liberty-Salem scores three points for a takedown during the 126-pound wrestling match against Blake Doughty of Madison Plains on Wednesday at WL-S. (EXAMINER PHOTO I MIKE FRANK)

getting a reversal and two near-fall points at the end to make it 7-4 Shoemaker was awarded a penalty point and got a reversal in the second to tie it up. They battled into the third, with Whitt earning a pin with 1:01 to go.

At 113, Shafer took on Andrew Stoltz. Shafer got the first takedown, then fell behind 4-3. After a penalty on Stoltz tied it, Shafer escaped then got a takedown and two back points in the closing seconds for a 10-4 lead. Stoltz broke free for one point in the second, but Shafer scored a takedown with just a couple seconds left. Shafer continued to pile up the points in the third until getting the pin with over a minute left iust Kilgore was taken down by the Eagles' Ethan Pool to start things at 120. He got a

two-point reversal, then collected six back points. He ended the match early in the second period with a reversal and then the pin.

At 126, Merriman, the team's only junior, scored a takedown of Madison Plains' Blake Doughty and added two more points for a nearfall 30 seconds in. Doughty fended him off for the rest of the period. In the second, Merriman broke loose from the bottom position, and got the pin just before the midway point of the period.

After Saylor's forfeit win, Langhardt got the first score against the Eagles' Landon Hottinger, a three-point takedown after 30 seconds. Hottinger eventually got free for one point, but Langhardt gained control again for a 6-1 edge. They battled through most of the second period. Then, with 25 seconds to go, Langhardt put Hottinger's shoulders to the mat, making it 30-6 for the Tigers.

The most closely contested match of the night came next at 144 featuring Wall of the Tigers and Wyatt Evans for Madison Plains. The first period saw Wall have the upper hand with three takedowns. Evans managed to get out each time, making it 9-3. Wall got out from the bottom position to start the second. Evans then took him down, cutting it to 10-4. A reversal just before the buzzer boosted Wall's lead. In the final two minutes, Wall got another three-point takedown, and allowed just one to get the 15-7 major decision. The teams traded forfeit victories at 150 and

see everybody as equals in there. They get the treatment and feel like coaches work specifically with me on these days. And it gives us a chance to build some confidence and go out there and really get lots of reps

Examiner Sports

> and really get lots of reps and do what you saw tonight." West Liberty-Salem will compete in a tournament hosted by Lima Central Catholic this

the end of the first peri-

down and four near-fall

points in the third gave

him the 14-0 win worth

four team points.

Logan Bush of

Madison Plains then

heavyweight to conclude

is kind of a new thing for

us," said Hartshorn. The

team has grown from

four kids when he start-

"It's given kids with

opportunity to compete

the room," he said. "We

with the older guys in

ed five years ago to 17 this year, including four

less experience an

"Having a full lineup

went unopposed at

the evening.

girls.

od. The second was scoreless, but a take-

weekend. West Liberty Salem 55, Madison Plains 24 106 — Peyton Whitt (MP) pin Wyatt Shoemaker (WLS),

4:59 113 — Zayden Shafer (WLS) pin Andrew Stoltz (MP), 4:57 120 — Madden Kilgore (WLS) pin Ethan Pool (MP), 2:16 126 — Lucas Merriman (WLS) pin Blake Doughty (MP),

2:48 132 — Lance Saylor (WLS)

win by forfeit 138 — Kyler Langhardt (WLS) pin Landon Hottinger

(MP), 3:35 144 — Derek Wall (WLS) maj. dec. Wyatt Evans (MP), 15-

150 — Tre Smith (MP) win by forfeit

157 — Robert Park (WLS) win by forfeit 165 — Silas Krabill (WLS)

165 — Silas Krabill (WLS) tech fall over Tyler Hook (MP), 2:42

175 — Richie Roder (MP) pin Tim Krabill (WLS), 0:33

Whitt grabbed a 7-0 lead with a takedown and four back points midway through the first period. Shoemaker fought back, Reames faced Tyler Martin in the 215-pound class. He was awarded a point for Martin stalling, then scored six more at

157. The two wrestlers —

Park of WL-S and Tre

Smith of the Golden

Eagles — then had an

exhibition match and

Moving up to 165,

MP's Tyler Hook. Krabill

down, then allowed him

seconds left in the first as

Krabill was ahead 18-3.

Madison Plains'

Richie Roeder got his

squad's second win of

the night with a pin of

At 190, Bradford

faced Michael House. A

quick takedown led to a

pin at 59 seconds of the

33 seconds.

first.

Cardinals girls lose to Fairbanks

College football landscape set to shift

the Tigers' Tim Krabill in

up to get more scoring

opportunities. The

match ended with 18

repeatedly took Hook

Smith earned a pin.

Silas Krabill took on

190 — Sam Bradford (WLS) pin Michael House (MP), 0:59 215 — Maverick Reames (WLS) maj. dec. Tyler Martin, 14-0 285 — Logan Bush (MP) win by forfeit



#### BY THE EXAMINER STAFF vars

Triad lost to Fairbanks 63-18 Wednesday in Ohio Heritage Conference girls basketball action at Fairbanks.

The Lady Cardinals are now 3-11 in the OHC and 4-14 overall.

Jazz Ford had six points and three rebounds, while Abbey Overfield scored six points and got two rebounds.

Ford had two baskets and two free throws, while, Overfield hit a two, a three and one foul shot.

Gracie Martin, Bre Parsons, and Mia LeMay each scored two points.

Triad will host West Jefferson Saturday. The varsity-only contest begins at 6 p.m.

#### Chiefs bowlers sweep Urbana

The Bellefontaine bowlers hosted Urbana Tuesday at T-P Lanes and swept the varsity and JV matches.

The boys squad knocked down 2,795 pins to Urbana's 2,599. They are now 4-10 on the year.

Rory Pierce led the Chieftains with a 434 series (203-231), followed by David Allen at 413 (227-186), then Alex Williams' 411 (187-224), Alex Moon with 405 (195-210) and Colton Wisner with 341 (164-177).

That gave them 2,004 pins in regular games to

go with 791 in the Baker round.

The boys JV outscored the Hilltoppers 2,318 to 1,752.

The high series belonged to Eli Stone with 404 (194-210). Timmy Phillips had a 334 series (155-179). Other game scores were Jacob Lynch (196), Jeffrey Knotts (135), and Jaelin Saxton (174). They had 692 in the Baker games.

The girls won by a total of 2,818 to 2,704, improving to 12-1 on the season.

Gracie Hood had the high series of 493 (247-246), followed by Haylee Yelton with 415 (179-236) and Chloe Heminger at 414 (193221). Rounding out the team score were Avery Mullins with 376 (175-201) and Nevaeh LaFollette at 350 (158-192).

They had 2,048 in regular games and 770 in the four Baker games.

The girls JV also won, with Urbana not having a full team. Addison Prosser led with 357 (153-204), followed by Kinzie Bernard 343 (179-167), and Rylee Anderson 304 (169-135). Kyrah Moon had a 135 game and Rhiana Bear a 121 game. They had 565 in the three Baker games, including a season high of 237. Bellefontaine faces

Bellefontaine faces Jonathan Alder this afternoon at Plain City Lanes at 4 p.m.

## Pirates' Crouch bowls perfect game; sets records

#### BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Cooper Crouch had a night to remember recently for the Riverside bowling team.

The Pirates took on Mechanicsburg in a nonleague boys bowling match Jan. 17 at T-P Lanes.

The sophomore rolled a perfect 300 game, becoming the youngest bowler to achieve the feat at T-P Lanes. He also set the record for single high game for the Pirates.

His regular two-game series of 568 is a record for both the school and T-P Lanes.

The Indians won the match 2,721 to 2,468.

The JV match went to Mechanicsburg with Jackson Linet leading the Pirates with a 196 game.

#### BY EDDIE PELLS AP NATIONAL WRITER

ATLANTA — The early betting favorite to win next year's national championship: Ohio State.

The question nobody can really answer at this time: What sort of sport will the Buckeyes or anyone else return to when they kick it off again seven months from now.

A program that won the title by spending lavishly (a reported \$20 million) and used the transfer portal judiciously (QB Will Howard and RB Quinshon Judkins were the headliners) joins everyone else in not knowing exactly what the rules will be in this rapidly changing game when next fall rolls around.

The landmark legal settlement that allows schools to pay players directly while also cutting down on roster sizes (but increases the number of scholarships available) is set to take effect for next school year.

Before that, the schools need to see how Title IX regulations fit into everything. They will haggle over a transfer portal that almost everyone agrees is out of control. They will find out if the 12-team playoff that debuted this season will remain as is or receive a tweak or two.

"There are so many unknowns," said Gloria Nevarez, commissioner of the Mountain West Conference. "We're trying to track it all to the best we can and offer solutions. But we've got to see what the 'it' is so that we can determine how it affects us."

Playoff expansion

benefited a well-constructed Ohio State team

The Buckeyes, listed by BetMGM Sportsbook as a 9-2 favorite to win it all next season, adjusted as well as anyone to the landscape for 2024.

Yet their most fortunate twist of fate had nothing to do with planning or roster building but simply the expansion of the college postseason from four to 12 teams. An ugly loss to Michigan in November knocked them out of the Big Ten

See COLLEGE on Page 10

# Examiner Sports

## College

#### **Continued from Page 9**

Conference title chase and would've been their last game of their season in years past.

This time, they got a second chance after being ranked sixth by the College Football Playoff selection committee and seeded eighth thanks to a system that allowed conference champions (Boise State of the MWC and Arizona State of the Big 12) to leapfrog past them and earn byes.

It would take a unanimous vote of 10 conference commissioners and Notre Dame athletic director Pete Bevacqua to change the seeding system that many agree is worth tweaking.

"I think there will be a good, honest conversation, are there any changes that we ought to make from this year to next year to make something that's worked really well work even better," Bevacqua said over the weekend. "Will there be changes? I don't know. I'm just one person."

Uncertainty still exists about schools paying players

It's a given, though, that there will be changes in the way name, image and likeness (NIL) pay-

#### ments are doled out to players. Under terms of the House settlement, schools are allowed to pay the players directly by sharing up to \$20.5

The general thought is that the lion's share of those funds would go to the players whose sports generate the most money – football and basketball (men's and women's). A government memo released last week, however, placed some of that in question by suggesting that paying an outsized portion to men could run afoul of Title IX rules.

The new administration sworn in Monday could change that, but the clock is ticking. The settlement is set to be approved on April 7 and its rules are due to go into effect to start the next school year.

"It's been five years of every day being different than the day before it, and adapting and adjusting and being maleable," said Grant House, the Arizona State swimmer who is the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit that's triggering all these changes. "No one has all the answers right now, but we're looking for solutions."

Maybe what college football could really use is

WL-S seventh

grade girls win

West Liberty-

Salem's seventh grade

girls defeated Triad 36-

14. Rylee Falloon had

Avery Brown had four

and Lilly Yeater put in

For Triad, Cayda

Millice had 12 points

and Serenity Phillips

17 points, Bella

two.

Johnson scored 13,

## junior high

#### **Tigers 8th grade** boys win

West Liberty-Salem defeated Triad 50-12 in eighth grade boys basketball Tuesday.

For the Tigers, Grant Krabill had 13, Eli Jones 12 and Brandel Sullivan 10 points. Other scoring: Tyler Hershberger 5, Isaiah Barth 3, Rylan Leichty 2, Nate Shivley 2, Ashton Brannon 2, and Terrelle Sadler 1.

million in revenue.

a commissioner to sort out all these problems.

Whether it would be former Alabama coach Nick Saban or someone else, it's a suggestion that keeps coming up when the topic turns to anything from the playoff to scheduling to paying players to the transfer portal, which has become a flood of players looking for better deals at different places.

"It would help the fans' enjoyment of the game," said ESPN's Chris Fowler. "You need some centralized scheduling, you need a more level playing field. You need better enforcement. You need an entity that can enforce what's going to happen when you go to revenue sharing, because that opens a whole new potential of rule breaking."

2025 top teams projected as a who's who of college powerhouses

Even with the portal and all the new money changing things — see, the \$8 million quarterback at Duke and NFL coaching great Bill Belichick at North Carolina — the list of next season's favorites looks like the usual cast of college football's best programs.

#### • LSU pulled what's widely regarded as the best haul out of the transfer portal.

• Texas will start the season with Arch Manning, grandson of Archie, at quarterback. • At Georgia, Gunner Stockton is expected to replace Carson Beck, who committed to Miami. • The Hurricanes also

nabbed Xavier Lucas, a defensive back from Wisconsin who never officially entered the portal, thus raising a whole slew of new questions about tampering and how this system works.

Meanwhile, the champs will look to Julian Sayin, a five-star recruit who transfered to the Buckeyes from Alabama before playing a down of college ball, to replace the NFL-bound Howard.

Coach Ryan Day — his very job threatened after the loss to Michigan will celebrate briefly. Asked if the pressure has dialed down now that he has a national title, Day already was thinking about next year's opener, Aug. 30 against Texas.. "Try losing the first game and see how that goes at Ohio State," Day said. "We'll see about that."

#### **Tumbling and Trampoline** team travels to invitational

Members of Gloria's Tumbling and Trampoline team competed in a Winter Wonderland invitational on Jan. 18 in Rio Grande, Ohio.

There were 12 teams from Ohio and Kentucky on hand, with about 200 individuals.

Kaleigha Alig received a high point award in trampoline. The rest of those taking part were Eleanor Kopus.

Alig, Riley Harless, Kinzlee Alig, Aaryahi Sharp, Camille Schmunk, Cooper James, Harper Dean, Brennyn Harless, Serenity Miller, Veyda McJunkin, Piper James, Abby Stinebaugh, Amelia Martin, Avery Perkins, Colbee Little, Mileigh Carroll, Catrina Sturgell, Marley Snoke, Rileigh Carroll, Morgan Williams, and Nora

## Beltran likely to make Hall of Fame next year

#### BY NOAH TRISTER AP BASEBALL WRITER

It now appears it's a question of when, not if, Carlos Beltrán will be voted into the Hall of Fame.

In fact, next year could be his time, with the ballot wide open. Ichiro Suzuki, CC

Sabathia and Billy Wagner were elected in voting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America announced Tuesday night. Beltrán fell 19 votes short of the needed 75%.

It was only Beltrán's third year on the ballot the maximum is 10 - sothe graceful outfielder is in good shape to make it eventually. And next year should work in his favor because there probably won't be any first-ballot inductees. Cole Hamels and Ryan Braun are expected to headline the newcomers.

"He's going to be the closest to the finish line, and there's I don't think anybody who's going to threaten 75% coming onto the ballot," said Ryan Thibodaux, whose online ballot tracker provides a preview of the results in the weeks leading up to each year's announcement.

Fellow center fielder Andruw Jones may have a shot next year after his approval rating jumped from 61.6% to 66.2% this time. The concern for Jones is he has only two years left.

"You'd maybe want to see a little bit more of a jump to be sure about him being able to close the gap," Thibodaux said. "Not in a bad position at 66%, but I don't think he's in 'sure thing' territory at this point.

major league seasons and was the MVP of the 2008 World Series for the Philadelphia Phillies. Braun played all 14 of his seasons with the Milwaukee Brewers and won National League MVP honors in 2011, although he served a drug suspension that will presumably hurt his chances.

Also newly eligible next year are Matt Kemp, the runner-up to Braun for that MVP, as well as 2016 Cy Young Award winner Rick Porcello and longtime Kansas City Royals standout Alex Gordon.

#### Last chance

Manny Ramirez gets his 10th and final try next year. He received 34.3% of the vote this time, with his own drug-suspension history holding him back despite his 555 home runs.

#### **Coattail effect?**

Andy Pettitte's percentage more than doubled from 13.5% to 27.9%, perhaps a result of Sabathia's high support. The two had similar career win totals and ERAs.

Pettitte, however, has two problems: He admitted using performanceenhancing drugs, and he has only three more years on the ballot with a long way to go.

"He's definitely got to make some serious headway quickly," Thibodaux said.

#### Long road ahead

Of the four first-time candidates this year, two of them — Suzuki and Sabathia — were voted into the Hall. Two others cleared the 5% threshold needed to stay on the ballot. Dustin Pedroia debuted at 11.9%, and Félix Hernández drew 20.6% approval.





New 2026 arrivals Hamels went 163-122 with a 3.43 ERA in 15



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