



TIGERS SHINE

WL-S girls place 5th in elite meet

Bellefontaine Examiner WEEKENDER

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SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

1 DOLLAR



SATURDAY
▼ 60 ▲ 78



SUNDAY
▼ 63 ▲ 81

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This year's farm family found a sweeter side to the business



The Knief/Davis family poses with a key component of row crop grain farming, which is the main focus of VelDale Farms. Pictured, standing, from left: Dale and Velda Knief; Nathan Davis, holding son Warren; Nathan's wife, Erika, holding daughter Quinn; Jessica Davis; Emily and Tim Davis. On the tractor, from left: Marissa, Emery and Lauryn Davis. (EXAMINER PHOTO | SHARYN KOPF)

BY SHARYN KOPF
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

When Velda and Dale Knief started their dairy farm after they were married in 1964, they probably anticipated things could change over time. They certainly hoped it would become a successful family company. But it's unlikely they ever would have imagined the "buzz" it would eventually create.

It was almost 30 years later, though, before the first major change came in 1991 and they transitioned from dairy to row crop grain farming. That's also when they established the business as VelDale Farms.

The Knief's daughter, Emily, and her husband, Tim Davis, were actively involved in farming for many years while also working other jobs. Then, in 2010, they started in at VelDale full-time.

But this is a multi-generational company and all four of the Davis's children have, over the years, joined in the work. And they found success in farming.

The surprise, though, came in 2016 when Tim and Emily's son, Nate, first introduced the idea of a commercial honeybee operation. And that's when things branched out in a whole new direction.

"What started as a hobby soon turned into a growing family business," Emily said.

In the eight years since Nate brought his interest in honeybees to their attention, it has grown exponentially. Though Davis Apiaries started out of their home with some work in

the barn, they had to build a new bee facility near Bloom Center in 2021.

They currently care for six- to seven-hundred colonies across four counties, and each colony will hold about 80,000 bees at their peak in July.

Even Nate is surprised by the success.

"It's far beyond what I envi-

sioned," he said. "I just started it as something to do."

Emily added, "Each family member has been able to find their own niche. They've used their individual talents and we've really come together as a family business."

Tim and Emily's oldest daughter, Jessica, who lives in Dayton, has created a line of skincare products like body butters, lip bombs and healing cream. Though she doesn't work directly with the bees, her business, Align Massage & Wellness, is an important part of the operation.

Their second daughter, Lauryn, focuses on making beeswax candles and melts that burn clean and fresh, offered in a variety of staple and seasonal scents. She also serves as the company photographer.

Youngest daughter Marissa joined the team in 2022 with Lauryn. Besides being the business's TikTok guru, Marissa is



About a mile away from VelDale Farms you'll find the rest of the family operation—Davis Apiaries and Nate's Nectar. The Davis family, pictured from left, are: Erika, Warren, Nathan, Marissa, Quinn, Emery, Lauryn, Jessica, Emily and Tim. (EXAMINER PHOTO | SHARYN KOPF)

LOCAL ACHIEVER

Ben Logan student wins 2024 Congressional Art Competition

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Benjamin Logan High School extends congratulations to student Charley Hardman for her exceptional achievement in the 2024 Congressional Art Competition at the Warren G. Harding Presidential Center in Marion.

Charley's artwork has been selected as the winner of the Fourth Congressional District, earning the honor of having her piece displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

This recognition is a testament to Charley's exceptional creativity and skill nurtured under the guidance of Benjamin Logan High School's visual arts instructor Jennifer Davis.

The Congressional Art Competition is a prestigious event that celebrates the artistic talents within Ohio's Fourth Congressional District.

Sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives and supported by Congressman Jim Jordan, this competition offers students the opportunity to have their artwork showcased in the Cannon Tunnel connecting the Cannon House Office Building to the Capitol.

In addition to Charley's outstanding achievement, Benjamin Logan High School recognizes fellow student Lauren Hemmelgarn, who earned the second place spot in the competition, showcasing the school's depth of artistic talent.

Furthermore, Trenity Helton, Nadiya Powell and Sidney Sallee also represented Benjamin Logan High School with distinction as participants in the 2024 Congressional Art Competition, demonstrating their commitment to artistic excellence.

As the Fourth Congressional district winner, Charley will receive two airfare tickets to visit the exhibition and will be eligible for a scholarship, in addition to a Capitol tour.

"Benjamin Logan High School commends Charley, Lauren, and all participants for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the arts community. Their creativity and dedication serve as an inspiration to us all," district officials said.



Charley Hardman has been named the winner of the Fourth Congressional District, earning the honor of having her piece displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. (BENJAMIN LOGAN PHOTO)

Benjamin Logan announces resignation of treasurer/CFO

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Benjamin Logan Local School District officials announced Friday, April 26, the resignation of the district's treasurer/CFO.

Jennifer Sudhoff's resignation is effective July 5, 2024.

"After four years of dedicated service to our district, she has decided to pursue other opportunities," district officials said in a release.

"In response to Mrs. Sudhoff's departure, Benjamin Logan Local School District is taking proactive steps to conduct a thorough search for a permanent replacement.

"The Benjamin Logan Local School District is committed to ensuring a smooth transition and maintaining the trust and confidence of our stakeholders during this period of change. We wish Mrs. Sudhoff the best of luck in her future endeavors."



SUDHOFF

OHP board works through rare disagreement

BY SHARYN KOPF
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

With 17 members representing 16 districts, the Ohio Hi-Point (OHP) Career Center Board of Education is unique in its variety of representation. But they all work together when it comes to what's best for OHP.

And yet, a discussion at their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 24, led to what Dr. Rick Smith, superintendent, called "the most divisive issue we've had."

So, what barely passed by an eight to seven vote (with two members absent)?

A sign. One that may not ever materialize.

During Smith's district update, he said he was approached about the possibility of putting a business sign on OHP's property at the Sloan Boulevard intersection.

"I see it as being a partner and a friendly neighbor," Smith concluded.

Treasurer Caleb Lang, however, had a different take, expressing a couple concerns. One being he didn't want it to appear as if OHP was endorsing any private business.

Board members then offered feedback. Many agreed with Deb Purcell (Kenton City Schools), who stated, "I think it's a waste of money. Nobody will look at that sign."

When it went to a vote, though, the majority by one point chose to move forward. But since it's just a concept of an idea at this time, Smith said the final decision will be a while.

"We still might not put up the sign," Smith admitted. "It could be voted down in the end."

Wednesday night's meeting began with recognition of the 2023-2024 Students of

the Month. Fourteen of the 18 named students were on-hand to share their future plans:

- Hannah Gordon, Bellefontaine High School, criminal justice, full-time employment with the Logan County Sheriff's Office (LCSO).
- Rachael McBride, Graham High School, culinary arts, employment at Six Hundred Downtown and enrolled at Columbus State Community College.
- Jeremiah Pelfrey, Graham High School, graphic media arts, pursuing an art degree.
- Kelsey Bushong, Kenton High School, Education Academy, enrolled at Bluffton University to teach English.
- Jalon Manns, Kenton, Education Academy, enrolled at Wright State University to teach high school social studies.
- Kendra Kirk, Marysville High School,

Health Careers Academy, enrolled at Marion Technical College for nursing.

- Alyson Swinehart, Marysville, cosmetology, employed at Simply Gorgeous Salon & Spa, Marysville.
- Hope Brownlee, Riverside High School, criminal justice, moving from intern to full-time employment with LCSO.
- Keianna Notestine, Riverside, cosmetology, pursuing a career in the spa industry.
- Allison Harlan (via video), graphic media arts, Triad High School, University of Alabama.
- Carly Goodman, Triad, graphic media arts, enrolled at The Modern College of Design for an associate's degree.
- Kaitlyn Gregg, Triad, exercise science, enrolled at Tiffin University.
- Brielle Cotterman, Upper Scioto Valley,

See OHP pn Page 3

NEWS Local & State

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ABE MARTIN



"I used to think women
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 see ther's quite a difference
 in 'em."

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

BELLEFONTAINE BEAT

POLICE & FIRE

Motorist cited for accidentally stepping on gas instead of brake

One person was injured and both vehicles sustained disabling damage as a result of a two-vehicle crash that occurred shortly before 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 24, in the area of Spring Avenue and south Main Street, officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department report.

Joyce Yoder, 75, of Bellefontaine, was taken by a Bellefontaine squad to Mary Rutan Hospital for treatment of possible injuries.

Police report she was traveling west-bound along east Spring Avenue approaching south Main Street when she failed to stop at the stop sign and traveled into the path of a southbound vehicle driven by Sally Bowes, 68, of Bellefontaine.

Yoder reportedly was attempting to cross Main Street at Spring Avenue and into a private parking lot when she inadvertently stepped on the gas pedal instead of the brake, officers said. She was cited for failure to yield at a stop sign.

Bowes was not injured. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

Loud music citation issued

Cenobio Salmeron, 28, of Bellefontaine, was issued a citation for excessive noise around 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 24, following a complaint by a neighbor of loud music.

Officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department were dispatched to the area of the 1300 block of Carlisle Avenue following a report from a man who said his neighbor, the defendant, was playing his music and singing along at an excessive volume. The complainant told police he works third shift and the music keeps him from being able to sleep prior to going in to work.

Police have reportedly warned Salmeron in the past about the excessive volume of his music.

The complainant invited police into his bedroom to hear the music being played at an excessive volume. Officers then went next door and made contact with Salmeron, who admitted to having his music too loud and acknowledged having been warned in the past.

BNSF becomes 2nd major railroad to sign on to anonymous federal safety hotline for some workers

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — BNSF will become the second major freight railroad to allow some of its employees to report safety concerns anonymously through a federal system without fear of discipline.

The Federal Railroad Administration announced Thursday that the railroad owned by Warren Buffett's

Berkshire Hathaway had agreed to let its roughly 650 dispatchers participate in the program that all the major railroads promised to join after last year's disastrous Norfolk Southern derailment in Ohio.

"Rail workers deserve to know they're safe when they're on the job — and if

they experience anything that compromises their safety, they should be able to report it without worrying if their job is in jeopardy," said Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg.

Buttigieg has been urging the railroads to improve safety ever since the February 2023 derailment.

Structure fire contained along north Main Street

Smoke detector reminders issued

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Firefighters of the Bellefontaine Fire Department were able to contain a structure fire Friday morning, April 26, that occurred in 400 block of north Main Street.

About 5:50 a.m., "B" shift was paged to a working structure fire with flames and smoke showing from the basement, Bellefontaine Professional Firefighters Local 351 said in a Facebook post.

Engine 22 and medic 23 responded, and while en route, officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department were the first on scene and advised flames and smoke showing from the rear of the structure. A mutual aid engine and all-off duty were requested.

Upon arrival, Assistant Fire Chief Ben Kennedy established command.

Through their efforts this fire was kept to a small area just inside of the door with no extension to the rest of the structure. Investigation was completed.

"During investigation the residence was found to have two smoke detectors, one without a battery and one with a dead battery," officials said in the Facebook post. "Three smoke detectors were placed and new batteries were placed in each detector."

"Remember to check your smoke detectors to be sure they are in working order as they can save your life."

During this operation, one of the fire department's sections of 5-inch supply line hose was run over by a motorist.

"We would like to remind everyone if you see fire hose laying in the roadway, do not run it over. As this not only endangers our firefighters' lives as they work, but it can cause more damage."

Firefighters also extended appreciation to the BPD for assistance with traffic control.



Bellefontaine Fire Department firefighters work the scene of a structure fire Friday morning in the 400 block of north Main Street. (BELLEFONTAINE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS PHOTO)

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LOGAN COUNTY BEAT

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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP POLICE

Drug paraphernalia charge issued

Skybree Schindler, 42 of Bellefontaine, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and was cited for driving under suspension during a traffic stop Thursday, April 25.

Officers of the Washington Township Police Department were on patrol on U.S. Route 33 near Township Road 94 and reportedly conducted a traffic stop on Schindler for an equipment violation.

Upon making contact with the defendant, officers observed a glass pipe in plain view inside of the vehicle. A probable cause search was conducted. Officers located an additional glass pipe inside of the vehicle. Schindler admitted the pipes were used to consume crack cocaine.

She was taken into custody and lodged in the Logan County Jail.

Cleveland to pay \$4.8M to family of teen killed by stolen car during police chase

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cleveland will pay \$4.8 million to the family of a 13-year-old girl killed when a stolen car driven by a teenage carjacker jumped a curb during a police pursuit and struck her.

The settlement attorneys for the family announced Monday is one of the largest in Ohio involving a police chase. Sarah Johnson, a city spokesperson, said the decision to settle this case was "an extremely difficult one," noting the circumstances involved.

"The City had to consider all relevant factors prior to this outcome, including a potential trial and additional costs, but we want to be clear that there are no winners or losers in a case as tragic as this one," Johnson said, "and while it is easy to point fingers one way or another — the fact remains that if the armed carjacker never committed that crime then Tamia would still be here with us today."

Tamia Chappman was killed in December 2019 when a car driven by a 15-year-old boy struck her as she walked from school to a library in East Cleveland. The driver of the stolen car was charged as an adult and is now serving a

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FAMILY

Continued from Page 1

ness's TikTok guru, Marissa is developing her own line of beeswax products.

Nate and his wife, Erika, have three children—Emery (4), Quinn (3) and Warren (21 months)—and they're expecting their fourth in August.

"Erika's involvement in Nate's Nectar is widespread," Emily stated. "Not only is she responsible for the social media content, but she writes the quarterly

FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

KNIEF/DAVIS

FAMILY

VEL DALE FARMS
DAVIS APIARIES
NATE'S NECTAR



Davis Apiaries currently cares for several hundred bee colonies across four counties. They feed and work with the bees from January through October, and will extract the honey in late summer. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

newsletter."

With that in mind, Erika works closely with Lauryn and Marissa on marketing. She also communicates with stores and companies that buy the products, and helps with deliveries.

Little Emery, who turns 5 next month, now has her own bee suit and gloves and is excited for her own part in helping with the bees this year.

Nate's Nectar, which is owned by Nate and Erika, offers a quality raw honey with many natural health benefits. And Nate has formulated a recipe for creamed honey that maintains those raw characteristics. They mix it for hours to incorporate air, giving it a different, spreadable consistency.

But Nate isn't done expanding. He's currently working on a new formula for creamed honey that includes dried fruit. One thing that helps their production grow is having an FDA-certified kitchen.

These honey- and wax-based products are available throughout Logan County, including at stores like Saucy Sows, The Depot and City Sweets. Gathering Grounds and Native Coffee even incorporate Nate's

Nectar into their beverages.

Still, 75 percent of their sales aren't in Ohio. They ship goods to every state (except Hawaii) as well as into Canada.

"Anyone can sell a product," Nate, who currently serves as the Logan County bee inspector, said. "But our value-added product is what sets us apart."

For Emily, of course, it's all about being a team.

"I love working together as a family," she admitted. "Everyone brings a different personality to the business and we complement each other well."

It's a big operation, yet, other than occasional high school seasonal help, they do it all themselves. Along with the kitchen, the Davises take care of the honey extraction and storing along with rendering and cleaning the wax at their facility.

And they care for their bees, which are vital to our environment.

"It's pretty cool the plan God has for honeybees," Emily concluded.

Nate's Nectar offers a 24-hour pickup option for customers. You can find out more by visiting their website at NatesNectarAndMore.com.

Officials indefinitely postpone ban on menthol cigarettes amid election-year pushback

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden's administration is indefinitely delaying a long-awaited menthol cigarette ban, a decision that infuriated anti-smoking advocates but could avoid a political backlash from Black voters in November.

In a statement Friday, Biden's top health official gave no timeline for issuing the rule, saying only that the administration would take more time to consider feedback, including from civil rights groups.

"It's clear that there are still more conversations to have, and that will take significantly more time," Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said in a statement.

The White House has held dozens of meetings in recent months with groups opposing the ban, including civil rights organizers, law enforcement officials and small business owners. Most of groups have financial ties to tobacco companies.

The announcement is another setback for Food and Drug Administration officials, who drafted the ban and predicted it would prevent hundreds of thousands of smoking-related deaths over 40 years. The agency has worked toward banning menthol across multiple administrations without ever finalizing a rule.

"This decision prioritizes politics over lives, especially Black lives," said Yolonda Richardson of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, in an emailed statement. "It is especially disturbing to see the administration parrot the false claims of the tobacco industry about support from the civil rights community."

Richardson noted that the ban is supported by groups including the NAACP and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Previous FDA efforts on menthol have been derailed by tobacco industry pushback or competing political priorities. With both Biden and former President Donald Trump vying for the support of Black voters, the ban's potential impact has been scrutinized by Republicans and Democrats heading into the fall election.

Anti-smoking advocates have been pushing the FDA to eliminate the flavor since the agency gained authority to regulate certain tobacco ingredients in 2009. Menthol is the only cigarette flavor that wasn't banned under that law, a carveout negotiated by industry allies in Congress. But the law instructed the FDA to continue studying the issue.

DEATH NOTICES

■ **SNAPP, Marilyn L.**, 81, of Lakeview, passed away Thursday, March 14, 2024, due to injuries sustained during the tornado that struck Lakeview; graveside service begins at noon Saturday, May 4, in Plum Cemetery, Lewistown; a celebration of Marilyn's life will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. May 4 at Doyle R. Miller Amvets Post 39 in Lakeview following the services; services are in the care of Shoffstall Funeral Home, Lakeview, OH.

OHP

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exercise science, enrolled at Rhodes State College for nursing.

• **Zavian Groom, Urbana High School**, graphic media arts, enrolled at Clark State for marketing and employed full-time at Weidman.

• **AnnaMaria Brodman, Waynesfield Goshen High School**, criminal justice, enrolled at Tiffin University in criminal justice/law enforcement. Other recognized students not in attendance: Duskin Jones, Benjamin Logan High School, graphic media arts; Trinity Koch, Indian Lake High School, Health Careers Academy; Isabella Hoffman, Kenton, graphic media arts;

Note: Notestine and Brodman were the April 2024 Students of the Month; Gordon and Hoffman were chosen for May 2024.

According to Smith, OHP welcomed 450 students to the Future Fest for incoming sophomores on Thursday, April 18.

In his career tech update, Brad Richardson, assistant superintendent, said the following certifications have been earned: seven students in the Education Academy earned paraprofessional; 19 health career students earned medical assistant certification; 10 students from Marysville Allied Health completed clinicals and tested for STNA; the first group of nail tech students (four out of five) received their licenses.

The Ohio Hi-Point class of 2024 convocation takes place at Bellefontaine High School on Wednesday, May 22, at 6:30 p.m. The board's next regular meeting takes place right before, at 6 p.m., also at BHS.

In other action, the board: approved transferring \$1,100,000 from the general fund to the PI fund to cover the fire pump

OBITUARIES

William "Bill" H. Dennison

William "Bill" H. Dennison, 64, of Houston, OH formerly of Indian Lake, OH, passed away Saturday, April 20, 2024, at Upper Valley Medical Center, Troy, OH.

William was born on September 2, 1959, in Kenton, OH, a son of the late William Dennison and Lorena Martin Dennison. He was also preceded in death by two sisters, Kathy Jo Dennison and Jackie Neeley.

Bill is survived by four children, Mike (Nikki) Dennison of Williston, ND, Brian Dennison of Lakeview, OH, Randy (Angela) Dennison and Angela Dennison, both of The Netherlands, his wife, Lyn Delim Dennison, two stepdaughters, Sheila Luechtefeld of Baltimore, MD, and Michelle (Dave) Burtchin of Lima, OH, 12 grandchildren, Destiny, Billy, Bailey, Hadlee, Grayson, Juliette, Kaydence, Laila, Jack, Emilia, Lana, and Lexi, a sister, Mic Palmer of Bellefontaine, OH, a brother, Mac Dennison of Indiana, and several nieces and nephews.

Bill attended Indian Lake High School and was a veteran of the United States Army. He worked at Polyfill in Sidney, OH. Bill was an avid Cincinnati Reds fan, loved his dogs, and enjoyed golfing, bowling, and watching professional wrestling. He was an enthusiastic and dedicated worker.

A gathering of family and friends will be at a later date. Arrangements are in the care of Shoffstall Funeral Home, Lakeview, OH. Condolences may be expressed at shoffstallfuneralhome.com.

Lanny E. Durnell, Sr.

Lanny E. Durnell, Sr., 74, of Lewistown, OH, passed away Thursday, April 25, 2024, at his home.

Lanny was born on March 26, 1950, in Bellefontaine, OH, a son of the late Durward Odell and Peggy Ricketts Durnell. He was also preceded in death by a brother, Mike Durnell, Sr., two sisters, Mitz Duncan, and Rita Sherer, and a brother-in-law, Donald Sherer.

Lanny is survived by his wife, Linda Beck, two children, Lanny E Durnell, Jr. of Russells Point, OH, and Stacey Sims of Bellefontaine, eight grandchildren, Brandy, Lanny III, Dominic, Trevor, Crystal, Jamie, Joey, and Amanda, several great grandchildren, three siblings, Tina Durnell, John Durnell, both of Bellefontaine, and Sue (Tom) Pagnard of Franklin, OH, a sister-in-law, Candi Durnell of Bellefontaine, and many nieces and nephews, including Mike (Kim) Durnell, Jr, Dave (Angela) Durnell and Candace (Paul) Hackenburg.

Lanny was a 1968 graduate of Bellefontaine High School. He owned and operated Durnell Painting for 52 years. Lanny was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Bellefontaine. He enjoyed fishing, and mushroom hunting, was an avid Cleveland Browns fan, and loved working outside on his property, mowing, landscaping, and gardening. Lanny was caring and thoughtful, who would help anyone he saw in need. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Funeral services will be 11:00 am, Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at Shoffstall Funeral Home, 205 S. Main St., Lakeview.

Visitation is Tuesday, April 30th from 1-3 pm, and 5-7 pm at the funeral home. Burial will be in Huntsville Cemetery.

Arrangements are in the care of Shoffstall Funeral Home, Lakeview, OH. Condolences may be expressed at shoffstallfuneralhome.com.

Clemons (5), Goings (5) and Parrott (20).

• extended supplemental contracts to Rebecca Wheeler (2023/2024), and Clemons, Goings and Parrott (2024/2025).

• approved classified staff, facilities and grounds: Luis Lares, facility specialist, April 25, 2024, to June 30, 2024.

• approved an administrative contract, certified staff, to Brianna McCray, director of teaching and learning, July 1, 2024, to July 31, 2025; and an administrative contract, administrative salary, to Matthew Heaston, business operations supervisor.

• approved uncompensated FMLA leave for Samantha Schaffner-Gessler, school counselor, for 12 days through May 24, 2024.

• approved Rebecca Wheeler will be employed as the e-sports advisor for the new extracurricular OHP E-Sports Club.

• accepted the following donations: \$750 to the ASPIRE Champion Fund and \$250 to the OHP scholarship fund from Solomon's Garage of West Liberty; \$500 to the ASPIRE Champion Fund and \$500 to the OHP scholarship fund from Manchester Farms of Lakeview; \$1,000 to the ASPIRE Champion Fund from Community Health & Wellness of Bellefontaine; \$200 to the Riverside High School Satellite BPA Fund from Terry Reeder of Bellefontaine for students to travel to San Diego, CA, for the LifeSmarts Competition.

• adopted two new textbooks: Introduction to Health Science for \$200 each and Diseases of the Human Body at \$80 per textbook plus \$60 for the online license.

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West Liberty-Salem's Ashley Yoder runs during the 4,000-meter distance medley Thursday during the Wayne Invitational. (JOHN COFFMAN PHOTO)

Jones leads Lady Tigers to 5th-place finish at talent-rich Wayne meet

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

West Liberty-Salem's girls track and field team finished fifth in a loaded field of teams at the Wayne Invitational on Friday.



Centerville won the meet with 86 points, Wayne was second (71), Beaver Creek took third (62), Waynesville was fourth (46) and the Tigers had 38 points.

The meet opened Thursday, with three relay teams capturing podium

finishes for the Tigers.

The Tigers' shuttle hurdles team of Claire Longshore, Alaina Irving, Hattie Jacobs and Sophia Hardwick placed second in a school record time of 1:08.53.

The 4,000-meter distance medley team of Ashley Yoder, Mallory Bostick, Addie McAuley and Malia Miller placed fourth (13:08.06) and the same quartet of Miller, McAuley, Yoder and Bostick was fifth in the 3,200 relay (10:09.72).

In the pole vault Thursday, Elise Longshore finished 13th out of 40 vaulters in a career PR of 10'0.

In Friday's events, Delaney Jones fueled the Tigers by winning the long jump (18-4 3/4) and placing third in

the 100 (12.11).

The Tigers' 400 relay team of Douthwaite, Jones, Gwen McCullough and Chloe Griffith was fifth (50.87) and Yoder was second in the Rising Stars 1,600 (5:30.38).

Also for the Tigers on Friday, Claire Longshore was eighth in the 100 hurdles (16.55) and 18th in the 300 hurdles (50.07), Sophia Hardwick was 12th in the 100 hurdles (17.29), 13th in the 300 hurdles (49.45) and 17th in the discus (100-6), Mallory Bostick was 13th in the 400 (1:02.51), Miller was 17th in the 3,200 (11:44.23), McCullough was 20th in the 800 (2:29.21) and McAuley was 23rd in the 800 (2:30.90).

Chieftains rout Wildcats to stop skid

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Bellefontaine's baseball team roughed up host North Union 19-9 on Friday in a Central Buckeye Conference game.

The Chiefs stopped a four-game losing streak. They are now 11-7 overall and 6-7 in the CBC. NU falls to 9-6, 5-6.

Bellefontaine jumped out to a 9-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

North Union scored twice in the bottom of the first frame to make it 9-2.

The Chiefs increased their lead to 11-2 in the top of the second.

The Wildcats battled back with four runs in the bottom of the second to make the score 11-6.

Bellefontaine pushed the lead to 13-6 with two runs in the third and scored three in the top of the fourth for a 16-6 lead.

North Union answered with three runs in the bottom of the fourth for a 16-9 score.

Bellefontaine added a run in the fifth and two in the seventh.

Offensively for the Chiefs, Charlie Bible had a double and three RBI, Carter Caudill had two RBI, Chris Fogar had two RBI, Owen Larison went 3-4 with a double and two RBI, Jose Sandoval went 3-5 with a double and three RBI and Zane Tevis went 2-2 with an RBI.

Bellefontaine is back in action Monday at Tecumseh.

BELLEFONTAINE 19 NORTH UNION 9
Chiefs. 922 310 2 - 19 11 2
Wildcats. 240 300 0 - 9 16 2
WP—Caudill.

Tigers blitz Irish
West Liberty-Salem's baseball team cruised past host Springfield Catholic

Central 16-2 in six innings in an Ohio Heritage Conference baseball game Friday.

The Tigers are now 13-3 overall and 9-2 in the OHC. SCC falls to 1-13, 0-11.

WL-S led 3-1 through three innings. The Tigers scored three runs in the fourth and four in the top of the fifth to lead 10-1.

The Irish plated one run in the bottom of the fifth to make it 10-2, but the Tigers scored six times in the sixth to put the game away.

Peyton Hull went the distance on the mound to get the win. He allowed seven hits, two earned runs, struck out six and walked one.

Offensively for the Tigers, Jake Evans went 2-3 with a double and triple, Caleb Hershberger went 3-5, Reese Oder had a double and two RBI, Austin Olejniczak had a triple and two RBI, Isaac Sertell went 2-5 with a triple and three RBI and Josh Wilcoxon added a triple.

The Tigers are back in action today at Miami East.

WL-S 16, SCC 2
(SIX INNINGS)
Tigers. 201 346 - 16 13 0
Irish. 100 010 - 2 7 3
WP—Hull.

Lakers slip to Tecumseh
Host Indian Lake fell to Tecumseh 6-5 in a Central Buckeye Conference baseball game Friday.

The Lakers are now 8-7 overall and 6-6 in the CBC. Tecumseh is now 7-11, 4-9.

Tecumseh led 1-0 after one inning. The Lakers tied the game with a run in the second.

Tecumseh scored three runs in the top of the third for a 4-1 lead.

Indian Lake plated four runs in the fifth frame to jump ahead 5-4.

But the Arrows scored a



Bellefontaine's Brody Boy slides into home to score a run during Thursday's game against Springfield Shawnee. (EXAMINER PHOTO | TONY BARRETT)

run in the sixth and another in the seventh to take the lead for good.

Maddux Hall went 3-3 to spark the Lakers at the plate. Madden Lillard had a triple and two RBI, Camdon Tuttle had a double and Evan Manley had a triple and one RBI.

The Lakers are back in action Monday at Springfield Shawnee.

TECUMSEH 6, INDIAN LAKE 5
Arrows. 103 001 1 - 6 13 1
Lakers. 010 040 0 - 5 8 1
WP—Bower; LP—K. Cummins.

Vikings upend Pirates
Host Miami East defeated Riverside 9-1 in a Three Rivers Conference baseball game Friday.

Riverside drops to 6-6 overall and 2-6 in the TRC. Miami East improves to 14-1, 9-1.

Riverside took a 1-0 lead in the top of the third inning, but the Vikings responded with four runs in the bottom of the third for a 4-1 lead.

Miami East added three

runs in the fifth and two in the sixth.

Landon Purtee had a double and an RBI to lead the Pirates.

Riverside hosts Triad today.

MIAMI EAST 9, RIVERSIDE 1
Pirates. 001 000 0 - 1 5 2
Vikings. 004 032 0 - 9 7 2
LP—Clark.

Pioneers derail Raiders
Host Jonathan Alder beat Benjamin Logan 11-1 in five innings Friday in a Central Buckeye Conference baseball game.

The Raiders are now 2-12 overall and 2-10 in the CBC. The Pioneers improve to 14-1, 11-0.

The Pioneers set the tone early with four runs in the first inning. They scored twice in the second inning, twice in the third inning and again in the fourth for a 9-0 lead.

Ben Logan scored his lone run in the top of the fifth.

Alder then finished the game with a two-run bot-

tom of the fifth.

The Raiders are back in action Monday at North Union.

JONATHAN ALDER 11 BEN LOGAN 1
(FIVE INNINGS)
Raiders. 000 01 - 1 4 0
Pioneers. 422 12 - 11 12 2
WP—Potter; LP—Hughes.

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Shawnee clips Chiefs
Bellefontaine's baseball team dropped a 3-2 decision to visiting Springfield Shawnee in a Central Buckeye Conference contest Thursday.

Shawnee took a 1-0 lead in the first inning.

Bellefontaine tied the game with a run in the third inning.

The Braves went back ahead with a run in the fifth and another in the top of the sixth to make it 3-1.

The Chiefs scored a run in the bottom of the sixth to get within a run at 3-2, but Shawnee held on for the win.

Owen Larison had an



RBI to lead the Chieftain offense.

SP SHAWNEE 3, BELLEFONTAINE 2
Braves. 100 011 0 - 3 7 0
Chiefs. 001 001 0 - 2 3 0
LP—Stolly.

Arrows outlast Raiders
Visiting Tecumseh pulled out a 6-1 win over host Benjamin Logan in 10 innings in a Central Buckeye Conference baseball game Thursday.

The Arrows scored a run in the third inning and the score stayed 1-0 until the Raiders tied the game with a bottom of the seventh.

The score was deadlocked a 1-1 until the Arrows exploded for five runs in the top of the 10th.

Ben Logan was held to three hits. Keaton Horney and Hunter Peterson each had a double and Peterson had an RBI.

TECUMSEH 6, BEN LOGAN 1
(10 INNINGS)
Arrows. 001 000 000 5 - 6 9 2
Raiders. 000 000 100 0 - 1 3 4
WP—Bush; LP—Morris.

Cavaliers zap Pirates
Host Riverside fell to Lehman Catholic 7-2 in a Three Rivers Conference baseball game Thursday.

The Cavaliers scored a run in the first inning to lead 1-0.

The Pirates plated a run in the third to tie the game at 1-1.

Riverside went ahead 2-1 in the fifth, but the Cavaliers scored a run in the sixth and five in the top of the seventh to take control.

Gavin Orsborne went 3-4 with a double and an RBI to spark the Pirates. Cooper Crouch added a double.

LEHMAN 7, RIVERSIDE 2
Cavaliers. 100 001 5 - 7 10 3
Pirates. 001 010 0 - 2 7 4
WP—Lachey; LP—King.

Clifton powers Lady Chiefs past North Union

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Bellefontaine's softball team coasted past host North Union 15-6 in a Central Buckeye Conference game Friday.

The Chiefs improve to 11-9 overall and 6-7 in the CBC. The Wildcats fall to 9-11, 5-8.

Bellefontaine led 7-0 after two innings.

The Wildcats scored three times in the third inning to make the score 7-3.

Bellefontaine plated two runs in the top of the fourth to lead 9-2.

North Union put three runs on the scoreboard in the bottom of the fourth to cut the Chiefs' lead to 9-6.

Bellefontaine added six insurance runs in the top of the seventh.

Alexza Clifton had a big night to power the Chiefs' offense. She went 4-5 with a home run and two doubles. In the process, Clifton

broke the career doubles record and career RBI record.

Also for the Chiefs, Ellie Mitchell went 2-3 with a home run, Ava Watson went 3-4 with a double, Kassi Prine went 3-5, Addison Wical had two doubles and Rianna Fullerton and Airiana Young each had a double.

The Chiefs are back in action Monday at Tecumseh.

BELLEFONTAINE 15 NORTH UNION 6
Chiefs. 250 200 6 - 15 21 2
Wildcats. 003 300 0 - 6 11 0
WP—Vigansky.

Lakers turn away Arrows

Indian Lake's softball team collected an 8-1 win over visiting Tecumseh in Central Buckeye Conference play Friday.

The Lakers are now 15-2 overall and 11-2 in the CBC. The Arrows drop to 9-7, 5-7.

Indian Lake opened the scoring with three runs in the bottom of the first. The Lakers increased their lead



to 5-0 in the third inning.

Indian Lake added two runs in the fourth and one in the fifth for an 8-0 advantage.

Tecumseh scored its lone run in the seventh.

Madison Brentlinger allowed three hits, one earned run and struck out six in the pitching circle.

At the plate for the Lakers, Brentlinger had a double and two RBI, Mackenzie Dixon went 3-3, Haylee Edwards went 3-4, Abigail Elliott had an RBI, Halle Roby went 2-4, Katie Roby had a home run and two RBI and Geona Spires went 2-3 with a double and an RBI.

The Lakers are back in action today at home against Anna.

INDIAN LAKE 8, TECUMSEH 1
Arrows. 000 000 1 - 1 3 3
Lakers. 302 210 X - 8 14 0
WP—Brentlinger; LP—Matthews.

Pirates can't contain Vikings

Riverside's softball team was unable to cook off state-ranked Miami East on Friday as the Pirates fell 13-0 in five innings in a Three Rivers Conference game.

The Pirates are now 6-8 overall and 4-5 in the TRC. Miami East improves to 13-2, 9-1.

The Vikings scored four runs in the first inning and three in the second to lead 7-0.

The hosts added three runs in the third and three in the fourth.

Riverside was held to one hit, which came from Jaidyn Jackson.

The Pirates are back in action today at home against Graham.

MIAMI EAST 13, RIVERSIDE 0
(FIVE INNINGS)
Pirates. 000 00 - 0 1 4
Vikings. 433 30 - 13 12 1
WP—Kadel; LP—R. Dillon.

Tigers jolt Irish
West Liberty-Salem breezed past host Springfield Catholic Central

17-2 in five innings Thursday in an Ohio Heritage Conference softball game.

The Tigers are now 4-8 overall and 3-8 in the OHC. The Irish fall to 0-12, 0-11.

Kennedy Wallace was the winning pitcher. She allowed two hits in four innings, striking out six and walking none.

At the plate for the Tigers, Audrey Collins went 2-3 with a double, Shyanne McClintock went 2-2 with a double, Brielle Milliron went 3-4 with a double and three RBI, Olivia Reichardt went 3-4 with three RBI and Wallace went 2-3 with two RBI.

The Tigers play at home against Cedarville on Monday.

WL-S 17, SCC 2
(FIVE INNINGS)
Tigers. 321 1(10) - 17 14 2
Irish. 002 00 - 2 2 2
WP—Wallace.

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Lakers sink Falcons
Indian Lake's softball

team ran past host Graham 9-1 in a Central Buckeye Conference game Thursday.

The Lakers led 1-0 after three innings and they scored two runs in the fourth, four in the fifth and two in the top of the sixth.

Graham scored his lone run in the bottom of the sixth.

Madison Brenlinger was the winning pitcher. She allowed four hits, one earned run, struck out five and walked two.

INDIAN LAKE 9, GRAHAM 1
Lakers. 100 242 0 - 9 8 2
Falcons. 000 001 0 - 1 4 4
WP—Brentlinger; LP—Pine.

Shawnee downs Bellefontaine

Bellefontaine's softball team fell to visiting Springfield Shawnee 6-1 in a Central Buckeye Conference game Thursday.

The game was tied 1-1 after two innings.

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SPORTS

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Bellefontaine Examiner

All-area girls basketball team



Player of the year — Lily Weaver, WL-Salem

Weaver, a senior guard, helped the Tigers to a 21-5 record and a berth in the district championship game. She averaged 10.7 points, 5 rebounds, 2.4 steals and 2 assists per game. Weaver was named to the all-Ohio Heritage Conference first team, all-Southwest District third team and Division III all-Ohio honorable mention team. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MATT HAMMOND)



LEXI ROBINSON
BHS
 A senior, Robinson averaged 12.4 points, 6.4 rebounds and one steal per game ... Earned first-team all-CBC honors for the Chiefs.



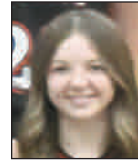
GEORGIA BATES
BEN LOGAN
 A senior, Bates averaged 8.4 points, 4.9 rebounds, 2 assists and 4 steals per game ... Selected to the all-CBC Mad River division first team.



HAYLEE EDWARDS
INDIAN LAKE
 A senior, Edwards posted averages of 9.2 points, 8.2 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.2 steals per game ... Earned first-team all-CBC honors



ABIGAIL REINHARD
CALVARY
 A senior, Reinhard averaged 17.5 points, 8 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 6.4 steals per game ... Named the OVCC player of the year.



AVA ASTORINO
WL-SALEM
 A sophomore, Astorino averaged 11.3 points, 2.8 rebounds and 2.2 steals per game ... Earned first-team OHC honors.



QUINLAN ZEDEKER
BHS
 A junior, Zedeker averaged 10.7 points, 3.8 assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game ... Named to the all-CBC first team.



CHALEY WADE
WL-SALEM
 A senior, Wade averaged 9 points and 7.7 rebounds per contest for the Tigers ... Named to the all-OHC first team.



EMMA SAYLOR
RIVERSIDE
 A senior, Saylor averaged 9.1 points and 6.5 rebounds per game ... Named to the TRC honorable mention list.

THE WHIRL NEWSMAKERS IN BRIEF

Hodge competes in NC petanque event

Zanesfield Petanque Club member Shannon Hodge recently traveled to Winston Salem, N.C., to compete in a Federation of USA Mid American Women's Doubles event. There were 12 teams in the tournament. Hodge teamed up with Bo Edwards of Carolina Petanque and the pair went 3-0 during qualifying games to rank first. In the championship bracket, Hodge and Edwards won twice to advance to the finals. They lost 13-5 to finish second.

NFL to allow players to wear protective soft-shell helmet covers during games

NEW YORK — The NFL announced Friday it will allow players to wear protective soft-shell helmet covers known as Guardian caps during games next season if they choose. The league is also expanding the use of the devices during practices. Defensive backs and receivers have joined the position groups now required to wear the caps during all contact practices. The NFL has mandated the caps' use at practices for some players since 2022. Quarterbacks, kickers and punters are the only remaining position groups not required to wear them during practice. No players will be required to wear the caps during games, but they now have the option to do so. "We've got two years of data now showing significant concussion reductions in those players that wear Guardian Caps in the NFL," Dr. Allen Sills, the league's chief medical officer, said during a recent webinar discussion.

McIlroy and Lowry remain tied for lead in the Zurich Classic

AVONDALE, La. — Rory McIlroy and Shane Lowry held onto a share of the lead Friday in the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, with the Irish duo shooting a 2-under 70 in alternate play in the PGA Tour's only team event. The teams of Davis Thompson-Andrew Novak, Ryan Brehm-Mark Hubbard and Aaron Rai-David Lipsky matched McIlroy and Lowry at 13-under 131 at TPC Louisiana. They will play best ball Saturday and close with alternate shot Sunday.

Softball

Continued from Page 4

The Braves went up 2-1 in the third inning and the Braves scored three runs in the fourth for a 5-1 lead. Shawnee tacked on a run in the seventh inning. Laila Butler went 2-3 with two doubles and

Addison Wical went 2-3 to lead the BHS offense. Kassi Prine added a triple
SP. SHAWNEE 6
BELLEFONTAINE 1
 Braves 011 300 1 — 6 10 1
 Chiefs. 010 000 0 — 1 6 2
 WP—Trimmer; LP—Vigansky.
Cavaliers slip
past Pirates
 Riverside's softball team

lost to visiting Lehman Catholic 7-6 in a Three Rivers Conference game Thursday. The Cavaliers led 3-0 after two innings and the Cavaliers scored a run in the top of the third for a 4-0 lead. The Pirates scored twice

in the bottom of the third and twice in the fourth to tie the game at 4-4. Riverside scored a run in the fifth and another in the sixth to take a 6-4 lead. However, the Cavaliers played three runs in the top of the seventh to pull out the win.

Jayden Hoffer went 3-4 with a double and an RBI to spark the Pirates. Jaidyn Jackson went 2-4 with a double, Keira Manahan went 2-3 and Avery Perk had a home run and two RBI.
LEHMAN 7, RIVERSIDE 6
 Cavaliers. 301 000 3 — 7 13 2
 Pirates. 002 211 0 — 6 11 1
 WP—VanSkiver; LP—Manahan.

Cincinnati falls shorts against Rangers 2-1

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Marcus Semien homered to break an eighth-inning tie, helping the Rangers beat the Cincinnati Reds 2-1 on Friday night. Semien pulled a 1-1 fastball from Lucas Sims (1-1)

down the line in left. Jacob Latz, José Leclerc (2-2) and Kirby Yates retired the final nine Cincinnati batters, Yates getting his fourth save in four chances. Texas' bullpen has thrown 16 straight scoreless innings.

Rangers starter Nathan Eovaldi held the Reds to three singles through six innings after allowing a run in the first on three walks, three stolen bases and an error. The Rangers, who led the American League in

runs last year en route to winning the World Series, hit .226 in their previous 12 games and scored Friday on two homers. Evan Carter pulled Texas even at 1, leading off the second with a home run to right off starter

Graham Ashcraft. "We play good defense. I think that's our identity," Semien said. "We've been pitching the ball great. Evo battled. The bullpen's been great, and we hit a couple balls out.

Braves top Guardians in matchup of MLB's two best teams

ATLANTA (AP) — Chris Sale shook off another first-inning homer and Marcell Ozuna kept up his torrid start with two more RBIs, leading the Atlanta Braves past the Cleveland Guardians 6-2 Friday night in the opener of a series matching MLB's two best teams.

The reigning NL East champion Braves won for the 10th time in 11 games to improve to 18-6, pushing them a game ahead of the AL-leading Guardians (18-8). Sale (3-1) surrendered a homer to the very first hitter, Steven Kwan, whose 389-foot shot down the right-field line bounced

around in the Chop House restaurant. Braves right fielder Ronald Acuña Jr. barely moved as Kwan circled the bases with the third leadoff homer of his career. Sale has given up four homers this season — all in the first inning. It was the second straight start that the leadoff hitter went deep

against him. Otherwise, the 35-year-old left-hander has been stellar, further distancing himself from all the injuries that plagued him the past four seasons with the Boston Red Sox. It was the first time since June 19-30, 2018, that he's gone at least seven innings in three

straight starts. "I really put a lot of emphasis on strengthening my shoulder and getting stronger and just being healthy," said Sale, who was acquired by the Braves for prospect Vaughn Grissom in an offseason trade. "I just wanted to give one more good go at it."

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Entertainment

Olympian Kristi Yamaguchi is 'tickled pink' to inspire a Barbie doll

BY TERRY TANG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Like many little girls, a young Kristi Yamaguchi loved playing with Barbie. With a schedule packed with ice skating practices, her Barbie dolls became her "best friends."

So, it's surreal for the decorated Olympian figure skater to now be a Barbie girl herself. "It's a huge, huge honor. I think a lot of pride comes along with it, not just recognizing the Olympic achievement, but also being recognized during AAPI Month and following in the footsteps of some incredible women that I idolize — Anna May Wong, Maya Angelou and Rosa Parks," Yamaguchi told The Associated Press. "It's hard to see me put in the category with them."

Yamaguchi, who became the first Asian American to win an individual figure skating gold medal, at the 1992 Winter Olympics, has been immortalized as a doll for Barbie's "Inspiring Women Series." Mattel announced Wednesday. The release is



This photo provided by Mattel in April 2024 shows Kristi Yamaguchi with the company's Barbie doll based on the figure skater. Yamaguchi became the first Asian American to win an individual gold medal for figure skating at the 1992 Winter Olympics. (MATTTEL VIA AP)

timed for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, in May.

This isn't Yamaguchi's first doll depiction. In the '90s, touring show Stars on Ice put out a line of dolls modeled after notable skaters. The Barbie version is a lot more detailed.

Mattel duplicated everything the then 20-year-old

medalist wore at the Olympics in Albertville, France: the sparkling black-and-gold brocade outfit designed by Lauren Sheehan, the gold ribbon and even a red-and-white bouquet like Yamaguchi held atop the podium.

Yamaguchi said both she and Sheehan are "just so tickled pink."

She also is happy with the doll's visage.

"It looks like me for sure. You know, the eyes and just the shape of the face. And then, of course, the hair, for sure. I mean, it has the bangs that are the '90s," Yamaguchi said, chuckling.

She appreciates that the doll's release comes on the high heels of the blockbuster "Barbie" movie last year. Her daughters, ages 18 and 20, are fans of the Oscar-nominated film. Their initial reaction to their mother being a Barbie? Disbelief.

"When they found out I was getting a doll, they were kind of flabbergasted and being like, 'What? Like Mom, like how do you qualify? But that's way too cool for you,'" Yamaguchi said.

When Yamaguchi became a household name in the '90s, most Asian American children were growing up feeling like toys-aren't-us kids. If you were an Asian parent looking for an Asian doll in the U.S., you likely turned to independent mail-order companies or waited until you were visiting your country of her-

itage.

Since then, the toy market has evolved somewhat with big companies like Mattel diversifying and independent entrepreneurs filling the void. Two Asian doll lines — Jilly Bing and Joeydolls — launched within the last year, one by an Asian American mother and the other by an Asian Canadian mother. Both could not find dolls that looked like their daughters.

Sapna Cheryan, a professor of psychology at the University of Washington who served a year on Mattel's Barbie Global Advisory Council in 2018, said Asian Americans have long dealt with two stereotypes: the model-minority whiz kid or the perpetual foreigner. Toys can help dispel those myths, and instead signal acceptance and inclusivity.

Dolls modeled after real people can get people talking about their human counterparts. Cheryan applauded Barbie's choice of Yamaguchi.

"There are so many Asian American athletes but they're just not propped up in a way

that athletes of other racial groups are," said Cheryan, who researches cultural stereotypes and their impact on race and gender disparities. "Having a match in terms of racial identification or gender or both," she said, is important in creating effective role models for kids.

Mattel has mostly garnered praise for its diversity efforts but it's had some missteps along the way. In 2021, the toy maker said it "fell short" by failing to include an Asian doll in a line of Tokyo Olympics-themed Barbies. In January, there was some backlash to Asian "You Can Be Anything" Barbies that seemed stereotypical. One was a violinist and the other a doctor in panda scrubs.

Tying Yamaguchi to Barbie, a symbol of American pop culture, is especially remarkable considering what she and her family have dealt with as Japanese Americans. She has spoken about how her maternal and paternal grandparents were forced into U.S. incarceration camps in response to Japan's 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

COMICS

MODERATELY CONFUSED

Jeff Stahlter



DENNIS THE MENACE

Hank Ketcham



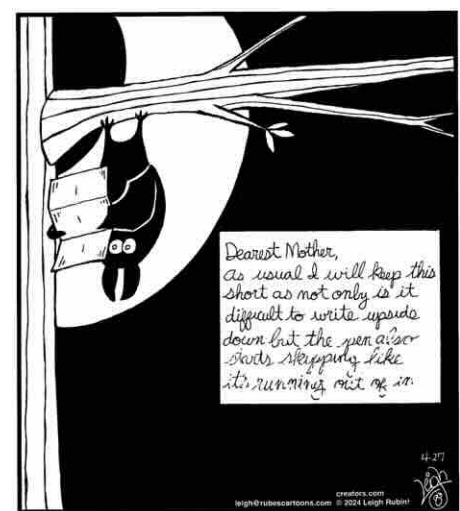
REALITY CHECK

Dave Whamond



RUBES

Leigh Rubin



PEANUTS

Charles Schulz



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

Stephan Pastis



CROSSWORD

Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Distant
- 4 Exploits
- 8 Pleased
- 12 Pub serving
- 13 Vincent van —
- 14 Pasta sauce brand
- 15 Meadow
- 16 "Superfood" berry
- 17 Inter —
- 18 Kid's front-yard business
- 21 "Bad" cholesterol
- 22 Recline
- 23 Alpha's opposite
- 26 Do sums
- 27 Storefront sign abbr.
- 30 NYC gallery
- 31 Hosp. workers
- 32 Naturalist John
- 33 Stickum
- 34 Bit of butter
- 35 Saturn features

DOWN

- 36 Plant seeds
- 37 Chick's mom
- 38 Slogan of solidarity
- 45 QB Tony
- 46 Comic Jay
- 47 Golf prop
- 48 Winged
- 49 Count counterpart
- 50 "Sheesh!"
- 51 Like some lingerie
- 52 Terrier type
- 53 Devious
- 1 Autumn
- 2 Sheltered

3 500 sheets

4 Kampa-la's land

5 L.A.'s region

6 "Zounds!"

7 "Suddenly Susan" actress

8 Shred, as cheese

9 In — land

10 Opposite of "fer"

11 Group of two

19 "Three Sisters" sister

20 "Ice Age" sloth

23 Texter's "Wow!"

24 Cattle call

25 Punk-rock subgenre

26 Curator's concern

27 Attila, notably

28 Equip

29 Fourth-yr. students

31 Idles

32 Gum flavor, often

34 "Ulalume" writer

35 Fix a shoe

36 Bedtime reading

37 Ford or Hudson

38 Russian river

39 The Big Easy acronym

40 Apple on a desk

41 Feeble

42 \$ dispensers

43 Actress Patricia

44 Contradict

Yesterday's answer 4-26

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

NON-SEQUITUR

Wiley Sequitur



SUDOKU

KING FEATURES

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 4/27

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 4/25

Horoscopes

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Sagittarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, April 27, 2024: You are charming, refined, poised and determined. You are shy with strangers but friendly and animated with those you know well. This is a playful, fun-loving year for you. Feel free to let your hair down and loosen up a bit. Old friends may reappear to rekindle relationships.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★ Feelings of escapism might push you to travel suddenly or do something different. Certainly, you can explore your own neighborhood or your own city to grab a little adventure and excitement. With Venus in your sign, you're eager to socialize because you feel friendly! Tonight: Avoid controversy.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) ★★ You can call the shots today, especially when dealing with shared property and financial matters. You will also enjoy team sports and physical competition. With lucky Jupiter in your sign until June, you continue to enjoy good fortune and divine protection. Make the most of this! Tonight: Check your finances.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★ Because the Moon is in a sign that is opposite from your sign today, this means you have to be conciliatory and ready to compromise. Be prepared to go more than halfway when dealing with others. This simply requires a smile and some cooperation. Tonight: Listen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★ Make a to-do list. You can get a lot done today. You might be active at work or in your job. Or you might focus on health and hygiene issues. It's a great day to schmooze with others, especially in group situations. You will impress bosses and authority figures. Tonight: Work.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★ Two conflicting influences are at play today. In one way, you want to travel, explore and discover adventure! You're up for something different. However, in another way, you're happy to hide at home and relax among family or friends. You will seek out familiar surroundings. If so, be patient with partners. Tonight: Cooperate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★ You're eager to have a meaningful conversation with someone today, which is why you will seek out like-minded individuals. You want to discuss something real. You don't want to waste time on superficial chitchat that is polite but meaningless. Tonight: Learn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★ Money and your personal possessions are a focus for you today. You might see ways to boost your income. Or perhaps you will see ways to use something that you own to a better advantage. Playful and competitive sports might appeal to you. If you're working today, co-workers will be helpful. Tonight: Maintain your possessions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ Today the Moon is in your sign, which will heighten your emo-

tions, especially in response to others. However, when the Moon is in your sign, which happens for two and a half days every month, it also slightly boosts your good luck. Ask the universe for a favor! Tonight: You're in charge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★ This is a playful day! You also might want to entertain at home or explore redecorating ideas. It's also an excellent day to talk to others and teach or explain your views. You are confident and articulate today. Nevertheless, you might seek out some privacy. It's a mixed bag. Tonight: Solitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★ This is a lovely day to schmooze with friends as well as members of groups. You will welcome an opportunity to learn or to teach. Short trips will appeal to you. In fact, travel of any kind will be gratifying, because today you truly appreciate your daily surroundings. Tonight: Friendships.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★ You are noticed today. Some people might know personal details about your private life. Grab any chance to get away on a short trip, because you're eager for change. Physical exercise will appeal to you. You're in a competitive mood. Meanwhile, you might attract money to you or spend it. Tonight: Be courteous.

BORN TODAY
Actress Sally Hawkins (1976), actor William Moseley (1987), businessman Rande Gerber (1962)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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CLASSIFIEDS

WORK WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE WORKER II
WATER DEPARTMENT

RATE OF PAY:
\$20.45 Probationary

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES: Assist with the installation, maintenance and repair of waterline systems. Must be capable of operating motorized equipment necessary to complete installation, maintenance, and repair projects. Will be responsible for inspecting the water facility on a scheduled basis to ensure proper operation of the plant and equipment and to ensure desired water quality is maintained or achieved. Conducts routine tests of water to analyze turbidity, ph, and chlorine, and to record a laboratory chart; prepares and submits daily records plant operation. Performs routine mechanical and electrical work involved with the maintenance, repair, and installation of pumps, motors, feeders, and other related equipment; performs maintenance on equipment and facility. Will be required to perform other miscellaneous tasks in order to assist with the efficient delivery of services. Must maintain required licensure and certification; demonstrate regular and predictable attendance; meet all job safety requirements and all applicable PERRR safety standards.

QUALIFICATIONS: Completion of secondary education (high school or GED); 1 year experience performing semi-skilled labor and operating light motorized equipment, or equivalent combination of education/training/experience; must possess a valid State of Ohio Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and remain insurable in accordance with the City's vehicle insurance policy. Must be certified as a State of Ohio Class I Water Distribution Operator.

A complete job description may be obtained in the Mayor's office.

Applications may be obtained at the Mayor's Office, City Building, 135 North Detroit Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio or online at <https://www.ci.bellefontaine.oh.us/employment1.html>. All applications are due by 4:30pm on May 3, 2024. Please contact Heather Feasel, Administrative Secretary, at 937-592-4376 for any questions.

OFFICE HELP WANTED, full time/part time, \$14 per hour starting pay. Must have good typing skills. Must be able to pass a State and Federal background check. If interested mail or drop off a resume to: Logan County License Bureau, 1365 Co. Rd. 32 N., Ste. 3, Bellefontaine, OH 43311. Equal Opportunity Employer.

SALES

BIG GARAGE SALE: Thu., Fri. & Sat. 9-3, 784 TR 230, Belle., rain or shine! Michael Kors clothing, purses, boys & girls clothing 3T-8 \$5 a bag, toys, home decor, all items priced to sell!

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.



PRICE REDUCED!!
2014 ISUZU NPR-HD with 16 ft. box. 229,314 miles. \$16,500 OBO. Call or text TJ at 937-407-0205.

LAWN & GARDEN

JUST CUTTIN' UP LAWN CARE. Affordable rates. Dan Johnson 937-935-9027.

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

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

FOR RENT

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

LOTS & LAND

WANTED TO BUY: 20 Acres or more. Call Lori at 614-565-5666.

STORAGE

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

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

LEGALS

SUMMARY OF BELLEFONTAINE CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS
Ordinance No. 24-26
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance Amending Section 1133.02, accessory buildings in R Districts, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bellefontaine, Ohio, adding Section 1133.02(G) temporary storage containers and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-27
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1127, enforcement and violations, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bellefontaine, Ohio adding 1127.09 fees and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-32
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance authorizing the Service-Safety Director and Fire Chief to issue a Promissory Note from Fund 410 Capital Improvement #2 to Fund 610 Wastewater Department and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-33
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance making Supplemental Appropriations and Amending the Permanent Appropriations Ordinance for purposes of Capital Fund, equipment, Wastewater Loan repayment and loan to Capital Improvement #2 and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-34
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Service Safety Director and/or Fire Chief to enter into contract with Sutphen for the purchase of a heavy duty custom pumper and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-27
Passed on April 23, 2024
An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Service Safety Director to enter into contract with Schindler Elevator Corporation for the elevator repairs and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 24-28
Passed on April 23, 2024
An ordinance authorizing the Service Safety Director to seek proposals and/or advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Belt Filter Press Rehabilitation Project No. 2024-01S and declaring an emergency.

I, Bonnie Campbell, Bellefontaine City Clerk of Council, do hereby certify that these summary titles of Ordinances and Resolutions are true as passed by City Council of Bellefontaine during regular and special meetings (as prescribed by law) of the City of Bellefontaine on Feb. 13, 2024. Ordinances and Resolutions in full form may be read or a copy secured thereof (for 25¢ per page) at the Clerk of Council's Office located at 530 E. Chillicothe Ave., Bellefontaine, Ohio. Ph. 937-599-1196.

Joshua Stolly,
City Law Director
Bonnie Campbell,
Clerk of Council

April 27, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Court of Common Pleas of Logan County, Ohio

Case No. CV 22 10 0271 PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

-VS- ANTHONY WILLIAMS AKA ANTHONY C. WILLIAMS, ET AL. DEFENDANTS.

Anthony Williams aka Anthony C. Williams, whose last known address was 1627 CORDOVA AVE, DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32117, and who cannot be served, will take notice that on 10/07/2022, Plaintiff filed a Complaint for Money, Foreclosure in Reformation and other Equitable Relief in the Lo-

LEGALS

gan County Court of Common Pleas, Logan County, Ohio, Case No. CV 22 10 0271 against Anthony Williams aka Anthony C. Williams and others as Defendants, alleging that, Anthony Williams aka Anthony C. Williams and Carol Williams are in default for all payments from January 6, 2022; that on August 2, 2013, Anthony Williams aka Anthony C. Williams and Carol Williams executed and delivered a certain Mortgage Deed in which said Defendants agreed, among other things, to pay the Note and to comply with all of the terms of the Mortgage Deed hereinafter described, which Mortgage Deed was filed in the Recorder's Office of Logan County, Ohio on August 12, 2013, recorded in Volume 1119, Page 885 that, further, the balance due on the Note is \$50,940.27 with interest at the rate of 4.5400% per annum from January 6, 2022; that to secure the payment of the Note, executed and delivered a certain Mortgage Deed to and thereby conveying, in fee simple, the following described premises:

Situated in the State of Ohio, in the County of Logan, and in the City of Huntsville: Commonly known as 6577 Findlay Street, Huntsville, OH 43324

and further alleging that the aforesaid Mortgage is a valid and subsisting first and best lien upon said premises after the lien of the Treasurer; that the Note is in default, whereby the conditions set forth in the Note and Mortgage have been broken, that the Mortgage has become absolute and that Plaintiff is entitled, therefore, to have the Mortgage foreclosed, the premises sold, and the proceeds applied in payment of Plaintiff's claims; that the Defendants Anthony Williams aka Anthony C. Williams, among others, may have or claim to have some interest in or lien upon said premises; that all of the Defendants are required to set forth any claim, lien or interest in or upon the premises that he, she, or it may have or claim to have or be forever barred therefrom; that Plaintiff's Mortgage be declared to be a valid and subsisting first and best lien upon said premises after the lien of the Treasurer, if any, that its Mortgage be foreclosed; that all liens be marshaled; that the equity of redemption of all Defendants be forever cut off, barred, and foreclosed; that upon the sale of said premises the proceeds be paid to Plaintiff to satisfy the amount of its existing lien and the interest, together with its disbursements, advancements, and costs herein expended; and for such other and further relief to which is may be entitled in equity or at law.

Defendants are further notified that they are required to answer the Complaint on or before June 8, 2024 which includes twenty-eight (28) days from the last publishing, or judgment may be rendered as prayed for therein.

Suzanne M. Godenswager (0086422), Sandhu Law Group, LLC, 1213 Prospect Ave. Suite 300, Cleveland OH, 216-373-1001, Attorney for Plaintiff.
April 27; May 4, 11, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Logan County with the City of Bellefontaine as a partner intends to apply for the PY2024 Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program (CHIP which may include CDBG, HOME, and OHT funds) competitive grant administered by Ohio Development Services Agency/Office of Community Development (ODSA/OCD). Logan County shall coordinate with the City of Bellefontaine to form a partnership. The maximum award for the partnership will be \$700,000.00. Logan County's budgeted amount is \$400,000, and the City of Bellefontaine's is \$300,000.

LEGALS

Logan County and the City of Bellefontaine may apply for funds from the following CDBG funded grants administered by ODSA/OCD as projects become available: Community Development Block Grant Allocation and Discretionary Grant Programs, Neighborhood Revitalization Grant, Downtown Revitalization Grant, Critical Infrastructure Grant, Residential Public Infrastructure Grant Program, Economic Development Loan and Public Infrastructure Grant Program, Emergency Shelter Grant Discretionary Program, and the Economic Development Revolving Loan Program.

A public hearing will be held on Thursday May 2nd; 10 a.m.; at the Logan County Board of Commissioner's office, located at 117 East Columbus Avenue, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311. This meeting is intended to provide citizens with pertinent information about the State of Ohio Community Development Block Grant Program and the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program, including an explanation of eligible activities and program requirements. The programs can fund a broad range of activities including economic development projects; street, water supply, drainage, and sanitary sewer improvements; park acquisition and improvements; demolition of unsafe structures; and rehabilitation or repair of housing (CHIP) and neighborhood facilities. The activities must be designed to primarily benefit low-to-moderate income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight or meet an urgent need of the community. Logan County may use Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund to supplement grant projects.

A second public hearing will be held on a date to be announced to solicit comments and public input about specific activities proposed for the CDBG PY2024 Community Allocation and PY2024 CHIP projects.

Citizens and local officials are encouraged to attend this meeting on 5/2/2024, to provide their input on Logan County's CDBG programs.

By Order of the Logan County Board of Commissioners
April 27, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Bokescreek Township Trustees have moved their next regular meeting to May 15, 2024 at 7:30. Jennifer Wright, Fiscal Officer
April 27, 2024

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO FAMILY COURT DIVISION

In the Matter of Adoption of Skylar Storm Patrick "Child's Name AFTER adoption if granted", A Minor
Case No. 24-AD-01

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADOPTION

To: RICHARD THOMAS SHOFFNER, last known address 310 S. Main Street, Mount Victory, Ohio 43340
You are hereby notified that on the 30th day of January, 2024, Christopher Michael Patrick filed in this Court, a Petition for Adoption of Skylar Storm Shoffner, a minor, whose date of birth is December 28, 2012, and to have the name of the minor changed to Skylar Storm Patrick. This Court, located at the Logan County Courthouse, 101 S. Main Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 will hear the petition on the 10th day of June, 2024, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. It is alleged in the petition, pursuant to R.C. 3107.07, that the consent of Richard Thomas Shoffner is not required due to

LEGALS

the following: The parent has failed without justifiable cause to provide more than de minimis contact with the minor for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner. The parent has failed without justifiable cause to provide for the maintenance and support of the minor as required by law or judicial decree for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, IF GRANTED, WILL RELIEVE YOU OF ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO CONTACT THE MINOR CHILDREN, AND, EXCEPT WITH RESPECT TO A SPOUSE OF THE ADOPTION PETITIONER AND RELATIVES OF THAT SPOUSE, TERMINATE ALL LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE MINOR AND YOU AND THE MINOR'S OTHER RELATIVES, SO THAT THE MINOR THEREAFTER ARE A STRANGER TO YOU AND THE MINOR'S FORMER RELATIVES FOR ALL PURPOSES. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE PETITION WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS AFTER PROOF OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF THE FILING OF THE PETITION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING IS GIVEN TO YOU. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST ALSO APPEAR AT THE HEARING. A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION MAY BE ENTERED IF YOU FAIL TO FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE ADOPTION PETITION OR APPEAR AT THE HEARING. R.C. 2107-07

RIGHT TO COUNSEL:
Any party is entitled to be represented by an attorney throughout these proceedings. Upon request and application, an indigent parent who is facing the loss of parental rights and who wishes to contest or object to the adoption will be appointed an attorney upon determination of indigency. If you believe you are indigent and cannot afford an attorney, complete and file (personally or by U.S. mail) a "Financial Disclosure Form" to the Probate Clerk's office in the Logan County Courthouse at 101 S. Main Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 immediately but not later than the date set for hearing. Upon receipt of the form, the Court will review the information and determine whether you qualify for court-appointed services. A hearing may be held if your application is incomplete or unclear.

The State Public Defender requires that you pay an application fee of \$25.00. This fee may be added as costs at the conclusion of this case if you do not pay at the time of presenting your affidavit of indigency. Please read the affidavit carefully because it contains important information about the potential recoupment process. You have the right to represent yourself as a pro se litigant. Please take notice that you are presumed to have knowledge of the law and correct legal procedures. Therefore, you remain subject to the same rules and procedures to which represented litigants are bound. You are not given greater rights than represented parties and must bear the consequences of your mistakes (Williams v. First Merit Bank, N.A., 9th Dist. No. 24011, 2008-Ohio-5038). Pleadings MUST be reduced to writing and presented to the Court in person or by mail. You are responsible for providing a copy of the pleadings to

all parties of record. **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL (937) 599-7252, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. WARNING: A REQUEST FOR COURT APPOINTED COUNSEL DOES NOT POSTPONE THE 14-DAY DEADLINE FOR FILING AN OBJECTION TO THE ADOPTION.**

LEGALS

Kim Kellogg-Martin, Judge
By: Alisa Geboy, Deputy Clerk
April 6, 13, 20, 2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids for the Jefferson Township Maintenance Building Alterations and Addition, Project No. 20204-01 will be received by the Jefferson Township Trustees by mailing to Jefferson Township Trustees at PO Box 10, Zanesfield, OH 43360 or hand delivered to 2510 Sandusky Street, Zanesfield, OH 43360 until 5:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Jefferson Township meeting place, 2568 Sandusky Street, Zanesfield, OH 43360. The outside of the envelope shall be marked **PROJECT BID: JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE BUILDING ALTERATIONS AND ADDITION, PROJECT NO. 2024-01.**

The Jefferson Township Trustees reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids or waive any irregularities. Copies of the Plans and Bid Packets are on file and available at the office of the Engineer: Fireline Design, 221 S. Madriver Street, Bellefontaine, OH 43311, 937-599-6570, tomwood221@gmail.com and may be obtained free electronically or hard copy may be obtained with 24 hours notice upon a non-refundable payment of \$50.00. Checks shall be made payable to the Engineer. Proposals will only be accepted from bidders who have obtained Contract Documents from the Engineer and have been registered as a plan holder.

Each bid must be accompanied by either a bid bond in an amount of 100% of the bid amount with a surety satisfactory to the aforesaid Township of, or by certified check, cashiers check, or letter of credit upon a solvent bank in the amount of not less than 10% of the bid amount in favor of the aforesaid Township. Bid bonds shall be accompanied by Proof of Authority of the official or agent signing the bond. A payment bond and a performance bond in the amount of 100% of the contract is required upon the awarding of the Contract. The proposal must be made on the forms provided in the Contract Documents, or a copy of thereof, with a price quoted for the work. Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experience on projects of similar size and complexity. The Project is sales tax exempt and is subject to the prevailing wage requirements of the State of Ohio. The Owner intends and requires that this project be completed no later than 120 calendar days after Notice to Proceed. Engineer's Estimate for this project is \$150,000.00. No bidder may withdraw his bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

April 20, 27, 2024

Your News...
FAST EASY ONLINE
www.examiner.org

EMA open house planned at ILHS to aid tornado victims

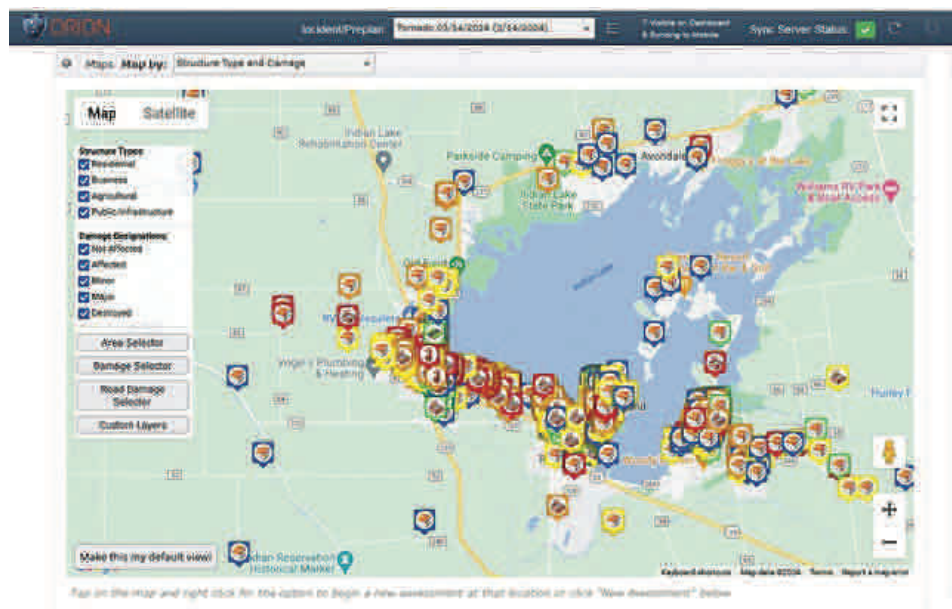
BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Logan County Emergency Management Agency hosts a public open house from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 2, at the Indian Lake High School cafeteria and auditorium, 6210 N. State Road 235, Lewistown.

The purpose of the open house is to allow tornado victims to discuss and connect about ongoing unmet needs and to provide input about the area's long-term recovery efforts concerning housing, transportation, infrastructure, zoning, floodplain, debris, communications and more.

Logan County EMA Director Helen Norris provided an image this week showing the bulk of the 1,573 damage reports the agency has collected through Wednesday, April 24, via its Orion damage assessment software system.

Each icon represents a damaged home or business, and contains a report with owner and occupant contact information, indicates whether it is a primary or secondary residence, dam-



Logan County EMA Director Helen Norris provided this screenshot showing the bulk of the 1,573 damage reports the agency has collected through Wednesday via its Orion damage assessment software system. (ORION SCREENSHOT)

age details and photos, insurance information and other relevant information to help with disaster recovery efforts.

Norris said the software, which has been in use about three years, can and is being modified to include things like casework information to better assist tor-

nado victims.

Red icons show some 280 destroyed homes/businesses or about 17.8 percent of the assessed structures. Orange indicates approximately 333 homes/businesses with major damage, 21.2 percent. Yellow is minor damage; blue shows affected

structures and green is unaffected.

About 94.6 percent of the reports are residential and 5 percent are businesses.

The software can be accessed by the Ohio EMA, the local United Way and other agencies to help coordinate relief efforts.

74-year-old Ohio woman charged in armed robbery of credit union was scam victim, family says

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, Ohio (AP) — A 74-year-old woman charged in the armed robbery of an Ohio credit union last week is a victim of an online scam who may have been trying to solve her financial problems, according to her relatives.

Ann Mayers, who had no previous run-ins with the law, faces counts of aggravated robbery with a firearm and tampering with evidence in Friday's robbery in Fairfield Township, north of Cincinnati. She remained jailed Wednesday on \$100,000 bond pending an initial court appearance, and court records don't list an attorney for her.

Officers arrested Mayers at her Hamilton home shortly after the robbery, Fairfield police said in a Facebook post. A handgun was found in her car, which police allege she used in the robbery.

Authorities later learned that Mayers might have been a scam victim and are looking into the claims. Her relatives told detectives that she had been sending money to an unidentified individual, The Columbus Dispatch reported Wednesday.

"In that aspect, some may see her as a 'victim,'" Sgt. Brandon McCroskey told the newspaper. "Unfortunately, Ann chose to victimize several other people in the bank by robbing it with a firearm as a remedy for her situation."

If what her relatives say is true, McCroskey called Mayers' situation "very sad and unfortunate." He said she reportedly spoke with family members about robbing banks in the days leading up to the holdup, but they didn't take her comments seriously.

Scams against seniors have become increasingly common over the last 10

to 15 years, according to experts. Among them are so-called grandparent scams in which callers claim to be anyone from a victim's grandchild to a police officer and tells the victim something terrible happened and that their younger relative needs money.

The scammers seek to exploit older people's love for their family and, experts note, they can succeed in part because they tap into the abundance of personal information available about people online and use it to make seniors believe the calls are legitimate.

An 81-year-old Ohio man was charged with murder this month after he fatally shot an Uber driver because he wrongly assumed she was part of a scheme to extract \$12,000 in supposed bond money for a relative, authorities have said.

Express files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, announces store closures, possible sale

NEW YORK (AP) — Express Inc — once a trendsetter of casual office attire that has struggled to compete with the likes of Zara and H&M — has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

The retailer based in Columbus, Ohio, and founded in 1980 also said Monday it is seeking to sell the majority of its stores.

Express, which is the parent of the Bonbons and UpWest brands, is shuttering a handful of its outlets in the process. In an announcement addressing its bankruptcy filing, the company said it plans to close 95 of its Express retail stores and all 10 of its UpWest stores.

Closing sales at locations being shut down, which span across more than 30 states and Washington, D.C., are set to begin Tuesday. Beyond these closures, Express said that it expects to conduct business as usual.

Also on Monday, Express announced that it received a non-binding letter of intent from a group led by consumer brand acquisition and management firm WHP Global to potentially purchase the majority of its stores and operations. Express said that it had filed for Chapter 11 protection "to facilitate the sale process."

The consortium exploring the deal also includes mall operators Simon Property Group and Brookfield Properties, Express said. WHP, Simon Property and Brookfield did not immediately respond to requests for comment Monday.

Express CEO Stewart Glendinning said WHP "has been a strong partner" of the company's since 2023 — adding that the proposed transaction would give Express additional financial resources and put it in a better position to grow profitably while maximizing value for stakeholders.

Beyond its UpWest storefronts, the company operates about 530 Express retail and Express Factory Outlet stores in the United States and Puerto Rico, in addition to roughly 60 Bonobos Guideshop locations as well as online operations for these brands, according to Express' website.

Express reported nearly \$1.2 billion in total debts and \$1.3 billion in total assets as of March 2 in its Chapter 11 petition, which was filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware.

The company first started as a women's fashion purveyor and then branched out to men's wear. It offered must-have items, like denim dresses for those looking for trendy outfits in the workplace, at affordable prices.

But increasing competition from fast fashion players like H&M, as well as the rise of Old Navy and athleisure brands like Lululemon, all hurt the brand's sales, said Neil Saunders, a managing director with research firm GlobalData. Saunders also noted that the brand was beset by quality issues, and the pandemic sped up the trend of people working from home, lessening the need for shoppers to buy work outfits.

"Everyone has been nibbling at Express from all sides, and Express doesn't have a defensible proposition," Saunders said.

Express joins a handful of retailers filing for Chapter 11 so far this year, including fabrics and craft retailer Joann. And analysts expect the pace of bankruptcy filings this year to be around the same level — close to 24 — as last year, as shoppers hobbled by high consumer debt remain cautious, according to accounting and advisory firm BDO, which tracks retail bankruptcies.

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