

From Memorials to Mimosas A Century of Celebrating Motherhood

By Alex Irman

This Sunday, families across the United States will shower their mothers with flowers, cards, brunches, and heartfelt appreciation. Mother’s Day, a cherished annual tradition, is deeply ingrained in our cultural fabric. But the origins of this seemingly straightforward celebration are far more nuanced and rooted in a desire for peace and remembrance than many might realize.

The seeds of Mother’s Day were sown in the mid-19th century by two remarkable women. Ann Reeves Jarvis, a social activist in West Virginia, organized “Mother’s Day Work Clubs” to improve sanitation and health conditions, particularly for mothers and children. During the Civil War, she worked tirelessly to care for wounded soldiers on both sides of the conflict, advocating for peace and reconciliation. After the war, Jarvis organized “Mother’s Friendship Day” gatherings to promote unity between former Union and Confederate families.

Following Ann Reeves Jarvis’s death in 1905, her daughter, Anna Jarvis, embarked on a fervent mission to establish a national day to honor all mothers, both living and deceased. Anna believed that mothers were unsung heroes who deserved recognition for their sacrifices and contributions to society. She began a tireless letter-writing campaign to influential figures, urging them to support her cause.

Anna Jarvis’s persistence paid off. In 1908, she organized the first official Mother’s Day celebration at St. Andrew’s Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia and simultaneously in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She



distributed white carnations, her mother’s favorite flower, as a symbol of purity, love, and endurance.

The idea quickly gained momentum. By 1914, thanks to Anna Jarvis’s relentless advocacy and the growing public sentiment, President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed the second Sunday in May as Mother’s Day, a national holiday dedicated to expressing love and gratitude to mothers.

Initially, the celebration envisioned by Anna Jarvis was intended to be a deeply personal and intimate affair. She encouraged people to write heartfelt letters to their mothers and to attend church services wearing a white carnation if their mother was living, and a colored one if she had passed away. The focus was on genuine sentiment and personal connection.

However, as Mother’s Day gained popularity, it began to evolve in ways that Anna Jarvis had not anticipated and ultimately came to vehemently oppose.

The burgeoning commercialization of the holiday, with the rise of elaborate floral arrangements, expensive gifts, and restaurant brunches, deeply troubled her. She felt that the focus had shifted from sincere appreciation to materialistic displays.

Throughout her later years, Anna Jarvis became a vocal critic of the very holiday she had championed. She protested against florists, confectioners, and other businesses that she felt were exploiting Mother’s Day for profit. She even went as far as to file lawsuits to try and control the use of the name “Mother’s Day” and to return it to its original, more heartfelt intention.

Despite her efforts, the commercial aspects of Mother’s Day continued to flourish. By the mid-20th century, the traditions we recognize today were largely established. The holiday became synonymous with breakfast in bed, handmade cards from children, bouquets of colorful flowers, and celebratory meals

at restaurants.

Today, Mother’s Day remains one of the most commercially successful holidays in the United States. Millions of dollars are spent on gifts, flowers, jewelry, and dining out. While these gestures are often expressions of genuine love and appreciation, they stand in stark contrast to the simple, heartfelt observance envisioned by Anna Jarvis.

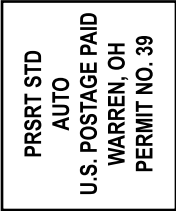
However, beyond the commercialism, the core sentiment of Mother’s Day endures. It remains a significant day for families to honor and celebrate the vital role that mothers play in their lives. Whether it’s through a lavish brunch, a simple phone call, or a handmade gift, the underlying message is one of love, gratitude, and recognition.

The ways in which Mother’s Day is celebrated today are diverse and reflect the evolving nature of families and societal norms. For some, it’s a day of quiet reflection and remembrance. For others, it’s a joyous occasion for extended family gatherings. The rise of technology has also introduced new ways to connect with mothers who live far away, through video calls and personalized online messages.

While Anna Jarvis’s original vision may have been somewhat lost in the tide of commercialization, her initial impulse – to dedicate a day to acknowledge the profound impact of mothers – continues to resonate. As we celebrate Mother’s Day this year, perhaps it’s worth taking a moment to reflect on its origins and to ensure that our expressions of love and gratitude are as genuine and heartfelt as the woman who fought so tirelessly to establish this special day intended them to be.

Cinco de Mayo: More Than Margaritas ~ A Celebration Rooted in Resistance

By Alex Irman



Across the United States, the fifth of May is often marked by vibrant celebrations filled with music, dancing, and, let’s be honest, a fair amount of tequila and tacos. But beyond the festive atmosphere, Cinco de Mayo carries a significant historical weight, commemorating a pivotal moment of Mexican resistance against foreign intervention. While its observance in the U.S. has evolved, often becoming intertwined with broader Mexican-American culture, understanding its true origins reveals a powerful story of courage and national pride.

The roots of Cinco de Mayo lie in the mid-19th century, a tumultuous period for Mexico. The nation, still recovering from the Mexican-American War and internal strife, found itself heavily indebted to European powers, primarily Spain, France, and Great Britain. In 1861, facing economic hardship, Mexican President Benito Juárez declared a moratorium on foreign debt payments.

This decision did not sit well with the European creditors. While Spain and Great Britain eventually negotiated with Mexico, France, under the rule of Napoleon III, saw an opportunity to expand its influence in the Americas. Backed by Mexican conservatives who opposed Juárez’s liberal reforms, the French launched an invasion with the aim of establishing a monarchy under Austrian Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian.


The French army, considered one of the most formidable in the world at the time, began its advance into Mexico. Their initial successes seemed inevitable. However, on May 5, 1862, a seemingly outmatched Mexican army, led by General Ignacio Zaragoza, stood their ground in the city of Puebla.

The Battle of Puebla, as it became known, saw a determined Mexican force, comprised largely of poorly equipped soldiers and local volunteers, bravely confront the well-trained and

heavily armed French troops. Against all odds, the Mexican army emerged victorious, inflicting a significant defeat on the French.

This victory at Puebla was not the end of the French intervention. The French forces regrouped and eventually captured Mexico City in 1863, installing Maximilian as emperor. However, the spirit of resistance ignited at Puebla continued to fuel the Mexican fight for independence. The victory served as a crucial morale boost, demonstrating that the French were not invincible and galvanizing the national will to resist foreign domination. Ultimately, with continued Mexican resistance and the United States’ growing opposition to European interference in the Americas (particularly after the end of its own Civil War), the French withdrew in 1867, and Maximilian was eventually executed.

So, how did this relatively localized victory in a single Mexican city become a widely celebrated event in the United



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CORTLAND CITY

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City Hall 330-637-3916

Fax 330-637-4778

Clerk of Council 330-638-0142

Service Director 330-637-4637

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Dispatch 330-675-2730

Police - Business 330-638-1000

Fire - Business 330-637-2891

MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL
First and Third Monday of each month.
Monday, May 5 – 7 p.m.
Monday, May 19 – 7 p.m.

CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL
Read the minutes from
Cortland City Council meetings at
www.cityofcortland.org under City
Council Minutes.

PARKS AND RECREATION
Second Monday of each month
Monday, May 12 - 5:30 p.m.

PLANNING & ZONING
Second Monday of each month
Monday, May 12 - 7 p.m.

Meetings and agenda of Council and
Planning meetings area available at
www.cityofcortland.org

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP

BAZETTATWP.ORG

Admin Building 330-637-8816

3372 State Route 5 ...fax: 330-637-4588

Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector

and Cemetery Sexton 330-637-8816

Road Department 330-637-8311

FIRE - POLICE - RESCUE 911

Police Department 330-638-5503

Fire Station #11 330-637-4136

3000 Warren Meadville Rd

Non Emergency Calls ... 330-675-2730

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings the second Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, May 13 - 7 p.m.

A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit **www.bazettatwp.org**

THE CORTLAND BAZETTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

The Second Wednesday of each month at 5 PM at The Opera House

LAKEVIEW BOARD OF
EDUCATION MEETINGS

Regular meetings the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m.

in the Lakeview High School Media Center, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, April 28 - 6 p.m.

Area Service Clubs

Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club
Steve Rock 330-240-1634
Cortland Bazetta Historical Society & Museum
Sally Lane 330-638-2330
Cortland Lions Club
Dawna Wiland 330-219-9852
Cortland Masonic Lodge
Chuck Chagnot 330-307-3405
Cortland Moose Lodge
Bill Bartholomew 330-637-9957
Cortland Rotary Club
Dennis Nisbett 330-719-8629
Cortland SCOPE
Terri Donahue 330-980-5363
Cortland Opal CH 181, O.E.S
Carla Kahler 330-856-2356
The Opera House (Event Rentals)
Maribeth Albu 330-219-1488

Four Seasons Garden Club
Nancy Finlay 330-637-8931
Johnston Senior Center
Jim Bacorn 330-924-0412
Warren City Federation of Women’s Clubs
Terri Crabbs 330-637-3845
American Assoc of University Women
Ruth Bradshaw 330-307-1151
League of Woman Voters
Peggy Boyd 330-856-5398
Cortland Area Cares
Donna Kittle 330-637-0821
Friends of the Cortland Library
(Cheryl Bush or Karen Murphy) .. 330-637-2717
Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship
(LOAF) 330-720-9136

Please contact the Cortland News if you
would like your organization listed here.

Our Next Issue May 17, 2025

Our theme will be

Graduation

Article Deadline by May 5 • Display Advertising Deadline is May 7

Email articles to **editor@cortlandnews.net**

The mission of the Cortland News is to focus on the positive aspects and events of our community. Our goal is to inspire pride and bring the residents of our community closer to one another by providing accurate, timely and useful information. We hold ourselves to high standards of journalism and strive to be a source of trust for our readers.

Based on the policy of the Cortland News to print positive news about our community, we reserve the right to reject contributed material considered inappropriate. We reserve the right to edit information accepted for publication for accuracy, style, length, spelling, grammar, and clarity.

The Cortland News wishes to present a fair and accurate news report. If you have a concern about anything published, please call our office at 330-565-2637 and leave a message for our Manager or Editor.

Death notices and obituaries will be printed in the Cortland News at the request of the family. Arrangement should be made to have information for death notices and obituaries sent directly to the Cortland News from the funeral home. Space restraints may require some editing. Publication dates for the Cortland News may prohibit an obituary from appearing prior to a funeral or memorial service.

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Lakeside Sport Shop

Top Notch Diner

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Matt Derrick

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Cortland, OH 44410

(330) 565-2637

www.cortlandnews.net

We do not keep regular office hours but if
you leave us a message, we will return your
call as soon as possible.

The Cortland News will no longer
be accepting any facsimile “fax”
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Article submissions to:

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Display and classified advertising
and photographs to:

sales@cortlandnews.net

The Cortland News is published every
three weeks free of charge and mailed
via USPS to over 5000 area residents
and businesses in Cortland and parts
of Bazetta Township.



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While every effort has been made to ensure the
accuracy of the information in this newspaper,
the Cortland News cannot be held responsible
for any errors or omissions.

Community Events

Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules. See pg. 2 & 15

Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules visit www.lakeviewlocal.org.

American Red Cross blood donations, various dates. www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-733-2767.

Cortland Public Library - Check out the ongoing events on page 18 <https://wtcpl.org/locations-hours/cortland-library/>

Cortland Senior Center - Open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cortland Christian Church.

Charity Benefit Pancake Breakfast, [1st Saturday] 9 a.m.-noon, Cortland Masonic Lodge, 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main Street).

Church Events - See the Church News and Notes on the Faith pages.

Trumbull County Combined Health District has numerous free upcoming Vaccine Clinics. See their website or the article in this issue.

APRIL

28 Brush Chipping this Week

MAY

- 2&3 Cortland Lions Club and NEO Junk Spring Scrap Drive / Willow Park
May 2 - 9 AM-5 PM / May 3 - 9 AM - 3PM.
- 3 Annual Spring Craft Show / Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club / 9 AM - 2 PM
- 3 Charity Pancake Breakfast / Cortland Masonic Lodge benefits the Experimental Aircraft Assoc. (EAA) / 9-11:30
- 6 City of Cortland Business Mixer: Mix and Mingle Game Night
Sponsored by the Cortland Collaborative / 5:30 PM
- 7 Upton Association’s “First Wednesday” Speaker Series - John Kudley
entitled Geauga Lake Amusement Park - A Nostalgic Look Back
- 7 Cortland Methodist Church Kentucky Mountain Drive thru Dinner
4:30 - 6:00 PM
- 7 Bristol Public Library / Game Warden Michael Clutter / 6:30 pm
- 8&9 Spring Clean Up Days
- 11 Mosquito Lake SFL Tournament Q1
- 13 Blood Drive / Cortland United Methodist Church / 12 PM - 5:30 PM
- 15 Spring Mixer / Hosted by GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women’s League
Ohio Living Lake Vista’s Club House / 6-8 PM
- 17 Lakeview Athletic Club 18 Hole 4-Person Scramble / Tamer Win Golf Club
- 17 God provides A Meal ~ Join Us For A Free Lunch / Cortland Methodist Church / 11 AM - 1PM
- 18 Cortland United Methodist Open House ~ Celebrating 190 years!
Tour the 145-year-old sanctuary and the 1957 addition that was also used as a Cortland elementary / 11 AM - 1 PM
- 27 The Wall That Heals / South Lawn of Packard Park through Sunday, June 1

Looking for Community Volunteer Writers & Reporters

By Thom Foley

The Cortland News is looking for a few more volunteer writers to help bring all the GOOD NEWS to our community. Are you looking to get more involved in our community? You could help by covering area events and programs. There are lots of

possibilities and you can pick your own times to help. If you are interested drop me a line at Editor@thecortlandnews.com We look forward to having you be part of our volunteer team that helps to share ALL THE GOOD NEWS in our community.

Cortland Lions Club Street Fair At A Crossroads

By Ralph McCord

A history of the Cortland Street Fair

The Cortland Volunteer Fire Department organized and started the Street Fair in the mid 1940’s until the early to mid-1960’s. Income from their Street Fair helped purchase Fire Equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department. As the Cortland Volunteer Fire Department evolved into a full time Fire Department, they could no longer organize the yearly Street Fair. In the mid-1960’s the Street fair became a Community Street Fair until 1984. At that time-it appeared the Street Fair would end as no organization stepped up to keep it going.

Rather than allowing the Cortland Street Fair to cease, our Cortland Lions Club stepped up and re-organized it as the Cortland Lions Club Street Fair for the next approximately 41 years. Income we derive from the Street Fair is used primarily to meet local needs and we also contribute to national and world-wide needs. We believe the Street Fair today is approximately 80 years old.

The Cortland Lions Club, chartered in 1939, is an aging Club with dwindling membership. At our peak our Club had 79 members, today we have 25 dedicated men and women (half of whom are retirement age or older) who

continue to serve in our community. We have tried various recruitment efforts to attract new members-with limited success. We are also aware that national statistics show that Service Clubs are in a downward spiral both in gaining new members and retaining existing members.

Therefore, due to our current membership levels, we are unable to continue to assume total responsibility for organizing the Cortland Street Fair, after the 2025 Street Fair. To be clear, we are not abandoning our participation in the Street Fair as our Fry Stands and Beer Tent provide a large portion of the income we donate back to our community. We did not take our decision and announcement lightly as our Lions Club recognizes our Street Fair is the premier summer event in Cortland and is a Homecoming for many former and current residents.

In an effort to continue, improve and grow the Cortland Street Fair, now in its approximate 80th year, we will host constructive public meetings starting in August to plan a path forward with other local Organizations and interested parties. Dates and times of these meetings will appear in The Cortland News and on local social media.

A Breath of Spring Day Trip

By Peggy Boyd

Trumbull County Travel Club invites the citizens of Trumbull County or beyond to join them on Thursday, May 8 for a day outing to Mansfield. Venturing first to the Fannie May Chocolate outlet featuring great treats one can purchase just before Mother’s Day. Lunch included is at the Blueberry Patch in Mansfield with a gift shop and winery attached to their facility. Wayne’s Market will be browsed through before heading to the Richmond Carrousel Park. Here 52 hand-carved animals circle a Stinson Organ and wait for someone to climb on and ride with the music.

Finishing the day will be taking in a true breath of spring at Alta Greenhouse stock full of perennials, potted wonders and a gift shop for all to explore. Please call Peggy at 330-609-3971 for details and price of outing. There are only 9 seats remaining.

The Travel Club is open to anyone who wishes to travel and make friends. The Club does not have any dues to join. The members meet about 3 times a year at the Warren Library in the afternoon. The club usually travels by motor coach but we have used the airlines and trains. Members have been to all 50 states. Although the New England & Lancaster trips are sold out there is a new trip just posted to Bethlehem, Pa for December 5,6,7. This will feature the German Christmas Market and so much more.

Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club Spring Craft Show

The Annual Spring Craft Show at the Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club will be held on Saturday, May 3 from 9 AM - 2 PM. The event is being held at Candlelight Knolls, 2619 Hoagland Blackstub Rd in Bazetta.

There will be Dozens of vendors, plenty of delicious food and lots of Basket Raffles! Like all of the money that is raised by the Optimists, the proceeds will be used to benefit the youth of our community.

For more information contact Mark & Heidi Harper at BCOptimistcraftshow@gmail.com.

Please help support the youth of Bazetta and Cortland.

Cortland Annual Garage Sale

The sale is now less than 60 days away! The registration form can be found on our Facebook page, [facebook.com/groups/44410garagesale](https://www.facebook.com/groups/44410garagesale). If you do not have Facebook, please send an email to: CortlandOHGarageSale@gmail.com and the link to the digital registration form will be sent to you.

If you would like to register by mail, please send a SASE to Cortland Garage Sale, PO Box 424, Cortland, OH 44410. A paper registration form will be sent to you.

Cortland Lions Club-NEO Junk Spring Scrap Drive

By Ralph McCord

The Cortland Lions Club and NEO Junk will have our Annual Spring Scrap Drive that benefits Cortland Parks & Recreation. The Scrap Drive will be held at Willow Park in Cortland on Friday May 2nd from 9am until 5pm and on Saturday May 3rd from 9am until 3pm. You can bring your metal scrap to Willow Park and our Lions Club will help you remove it from your car,

truck or trailer. If you live in Cortland, we can have NEO Junk pick up your Metal Scrap. We are limiting pick-ups to the Cortland Area. Call 330-219-4879 starting Monday April 28th to be put on a list to have your scrap picked up on Friday or Saturday. We cannot accept TV’s, propane tanks, computers, printers and etc. We reserve the right to reject accepting scrap.



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3rd Annual Summer Music Camp

One of Cortland’s newest traditions is coming back for a 3rd year. The annual Summer Music Camp, Sponsored Girts Music 101 is back! Kids ages 6-13 are invited! “The Art of Guitar” Join us Mondays & Thursdays June 2nd - 26th, Noon to 2 pm.

Held at Girt’s Cortland Music 101 - 197 South High Street, across from DQ. For just \$189 you get 8 days of fun group learning and fun activities for youth guitar, including decorating and learning to play! Art supplies and guitar are included, and kids keep their guitar to take home! We encourage parents to dress children in clothing suitable for outdoor play and art activities. Indoor/ Outdoor, rain or shine.

Limited spots available: (330) 637-4478 for sign-up and to enroll your child. (10% discount for 2nd sibling). Music101Ohio.com



Cortland-Bazetta Golden Egg Business Scavenger Hunt

By Jamie Bledsoe and Matthew Derrick

The Cortland-Bazetta Golden Egg Business Scavenger Hunt brought joy, excitement, and community spirit to our town, leaving a lasting impact on everyone involved. With a whopping

31 participating businesses and a cash prize of \$390, this event was more than just a contest—it was a celebration of local businesses and community togetherness.

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The star of this year’s scavenger hunt was Katie Beltz, who claimed the prize while winning hearts with her inspiring approach. Katie visited every single participating business and even made a purchase at each stop, demonstrating her dedication to supporting our local economy. Reflecting on her experience, Katie shared, “This was such a great idea, getting the community and businesses involved. I went to some businesses I’d never been in before!” Her words beautifully capture the essence of what this event aimed to achieve—creating connections and introducing residents to the hidden treasures of local community.

We are deeply grateful to the 31 incredible businesses that made this

Continued on page 6

BAZETTA CORTLAND
OPTIMIST CLUB

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025
9:00 TO 2:00

Spring
Craft Show

2619 Hoagland Blackstub
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What's "news" in the City of Cortland

Just The Facts

What fragrant flowering plant, known for its trumpet-shaped blooms, heralds the arrival of spring with its vibrant colors?

- a. Clover
- b. Rose
- c. Orchid
- d. Daffodil

Find the answer at the bottom of the article.

Scrap Tire - The city's Scrap Tire Collection Program is ending on April 30th. Tires can be dropped off at the Service Garage in Willow Park, Monday through Friday 7:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Brush Pick Up - The first brush chipping will be the week of April 28th. You must follow the rules and regulations which can be found on our website. Only 1 pass per street will be made and

nothing larger than 3" in diameter will be chipped. Put your brush out the Sunday before to ensure pick up.

Spring Clean Up - May 8th and May 9th are the dates for Spring Clean Up this year. Items will be collected on your regular trash day. Call Republic Services with any questions.

Dates to Remember

- May 5th - City Council - 7 p.m.
- May 12th - Parks - 5:30 p.m.
- May 12th - Planning & Zoning - 7 p.m.
- May 19th - City Council - 7 p.m.

Answer

- d. Daffodil.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - Consider acquiring Mom a special gift from a local Cortland shop. She will love it!

City Of Cortland Curbside Brush Pickup Policy

The City of Cortland Service Department will conduct branch and limb pick up service along city streets starting in April and continuing through October. Pick-up for the entire city is the week of the 4th Monday of each month. There will be one pick-up per month per household. The service day may vary during the collection week due to weather and workload. As noted below, branches should be placed at the curb no later than the Sunday prior to collection week to ensure removal. One pass will be made on each street.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Branches and limbs need to be placed at the curb no later than the Sunday before the scheduled collection week.
 - One pass will be made on each street.
 - Only branches and limbs will be picked up (trimmed/pruned and root-free).
 - Branches and limbs must be no longer than 6' in length and can be up to 4" in diameter.
 - The city will pick up a single brush pile no larger than 6' x 8' per household.

- Do not combine piles with your neighbors.
 - Branches and limbs must be stacked in a straight pile with cut ends facing the street.
 - No firewood, large logs or complete trees will be picked up.
 - If you have any questions, please call the Administration Building at (330) 637-3011.

If you have any questions, please call the Administration Building at (330) 637-3011.

2025 Brush Chipping Schedule

- Week of April 28th
- Week of May 26th
- Week of June 23rd
- Week of July 28th
- Week of August 25th
- Week of September 22nd
- Week of October 27th

Private roads not included are: Arcaro St, Blake Blvd, Eagle Pointe Dr, Hawks Landing, Liberty Blvd, Tournament Trail, Bayview Cir, Creekside Commons Dr, Golf Dr, Harneds Landing, Sunshine Ave, Woodland Trace

Col Sedlacek - Assumes Command at YARS



The Citizen Airmen of the 910th Airlift Wing welcomed Col. Christopher E. Sedlacek as their new wing commander and the installation commander of YARS during an Assumption of Command Ceremony, on April 6. The 22nd Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Melissa A. Coburn, from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., presided over the event.

Prior to his arrival at YARS, Colonel Sedlacek's assignment, since August 2022, was as the 302nd Airlift Wing commander at the Peterson Space Force Base, Colo.

Colonel Sedlacek was commissioned through the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs in 1997 and later attended joint undergraduate navigator training. While on active duty, he served in Europe and later as a formal school instructor in the C-130. He separated from active duty in 2004 and joined the Air Force Reserve. Col. Sedlacek has held numerous key positions in the reserve including squadron commander, group commander and major command staff officer.

Col. Sedlacek is a command navigator with more than 3,500 flying hours and has amassed more than 370 hours of combat flight time.

During his time in the U.S. Air Force, he has deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom five times, including a command tour.

Bazetta Township Park Imagination Station Upgrade

By Deanna Longo

Bazetta Township received a \$300,000 grant from the Ohio Senate Capital Budget through the Capital Improvement Community Park Recreation/Conservation Project. The funds will be used toward upgrading and replacing the playground equipment at Imagination Station making it ADA compliant with today's standards. Once the agreement with ODNR is finalized in the upcoming weeks, we will order the new equipment. Demolition and reconstruction are planned for the end of this summer season 2025.

The current playground structure has exceeded its useful life expectancy. The moisture from the lake environment and regular maintenance has extended the use a little longer and given us some time to apply for grants.

This is the beginning of our park upgrade. The next project we hope to complete is replacing the original fencing around the ballfields which are about 40 years old, repair the electrical issues, replace the restrooms making them more accessible and connecting Imagination Station area to Storybook Trail by paving a connecting pathway.

Our goal is to apply for grants and conduct fundraising through our Park Board so no local tax dollars are used to fund these projects. If you would like to donate toward our park upgrade or volunteer please contact our office 330-637-8816.

Bazetta Township Comprehensive Plan Update

By Deanna Longo

Bazetta Township is updating their Comprehensive Plan. The current plan has not been updated since 2009. A resident steering committee was formed including representatives from business, Trumbull County Sanitary Engineer's Office, Lakeview Local Schools, Mosquito Lake State Park, Farmers, Housing and even the medical field are included. Trustee Michael J Hovis, Zoning Inspector Pete Pizzulo and Zoning Commission Chairman Deanna Longo are overseeing the process.

A survey was created and shared on our website, news, social media, shared through email, texts and at some local businesses. The survey end date was April 8. The Steering Committee met again on April 22. Results were not available at press time.

Our goal is to review the survey responses and use those responses as directions to update and streamline the current plan, to bring it up to today's standards and plan for the future. The new plan will go before a review board every two years moving forward.

Bazetta Trustees Support OH Issue 2

The Bazetta Trustees recently unanimously passed a Resolution in support of OH Issue 2. Issue is a State & Local partnership that funds local infrastructure.

The resolution and the full issue details are on the Bazetta township web page. The program has provided over 7 billion dollars over the last 40 years for improvements everywhere around the state. Local governments decide how to best use the funding in partnership with the state.



Tails of Hope's 3rd Annual Sold-Out Breakfast at Kitten's FUNdraiser, held on March 22, at The Corinthian in downtown Sharon, PA, raised over \$25,000 for its lifesaving mission. Tails of Hope has served over 16,000 animals since 2017. Help them #SaveMoreLivesin2025 with a donation online anytime at: tailsofhopewpa.org/donate
Madison Scott, Lori Scott, Laura O'Brien, Diane O'Brien Webster
[Co-Founder & President of Tails of Hope] and Dottie Pepe

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Golden Egg

...continued from page 4

event possible. Their enthusiasm and generosity brought the scavenger hunt to life. Here is the full list of participating businesses: Mayor Deidre Petrosky and Cortland City Hall, Cortland Police Department, Main Street Coffee, Country Porch Winery, Belleria Restaurant, Awesome Aquatics, Handle It Corral, Totally Dog, Cortland Nutrition, Stanley Grace, 4 Bird Media, Cortland Mower Sales, The Fowler General Store, Luoma Outdoors, Summer Dreams Tanning, Daybreak Music and Creativity Zone, Rock of Grace Central Office, Ruddy Insurance Group, I Want That, Galleria of Arts and Antiques, Heritage Florist, Guidelight Financial Group, Eastwood Quick Print, Action Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation, Papa's Book Shoppe, Embrace Connection Counseling, Cortland Rotary Club, Jamie Bledsoe of Liberty Home Services and Real Estate, Matthew Derrick of Alcova Mortgage, Centerra Country Store, Cortland

Collaborative.

Each business played a vital role in making the scavenger hunt a success, showcasing the warmth, creativity and resilience of our local community.

Looking Ahead: More Opportunities to Connect. The Cortland Collaborative invites everyone to continue fostering these connections by joining the upcoming *City of Cortland Business Mixer: Mix and Mingle Game Night*, proudly sponsored by the Cortland Collaborative. Mark your calendars and save the date – May 6th at 5:30 pm. Let's keep the momentum going and strengthen the bonds that make Cortland and Bazetta an extraordinary place to live and thrive.

With gratitude in our hearts the Cortland Collaborative thanks everyone who participated, supported, and cheered along the way.

Together, we're building a brighter future for our community, one event at a time.



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Cinco de Mayo ... continued from front page

States? The answer lies in the evolution of Mexican-American identity and the Chicano Movement of the 1960s.

Initially, Cinco de Mayo celebrations in the U.S. were largely confined to Mexican-American communities, particularly in California, where it was observed as a symbol of Mexican resistance and pride. However, the holiday gained significant traction during the Civil Rights era and the Chicano Movement. For Mexican-Americans seeking to affirm their cultural heritage and fight for social justice, Cinco de Mayo resonated deeply. The Battle of Puebla became a powerful metaphor for their own struggles against discrimination and inequality in the United States. It represented the triumph of the underdog, the power of unity, and the resilience of Mexican identity in the face of adversity.

During this period, Cinco de Mayo celebrations in the U.S. took on a more political and cultural significance. They became platforms for expressing Chicano pride, advocating for civil rights, and celebrating Mexican culture through art, music, and educational events.

Over time, the mainstream understanding and celebration of Cinco de Mayo in the United States have broadened, and arguably, become somewhat diluted. While many Americans still recognize it as a celebration of Mexican culture, the historical context of the Battle of Puebla is often overshadowed by the festive aspects.

Today, Cinco de Mayo in the U.S. is widely marked by parades, festivals,

traditional Mexican music and dance performances, and of course, gatherings featuring Mexican cuisine and beverages. Restaurants and bars often offer Cinco de Mayo specials, and the holiday has become a popular occasion for social gatherings.

While this widespread celebration can be seen as a positive acknowledgement of Mexican culture, it has also drawn criticism for sometimes perpetuating stereotypes and overlooking the historical significance of the day. Concerns are often raised about the commercialization of the holiday and the focus on stereotypical imagery rather than the underlying message of resistance and cultural pride.

Moving forward, it is crucial to remember the true meaning behind Cinco de Mayo. While enjoying the festivities, taking the time to understand the historical context of the Battle of Puebla and its significance for both Mexico and Mexican-Americans enriches the celebration. It allows us to appreciate the courage and resilience of the Mexican people and to recognize the holiday as more than just an excuse for a party, but as a commemoration of a pivotal moment in the fight against foreign intervention and a testament to the enduring spirit of cultural identity. As the United States continues to embrace its diverse cultural landscape, understanding the historical depth of celebrations like Cinco de Mayo becomes increasingly important in fostering a more informed and respectful appreciation of our shared heritage.



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<p>Any Two Strombolis</p> <p>\$17.00</p> <p><small>One coupon per visit • Not valid with any other offer • Expires 5/12/25</small></p> <p></p>	<p>Hot Gondola Sandwich</p> <p>\$7.50</p> <p><small>One coupon per visit • Not valid with any other offer • Expires 5/12/25</small></p> <p></p>	<p>Any 12-Cut Specialty Pizza</p> <p>\$19.00</p> <p><small>One coupon per visit • Not valid with any other offer • Expires 5/12/25</small></p> <p></p>

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BBB Applications Due May 5

The mission of the BBB's Educational Scholarship Program is to provide information and develop resources that promote and build awareness of ethical business practices and marketplace trust to consumers and businesses.

The Ethics & Integrity Scholarship offers five \$1,000 one-year scholarships to graduating high school seniors employed by or are the children or grandchildren of owners or employees of an Accredited Businesses.

Applicants must also:

- Be a high school senior with a primary residence in Columbiana, Mahoning, or Trumbull Counties.
- Have plans to attend a college, university, community college, or trade school in the year immediately following high school graduation.
- Applications must include a 500-word essay or a 4-minute video explaining the meaning of "ethics" and "integrity" to the applicant.
- Entry materials must be postmarked or emailed by May 1, 2025.

Applications are available by visiting <https://www.bbb.org/local/0432/bbbyoungtownscholarship.html>

Questions? Call 330.744.3111 x 108 or submit applications to info@youngstown.bbb.org.

The Ethics & Integrity Scholarships are sponsored by Farmers Trust Company and BBB and are a component fund of the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley.

2025 International Firewood Expo Returns to Trumbull County

The 3rd Annual International Firewood Expo, hosted by Ohio Wood Burner Ltd., is back and bigger than ever! This year's event will take place on May 2 & 3 at the Trumbull County Fairgrounds, bringing together firewood industry leaders, cutting-edge machinery, and top vendors from around the world—all for an affordable \$5 entry fee.

The 2025 International Firewood Expo is a must-attend event for firewood professionals, hobbyists, and anyone interested in wood processing. Attendees will witness live demonstrations of the latest firewood processing technology, including log splitters, firewood processors, chainsaws, wrapping machines, hand tools, and heavy-duty loading equipment.

This year the expo will have guests and vendors from across the globe, featuring industry innovators from Canada, Slovenia, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Finland. This is a rare opportunity to connect with international experts or simply see some of the best firewood processing equipment in action.

This rain-or-shine event is designed for industry professionals, firewood enthusiasts, and locals alike, with plenty to see, learn, and even purchase. Visitors will also enjoy onsite food vendors, restroom facilities, and exhibitor booths



throughout the fairgrounds. To learn more about The International Firewood Expo 2025 and Joe Nay visit: internationalfirewoodexpo.com or www.youtube.com/@ohiowoodburner



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SHIRLEY

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This beautiful soulful senior gal deserves to thrive in her golden years, not spend them in an overcrowded shelter. We feel at this time Shirley would be best as an only pet. So if you're looking for companionship, Shirley would be a perfect match for you. Low energy and just wants to have some human affection.



JULES

2 yrs / Female / 50 lbs
She is currently enrolled in training. Currently heartworm + and will be undergoing her treatment. A family with older children would be the perfect fit for her, as she is strong on the leash but gentle in every other way. Recently cat tested and didn't seem to mind them.

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Mothers Are Nurturers

I have been blessed to have amazing mothers in my life. My own mother has always been a cheerleader of mine, whether it was on the football field or as I got older and went into ministry, helping me with my education expenses and staying involved with my life and children. She’s a gift giver, showing her love with gifts and her time. My wife is the best mother I know, watching her raise our four children, homeschooling and training them for life. Though she doesn’t have a job outside of the home, she has the best work ethic of anyone I know, spending much of her time baking, cooking, doing endless laundry and volunteering with our church’s children’s programs. We live next to my in-laws, and my mother-in-law is a blessing to me and my family. She is a great encourager to my wife when life gets hard and overwhelming and she makes it easy for us to get a date.

If you think about it, the ingredient at the heart of all that I have mentioned is nurture. God has designed the woman to be a nurturer; a gentle, warm, loving and safe person for her children and her husband. God has designed

us to need nurture, and when life gets hard, for many people the first person they call is mom because mom listens.

Mothers, your efforts matter! Even when it seems like no one is paying attention, without you, the family suffers. The temptation for every generation is to think that your challenges are new and unique to you. But the Bible tells us “there is nothing new under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 1:9).

Your challenge is new to you, but it is not new. You may have different challenges than your grandmother, but when you talk with her, you will find that they faced the same challenges raising your mother, they just looked a little different 40 years ago. If you need some wise women in your life, allow me to encourage you to find a church and ask the wise ladies of the church how they handled your challenges.

Mothers, no matter how young or old, keep loving your children, grandchildren, and if you have been so blessed, great-grandchildren! Your efforts, warm hugs, words of encouragement, and listening ear are making a difference in your loved ones.

I was recently in a Bible study discussion about the women Naomi and Ruth. Many might know this story, some well, some are familiar with it, and some may not know it at all. It is contained, fittingly enough, in the book of Ruth in the section often referred to as the Old Testament. Here’s the super short version. Naomi has two sons who both get married. Naomi’s husband has passed and then each of her sons dies. And Naomi sends her two daughter-in-laws away to find new husbands or reunite with their old families so they can be supported. Women, in that time, just couldn’t do much to support themselves, couldn’t own property, etc. So they needed men to watch over them. Before anyone gets wound up one way or another, it’s just the way it was then.

Here’s the thing. Ruth stays. She refuses to go home and insists she will stay with her mother-in-law and they will find a way to live together. And while the rest of the book of Ruth tells her story about marrying Boaz who takes care of Ruth and Naomi and how she influenced their family, the intriguing piece remains. Ruth stays with Naomi. And it brought up a very interesting point in our discussion. How much love did Naomi pour out on her sons and their wives that when every practical, reasonable point said Ruth should leave, she stayed?

As a pastor, I’ve done a lot of funerals for women (men too, but this is a Mother’s Day piece). Inevitably, most women are credited with the role they played in their family as a mother. Sometimes, the stories are told by biological children, sometimes

adopted or foster children, sometimes by children brought into the family by marriage, and other times by people who found in that woman a mother they yearned for and had lost or even had never had.

A consistent theme through all of the stories was the way the woman loved them.

There are a great many wmotherays that those mothers who have been remembered have loved. Some have done so quietly by simply making a peaceful home where you could always count on food at the dinner table. Others have done so by being active in PTO’s and being present at every sporting event. Still others have set an example in the workforce encouraging their children to live into their full potential. And most of them found a way to bring some combination of the above together.

Yet the theme remained, in the stories told, of how those many mothers found a way to share love in their families and often in their larger communities. On Mothers’ Day, we celebrate the legacy of love that so many have had the opportunity to share in together. When you get a moment, reach out to the woman or women who have filled that motherly role in your life and share a story with them about how much they have meant to you. We often don’t spend enough time telling those stories when people can hear them. Give it a go. And share a little of the love you have known with those who have loved you.

You are loved. God loves you more than you may ever know.



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Cortland United Methodist Church Celebrates 190 Years

By Cindy Bratek

Did you or your family member attend the Cortland United Methodist Church at 155 N High Street? Or did you or any of your family members attend elementary school there? Or do you and your family just love to tour old buildings? The Cortland United Methodist Church will be celebrating the 190th anniversary of holding church services on May 18th.

The Sunday service will be held at

10:30 AM with an open house from noon to 3:00 PM. You may tour the 145-year-old sanctuary and the 1957 addition that was also used as a Cortland elementary/ kindergarten school. Refreshments will be available in the fellowship hall and church members will be in attendance to answer any questions. We would love to hear any stories you may have about coming to our church or school in this building.



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VBS 2025 - An Epic Australian Adventure

By Daynelle Sanner

Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF) is thrilled to announce its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the summer of 2025, themed Epic Australian Adventure: An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus. The event will take place from June 30 – July 3, 2025, and is open to children entering Pre-K through 7th grade.

Hosted at Cortland United Methodist Church, located at 155 North High Street, Cortland, Ohio, the VBS will run each day from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This year’s theme promises a fun and engaging experience, filled with Bible stories, music, crafts, games, science experiments, and snacks.

“We are excited to provide an unforgettable VBS experience where children can learn about Jesus while having an epic adventure,” said Theresa Hutton, President of Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship. “This year’s theme is designed to be an exciting, interactive way for kids to explore God’s love,



deepen their faith, and make lasting memories.”

The cost to attend is \$5 per child or \$10 per household. We encourage families to register early and mark their calendars for this incredible event. The VBS experience is a great opportunity for kids to connect with others, grow in their faith, and have fun all at the same time!

Stay tuned for registration updates. Follow the LOAF Facebook page for more details.

Outdoor Adventures
Cortland Street Fair Parade

By Daynelle Sanner

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 28 at 6:00 PM, and get ready for an evening filled with adventure and creativity at the Cortland Street Fair Parade! This year’s theme is Outdoor Adventures, so let your imagination run wild with everything from camping and



fishing to running, climbing, canoeing, swimming, and more. We’re looking for creative and fun floats that capture the spirit of outdoor exploration!

Floats will be judged based on overall presentation, creativity, and enthusiasm, with cash prizes awarded to the top three winners—1st, 2nd, and 3rd place! Whether you’re part of a local business, a church group, a nonprofit, or an organization, we encourage you to join in the fun and help make this parade a memorable event for all.

To ensure safety and fairness, we ask each participant to register one vehicle (car, truck, or truck and trailer) at no cost. Pre-registration is required, and the deadline is Monday, June 9—

don’t miss out!

If you want even more exposure for your business or organization, we offer sponsorship opportunities for just \$75! This includes a “Parade Sponsor” sign on the front of your vehicle, recognition on the parade banner leading the event, shout-outs on social media, and mention in Cortland News. It’s a great way to showcase your support while reaching a wider audience!

We can’t wait to see your creativity shine at this year’s parade! For more details or to get your registration form visit our Cortland Street Fair Facebook Page or email us at cortlandstreetfairparade@gmail.com.

Let’s make this year’s parade the best one yet—see you there!



The Grateful Heart Line Dancers based out of the Cortland SCOPE Senior center are on the road again sharing smiles and the joy of line dancing at area care facilities. Recently at Continuing Health Care Assisted Living. The heart sign was the dance we performed to song John Deere Green.

Back row: Barb Croyts, Lynne Radcliffe, Jackie Chachko, Diana Marvin, Becky Philbin. Front row: Val McCourt, Alice Everitt, Sherry McFall, Jan Sala, Bonnie Everitt.

Church News & Notes

Cortland United Methodist Church
God provides A Meal will be May 17 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Join us for a free lunch.

The Kentucky Mountain Dinner (creamed chicken N biscuit) Drive thru Dinner is May 7 from 4:30 - 6:00 pm. Please pre-order at 330-637-2571 \$14.00

Trinity Lutheran - Katharina’s Closet: Donation drop off is the first Monday of every month from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm. If you are unable to drop off donations during that time or have other questions, please call Pastor Wacker at 330-647-6402. Do not leave donations on the narthex porch or by the parking lot entrance. We will have to dispose of such donations.

Distribution - Our second distribution day will be Thursday May 22, from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm

at 2742 North Rd NE. If you know someone who needs Diapers, Wipes, or baby clothes let them know of this distribution event. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Wacker at 330-647-6402.

Bible Studies: Our congregation invites you to join us as we dive into God’s Word in our Bible Studies on Sundays at 9 am. We are currently going through the book of Exodus. Wednesday Bible Studies will start back up in the Month of May at 5:30 pm.

Dramatic Reading of the Bible: Trinity’s Wednesday Bible Study Group invites our community to come join us at our sister congregation, Redeemer Lutheran Church (2305 S Canfield-Niles Rd, Youngstown, Wednesday April 30th at 7pm to hear Dr. Allan Mosher give a dramatic reading of the Book of Revelation chapters 1-11.



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State of the Schools Summary: A Message from the Superintendent

By Ashley Handrych, Superintendent,
Lakeview School District

As the superintendent of Lakeview Schools, it was an honor to welcome our community to our first annual State of the Schools Forum—a new tradition rooted in our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and shared vision. The forum is more than a meeting; it's a moment to reflect on where we've been, acknowledge where we are, and imagine where we can go—together.

Having spent 19 years in Lakeview as an educator—and many more before that as a student, I've seen our district face its share of challenges. We've endured budget cuts, battled through a global pandemic, and made tough decisions during tough times. Through it all, one thing has remained certain: we prevail.

We are not perfect. But we are resilient, and there is so much to be proud of in our schools and community.

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the many people who make Lakeview what it is today. To our school administrators, thank you for your steady leadership and your creative problem-solving, even in the toughest moments. To our teachers and staff—thank you for the care, energy and excellence you bring to our schools every day. You are the heartbeat of this district.

To our students—thank you for being the reason we do this work. Your energy, curiosity, and potential are what drive every decision we make. To our families and caregivers, thank you for your trust and partnership. And to our Board of Education—your guidance and advocacy continue to shape the future of Lakeview Schools.

We are all united by a single,

Continued on page 12

Class of 2025 Spotlight Bulldog

By Michael DeToro

This tri-weekly installment will spotlight an outstanding graduating senior at Lakeview High School. Each showcased student will be someone who represents their family, Lakeview Schools, and most importantly, our Bazetta/Cortland community with integrity, commitment, and loyalty.

This issue's Spotlight Bulldog is Lacy Gavitt, an outstanding student and the daughter of Stacy and Kevin Gavitt. A distinguished pupil of the Lakeview community since kindergarten, Lacy chose to attend the Trumbull Career and Technical Center (TCTC) for her junior and senior years, where she is thriving in the Education and Family Services program.

Through this program, she recently advanced to the state-level SkillsUSA competition, held in Columbus this past March. At TCTC, Lacy's leadership and dedication have earned her induction into the National Technical Honor Society. She also volunteers her time as a tour guide and at community events hosted by the school.

Beyond the classroom, Lacy is active at NorthMar Church, where she serves on the youth leadership team. For the past three years, she's also been a reliable employee at Sparkle Market—there's a good chance she's bagged your groceries! Looking ahead, Lacy plans to attend college next fall to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education, with a minor in Social Work.

Get to know Lacy better with a quick 60-second rapid-fire interview.

- 1.) What is something that you do exceptionally well?
- At school, I earn good grades.
- 2.) What is your favorite part of the Lakeview Local School District?
- I really enjoy how close everyone is here at Lakeview.
- 3.) Where is your favorite place to eat in Bazetta/Cortland?
- El Torrero
- 4.) Where is your favorite place to hang out in Bazetta/Cortland?
- I like playing pickleball at Willow Park.
- 5.) Describe your fashion style.
- I like to be trendy and clean.
- 6.) You might catch me ...
- I work a lot, I babysit, and I like to play a lot of pickleball.
- 7.) What is something you are watching, listening to, or reading right now?
- The "Beloved" book for a school project.
- 8.) What are your future aspirations?
- I want to be a teacher.



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*Congratulations to Bradyn A. for completing his Eagle Scout philanthropic project!
 Lakeview Teachers will be ecstatic to receive their handmade podiums!
 Thank you, Bradyn, for your hard work and dedication!
 Your school and your community are so proud!*

Lakeview Elementary Celebrates Reading Through Art, Animals And Community Partnership

By Mayor Deidre Petrosky

Lakeview Elementary recently wrapped up a vibrant and engaging celebration of reading and creativity centered around the humorous and heartwarming book "8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel + 1 Dog = Chaos" by Vivian Vande Velde. This school-wide literacy initiative, made possible through the generous donation of 600 books from the Bazetta-Cortland Rotary, sparked a wave of learning and excitement across all grade levels. The energy was palpable!

To bring the story to life, students took on the challenge of transforming their classroom doors into living art

Continued on page 12



Eddie Mackiewicz (LES Principal), Deidre Petrosky (Cortland Mayor), Donna Zuga (Cortland Rotary), Ashley Handrych (Superintendent), Dennis Nisbett (Cortland Rotary), Jerry Carleton (Cortland Rotary), Mike Hovis (Bazetta Township Trustee)





*3rd grade won best decorated room:
 Conner H, Cecilia H, Esther S, Ms. Hoolihan, Delaney D, Carter N, Gavin T.*



4th grade Colton G, Cordelia S, Tristyn B

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Trumbull County And Warren Plant Heritage Tree

By Beth Kotwis Carmichael

A ceremonial tree planting took root in Warren as part of the Heritage Trees: Planting History program under America 250-Ohio, the official state commission responsible for spearheading Ohio’s celebrations and commemorations around America’s semiquincentennial in 2026.

The Heritage Trees program launches this month, and Trumbull County proudly stands among the first group to participate in this initiative. Throughout 2025 and 2026, Heritage Trees will be planted in all 88 of Ohio’s counties.

The tree was planted in Trumbull County at Warren City Hall on April 23rd. The City Hall location was chosen as the site for the planting because it symbolizes our county’s historic legacy and complements the nearby Women’s Park. It also adds to the green space, representing a lasting space for future generations to enjoy, adding to the natural beauty and community connections.

The Ohio program draws

inspiration from the historic Liberty Tree in Boston during the Revolutionary War. The Heritage Trees initiative aims to commemorate America’s 250th anniversary by planting native-to-Ohio white oak trees across the state. Throughout 2025 and 2026, America 250-Ohio will offer each Ohio county a white oak tree to honor America’s 250th birthday. Sites selected in each county could be cities that act as county seats or participate in the Tree City USA program.

Beth Kotwis Carmichael said, “This initiative aligns with the vision to celebrate Ohio’s significant contributions to the nation by creating lasting legacies in every county. In doing so, we safeguard our heritage and ignite a sense of community pride.”

White oak trees were chosen as Heritage Trees because they grow in many soil types, resist most tree diseases, and are native to Ohio. Based on the county climate, a specific white oak species has been chosen and purchased from a reputable Ohio tree nursery.

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Extra Help for Medicare and Prescription Costs

There are programs available to help cover the costs of Medicare, health care and prescriptions for people who qualify.

Medicare has a program for people with limited income and resources that will help pay Part D (drug coverage) premiums and prescription costs. If you have Medicare Part A & B and have Supplemental Security Income or your state’s full Medicaid coverage, you will automatically receive help. Otherwise, if you meet the following requirements you can apply to see if you qualify:

- 1) Have Medicare Part A & Part B.
- 2) Live in the United States.
- 3) Yearly income is \$23,475 or less single, \$31,725 married.
- 4) Combined savings, investments, and real estate are not worth more than \$17,600 single, \$35,130 married. You do not count your home, car, personal possessions, life insurance or burial plots.

If you think you may qualify for this program, contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or apply online at SSA.gov. Your local insurance agent can also help you apply. If approved, you may receive help for all or part of your prescription costs and premiums.

If you have both Medicare and Medicaid, you may qualify for a special type of Dual Special Needs plan. There are two other special needs plans that may be available to Medicare recipients. Some plans cover beneficiaries with specific severe or disabling chronic conditions. Examples include End-stage Renal Disease, End-stage Liver Disease, dementia, diabetes, and some autoimmune, cardiovascular and lung diseases. Another plan that may be offered covers beneficiaries who reside in or move in or out of an institution. If you have questions contact your local Health Insurance agent for more information.

Jill Freeman is a licensed insurance agent with Wiley Insurance Services, located at 3470 Warren Meadville Rd, Cortland. She can be reached at 234-244-4014 or JFreeman.WileyInsurance@gmail.com

State of the Schools...continued from page 10

powerful purpose: our students. They are the center of everything we do. They are our “why.”

Recently, I came across a story that captured the spirit of education in the most moving way. In a rural village in Panama, teachers begin each morning before sunrise, not in a classroom—but in a canoe. They paddle over three miles to pick up students from remote areas and bring them to school. Rain or shine, they make the trip—because it’s the only way those children can get an education.

That story has stayed with me. It’s a profound reminder that education is both a calling and a commitment. While our challenges may differ, that same spirit—the dedication, the heart—is alive and well in Lakeview. I see it every day: in a teacher staying late to support a student, in a staff member who offers a quiet moment of encouragement, in the creativity that fills our classrooms. As we look toward the future, our work is guided by a clear Strategic Plan, built around three key pillars:

- 1. Student Academic Success and Well-Being** We are committed to delivering rigorous, equitable, and engaging instruction. Just as important, we prioritize student well-being. Because when students feel safe, supported, and valued, they are empowered to learn and thrive.
- 2. Community Engagement** Strong schools are built on strong relationships. We are working to deepen our partnerships—with families, community organizations, and one another. That means listening more, communicating clearly, and building schools that reflect the hopes and values of the people they serve.
- 3. Fiscal Transparency and Responsibility** Every dollar we spend represents an investment from our community. We take that responsibility seriously, and we are committed to managing our resources with care, integrity, and a focus on what matters most: student success.

This plan is more than a set of goals, it’s a shared promise. A promise to keep students at the center of every decision. A promise to work together. A promise to keep paddling forward, no matter how long or difficult the journey—just like those teachers in Panama.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools, our students, and our shared mission. Let’s continue the conversation—and keep moving forward together.

Lakeview Athletic Club Golf Outing


The Lakeview Athletic Club will have an 18 Hole 4-Person Scramble on Saturday, May 17th at Tamer Win Golf & Country Club. Only \$500 per Team. Registration at 7 AM, Shot Gun Start at 8 AM. Lunch and Steak Dinner by Bobby from DiLucias. Sponsorships available include Golf Card Sponsor - \$25, Hole Sponsor - \$150, Hole Flag - \$200, Beer Cart Sponsor - \$250, Blue Sponsor - \$750, White Sponsor - \$1000, Morning Refreshment Sponsor - \$1000 and Dinner or Lunch Sponsor - \$1500. For more details email lakeviewathleticclublac@gmail.com

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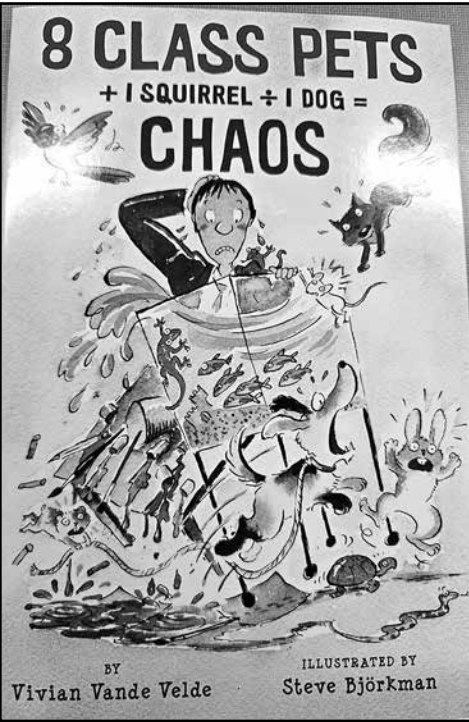
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Lakeview Elementary Celebrates Reading

...continued from page 11



installations inspired by the book. The result? A colorful hallway gallery where each door reflected the perspective of a different classroom pet, echoing the unique voices and imaginative storytelling found in the book. The “door art” project not only encouraged artistic expression but also deepened students’ connection to the characters and themes of the story.



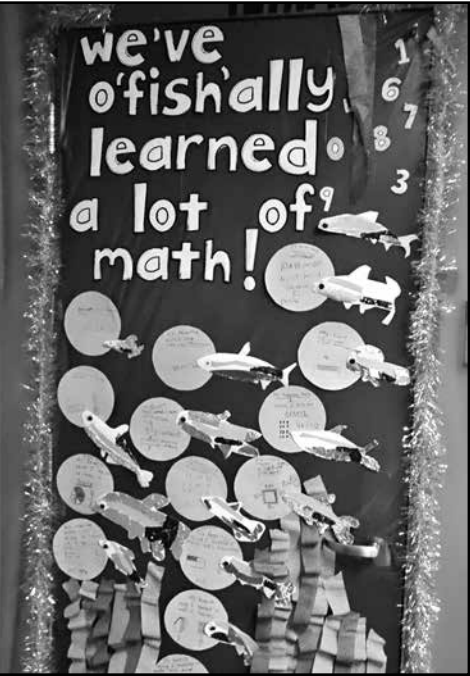
The celebration didn’t stop there. Lakeview hosted a school-wide art show, showcasing the talent and creativity of its young artists. Families, staff, and community members were invited to explore a wide range of student-created artwork, inspired by the book’s animal characters and chaotic charm.

Adding a touch of real-life excitement, special guest Outback Ray visited the school to share his collection of live animals.

As part of the initiative to foster a lifelong love of reading, the school



collaborated with the Trumbull County Public Library’s Cortland Branch to register 439 students for their very own



library cards. This partnership aims to provide students with continued access to books and learning resources beyond the classroom walls.

In another exciting development, Mrs. Costarella, Lakeview’s 4th grade teacher, successfully wrote a grant to bring a live gecko into her classroom. This new class pet will serve as both a connection to the book and an educational tool for teaching



responsibility, & environmental science. The entire project has been a shining example of what can be achieved when literature, art, science, and community come together. A big thank you goes out to the Bazetta-Cortland Rotary, Outback Ray, the Trumbull County Public Library, the Lakeview PTO and the dedicated staff and students of Lakeview Elementary for making this event unforgettable.

Thank you for inviting me!



INSURANCE ANSWERS

By Ingrid Slaughter, Agent Mayflower Wollam Insurance

The insurance industry has seen its share of turmoil over the last few years. Thus, it comes as no surprise that policyholders have seen increased premiums accompanied by increased deductibles and sometimes decreased coverage for roofs at renewal.

Your agent will tell you that these increases are a result of rising construction costs, catastrophic losses in disaster prone areas, or a combination thereof. In recent years, the biggest factor affecting our area in Homeowners insurance was wind and hail losses. As a result, most insurance carriers have either increased deductibles for wind or hail claims, or adjusted roof coverage from Replacement Cost to Actual Cash Value after the roof gets to a certain age. These changes were necessary to stabilize the rates in our area from increasing more than they already have. The good news is it looks like these changes have had their desired effect within the industry. Companies are starting to loosen their requirements for writing new policies and some are even beginning to decrease their rates. Let’s hope this trend continues!

What can you as a consumer do when your premiums increase?

First step, call your agent, and ask them to review your coverage to see if there are opportunities to save money or make appropriate adjustments to your

policy. Insurance policies are as unique as the policyholder and as unique as the property they cover. A review with your agent can help you to determine what changes, if any, should be made.

Second, do not panic buy. You can go online and craft a policy that costs less in premium to save a few dollars, but should you? Online shopping is awesome, for most things, but an insurance policy that will protect you and your family in the event of a loss is not the same financial decision as a better deal on paper towels. If you want to shop around for a different carrier, let your agent help and do the legwork for you.

Third, stay where you are. Immediately moving to a new company influences your rates, and not always in a good way. Your longevity with your current carrier means something when you requote with other companies. Hold that card in your pocket for a rainy day, play it when you need to.

Lastly, take a few moments and read what your carrier sends you at renewal, check that roof coverage and your deductibles, compare them to last year’s and make a note of any questions you have. It starts with staying informed. The best option may be to stay with your current company and make a few changes or it may be to find a new company altogether. Your agent can help you to determine what’s best.



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Chris Graff Memorial KSU Open

The Chris Graff Memorial KSU Open Fishing Tournament run by Rory Franks was held April 5th at Mosquito Lake.

From DoBass.com: Ritchie Glavac & Mike Gallagher near 18lbs for the open win. Second place with 16.49 lbs, the father & son Makeita duo, Dave and Stan, leading Springfield Local's, Eli Perry to a \$1,000 youth bonus. Third place, solo open angler, Trevor Oldham with 15.89lbs. Richie Hassell & Baglama of YSU, with a mosquito giant BIG BASS at 6.22lbs!!! The Chris Graf \$1,000 Scholarship winner of 2025... Kyle Werbeck! Outstanding vibe at this derby! Kent State Bass Fishing and DoBass teams making it all happen. Our love and appreciation to all the Graf families.

Next Mosquito Lake Tournament Q1 will be held on May 11th.

If any students are interested in entering this tournament, please contact Harry Emmerling at 330.383.1194 or visit their page on facebook, SFL Student Fishing League, to message Harry.



Eli Perry, Stan & Dave Makeita



Stan & Dave Makeita, Eli Perry



*"All that I am, or ever hope to be,
I owe to my angel mother."
— Abraham Lincoln*



Recently, the children of Cortland Playroom's pre-K students toured the Lakeview school they will attend next year. Although we are saddened by their impending departure, we take pride in having supported their early learning and offer our warmest wishes for their future academic success in kindergarten.

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By
Guidelight Financial Group

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What Will You Do with Your Tax Refund?

The average federal income tax refund in 2024, for the 2023 tax year, was \$3,167 for individual income taxpayers, according to the IRS. If you expect to receive a refund after filing your 2024 tax return in 2025, will you save or spend it? While you may be tempted to indulge, consider using the money to solidify your long-term financial position. No matter your stage in life or the size of your refund, there are ways you can use your refund to help reach your current and future financial goals. Consider the below suggestions.

For people starting out in their careers:

- **Add to your emergency fund.** Consider saving enough to have the equivalent of at least three-to-six months' worth of income in an emergency fund. This could come in handy if you experience a sudden interruption to your income or a major unexpected expense.
- **Pay off student loans.** If you are carrying college debt or other loans, applying your refund to the balance can help reduce the total interest you pay or eliminate the debt entirely. Once you pay off your loans, allocate the amount you spent each month on student loans to another financial goal to keep building your financial foundation.
- **Consider investing in an IRA.** Think about starting a habit of investing your tax refund each year into an IRA, where earnings can accumulate on a tax-deferred basis. While you are limited to contributing \$7,000 annually (\$8,000 for those age 50 and older), the savings can add up. 2 Work with a financial professional to determine which type of IRA is best for your financial situation. For those starting families:
- **Save for a down payment on a home.** A tax refund can make a meaningful impact as you accumulate enough to purchase your first home. Consider saving enough to cover at least 20 percent of the home's value. Doing so will eliminate the need for private mortgage insurance, which will cost you extra in interest payments.
- **Start or add to a college fund for your children.** With the cost of higher education continuing to rise, starting early and saving often can help you make funding tuition a reality. Certain options may provide tax advantages, so work with your financial and tax professionals to find the best strategy for you.
- **Invest your refund.** Consider adding your refund to your portfolio, using it to accelerate progress toward your long-term goals. Your refund could be used to purchase stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or other investments that are aligned with your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

- **Create or update your legacy plan.** Developing a will, trust, or other estate documents is important so that your wishes are clear in the event of your death. If you need to create or update legal matters, use your refund as a reason to take the next step.
- **For those approaching retirement:**
 - **Increase your retirement savings.** As your retirement date and goals get closer, maximizing your retirement savings should take priority. Your refund can help you make an additional investment towards your financial future. If you are 50 or older and have earned income, current tax laws allow you to invest extra dollars in your IRA and workplace retirement plan. Work with your tax professional to learn about the opportunities and limitations that apply to your situation.
 - **Pay down your mortgage.** Consider using your refund to make an additional principal payment to your home mortgage. Erasing debt prior to retirement can minimize a major financial burden. For retirees:
 - **Spend it on your retirement dream.** If you plan to travel or pursue a hobby in retirement, use the refund as a trigger to make it happen. Allow yourself to spend the money without guilt – after all, you've earned and planned for this opportunity.
 - **Consider investing in a Roth IRA.** If you have any earned income that allows you to make retirement contributions, your tax refund can likely be placed into a Roth IRA. This vehicle provides potential tax-free growth of any earnings.
 - **Pay health care expenses.** Today's rising health care costs are often one of the biggest expenses for retirees. Consider applying the funds to Medicare or long-term care policy premiums. If your health care expenses are manageable, save the refund to pay for future expenses.
- **Review your tax withholding**

If you regularly receive a large tax refund, you may want to adjust the withholding on your paycheck. Decreasing your refund may increase your monthly net pay, allowing you to allocate extra income each month to your financial goals. This strategy isn't right for everyone. Consult with your tax professional and financial advisor before adjusting or deciding how to manage your refund.

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Wrestling Is Coming To Lakeview

By Ryan Williams

Get ready to rumble with the Bulldogs. Lakeview is proud to announce the launch of our NEWEST Athletic Program – WRESTLING!

We're building something powerful from the ground up. Whether you are a future champ, a passionate fan or a proud member of our community, this is your moment to be part of something special.

Join the team. Support the program. Help the youth of our community. Spread the word. Let's build a legacy – Lakeview Bulldogs wrestling: Where grit meets glory. There will be both a girls' and a boys' program. This is a wrestling club so it will be sponsored solely by donations and fundraisers.

For more information, contact Ryan Williams at 330-261-1991.

Lakeview PTO Seeking Business Sponsors

The Lakeview Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) invites you to please join our local business sponsors for the 2024-2025 academic year. Lakeview PTO is a registered 501(c)(3) that is 100% volunteer-run with the mission:

- To improve the environment at our school by providing volunteer and financial support.
- To enhance the educational experience by supporting academic and enrichment activities.
- To develop closer connections between school and home by encouraging parental/guardian involvement.

We serve 100+ teachers and 800+ students in the Elementary and Middle School Building. Our goal this year is to raise \$5,000 through individual donations and local business sponsorships.

The sponsorship will support our expanded enrichment programs that would bring experts and new experiences directly to our students in the areas of science, history, physical education, health, and safety. We also run a literacy program with the implementation of the book vending machine last year to promote positive reading relationships and access to child-owned books. These two highly beneficial programs lead us to reach out to business leaders.

In addition, your funds would allow us to sustain our ongoing efforts in providing supplemental materials and supplies to our teachers and staff, hosts multiple book fairs, plans fun days, holiday parties, and field days, teacher/staff appreciation events, and covers the cost of off-site programs for enrichment and field trips for our students.

Sponsorship partners will have an opportunity to promote your company to our teachers, staff, students, and the families of Lakeview Elementary/Middle School. We understand the impact of the economy and other factors that your business faces, and we hope you will consider supporting at one of

these levels for the 2024-2025 school year:

BRONZE LEVEL - \$250 - Business name posted on the PTO website and Facebook page.

SILVER LEVEL - \$500 - Business name posted on the PTO website and Facebook page □ Business name on banners displayed at all PTO-hosted events with the potential reach of 800+ students/families.

GOLD LEVEL - \$750 - Business name posted on the PTO website and Facebook page - Business logo on event banners displayed at all PTO-hosted events with the potential reach of 800+ students/families - Opportunity to provide promotional materials for giveaways to teachers/parents/students

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$1,000 - Business Logo posted on the PTO website and Facebook page - Prominent Business Logo on event banners and printed materials displayed at all PTO-hosted events with the potential reach of 800+ students/families - Opportunity to provide promotional materials for giveaways to teachers/parents/students - Business Logo on volunteer event t-shirts - Business Logo in both yearbooks

In lieu of sponsorship, you may make a General Donation in any amount. If you are able to contribute, please make your check payable to Lakeview PTO and write "24-25 sponsor" in the memo line.

Checks can be mailed to Lakeview Elementary/Middle School or can be picked up by a board member. Contributions are tax-deductible. A receipt with Tax ID can be provided upon request.

Sponsorship Deadline: August 1, 2025 If you would like additional information, please contact Jessica Darby at 330-941-0394, Melissa Maki at 330-219-6720, or via email at lakeviewelempto@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration!

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Ohltown United Methodist Church Hosts Fundraiser For Rich Center

Ohltown United Methodist Church held a Puzzle-Palooza event March 22nd where the proceeds benefited The Rich Center for Autism. The event included puzzle contests, puzzle purchases, basket giveaways and even a bake sale. This event that lasted around four hours was a hit and it successfully generated \$1,640 in donations to support the autism center.

"We are so thankful for everyone at Ohltown United Methodist Church who put together this wonderful event that not only raised monetary donations to help our children and families affected by autism but also to increase autism awareness in our community," said Rich Center Coordinator of Community Engagement and Event Operations Jake Ellis.

The very generous donation to The Rich Center was officially received



on March 27th just days before April Autism Awareness Month kicks off.

"Being able to receive a donation like this to kick-off Autism Awareness Month really gives us the jump-start and boost of positivity we need in the month of April. I'm glad Pastor Jim Spatholt reached out with this idea. It was a success on many levels," Ellis said. The church said they plan to host another Puzzle-Palooza in 2026.

Sci-Fi + Hollywood: The Art Of John Zabrucky

By Beth Kotwis Carmichael

Halfway between New York and Chicago, just off the beaten path, there's a place where Hollywood's imagination has quietly taken root. In Warren a new exhibit has made its debut—and it's inviting fans of sci-fi, film history, and pop culture to see the stuff that dreams (and movie sets) are made of.

The Museum of Science Fiction and Fantasy Arts launched its very first exhibit, "Sci-Fi + Hollywood: The Art of John Zabrucky," at the Medici Museum of Art, and it's been blowing minds ever since.

If you've watched a sci-fi movie made in the last 40 years, chances are you've seen Zabrucky's work—his props and designs helped shape the visual worlds of countless films and TV shows. Now, for the first time,

his original screen-used props are on display in his hometown—and they're nothing short of cinematic treasure.

Whether you're a film buff, a podcast producer, or just someone who geeked out over blinking consoles and futuristic gadgets, this is a one-of-a-kind look behind the curtain of Hollywood's most imaginative genre.

Exhibit Details: Medici Museum of Art in Warren; Now through June 28; Wednesday – Sunday at 11 AM – 4 PM; Admission is FREE (Donations welcome).

Need a personal tour? Let us hook you up with a staff-led walk-through and local hospitality tips. Pro Tip: Bring your camera—this is the kind of exhibit you will "geek out" over. Contact the Medici Museum of Art in Howland.

Remembering Eleanor On Mother's Day

By Cait Morgan

Mom was different in a lot of ways. She was also very creative and talented and often that is the first clue that you may be dealing with someone a little more on the eccentric side than not. She was a seamstress, an artist, a toy designer and a craftswoman. She was also stubborn and determined. Ok, so she may have passed some of this stuff on to me. Maybe. Ok, she did. Some of it. Just some.

I did not know my 'younger' Mom - she was 41 when I was born - but I sure know some of the stories. And a good number of them she even verified so I guess we can give them a fairly high degree of accuracy. She was the youngest child of 8-9 children. Record-keeping was horrid then. She was certain she had 7 brothers and sisters. They all said she had 8, but I can't find any record of that. Suffice it to say there was a houseful.

Mom's siblings used to love to tell the tale of her issue with her favorite treat, ice cream (apparently I got that part, too). It was too cold for her so she put it in the oven. This may have

been the first clue that Mom was not destined to be a very good cook. She was heartbroken to find out she had 'killed' it and cried for hours. She was always firm on her beliefs. For instance, she was a felt strongly that the dearly departed should be treated with great respect and organized a funeral for their beloved cat, Tom, as a young child. Old Tom was ceremoniously laid to rest in Grandma's prized flower garden. While it was in bloom. In Grandpa's brand new, expensive copper toolbox. She slept in the garden for three nights to be sure that Grandpa wouldn't sneak out there and try to get his toolbox back. As far as I know, it's still there.

She also felt a woman should never marry a younger man. When a tall dark handsome stranger wanted to get to know her better, he grew a mustache to look distinguished. It worked. They fell in love and got married. I'm not sure when Mom learned he was three years younger than she was, but I'm guessing it was not a hallmark moment.

She believed it was a woman's prerogative to change her mind as many times as she wanted. The newlyweds decided to build a house, the land was purchased and Dad had blueprints drawn up – 16 versions of them. I'm surprised it was that low of a number. They built most of the house themselves, only subbing out what they were unable to do on their own. Once it was finished, Mom decided she did want that root cellar afterall. Dad got a pickaxe and his shovel and tore out part of the foundation in the basement and made her one. I'm thinking it started out as a good place to hide the body. I'm also certain that wasn't the one and only time he felt that way.

But if nothing else, Mom was her own woman. She followed no one's path but her own and it was overgrown in many places. If nothing else, she was true to her convictions until the day she passed at 93. The world wasn't ready for her when she arrived, and we weren't ready when she left. RIP, Ma.

The Cortland Community Band

By Stephanie Kommel

The 2025 summer concert schedule is pretty full now. Below is a list of the public performances that we have scheduled. Our small group, the Dixieland Jazz Band does have available dates though. Please email Garey Watson at glwatson2@gmail.com for info on how to book that group, or Cortlandcommunityband@yahoo.com and we'll pass your info on to Garey

JUNE: Wed., June 4th- 7pm concert at the Bazetta Township Park at 3372 Warren Meadville Rd, Cortland (W/P)

JULY: Wed., July 9th- 6:15 concert at the Kinsman Library at 6420 Church St, Kinsman (W/P)

Sun., July 13th- TIME TBD- Winds at the Winery at the Mastropietro Winery at 14558 Ellsworth Rd, Berlin Center, OH 44401 (W/P)

Wed., July 16th- 7pm concert at Howland Scope, 8273 High St NE, Warren (R/S)

Wed., July 23rd- 7pm concert at Grace Methodist Church, 1725 Drexel Ave NW, Warren (R/S)

AUGUST: Wed., August 6th- 7pm Cortland United Methodist Church, 155 N. High St, Cortland (W/P)

*(W/P)=weather permitting, (R/S)=rain or shine

Masonic Lodge Hosts Charity Breakfast

By Dick McClain

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 3rd, for the next charity pancake breakfast held by Cortland Masonic Lodge. This specific breakfast will benefit the Experimental Aircraft Assoc. (EAA), Chapter 117, which promotes aviation interest in youth ages 8-17. Their many projects include the Young Eagles Flight Program, building radio controlled planes, and sponsoring youth to a summer aviation camp.

For the past five years, the Masonic Lodge has held pancake breakfasts on one or two Saturdays each month and donated the proceeds to service organizations and community groups, for a total of over \$66,000 in charitable donations.

The public is invited to attend and enjoy the May 3rd breakfast-- especially any parents or youth who are interested in learning more about the EAA.

The breakfast is served from 9:00 am to 11:30 am, and it includes "all you can eat" pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee, and juice -- with take-out available. The cost is \$9 for adults, \$6 for youth age 6-10, and free for age 5 and under.



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Warren Women's Connection

By Terri Crabbs

The Warren Women's Connection was the hostess club for the April 8th Warren City Federation meeting held at Fowler United Methodist Church. The speaker for the luncheon was Madison Umbel, Associate Director from Yellow Brick Place. Our outreach was the collection of supplies to be used at the cancer support center. The election of officers for 2025-2026 club year was held.

Club officers will be installed and a scholarship presentation will take place at the May 13th meeting which will be held The Chophouse Restaurant. To make reservations, please call/text Debi Patchin, reservations chair at 330-716-1955. The cost will be \$22, and reservations are needed by May 2.



Madison Umbel and Louise Kline, Program Chair, with donations for Yellow Brick Place.

Spring Mixer WJWL

By Constance Amstutz

The GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's League is hosting their Spring Mixer on Thursday, May 15th from 6-8pm at Ohio Living Lake Vista's Club House located at 303 N Mecca Street in Cortland.

If you have the desire to join WJWL and engage in volunteer and philanthropic work bringing change to Warren and surrounding communities, please join us! You can RSVP via email at gfwcohwjwl@gmail.com or by sending a message to our Facebook page. We hope to see you there!



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By Mike Wilson

SCOPE’s sister agency, Valley Counseling Services has rebranded Valley Health Services, which will Expand to Offer Comprehensive Medical Healthcare Services in One Location. SCOPE’s parent organization, Axess Family Services is announcing its brand-new health care center location opening in Warren behind the Robins Theatre this month.

Valley Health Services will now offer primary medical care, dental services, and an in-house pharmacy in addition to its longstanding behavioral healthcare services.

The expanded services will be available at Valley Health Services’ Market Street Office in downtown Warren, with plans to introduce primary care at its Belmont Avenue location soon. Remodeling construction has been ongoing for months at the building located behind the Robins Theatre. Patients at the Valley Children and Adolescent Services office will also have access to healthcare services at the Market Street location. Valley Health Care is currently accepting new patients by calling 330-577-7410.

This transformation comes as part of Valley Health Services’ new designation as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), following its merger with AxessPointe Community Health Centers and Family & Community Services on January 1, 2024. As an FQHC, Valley Health Services will offer

care on a sliding fee scale and aid with enrollment in Medicare and Medicaid, ensuring that high-quality healthcare is accessible to all, regardless of financial status. Any private insurance plan will also be accepted to receive services.

“We are thrilled to introduce Valley Health Services and expand our offerings to meet the full spectrum of healthcare needs in our community,” said Renee Klaric, Director of Valley Health Services. “This transition allows us to provide truly integrated, patient-centered care that addresses physical, dental, and mental health all under one roof.”

Valley Counseling Services has been a trusted provider for over 65 years, offering compassionate, high-quality care to Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, and Geauga counties and surrounding areas. This was a natural transition to add medical services to a quality counseling services agency with Psychiatric services.

One of our most exciting healthcare partnerships is with the Lebron James Family Foundation in Akron, located across the street from Lebron’s private school he established.

For more information about Valley Health Services, or to set up an appointment please visit vcs.fcsserves.org or call 330-577-7410.



Cortland Library Events - April & May

By Apryl Gilliss

Closing - Warren-Trumbull County Public Library Closed April 28 for Staff In-Service Training All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations will be closed on Monday, April 28 for Staff In-Service Training.

Closing Memorial Day All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations will be closed on Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day. This includes the libraries in Brookfield, Cortland, Howland, Liberty, Lordstown, and Warren; the Bookmobile; and outreach services.

Toddler Tales
Mondays at 10 a.m.: May 5 A fun and active story time for toddlers ages 19 – 35 months with a parent or caregiver. Free.

Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: April 29, May 6, Preschool story time features stories, songs, and movement activities and reinforces the development of early literacy skills. For children ages 3 – 5 with a parent or caregiver. Free.

Totally Tweens
Tues., April 29, 3 – 4 p.m. Tweens in grades 5 – 8 can let their creative juices flow with crafts and activities. Free.

Midweek Mayhem
Wednesdays at 3 p.m.: April 30, May

7, 14, 21 Teens ages 12 – 18 can enjoy games, activities and a small snack at the library’s weekly teen hangout! Free.

Movie Night
Tues., May 6 at 6 p.m. Watch a movie on the library’s big screen! Sponsored by the Friends of the Cortland Library. Visit www.wtcpl.org/events or call (330) 638-6335 for the title of the movie to be shown. Free.

Legends & Lost Treasure of Northern Ohio
Sat., May 10 at 1 p.m.
Through extensive research into Ohio’s lost treasure legends, author Wendy Koile has discovered a wealth of lost treasure tales in Ohio. From misplaced spoils of war to gold hoards buried in a poor farmer’s field, the author will share information on the hiders, the searchers, and most importantly, the clues that lead to the treasure. Copies of Koile’s books, including “Legends and Lost Treasure of Northern Ohio,” will be available for purchase and signing. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cortland Library.

Teen Advisory Board
Tues., May 13, 4– 5:30 p.m. Teens ages 12 – 18 who have ideas about what they’d like to see at the library, want to earn service hours, or collaborate on creative ideas can be part of the Teen Advisory Board! Free.

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Tuesday: 9 AM — 8 PM

Wednesday: 9 AM — 8 PM

Thursday: 9 AM — 8 PM

Friday: 9 AM — 5 PM

Saturday: 9 AM — 5 PM

Sunday: CLOSED

WARREN-TRUMBULL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

24/7 Digital Library: www.WTCPL.org

Game Warden To Speak At Bristol Public Library

By Dlynn Johnson

The Friends of the Bristol Public Library will present a program by retired Game Warden Michael Clutter on Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 pm at the library. Mr. Clutter served as Game Warden in Utah for eight years and Wisconsin for eighteen years. He helped protect natural resources through education and conservation programs, enforced the state laws of hunting and fishing and safeguarded wildlife natural environments while having many adventures.

Space is limited and registration can be made by contacting the circulation desk at 330-889-3651.

The Wall That Heals

The Wall That Heals is coming to the South Lawn of Packard Park in Warren, Ohio on Tuesday, May 27 through Sunday, June 1, 2025. It is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and in addition there will be a mobile education center. It will be open 24 hours a day and is free to the public. The Wall That Heals honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces in the Vietnam War and bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Volunteers will be on hand to assist in locating names. Visitors are able to do name rubbings of individual service member’s names on The Wall.

To volunteer or for more information email james.valesky@warrenheritagecenter.org.

Warren Women’s Club

By Peggy Boyd

The Warren Women’s Club, located at 708 North Park Avenue, Warren held their March meeting featuring Master Gardener Rita Bauer. Bauer, trained in the science of gardening and art design, walked members through floral home display arrangements. Demonstrating how to pick and fill a table top vase or container. Bauer concluded with the care of these live plants and their needs once cut and in the house.

Lunch was served to 35 members that afternoon before the business meeting was brought to order. The Warren Women’s Club meets at noon on the third Monday of the month. These Monthly gatherings feature a luncheon prepared by the ladies of the club, fellowship and a program speaker.

For information on becoming a member of Warren Women’s Club, contact Louise Kline at 330-399-4661. The Historic House is also available for rental by contact Sandy Mahaffey at 330-518-6927.

Blood Drive

Tuesday, May 13, 12:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Cortland United Methodist Church, 155 N. High Street, Cortland, Room Name: Fellowship Hall

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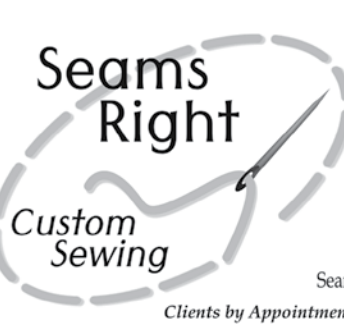
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