

## Logan County Career Expo returns Thursday for ninth year

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

High school serves as more than just a pathway to employment, military service or further education; it's also a crucial period for teenagers to discover their passions.

The "3 E" initiative — Employed, Enlisted, or Enrolled — aims to equip students with the necessary understanding to successfully transition after graduation.

Identifying the "E(s)" that align with students' aspirations and interests is paramount, and career exploration during high school is a key driver of future success.

To aid in that goal, the Ninth Annual Logan County Career Expo will welcome students from Logan and Hardin counties from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 13, hosted by Indian Lake High School.

Juniors and seniors from Bellefontaine, Benjamin Logan, Indian Lake, Ridgemont, Riverside Local, and Waynesfield Goshen schools and Ohio Hi-Point Career Center will engage with representatives from approximately 75 local businesses and industries.

This collaborative effort, organized



High school students attend a previous Logan County Career Expo at Indian Lake High School. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

by the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center in partnership with the Logan County Chamber of Commerce and local stakeholders, provides students with pre-scheduled opportunities to interact and interview with professionals, exploring diverse career

paths available now and in the future.

**For more information, contact Karen Sorreles at the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center, 599-5195 ext. 5506 or Lydia Hess at the Logan County Chamber of Commerce 937-599-5121.**

## City school board approves superintendent retire/rehire

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Bellefontaine City Schools Board of Education approved a retire-rehire plan for Superintendent Brad Hall during its monthly meeting Monday evening, March 10, at the Bellefontaine High School Sloan Distance Learning Center.

Hall, who has led the district for the past 11 years, will officially retire on July 31 before returning under a new contract for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.

Hall explained that changes in the State Teachers Retirement System eligibility made him eligible to retire after 33 years in education. The board unanimously supported his rehire, allowing him to remain



HALL

in his leadership role.

"It has been a career filled with rewarding experiences, challenges and successes.

However, my dedication to serving students, staff and the community remains as strong as ever," Hall said.

"I am grateful for the Board's continued support and confidence in my leadership, as demonstrated through the contract they granted me this evening to remain in my role as superintendent of Bellefontaine City Schools.

"The district has phenomenal students, a dedicated, professional

staff, and a very supportive community, and it is an honor to continue leading it. I am excited for the future we will build together."

Board members also reviewed preliminary school calendars for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years. The proposed schedules closely mirror the current school year, with classes beginning in early September and concluding by Memorial Day. The board is expected to vote on the calendars during its April meeting.

Also during the meeting, Bellefontaine High School Band Director Ken Hoffman proposed a band trip to Nashville from April 1-4, 2026. The trip would give stu-

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### LOCAL NOTES

#### CLARIFICATION:

#### Zamora presents recital at First United Presbyterian Church

Anthony Zamora presents a free piano recital at 7 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the First United Presbyterian Church, 117 N. Main St., Bellefontaine.

An incorrect concert venue was included in a photo caption in Tuesday's paper.

Zamora will be performing works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, Rachmaninoff and George Walker.

#### Rotary Club changes meeting location

Starting Monday, March 17, club meetings will move to the American Legion, located at 120 Colton Ave., Bellefontaine.

#### Vietnam War Veterans Day honored in ceremony

The American Legion Harold Kerr Post 173 hosts a Vietnam War Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 22, at the post, 120 Colton Ave., Bellefontaine.

This year's honoree is Robert Hart, who served in the U.S. Air Force and spent two tours in country. The public is invited to attend and help recognize his service.

#### Amateur radio team meets March 25

The Logan County EMA Communications Team conducts their regular scheduled amateur radio team meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, at the EMA Office, 1855 W. State Route 47, Bellefontaine.

#### Severe Weather Spotter Training set for March

The Logan County Emergency Management Agency hosts National Weather Service, Severe Weather Spotter Training, from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Ohio Hi-Point Career Center.

Pre-registration isn't required, but if you plan to bring more than 10 people, contact the Logan County EMA office at (937) 593-5743, so we can make sure to have enough materials.

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dents the opportunity to perform at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Studio B, as well as visit other music venues throughout the city. The cost is expected to be about \$525 per student, and the board will consider approving the trip at a future meeting.



In other business, the board accepted the resignations of food service workers Joanna Arthur, Kimberly Bell and Lisa Legge, all of whom are retiring on June 1. The board also accepted the resignations of media aide Beth Barrett and secretary Patricia St. Clair.

New hires approved at the meeting included Alexis Kendall, speech pathologist; Krista Adelsberger, part-time communications coordinator; and Terry Headings as a second-shift custodian.

Barrett was rehired as a secretary, and St. Clair was approved as a substitute teacher. Miles Pickering was also approved as a substitute teacher, while Chandler Martell was hired as an educational aide. Martell, Kim Brown and Hannah Stidham were also approved as home/school tutors.

The meeting concluded with the recognition of March Seniors of the Month, Claire Grandstaff and Brody Boy, each of whom received an achievement pin and a gift card.

The next board meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 14, in the Distance Learning Center.

## 260 high school seniors applauded during Rotary Honors Night

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

**The Bellefontaine Rotary Club hosted its 48th Annual Honors Night Monday evening, March 10, at Bellefontaine High School, marking the beginning of the graduation season for Logan County's Class of 2025.**

The prestigious event celebrated the academic excellence of 260 seniors from seven local high schools.

High schools participating in this event included Bellefontaine High School, Benjamin Logan High School, Calvary Christian School, Indian Lake High School, Ohio Hi-Point Career Center, Riverside High School and West Liberty-Salem High School. These students were recognized for maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher throughout their last seven semesters, including the first semester of the 2024-2025 academic year.

A key highlight of the evening was the awarding of eight scholarships, each valued at \$1,000, to deserving students to support their future educational endeavors. Over the past 60 years, the Bellefontaine Rotary Club has awarded upwards of \$250,000 in scholarships.

This year's scholarship winners



This year's winners of the Bellefontaine Rotary Club's scholarships as presented Monday evening include Riverside students Brianna Brandyberry and Avery Perk; Bellefontaine senior Ava Campbell; Benjamin Logan students Taytum Daniels, Kelley Forsythe and Noah Stanford; Indian Lake senior Halle Roby; and West Liberty-Salem student Maximilian Rudolph. **(SUBMITTED PHOTO)**

are: Riverside students Brianna Brandyberry and Avery Perk; Bellefontaine senior Ava Campbell; Benjamin Logan students Taytum Daniels, Kelley Forsythe and Noah Stanford; Indian Lake senior Halle Roby; and West Liberty-Salem student Maximilian Rudolph.

Featured speaker Brandon Standley, a Trusted Elite Consultant and former police chief of the Bellefontaine Police Department, addressed the students, inspiring them with a talk on the Rotary principle of "Service Above Self." He encouraged the high school seniors to contribute positively to their communities and highlighted the importance of serv-

ice in fostering a better future.

The Rotary Club of Bellefontaine extended its heartfelt congratulations to all the honorees for their hard work, dedication, and perseverance. These students will be honored again at their respective schools during Senior Awards Nights.

"The Bellefontaine Rotary Club thanks the community for its continued support and looks forward to future events that celebrate and encourage the academic achievements of Logan County's youth," members said.

**The complete list of Honorees will appear in Thursdays print edition of the Bellefontaine Examiner**

## 'Neighbor to Neighbor' program considered in Logan County

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Logan County Seniors Team, in working with the Harwood Institute for Public Knowledge, is exploring the possibility of a creating a "Neighbor to neighbor" program, similar to one offered in Union County.

Neighbor to Neighbor has two aspects to it — people who need help and volunteers who are able to provide that help.

Such programs are not-for-profit, membership-based with vetted and trained volunteers to help with the

following:

- simple household tasks like light housekeeping;
- errands;
- social visits;
- outside tasks like raking leaves or shoveling snow;
- transportation to and from appointments;
- picking up groceries;
- light home repairs;
- simple computer/technology help; and
- other tasks available based on the skills of the volunteers.

Membership is \$20 a month for

those who are at least 60 years of age and live in Logan County. Fees help pay for background checks of the volunteers and liability insurance, if applicable.

Services are completed by volunteers, not home health workers or medical professionals. Those who need one-on-one care may not be the right fit for the program.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talent to help others or are interested in becoming a member, leave your name and telephone number with an answering service at (937) 593-9406.

Monthly membership fees will not be collected until volunteers are in place for the services needed.

Members of the Logan County Seniors Team who are spearheading this effort, are: Kim Collum, Lutheran Community Services; Rebecca Marker-Smith, Otterbein Green Hills; Christie Barns, Mary Rutan Hospital; Tam Blakley, Bridges Community Action Partnership; Cynthia Heffner, Logan County Department of Job & Family Services; Stephanie Sparrow Hughes, LifeCare Alliance; along with Becca McGillis and Derek Robb, United Way of Logan County.



## Area athletes sign letters of intent



Aubree Huston, a senior volleyball player from Riverside, recently signed a letter of intent to play for the University of Rio Grande. She plans on earning a degree in social work. Huston was a libero and defensive specialist for the Pirates. She recorded 137 kills and 879 digs in her three years. Huston is pictured with Coach Ashley Borchers, her father Jeremiah Huston and Coach Morgan Robison. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Bryden Morris, a senior from Benjamin Logan, has signed a letter of intent to play baseball for Earlham College. He plans to major in psychology. He is the son of Quinn and Nichole Morris. Pictured with Morris are his grandmother Gloria Morris, grandmother Cathy Duprey, his mother Nichole, his great-grandmother Nichole Bonnie Bolen, his father Quinn and his grandfather Doug. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

