

# CortlandNEWS

"The Good News Newspaper"

Vol. 19 No. 7

February 25, 2023

Serving the Lakeshore Communities



## Women Business Owners are Optimistic About the Future

(StatePoint) Even as they ride out inflationary pressures, supply chain disruptions and economic uncertainty, women owners and executives of small and mid-size

majority-women-owned businesses have an optimistic outlook about the near-term future of their businesses, according to a recent survey.

The PNC Bank survey found that women business owner (WBO) expectations for their own companies remain strong, with 41% feeling highly optimistic -- up from 29% in the fall of 2020 but down from 67% in the fall of 2021 -- while the share of those feeling pessimistic has held constant at just 1%.

The survey also indicated that more than eight in 10 women business owners are very confident about their future success and nearly half say it comes from their own hard work and drive. Similarly, 79% of WBOs are very satisfied with their role as a business owner or leader compared to 67% of men business owners (MBOs).

"We are seeing a new pattern of self-empowerment among women business owners that is very encouraging," said Beth Marcello, director of PNC

Women's Business Development. "Their own hard work to survive the pandemic is the source of their confidence and optimism today."

The survey suggests that women have a take charge, can-do attitude. When it was difficult to find employees, 49% of WBOs versus one-third of MBOs say that they or their managers stepped in to cover open staff hours themselves. Additionally, they're focused on growth: 81% surveyed are Woman Business Enterprise-certified, 73% market their certification, and 88% say that certification has been a helpful business development tool.

While WBOs have concerns about inflation, profitability and the supply chain, they believe they're prepared for these challenges. Although similar portions of WBOs and MBOs experienced supply chain issues in the past year, 79% of WBOs believe they have the right amount of inventory they need to succeed.

WBOs also intend to maintain or expand on policies they initiated during the pandemic, including allowing flexible work arrangements (48%), increasing compensation (38%) and implementing employee health or safety enhancements (33%). WBOs are more likely than MBOs to adopt Corporate Social Responsibility policies or practices, including gender pay equity (34% vs. 9%) and diversity and inclusion (29% vs. 14%). These disparities could be an indication of why fewer WBOs (30%) than MBOs (43%) are finding it harder to hire new staff compared to six months ago.

While the pandemic created new economic challenges, many with lasting effects, women business owners largely overcame these obstacles, taking away lessons that have inspired their optimism and confidence today.

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## CORTLAND CITY

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Mayor .....	330-637-4003	<b>POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY .....</b>	<b>911</b>
City Hall .....	330-637-3916	Dispatch .....	330-675-2730
Fax .....	330-637-4778	Police - Business .....	330-638-1000
Clerk of Council .....	330-638-0142	Fire - Business .....	330-637-2891
Service Director .....	330-637-4637		

### MEETINGS

<b>CITY COUNCIL</b> First and Third Monday of each month. Monday, March 6 - 7 p.m. Monday, March 20 - 7 p.m.	<b>PARKS AND RECREATION</b> Second Monday of each month Monday, March 13 - 5:30 p.m.
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**CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
Read the minutes from  
Cortland City Council meetings at  
www.cityofcortland.org under City  
Council Minutes.

**PLANNING & ZONING**  
Second Monday of each month  
Monday, March 13 - 7 p.m.

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

## BAZETTA TOWNSHIP

BAZETTATWP.ORG

<b>Admin Building</b> .....	330-637-8816	<b>FIRE - POLICE - RESCUE .....</b>	<b>911</b>
3372 State Route 5 ...fax:	330-637-4588	<b>Police Department</b> .....	330-638-5503
<b>Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector</b>		<b>Fire Station #11</b> .....	330-637-4136
<b>and Cemetery Sexton</b> .....	330-637-8816	3000 Warren Meadville Rd	
<b>Road Department</b> .....	330-637-8311	<b>Non Emergency Calls</b> ...	330-675-2730

### BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

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

Tuesday, March 14 - 7 p.m.

A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit www.bazettatwp.org

### LAKEVIEW BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Regular meetings the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Lakeview High School Media Center, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, March 13, 6 p.m.

### Area Service Clubs

<b>Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club</b>		<b>Four Seasons Garden Club</b>	
Steve Rock .....	330-240-1634	Elaine LaRocca .....	330-637-0345
<b>Cortland Bazetta Historical Society &amp; Museum</b>		<b>Johnston Senior Center</b>	
Sally Lane .....	330-638-2330	Diana Shimko .....	330-924-0412
<b>Cortland Lions Club</b>		<b>Warren City Federation of Women's Clubs</b>	
Bill Lowther .....	330-719-4545	Terri Crabbs .....	330-637-3845
<b>Cortland Masonic Lodge</b>		<b>American Assoc of University Women</b>	
Chuck Chagnot .....	330-307-3405	Ruth Bradshaw .....	330-307-1151
<b>Cortland Moose Lodge</b>		<b>League of Woman Voters</b>	
Bill Bartholomew .....	330-637-9957	Peggy Boyd .....	330-856-5398
<b>Cortland Rotary Club</b>		<b>Cortland Area Cares</b>	
Patrick Leper .....	330-224-3008	Donna Kittle .....	330-637-0821
<b>Cortland SCOPE</b>		<b>Friends of the Cortland Library</b>	
Diane Jordan .....	330-637-3010	(Cheryl Bush or Karen Murphy) ..	330-637-2717
<b>Cortland Opal CH 181, O.E.S</b>		<b>Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship</b>	
Carla Kahler .....	330-856-2356	(LOAF) .....	330-720-9136
<b>The Opera House (Event Rentals)</b>			
Maribeth Albu .....	330-219-1488		

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

### Our Next Issue ... March 18, 2023

Our theme will be Spring 2023

Article Deadline by Mar. 3 • Display Advertising Deadline is Mar. 8  
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.

### Cortland News SELF SERVE Paper Box Locations

Cortland Bank	4 Star Diner	Vasilios
Lakeside Sport Shop	Top Notch Diner	

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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" documents. Please direct all communications to the following email addresses.

Article submissions to:  
editor@cortlandnews.net

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 & 5*

Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules visit [www.lakeviewlocal.org](http://www.lakeviewlocal.org).  
American Red Cross blood donations, various dates. [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or 1-800-733-2767.

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

Cortland Library Events, various dates. *See pg. 18*

Youngstown Nighthawks Soccer League, Cortland League Schedule-  
[www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks](http://www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks)

Charity Benefit Pancake Breakfast, [1st Saturday] 9 a.m.-noon, Cortland Masonic Lodge, 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main Street). *See pg. 6*

### FEBRUARY

25 Sleep in Heavenly Peace Fundraiser / Avalon

26 Sight and Sound Production of Joseph/ Cortland Church of the Nazarene / 5 pm

26 Casino Bus Trip / Contact Rotary Club at 330-224-3008 for details.

### MARCH

1 First Wednesdays at the Upton House Series *See page 7*

4 Charity Pancake Breakfast / Cortland Masonic Lodge / 9 am to Noon  
Benefiting Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment

4 Benefit Concert / Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church / 11:30 am  
Benefiting the Warren Family Mission

15 Trumbull Town Hall 45th Annual Celebrity Series. *See page 15*

16 School Prom Dress Event / 5-7:00 pm / Champion High School *See page 9*

16 Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser / Cortland Christian Church / 11 am-1 pm

17 St. Patrick's Day

26 Potato Bake Fundraiser / Cortland Christian Church / 11:30 am  
Benefiting Helping Hands Ministry

## Business News & Notes

By Thom Foley and Ralph McCord

Did you see the great pet toys that Centerra has on sale?

It is tax time and that means it is time to see the tax experts at Black Cat Tax LLC. Don't take a chance - let the pros save you money on your taxes.

I love to eat and one of favorite spots is the bar & restaurant at Cortland Lanes. Yes, the bowling alley! Don't believe me - go check it for your self!

Have you thought about making final arrangements? No one likes to think about it. But the good folks at Staton Borowski Funeral Home can help you with that task. Don't overspend and also take the burden off of your loved ones.

I was in Campbell Carpet and Flooring the other day looking at the luxury vinyl plank flooring. They have

covered every room in my home except one - and that one is coming soon!

Better hurry up and call Cortland Mower Sales. If you call before Feb 28 and schedule, they will pick up and return your riding mower after servicing it. I do it every year!

Lakeside Sport Shop tells us that they are ready for spring fishing season - but they still have everything you need for winter fishing also. It is the place to go for all your fishing needs.

Greazy Daves Auto Repair on Elm Road can get your car back on the road quickly.

Thinking of downsizing, upsizing or relocating? Call Jenn Henderson of Century 21 to help you. Professional, experienced service is what she specializes in.

## Popular Stained Glass Classes Return to TAG

Class size is limited. Don't wait. Sign up today!

Have you ever wanted to take a stained-glass class? Now's your chance! The Trumbull Art Gallery is again offering Make and Take Stained Glass classes beginning next week. Classes are March 16 or April 20. Better yet, sign up for both!

Each workshop will offer students a choice of completing either an 8"x8" Peace Dove or an 8"x10" Stained Glass Art Piece that they can take home the same day.

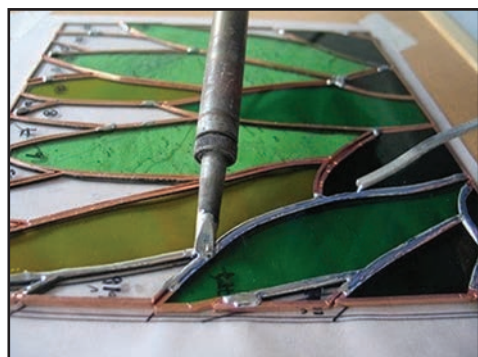
Students will learn how to foil, solder and clean the pre-scored and ground pieces. Masks are required for the soldering phase.

Advance registration and payment are required. Each workshop is limited to three to six participants and will take place from 12:00-3:00 pm. Class fee includes prepared glass, metal hoop, copper foiling, solder, zinc framing, use of tools, chemicals and instruction.

In this class, students will complete

an 8"x10" stained glass art piece. Each student will choose one of 10 designs and complete their piece in their choice of colors. Design and color choices must be submitted one week prior to the class.

Cost is \$90.00 for TAG Members and \$100.00 for Non-Members. To register call 330.395.4876 or visit our website at [www.TrumbullArtGallery.com](http://www.TrumbullArtGallery.com)



## Autism Society Adds Kelly Verostko To Board

The Autism Society of Mahoning Valley has added Kelly Verostko to its Board of Directors to assist the organization with community outreach and offer support for families that are new to the autism journey. Verostko has served on the Board of Trustees of NOAS (Northeast Ohio Adoption Services) since 2014, has been a member of the Akron Children's Hospital Kids Crew and previously served on the Friends of the Rich Center Board.

Kelly's professional background is in hospitality, sales, marketing and customer relations. "My heart is to advocate and create more acceptance for individuals with autism in the community." says Verostko.

After her son Peter's autism diagnosis, Kelly, along with her family created a fundraising team called "Peter's Patrol" to participate in the Autism Society's annual Mahoning Valley Warrior event. Kelly is ready to work with the Autism Society in a bigger capacity and says she is "thankful for the opportunity to serve on the ASMV Board and further resources in our tri-county area."



"When Kelly and her husband started navigating getting their son's autism assessment and seeking out therapies she contacted us for help and support. We are happy to have her help us as we continue to support more Mahoning Valley families through our programs and our Information & Referral services", says Robin Suzelis, Director of the Autism Society of Mahoning Valley.

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## Sauni Shafer Retires

By Sally Lane & Thom Foley

So many women have made powerful impacts on our Bazetta and Cortland community. Today we are featuring just one of those women who is retiring from the public view. Sauni Shafer has lived in Cortland for 60 years and is a graduate of Lakeview High School. She has been involved in several businesses and countless community organizations and events over her career.

She was one of the Shafers in the Lane Funeral Homes, Shafer, Winans Chapel "I was fortunate to be able to help friends and neighbors in their time of loss. Doing the little things to make their loved ones funeral special to them was a real honor" Shafer said. She recently retired from Lane after 16 years.

"The toughest part was most of our customers were also our family, neighbors and friends" she said. "I loved working at Lanes and being a comfort



to people in their hardest times. Living in the atmosphere of the country today, any act of kindness is important. I will miss the everyday contact, but plan on still being a part of the Lane Family."

Many of you may know her through her other businesses. Carriage House Bears and Country Hearts were probably the best known and loved. She started these stores and ran them for over 20 years. Sauni was instrumental in the Specialty Shops back in the 1980's.

In addition she also was instrumental in getting the Christmas snowflakes assisted by Flo Hutton and Carol Baxter. Sauni is an active member of the committee that is working to revitalize downtown. For years she was secretary to the Cortland Fire Department.

"I don't dwell on what was lost but rather focus on the new things that can be in our community. There are always problems but that means we need to find new projects and solutions" she said.

"The best part of living here is seeing the people, both old friends and meeting new ones. I love all the events

here. The great job the Historical Society does, the Christmas Tree lighting, the Christmas Walk, the great things that our service groups like the Lions Club, Rotary and others do. All of it makes this a great place to live."

Sauni is going to spend her retirement with 95+ immediate family members, but mostly with her son, Tate and her dog, Teddy. She will continue her many hobbies such as quilting, numerous crafts, decorating her house and refinishing furniture.

The Lakeview community is a much better place because Sauni Shafer was part of it. We thank her for that. Enjoy your retirement Sauni!

## George Washington Speaks to TCRWC

Bronzewood Golf Course, Kinsman, hosted the February Trumbull County Republican Women's Club (TCRWC) meeting. The guest speaker was George Washington (portrayed by Dale Fellows, Lake County GOP chairman). Regina McManus presented a donation to the TCRWC from Christmas dinner profits of the Trumbull County Republican candidates who won their Nov. local races.

The next Republican Women's meeting will be on March 2nd at Ciminero's Banquet, Niles with guest speaker, Pam Karousis. She is a Certified NRA Instructor, and will talk on Personal Protection, Home Firearm Safety and her story about "Refusing to be a Victim." If interested in attending, please call Cathy at 330.448.2227.



Lynda Chos, Martha Yoder, George Washington portrayed by Dale Fellows, and Jo Anne Szczyglowski.

## Master Gardener Volunteers Wednesdays In the Classroom 2023

Join the Trumbull County Master Gardener Volunteers as they discuss a variety of gardening topics on Wednesday evenings through May at 6 PM. Training will be at The Trumbull County Agriculture and Family Education Center, 520 W. Main St. Cortland.

The topics are March 15 Clematis, April 19 Vegetable Gardening and May 10 Fertilizers 101. For more information: Noelle Barnes barnes.1127@osu.edu or 330-638-6783



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# What's "news" in the City of Cortland

**Just the Facts Trivia**

How many miles of roadway are there in the city?

- a. 28.6
- b. 30.8
- c. 40.2
- d. 35.4

Scroll to the bottom of the eNews to find the answer.

**Safety City**

The Cortland Parks and Recreation Board has plans to construct a Safety City. This will be an interactive space at Pearl Park designed to educate young children on safety. There will be street signs, miniature buildings and hopefully working traffic lights. Constructing such a project takes a great deal of planning, effort, and contributions. Please consider donating. You can read more about this on our website.

**CityofCortland.org**

There is a new section on the city website - Map of City Businesses. This can be found as a drop down under 'Business' at the top of the home page. It has Google Map details, phone numbers, web addresses, etc. of current businesses in town. This is a handy tool

to have at your fingertips.

**Clean-Up**

This year's Spring Clean-up is scheduled for April 27th and April 28th. Your items will be picked up on your regular trash day. This is a free service from Republic Services for Cortland Residents.

**Dates to Remember**

- March 6 - City Council meeting 7 p.m.
- March 13 - Parks Board meeting 5:30 p.m.
- March 13 - Planning & Zoning - 7 p.m.
- March 20 - City Council meeting 7 p.m.

**Drone video of Cortland**

Jonathan Rice is a drone photographer and videographer from Champion, Ohio. He has a passion for highlighting local communities. He aims to promote local communities and their beauty, culture, and locations through aerial imagery. He enjoys showing the world from a different perspective. His vision for this short video is to highlight all the great locations, events, and culture Cortland offers its residents and visitors. <https://youtu.be/GA9GE5-IYbI>

Answer to the trivia question d. 35.4



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Proudly announces the addition of Chloe A. BuCher, Esq. as an Associate Attorney with the firm.

Chloe is a proud 2022 graduate of Ohio Northern University School of Law

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Robert F. Burkey, Esq. \* James R. Scher, Esq. \* Elise M. Burkey, Esq.

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## City Of Cortland Updated Strategic Plan

By Jeffrey Jiang

In December 2021, the City of Cortland adopted their updated Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan received input from residents, business owners, and outsiders about our infrastructure, safety services, and recreational activities. That feedback provided a foundation to design our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan guides city officials in making decisions and helped to create a direction for the future of Cortland. The future for Cortland is brighter than ever as the mayor, city council, and staff have begun diligently working towards the plan's goals.

A Strategic Plan or Comprehensive plan is a plan that assesses the current state of a municipality. Following the assessment, a plan is crafted with the feedback of residents and other key stakeholders. That plan outlines a roadmap of how to accomplish the future vision of an organization. The roadmap has objectives and goals that act as check points during the process to ensure that progress is being made. However, these plans are living documents and are only to be reviewed every few years.

Over the past year the city has strengthened its relationship with business owners in the community, is working on simplifying the process to start a business, built relationships on a regional level to partner with the Regional Chamber, and more. There are many moving parts to the Strategic Plan, and they are all interconnected to improve the community. In the coming year we will continue to work tirelessly to do more for our residents.

It is the hope of the city that moving forward we will become a hub for small businesses in the northern part of Trumbull County, we create inclusive wellness and recreation spaces that improve the quality of life of our residents and bring residents together as one whole community. We will be providing updates in the Cortland News on things the City is working on and updates for our residents. If you have any questions contact Special Projects Coordinator, Jeffrey Jiang. Email: [jjiang@cityofcortland.org](mailto:jjiang@cityofcortland.org)

## Cortland Fire Department Saves Church Parsonage

We, Pastor and wife of the Nazarene church, are extremely grateful to the Cortland Fire Department who came to our rescue recently and extinguished the parsonage fire within minutes. Had they not come as soon as they did, we would not be alive and I would not be writing this Thank You note.

## Pickleball Ladder League at JCC

The Jewish Community Center of Youngstown will hold a pickleball ladder league for ages 18 and older from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursdays from March 2 through 30. Registration is required by Feb. 27.

Players will be in groups of four or five and compete to move up the ladder. There is a maximum of 15 players. Each player will receive a shirt. The cost is \$25 for JCC members and \$30 for nonmembers.

Visit [jccyoungstown.org](http://jccyoungstown.org) to register.

# Faith News

Brought to you by  
**Cortland Christian Church**  
*Pastor Casey R. Chapman*

Sunday Worship 10am / Wednesday Bible Study 6pm

**330-637-4611**  
 153 Grove Drive ~ Cortland

## GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT

Rev. Brett Whetstone, Our Lady of Walsingham Anglican Church

## LESSONS OF HOPE

Pastor Jonathan Williams, Cortland United Methodist Church

March kicks off our celebration of Women's History Month, a month designated 1987, by the United States Congress, to recognize the many contributions that women have given to our country since its founding. But for this Women's History Month, I wanted to focus on someone who is perhaps one of the most influential women in the history of humankind, and for that we need to look in the book of the beginnings. In the third chapter of the book of Genesis, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15 ESV).

This portion of scripture is known as the Protoevangelium, a Latin phrase meaning "the first Gospel." In this first Gospel, we are given a glimpse of what is to come in the plan of salvation. In this verse, we are not being told about just any woman; we are being told about a specific woman, and that woman is Mary, the mother of Jesus. I like how the King James version of the Bible words this. It says, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." What's interesting about the language used in the King

James version is the phrase "thy seed" or in modern terms 'your' seed. Typically, in Jewish custom you would never talk about the female bloodline, it was always the male's bloodline. Except in this instance. In this instance, we are told of the bloodline of the woman, the Mother of the Lord.

The book of Genesis foretold an event that would happen thousands of years later, in a happening we will commemorate in just a few weeks as we begin Holy Week, but there was a miracle that had to take place thirty-three years prior to the events of Holy Week, and it all started with the woman we read about in Genesis 3:15. That event is found in Luke 1:26-38 and is known as the Annunciation.

Everything that takes place the week of Holy Week could not have happened without what took place when Gabriel appeared to Mary, and Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38 ESV).

It was because of the willingness of Mary that the plan of salvation was put into action, allowing hope, help, and healing to be brought to the world. So during this Women's History Month, let us remember the young mother from Nazareth who willingly said yes and offered her son for the salvation of the world.

## March is Women's History Month

As a man, there are times when it feels awkward to focus on women's stories.

*Why?*

It's not that I don't know any stories of famous or historic women. I actually know many. I know, for example, stories of women whose faith and actions were crucial to how modern Christianity developed. Women like Jarena Lee who preached in a time when women, especially African American women, were discouraged from doing so, sometimes violently;

Women like Susanna Wesley who taught her sons and many others alongside them to be diligent, faithful, and good; Women like Saint Cecilia who invented the pipe organ, believing it made her prayer larger so that God would notice. I even know stories of women outside of the church whose actions and wisdom shaped the world.

So why do I sometimes feel awkward trying to honor them and tell their stories? Perhaps it is because I have some idea how many other stories of women should be told along with theirs, but I don't know them. They have been forgotten, or erased from history, or had credit for their work stolen. A few, like Rosalind Franklin,

have reclaimed their place in history, but too many have not. They are part of our story - my story - and I don't know who they were. And that also means I might not truly understand the world around me that they helped to shape.

But knowing that I have only been told part of the story also changes how I look at the world. It inspires me to listen for stories that might also get erased or hidden, even those being written and lived today. It makes me pay more attention to historical stories of women that I do know, because those stories survived for a reason. Some survived for thousands of years.

The gospels disagree about who the woman was who anointed Jesus's feet, but she was the first person to anoint him. They also disagree about who was the first to discover the empty tomb and proclaim the resurrection, but we know that was a woman, too.

Women throughout history have been silenced, ignored, and mistreated - these things were done to them. But they have also taught, invented, preached, survived, and more. And their stories - all of them - deserve to be honored and shared.

Even if it feels awkward to do so.



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*(served alternate weeks),*  
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## Charity Breakfast For H.I.K.E.

The Cortland Masonic Lodge has scheduled their next Saturday morning Charity Pancake Breakfast for Saturday, Mar. 4th, at their location at 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main St.) from 9 am to Noon. This breakfast will benefit the Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment - H.I.K.E. This is a local charitable organization that raises funds to help lower income children with hearing impairments get the aids they need to be able to hear properly.

The "all you can eat" Charity Family Breakfasts are held each month by the Cortland Masonic Lodge, and 100% of the proceeds are donated to a local charity. The breakfast cost is \$8.00 for adults, and \$6.00 for youth age 6 to 10, and FREE for any children age 5 and under. Included are pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. Bring the whole family and enjoy breakfast together, with take-outs available.

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Wildare United Methodist Church

330-637-5000

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Pastor Darlene Robinson / wildarehl@gmail.com

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SERVICES: 9:00am & 11:00am

Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8:00am

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:30pm

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## Church News and Notes

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church** will be hosting a benefit concert for the Warren Family Mission. The concert will be on Saturday March 4th at 11:30 am. The performance will be sung by The Walther Christian Academy High School Audition Choirs. At the performance we will be holding a door offering for the Warren Family Mission and collecting canned goods and cereal for the mission. Other notable upcoming events include Lenten Midweek Services on Wednesdays until March 29th. There will be dinner at 6 pm, service at 7 pm. For more info contact Pastor Wacker at 330-647-6402.

**Cortland Church of the Nazarene** Greetings from the Nazarene group. The Sight and Sound production of Noah, on DVD was exciting. We're looking forward to the next one, Joseph, to be shown Feb 26 5 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend at no cost.

**Cortland Christian Church** will be having Ash Wednesday and Lent services each Wednesday beginning February 22nd thru March 29th at 6 PM. CCC will also be hosting their Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser on March 16 from 11 AM-1 PM. Eat-in, carry-out, and delivery available. Please call 330-637-4611 for pricing and more information. Finally, they will also be hosting a Potato Bake fundraiser for their Helping Hands ministry on March the 26th at 11:30 AM, after the Sunday Service. A donation is requested but not required.

## Upton House First Wednesdays

The wonderful "First Wednesdays at the Upton House" Series continues March 1 with a presentation by Elizabeth Clark on the Life of First Lady Martha Washington.

April 5 will be The True Story of Elliot Ness, A real Crime Fighter presented by Rebecca McFarland.

A coffee hour is at 9:30 AM and the presentations start at 11 AM.

## Fun Times At Cortland Christian Church

Cortland Christian Church recently held its annual chili-cook off. A special appearance of Danny G as Elvis delighted the crowd. Sharon Polakoff and Carri Griffin were the winners of

the chili-cook off categories. The ladies also had a crazy hat day contest and the men had a crazy tie day competition. Jean Scott, Nola Miller and David Miller were the winners.



Men with Crazy Ties: Dave Moore, Roy Nichols, Jeff Byler, Larry Elliott, Floyd Hovis, David Miller, Chuck Chagnot.

## @RAZZY DAY



Ladies with Crazy Hats: Nola Miller, Cheryl Elliott, Jean Scott, Kim Truhan, Sharon Hopkins, Dog is Hamilton.

## Women in the Late Church Age

By Rev. C.R. Chapman

During these late years of the Church Age women have become the strong hold of the faith in prayer and devotion to the Lord. As secularism has crept into the family from every crack and cranny the faith of the godly lady has remained. She comes to church, often alone. She kneels by her bedside praying for her children and husband. Many men have received the saving grace of Christ through the prayers and lifestyles and persistence of these faithful women.

This Women's History Month the Church says, "thank you". Let the Church continue to be your refuge and place of worship. Keep praying, keep worshipping the King of kings and Lord of lords. He has heard the prayers of men and women and soon a revival will be here. Look! It has already started in some places. The wait is not much more

for you, here. You have been awake, waiting for this last and great harvest. It is nearly here. Keep praying for your sons and daughters who have left the path of the instruction from their youth. Pray for your husbands to come to the true watering hole of Christ where there is eternal, living water flowing. Soon, the LORD says. Soon I will put out a call and wake up the church in these last days. Continue your faithfulness and He will always be faithful to you.



## ADOPT A PET

### RAGLAN



- Spayed female - 1 year old
- Shorthair dilute calico
- Up to date on all vaccines and microchipped. No special needs.
- Raglan is very friendly and loves to play. She would do great with other cats, unknown with dogs. She would do well with older kids.

### SPIRIT



- Spayed female
- 8 years old
- Shorthair, all white
- Up to date on all vaccines and microchipped. No special needs.
- Spirit would do best in a home with other cats. She can be timid, so dogs and kids wouldn't be ideal for her. She is very sweet once you have earned her trust and loves to be petted. She loves sunbathing in the window and has a very easy going personality.

If you're interested in Raglan or Spirit, or you'd like to learn more about our current animals available for adoption, please email our Adoption Supervisor at [Adoptions@awltrumbull.com](mailto:Adoptions@awltrumbull.com) or call Animal Welfare League of Trumbull County at 330-539-5300. For more information about our adoption process, visit <https://www.awlrescueme.com/adopt/>

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# Lakeview School News

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## Class of 2023 Spotlight Bulldog

*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 Sebastian Ruddy. Sebastian is the child of Cerissa and Shawn Ruddy and has attended school with the Lakeview Local School District since 6th grade. Sebastian is an avid bowler and has been on the Lakeview varsity squad all four years of his interscholastic career. An OHSAA State Tournament qualifier in 2021, Sebastian was recently named the Northeast 8 Conference's bowler of the year.

Sebastian is a wonderful classmate with pristine attendance habits. He epitomizes the term student-athlete. After High School, Sebastian would like to join his father's insurance business or take over running Cortland Lanes.

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

- 1.) What is something that you do exceptionally well? - Taking care of my time, what I do for school, and getting everything done on time.
- 2.) What is your favorite part of the Lakeview Local School District? - I love everything around it. It's a great district. My sports have all been successful.
- 3.) Where is your favorite place to eat in Bazetta/Cortland? - I would say Brothers!
- 4.) Where is your favorite place to hang out in Bazetta/Cortland? - The lake. Or Cortland Lanes.
- 5.) You might catch me ... - Bowling!
- 6.) What are your future aspirations? - I want to help my dad with his business (Ruddy Insurance) or professional bowling for the rest of my life.



## Basketball Champions!



The 8th Grade Lakeview Lady Bulldog team won the NE8 tournament championship 2/16/23, in an amazing final game against Hubbard at the Lakeview Middle School. The 8th grade girls were undefeated going into the tournament, having defeated teams like Poland, South Range and Niles, among others. The girls always displayed good sportsmanship and were wonderful representatives for Cortland at home and away.

On Thursday night, the Lakeview Middle School gym was electrified with energy from both teams, their families and friends, for the final game of the NE8 Tournament. Their coach,

Bill Lewis, said, "These girls genuinely had fun and worked hard achieving the goals they set early in the season going undefeated and winning the championship."

This 8th Grade basketball team consists of Selah Biel, Ella Collins, Anneliese DeJulio, Mia Giesy, Anna Haynie, Sophie Irwin, Samantha Oravec, Isabella Oravec, Paige Schwartz, Aurora Sensabaugh, and Allie Williams. This team is one to keep an eye on, and these girls are sure to keep making Cortland proud for the next four years and beyond! Way to go ladies! You are awesome!



LHS bowler Sebastian Ruddy was named the NE Conference's Top Conference Bowler. The conference includes schools from Struthers, Jefferson, Hubbard, Girard Niles and Lakeview. Lakeview bowls their home games at Cortland Lanes.

## From the Desk of the Superintendent

By: Velina J. Taylor

This school year we have noticed more violations of the rules regarding stopping for school buses. Please take a moment to refresh your memory regarding when you can and when you cannot pass a bus that has flashing red lights.

For two-lane roads (most of our neighborhoods), all traffic must stop for a school bus no matter which direction it is traveling. Traffic must stop at least 10 feet away from the school bus, whether from its front or rear.

In Ohio, traffic cannot commence after a stop until the bus resumes movement or until it's waved on by the school bus driver. For your reference, you can find traffic rules about stopping for school buses in Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.75

While you are stopped, it may seem like it takes a while in some cases. That is because according to Ohio law, the bus driver must wait to resume travels until all exiting passengers are a safe distance away from the bus.

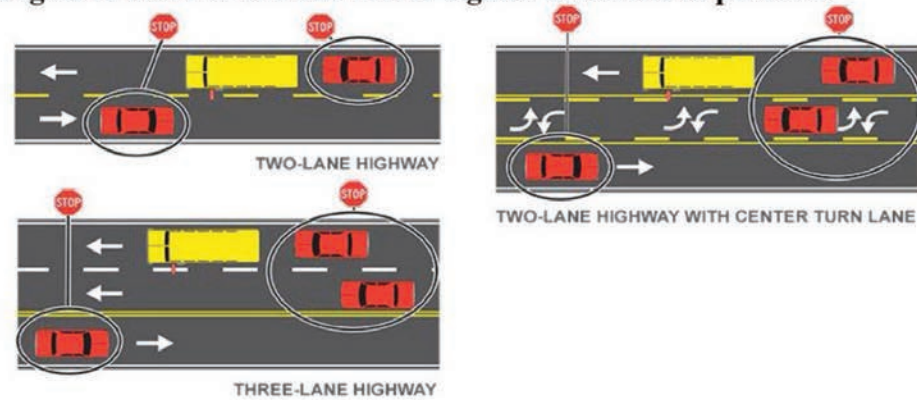
Those who violate school bus traffic stop laws may receive a \$500 fine and could have their driver's license suspended for no longer than listed in Ohio Revised Code Section 4510.02. This section describes the lengths and classes of suspensions.

In many cases, when told by law enforcement about a violation, drivers insist they didn't commit the offense of driving by a bus with red flashing lights. Having been distracted or preoccupied is a common occurrence in these offenses, but the unintended consequence could be taking the life of a child. Please, Cortland and Bazetta drivers, keep your eyes on the road and be sure to stop as required so we can continue to safely transport our precious children.

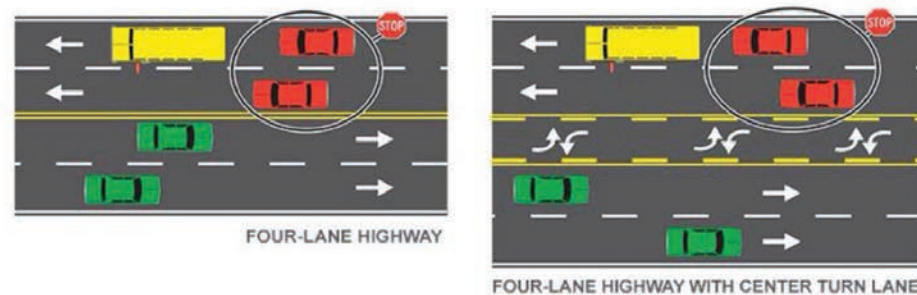


### When to stop for a school bus in Ohio

**On a road with fewer than four lanes, all traffic approaching a stopped school bus from either direction must stop at least 10 feet from the front or rear of the bus and remain stopped until the bus begins to move or the bus driver signals motorists to proceed.**



**If the bus is stopped on a street with four or more lanes, only traffic proceeding in the same direction as the bus must stop.**



**Failure to stop for a school bus adds 2 points to your license in Ohio and is punishable by fines up to \$500. You must appear in court and the judge has the discretion to suspend your driver's license for up to one year. A driver who injures a pedestrian while failing to comply with school bus safety laws can face both criminal charges and civil liability. Those liabilities can include the victim's medical expenses, lost wages, rehabilitation, and non-economic damages, such as pain and suffering.**



## Scholarship Application Time

By Thom Foley

Its time for Seniors to visit their Guidance office and talk to their Counselors about the many scholarships available. The Lakeview area, as well as most of the surrounding school districts, offer many opportunities for graduating seniors. Many are local scholarships offered by service clubs like The Lions Club, Optimist Club and the Rotary. Many businesses also offer scholarships, as do organizations. There are several Memorial scholarships given in the name of a local former student, teacher or resident. Different industries and their associations want to help students get an education in their fields. One major misconception is that all scholarships are strictly academically based. Many are based on personal interests, nationalities, religions, hobbies and more. The Bowers Insurance Group offers the largest locally owned business scholarship at \$10,000. It is not academically based but is for graduating Lakeview Seniors only.

Please check with your school guidance counselor for all the opportunities.



## High School Open to Winter Walkers

LHS is open to Winter Walkers on the 1st of November from 3 pm - 6 pm, Mondays through Fridays, until the end of the season. Please just walk-in through the main entrance. We will have a coat rack for you in the lobby. We have 2 floors available for you to walk safely.

## AAUW Scholarships For Female Senior HS Students

The AAUW Trumbull will offer two one thousand dollar scholarships to qualifying students for the 2023-2024 school year. Applicants must be a full time female senior high school student and be a resident of Trumbull County. Applicants must be enrolled in a stem (Math, Engineering Technology or Science) or a steam (Art) program and be in good academic standing with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 or higher.

They must be enrolled in a bachelor's degree program at an accredited college or university located in the state of Ohio. Applications are available at [aauwtrumbull-OH.AAUW.net](http://aauwtrumbull-OH.AAUW.net) or from the guidance counselor. Deadline to apply is Feb 28.

## FREE School Prom Dress Event


Ladies are you interested in attending prom, but feel the expense is too much. Come join us on Thursday, March 16 for an evening of pampering. Champion High School and the Warren Junior Women's League will be holding a prom dress closet event. We have an extensive display of dresses, shoes, jewelry and handbags all available for your choosing. And it's all free!!

The event will be from 5 to 7 PM at Champion High School. Changing rooms will be available. If you're in need of a dress, shoes and some bling, please join us for a night of fun!

Any questions contact Mrs. Bucco, school nurse, 330-847-2323 ([becky.bucco@championlocal.org](mailto:becky.bucco@championlocal.org)) or Mrs. Stiffler, ([cindy.stiffler@championlocal.org](mailto:cindy.stiffler@championlocal.org)).

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The LAC boys grade 4, 5, 6 basketball team won the championship recently. L-R are: MJ Nosich, Ben Kopp, Landon Shanower, Nicholas Raptis, Donovan Rose, Tristan Figueroa, Brody Denman. Back row: Coach Figueroa, Eric Gruber



## Standing Ovation in Columbus

By Heather Sensabaugh

The Lakeview 8th Grade Band received a standing ovation at the OMEA Conference in early February. The Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) is one of the largest state affiliates of NafME (National Association for Music Education), which has been serving many thousands of students in schools and universities across the state for almost 100 years.

Attendees include active music teachers, collegiate members (prospective music teachers) and retired music teachers. The 2023 OMEA Professional Development Conference was held in Columbus, from February 2-4, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center and nearby hotel properties.

The OMEA PDC is the third

largest music conference in the United States with sessions presented by nationally recognized master teachers demonstrating research-based, best practices in the field of music education. In addition, over 30 performing ensembles present concerts showcasing the talents of Ohio's music students. Mr. Tyler Husosky, lead 8th Grade Band Director, submitted an audition video for the conference performance. The Lakeview 8th grade band was chosen to perform at the conference, and after a stellar performance of 7 selections, featuring guest conductors Mr. Thomas Bruccoli and Mr. Mike Kamuf (composer), received a full room standing ovation.

## TCTC Celebrates Career Technical Education Month During E Week



Melissa Starcher of Mercy Health, LHS/TCTC student Abby Starcher and Kristy Gore of Mercy Health; LHS/TCTC students Haley McLean and Ryleigh Ring; Jeff Good of PBS, Nick Bott Lakeview/TCTC student, Ryan Ponchess of PBS.

February is Career Technical Education (CTE) Month and TCTC hosted a week-long event aimed at helping students discover their "E" – Enrollment, Enlistment or Employment. Throughout the week students met with post-secondary and military recruiters to explore enrollment and enlistment opportunities. On Thursday, TCTC students networked with over 40 employers across various industries.

E Week embraces the school's comprehensive initiative that aligns with Ohio's Career Advising program. This initiative is known as the 3 E's campaign. Students at TCTC are asked

to choose whether they wish to enroll in post-secondary education, enlist in a branch of the armed services, or become employed after high school. The event showed how strong business relationships support career technical education as TCTC's college and career ready students meet with over 40 area employers.

Lakeview TCTC students took full advantage of the event and learned the many opportunities available to them after graduating from LHS and TCTC.

For more information and to view a list of participating organizations, visit [tctchome.com/page/e-week](http://tctchome.com/page/e-week).

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## Bazetta Christian Childcare Center



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Miss Judy's PreK classroom at Bazetta Christian Daycare learned about the alphabet letter "P". Children made pizza, baked their pizza, and ate it for a snack.

## Lakeview Student Receives Musical Honor

Special to The Cortland News

"This meant everything to me," is how Lakeview senior Lindsay Dean described their experience as a member of the Ohio Music Education Association's (OMEA) All-State Band. Considered the preeminent high school band experience in the State of Ohio, the All-State Band is comprised of accomplished youth from across the Buckeye state, each of whom prepare difficult etudes and scales for their audition to the ensemble. Dean, a French horn player, prepared portions of Preparatory Melodies to Solo Work by Pottag, and solo, Romance in F, Op.36, by Saint-Saens, for their audition. Notified of their selection to the ensemble in August and part placement as the third of eight French horn players (along with several alternates), Dean then traveled to Columbus in early February for a weekend of practice and performance.

As the only musician selected from Trumbull County for the All-State Band, Dean had the opportunity to connect with new friends as they prepared and played rigorous selections such as

Finale from Symphony No 3 (Piston), Up and Down (Joyce), and Sketches on a Tudor Psalm (Tull).

Dean and the band also has the distinct honor and opportunity of being directed by Dr. Jack Stamp, a retired professor of music, and the current International Composer in Association for the Grimethorpe Colliery Brass Band. Of note, the ensemble played one of Stamp's original pieces, Three Buckeye Songs, which consists of three movements: The Buckeye State, Ohio Weather, and Old Erie.

As the All-State Band is part of the OMEA's annual professional development conference, Dean and their fellow musicians also benefitted from listening to other ensembles' performances at the conference. The other ensembles included groups from Kent State and Bowling Green State University, the Brass Band of Columbus, and Lakeview Middle School's 8th grade band, among others.

Dean also benefitted from the experience by meeting and networking with professional educators from across



the state and nation, as, according to the OMEA, its "members are involved at all levels of music education, serving more than 1.7 million public school students in 613 public school districts and 108 colleges and universities in Ohio."

These connections will prove especially valuable in Dean's next journey, as they plan to enroll as a music education major at the University of Akron this fall, on a combination of Academic and Music Scholarships.



## Sharing the Love

At The Cortland Playroom the children were full of hugs and kisses on Tuesday, February 14th. Passing out their special valentines to their friends, having valentine's games and special treats were the theme on Valentine's Day!



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# Tax Solutions



By Jennifer J. Slywczak

## SECURE 2.0 Law May Make You More Secure In Retirement

A new law was recently signed that will help Americans save more for retirement, though many of the provisions don't kick in for a few years. The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement 2.0 Act (SECURE 2.0) is meant to build on the original SECURE Act of 2019, which made major changes to the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules and other retirement provisions.

**Retirement highlights** Here are some of the significant retirement plan changes and when they'll become effective:

\* The age for beginning RMDs is going up. Employer-sponsored qualified retirement plans, traditional IRAs and individual retirement annuities are subject to RMD rules. They require that benefits start being distributed by a specific beginning date. Under the new law, the age used to determine distributions increases from age 72 to age 73 starting on January 1, 2023. It will then increase to age 75 starting on January 1, 2033.

\* There will be higher "catch-up" contributions for 401(k) participants ages 60 through 63. Currently, participants in certain retirement plans can make additional catch-up contributions if they're age 50 and older. The limit on catch-up contributions to 401(k) plans is \$7,500 for 2023. Secure 2.0 will raise the 401(k) plan catch-up contribution limits to the greater of \$10,000 or 150% of the regular catch-up amount for individuals ages 60 through 63. The higher amounts will be indexed for inflation after 2025. This provision will take effect for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024. (There will also be increased catch-up amounts for SIMPLE plans.)

\* Tax-free rollovers will be allowed from 529 accounts to Roth IRAs. SECURE 2.0 will permit beneficiaries of 529 college savings accounts to make

direct trustee-to-trustee rollovers from a 529 account in their names to their Roth IRAs without tax or penalty. Several rules apply. This provision is effective for distributions after December 31, 2023.

\* "Matching" contributions will be permitted for employees with student loan debt. The new law will allow an employer to make matching contributions to 401(k) and certain other retirement plans with respect to "qualified student loan payments." The result of this provision is that employees who can't afford to save money for retirement because they're repaying student loan debt can still receive matching contributions from their employers into retirement plans. Taxpayers can receive these matching contributions even if they aren't contributing to their own retirement accounts. This will take effect starting after December 31, 2023.

**Nonretirement provisions** There are also some parts of the law that aren't related to retirement plans, including a change to Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts. Tax-exempt ABLE programs are established by states to assist individuals with disabilities.

Currently, to be the beneficiary of an ABLE account, an individual's disability or blindness must have occurred before age 26. SECURE 2.0 increases this age limit to 46, which will make more people eligible to benefit from an ABLE account. This provision is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2025.

Jennifer J. Slywczak, CPA, is the owner of Integrated Accounting and Tax Solutions LLC, located at 3378 State Route 5, Cortland. You can reach her at 330-638-2727 or by email at [jennifer@jenjslycpa.com](mailto:jennifer@jenjslycpa.com). To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at [www.jenjslycpa.com](http://www.jenjslycpa.com).



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## Financial Considerations When Remodeling Your Home

Home renovations can enhance your living space and raise the value of your home, but they also come with many decisions and potential pitfalls. If you're considering a home renovation, keep these tips in mind:

**Set a realistic budget.** Know how much you can spend before you ask for the moon. Remodeling projects are notorious for running over budget. Once the work begins, your contractor may discover problems lurking behind walls and floors. A simple job can become complex due to unforeseen water damage or foundation issues. To accommodate budget creep, set your budget at the low-to-mid range of what you can afford.

**Save up for your project.** Home remodels can cost tens of thousands of dollars. In our current economy, raw materials are more expensive than ever due to supply chain issues. Plus, interest rates have risen with inflation, adding to the cost of financed projects. You'll need to be prepared to make a down payment (ranging from 10% to 50% of the total estimated cost) when you sign a contract and progress payments as the work is completed and approved by you. The most cost-effective way to pay for a project is to use savings rather than a loan. Don't be tempted to use credit cards, which will inflate your total costs unless you pay off the balances on time and in full. If you must finance your project, shop for an affordable home equity loan. Select a lender with the most attractive interest rates, fees, and repayment terms.

**Consider how your plans will impact your home's resale value.** In general, kitchen and bath remodels lead the list of value-add projects. Many other home enhancements provide only a nominal return on investment. – and some can even lessen your home's resale value. For example, few home buyers are willing to pay a premium for high-end upgrades such as a fancy wine cellar or extravagant landscaping. Installing a pool, particularly in regions that don't enjoy year-round sunshine, can make your home harder to sell

down the road. At the end of the day, it's not only about the money – projects that don't add to resale value may still be worthwhile if the changes make you happy and you plan to stay put long enough to enjoy them. Just be sure to consider the downstream financial impacts before you make any decisions. Choose a reputable partner. It's imperative to find a licensed and insured remodeling contractor who delivers quality work, on time and within budget. Ask people you trust for referrals. Interview multiple contractors and check their references and affiliations with local building associations. Expect written bids with detailed project cost estimates. Make sure you know who is responsible for obtaining and paying for local inspections and permits. The contract you sign should specify agreed-upon materials and describe the process for change orders and other contingencies. Keep good records. Maintain a paper trail to account for project expenses. Provide your tax preparer with receipts for energy efficient home improvements that may qualify for tax credits. Get receipts for all payments to your contractor, whether made by check, credit card, or cash. Organize receipts, warranties, and manuals in an electronic or physical folder. These can come in handy for maintenance and repairs. They also help justify a higher asking price when you put your house on the market.

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*Editor's Note We are thrilled to introduce a new column this issue all about pets. It is written by "your friendly neighbor 'Pawsitivity'". They will your companion for the 'fur-seable' future with a short, informative article each issue and will discuss subjects such as pet ownership, animal behavior, and volunteerism at local animal shelters. Their specialty is cats but they will also write about dogs with the help of some not-so-furry local experts.*



## Pawsitivity ~ Nice to Sniff you!

Hi there! It's your friendly neighborhood Pawsitivity here to introduce myself. I'll be your companion for the fur-seable future with a short, informative article each paper issue. I'll discuss subjects with you such as pet ownership, animal behavior, shelter volunteerism, and perhaps animal paw-litics!

For this first article, I want to share how totally claw-some some of our local animal shelters are. A few that are close to my heart are AWL (Animal Welfare League of Trumbull County), New Lease on Life (Struthers), and West Side Cats (Youngstown).

It's easy to start volunteering, and it's almost always more fun with a friend or family member. Visit the shelter's website or give them a call to learn how to sign up to volunteer. You'll likely need to fill out a short application and sign a waiver. Some organizations, like AWL, will also ask that you attend an orientation at the shelter for your safety.

My advice is to learn as much as you can about an organization before volunteering there. Having alignment with a shelter's mission, procedures, and policies (such as their euthanasia policy) is essential when deciding where you'll invest your time and energy.

Transparency is extremely important, too, meaning that a shelter should be open with you (and the public) about how they manage capacity (do they euthanize for space?). You may also want to learn how they handle sick or baby animals, and animals that cannot be socialized to the point where they can be safely rehomed. If you're anything like me, you don't want to pour your heart and soul into a shelter just to find out they're misleading you. Don't get burned out. No matter why you've chosen to volunteer, and no matter how much you love animals, everyone has their limit. Decide how much time you're willing and able to dedicate to volunteering before signing up. This way, you know your boundaries and can stay energized about the work!

Despite the adage "you can't teach an old dog new tricks," we've all got plenty of learning capacity, including me. So I'd love to hear about your pets, volunteerism, interesting research you've come across, etc. Shoot me comments and questions by email at Hello.Pawsitivity@gmail.com.

Next time I'll share some info about fostering animals through animal shelters. But until then, be paw-sitive, Cortland & Bazetta!

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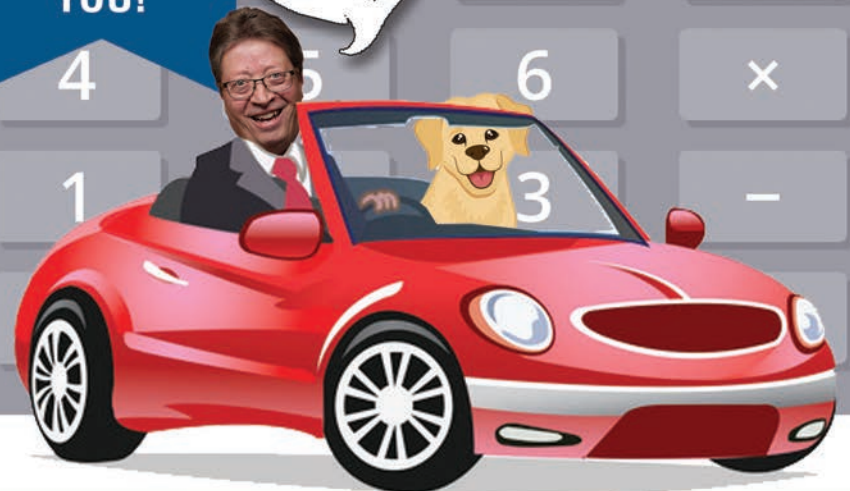
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## Cortland Parks & Recreation Board Adds Ryan Stan

At the February 13 Cortland Parks & Recreation Board meeting Cortland resident Ryan Stan was sworn in as the newest member. Ryan will join other members of the Parks and Recreation Board David Christner, Chairman, Dr Bair, Sonya Picuri, and Cara DeToro.

Ryan has been a Cortland resident for the past 11 years and his company, NEO Junk Removal, has been active in Fund Raising for the Safety City Project. This year's Scrap Drive will be held April 21st and 22nd. Please start saving your scrap metal for this fundraiser.

This Board provides general policy making, planning and administrative

power over all buildings and land owned by the City of Cortland for recreation purposes.



Kevin Piro, President of City Council swearing in Ryan Stan.

## SCOPE Cooking Class And Trivia Time

The Cortland Senior Citizen Center located at the Cortland Christian Church on Grove St. has some new activities.

First, Chef Geoff Fusco teaches a 'Cooking Class' every first Thursday of the month at 11am. The last few months he focused on making pasta, mozzarella, and Tuscany soup.

"The great thing about this class is after everyone helps prepare the food and after it cooks, then we all eat", stated Allison Okonek, the Cortland Senior Center Manager.

Another new fun event is 'Trivia Time' on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 2pm. This is a team trivia game, so it's not Jeopardy where an individual must guess everything by themselves. Seniors will have fun together remembering old times from the 50s, 60s, and 70s. Last month the seniors even sang or worded TV show theme songs.

If you enjoy talking about the good old days, come out to the Cortland Senior Citizen Center for Trivia Time.



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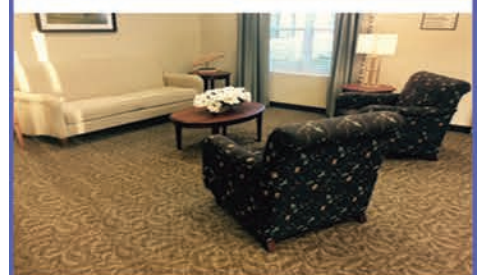
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## \$10 Million in Funding Ohio Minority and Women Owned Businesses

The Ohio Department of Development today announced that \$10 million in grant funding remains available to support minority- and women-owned Ohio businesses grow and expand their operations. The Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program and Ohio Micro-Loan Program are priority initiatives of the DeWine-Husted Administration and were included in the 2022-2023 operating budget, which was passed in by the Ohio General Assembly in June 2021.

"Everyone needs to share in Ohio's success," Development Director Lydia Mihalik said. "These loans to minority- and women-owned small business lift families and communities by creating jobs and opportunity across our state." In 2022, more than \$9.34 million in loans were dispersed to more than 100 minority- and women-owned businesses through the program.

Michelle Filler, owner of Duke's K9 Dash-N-Splash, LLC. in Windham, received \$500,000 from the Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program. The funds will be used to build a doggie play and shampoo park.

Crystal Kendrick, owner of Black-owned and WBE-certified marketing consulting firm The Voice of Your

Customer in Cincinnati, received \$45,000 from the Ohio Micro-Loan Program and \$81,317 from the Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program. The funds were used to purchase a commercial building in her community. Keland Logan, owner of Emerald City Construction Company, a low-impact green infrastructure company in Youngstown, received \$45,000 from the Ohio Micro-Loan program. The funds will be used to train, hire, and teach offenders a skilled trade.

More than \$4.6 million remains available through the Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program, and more than \$6.5 million through the Ohio Micro-Loan Program.

The loans are administered by Development's Minority Business Development Division. Information about the loans and other capital programs can be found online at [Minority.Ohio.Gov](http://Minority.Ohio.Gov).

Businesses can reach out to a Minority Business Assistance Center near them for help with the application process and assistance with business planning, access to capital, and state business certifications. For more information about the MBAC network, visit [MBAC.Development.Ohio.Gov](http://MBAC.Development.Ohio.Gov).



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## OSU Extension Master Gardener Training

Do you enjoy gardening and want to learn more? Do you enjoy helping others in the community? Become a Trumbull County Master Gardener Volunteer! You will receive 50 hours of training in vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs, soil, insects, diseases, and more. In turn, you will get the opportunity to share your knowledge with others by answering questions, collaborating on service projects, and presenting programs.

Who are Trumbull County Master Gardener Volunteers and what do we do? We are the OSU Extension trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information. Some of our projects include:

- Educational field trips to gardens and nurseries
- Helpdesk - Assist home gardeners with research-based answers to their questions
- Plant Sale - help host the OSU Master Gardener annual plant sale
- Speak on topics to local community groups

- Support for various learning gardens around the county advising planting and maintenance
- Participate in community activities and enrichment

Training includes a minimum of 50 hours of instruction. (This year's training will be online and in person with a new lesson each week for 11 weeks.) A physical copy of the training manual will also be included.

Current MGV Mentors will assist you throughout the training. Live zoom meetings will be held periodically to discuss the material. Field trips will be planned at the end of the training to various locations for hands on learning. 50 hours of horticulture-related volunteer activity within the first 12 months following training will be required to become a certified Master Gardener Volunteer.

Training will be April - June 2023, deadline to register is March 1 and the cost is \$250. For more information, contact Noelle Barnes at 330-638-6783 or [barnes.1127@osu.edu](mailto:barnes.1127@osu.edu)

## Trumbull Town Hall 45th Annual Celebrity Series

The Trumbull Town Hall 45th Annual Celebrity Series 2022-2023



kicks off the new year lecture series introducing Maxwell King, former President of the Pittsburgh Foundation and the Heinz Endowments on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. He will speak about "The Good Neighbor: The Life & Work of Fred Rogers."

Wednesday, April 19 will feature Jean Kilbourne speaking on The image of women in advertising

All programs take place at Packard Music Hall. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and the programs start at 10:30. Tickets at the door \$35. Student priced tickets will be at the entrance of the Packard Music hall, for \$10. Light refreshments sold pre-program.

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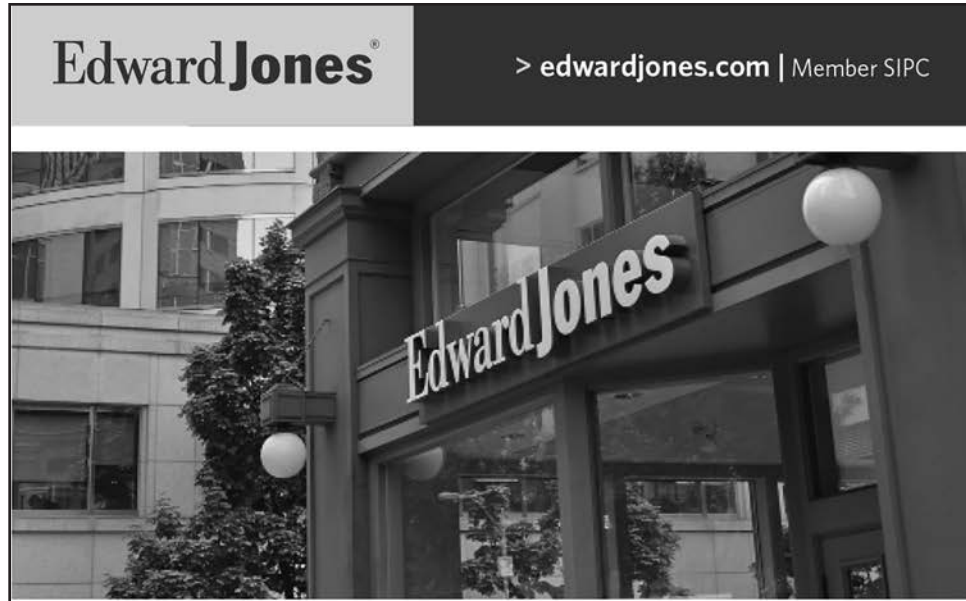
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## A Strong Capable Woman

By Cait Morgan

"Self", I said to myself, "You once were a strong capable woman. Let's try to be a functional part of this marriage and get the drive done before The Curmudgeon gets home from work." and off I went. Now there are things that are not overly taxing, and it would seem that walking behind a snowblower shouldn't be one of them. However, I neglected to consider the prep. I located my boots (no clue why they were back by the furnace, but that's where I found them), I changed into my jeans leggings to make getting in said boots easier, I got my fluffy socks, a hat and gloves and proceeded to put it all on. The boots. Those danged boots. I tugged, I wiggled, I flexed and arched my feet, I yanked, I cursed and finally one was on! Repeated the same process with the other one and darned near called it a day. But I wanted to be productive, so I donned the rest of the apparel and headed out to greet the snowblower.

It's a good snowblower but I didn't have my contacts in. Hence, I couldn't see a thing. So I "Helen-Kellered" my way to find the plug to connect the electric start, felt around to find the start switch and it sputtered to life. Sputtered may be an overstatement. Pitiful. Could not find the choke for the life of me. Shut the thing down three times because I was moving the wrong thing. Finally found it, then found the throttle and we were in business!

Got the drive done in record time (it's hard to tell the difference between a turtle and a bunny when you can't see anything. I had the speed all the way up. That sucker is FAST!) and shoveled the walk and part of the patio for the dogs. I was so pleased with myself! And then.....

Oh, those God-forsaken boots. I could not get those stupid Uggs off my feet. They swallowed my feet, I tell you, and they weren't about to give them up. I tried pulling, twisting, pushing .... you name it. Hobbled back out to the garage (because my heels were kind of up inside the boots a bit) and wedged one under my friend, the snowblower, and hopped and gyrated until I got it part way off, then was able to get it off entirely.

Serious issue not addressed in my plan, however, was that I had no shoes and the floor was wet. Oh well, one must be brave. So I tried the same technique with the other foot and it was so successful that my fluffy sock came off with the boot. Heel-walked back down the steps into the house and my trusty bedroom slippers. SUCCESS!!!!

And yes, I still think it is gorgeous out there. All that white, clean fluffy snow makes for a beautiful sight. And at 25 degrees, I managed to work up a sweat and have to say it didn't feel cold at all. But now I am done in. There is a lot to be said about having once been a strong, capable woman, but now I think it's time to live off past laurels and relive the Glory Days from the recliner.

Sounds like a plan to me.

## Make a Difference - Join the Rotary

One of the benefits of living here is that we have several great organizations that help make our community the best place in the world to live. The Cortland Rotary is one of those great civic service organizations.

I'm sure you have heard of the Rotary - but do you know who they are and what they do? Most of us don't know all that they do - both locally and internationally.

Rotary International is one of the largest service organizations in the world. Its stated mission is to "provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders."

It is a non-political and non-religious organization. There are over 46,000 member clubs worldwide, with a membership of 1.4 million individuals, known as Rotarians.

Locally, it consists of men and women who are dedicated to doing good things for others and for making our community, and the world, a better place.

Among the many things they have done in Cortland/Bazetta in just the last couple of years are:

- park cars for easter egg hunts
- deliver lunch on 911 for first responders
- decorate Rotary Park at Christmas
- created a butterfly pollination garden at OSU Extension
- deliver mobile meals
- read to elementary school students
- sponsor carriage rides for tree lighting ceremony
- award 4 scholarships of \$1,000 each to LHS Seniors
- sponsor clothing drive for the needy
- ring bell for Salvation Army

If you would like to become one of the reasons why this is the best place in the world to live, consider joining the Cortland Rotary. Call Pat Leper at 330-224-3008.

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*Presented by Jill Freeman,  
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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 Medicaid, 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 \$21,870 or less single, \$29,580 married.
- 4) Combined savings, investments, and real estate are not worth more than \$16,660 single, \$33,240 married. You do not count your home, car, personal possessions, life insurance or burial plots. You do not count your Social Security or Supplemental Security Income.

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. These plans are designed to provide care and extra services geared toward people who have Medicare and who qualify for the Ohio Medicaid program. These plans may provide expanded benefits and benefits differ from plan to 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 or would like to see if you qualify for one of these plans you can contact your local Health Insurance agent for more information.

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

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## Chili Cook Offs At SCOPE

SCOPE hosted free Chili Cook Offs at both the Howland and Cortland Senior Citizen Centers in February, sponsored by Concord Care of Cortland & Hartford and Washington Square.

Community groups and businesses such as Heyday Health, Traditions Health Hospice, Windsor House, TLC Home Health Care, Buckeye Health Care, Cornerstone Caregiving, Warren Nursing, Devoted Health Plans, and Patriot Home Health Care cooked up some chili and offered desserts to be judged by the community who attended the events.

Cortland Mayor Deidre Petrosky as well as former Trumbull County Commissioner Dan Polivka and former State Representative Mike Verich served as honorary judges.

Congrats to Deanna of Windsor House who won the best dessert at both events as well as Jennie Bunch of Concord Care of Cortland & Hartford and Washington Square for winning best Chili at both events.



*Deanna from Windsor House, First Place Desserts and Jennie Bunch from Concord Care Centers & Washington Square, First Place Chili.*



## Looking for Youth Baseball Players

Creekside Baseball summer organization is looking for 18 and under, 16 and under and 14 and under players to fill out summer rosters. Contact Ken Quinn 330 719-0581. The games are played at Cene Park in Struthers.

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## Cortland Library Events In March 2023

**Hours:** The Cortland Library, 578 Lakeview Drive, is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday closed.

### Midweek Mayhem

Every Wednesday between 3 - 4 p.m. March 1 - May 3. Games, activities, a small snack each week for teens in grades 7-12. Free.

Toddler Tales Mondays at 10 a.m.: March 6, 13, 20, 27. Weekly story time for toddlers ages 19 to 35 months with a parent or caregiver. Free.

### Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: March 7, 14, 21, 28. Stories, songs and movement activities reinforce the development of early literacy skills. For children ages 3 to 5. Free.

### Teen Advisory Board

Tues., March 7 at 3 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 can share ideas about what they would like to see at the library, earn service hours, and collaborate on creative ideas as part of the Cortland

Library's Teen Advisory Board. Call the library at (330) 638-6335 to sign up. Free. There's No Escape! Mon., March 13 at 4 p.m. Step into the mind of one of the greatest illusionists of all time. Teens in grades 7 - 12 can see if they have what it takes to solve the clues and escape the room before time runs out. Free.

### Family Storytime

Thurs., March 23 at 6 p.m. Families with children ages 3 to 8 can come to the Cortland Library to enjoy stories and activities for big kids, little kids, and the young at heart. Free.

### Totally Tweens

Tues., March 28 between 3 - 4 p.m. Tweens in grades 5 - 8 can let their creative juices flow with crafts and activities at the library. Free.

### Book Chat

Thurs., March 30 at 6:30 p.m. Read any book, and then join us at the Cortland Library to chat about it at this group for adults! Light refreshments will be provided. Free.




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## Trumbull County Historical Society Launches Membership Campaign

The TCHS relies heavily on fellow history-lovers, preservationists, place-makers and advocates to keep local history work alive and active within Trumbull County! They are looking for members to help preserve the history of Trumbull County. Join by March 31st at one of the Society levels or as a Life Member and your name will appear on a special plaque!

Among the successes from 2022 are:

- Received over \$450,000 in grant funds to complete collections projects and programs, including the purchase of a large scanner to digitize maps, blueprints, and oversized photographs from the 1790s to present.
- Expanded their calendar of events, including an annual Family Day and a series of Adults Only tours of the historic John Stark Edwards House.
- Added 6,000 searchable items into CatalogIt, their online database, including uniforms, clothing, accessories, photographs, and documents.

• Partnered with Oakwood Cemetery Association and YSU to begin scanning the cemetery's 31,000 interment records into an online mapping software. Over 10,000 records were scanned in 2022.

• Opened two exhibits - Read All About It! Trumbull County in the News and Keeping It Personal: People, Places, and Their Things.

• Completed the planning phase for the Morgan History Center expansion, breaking ground in 2023.

If you are interested or have questions contact them at 330-394-4653 or [info@trumbullcountyhistory.org](mailto:info@trumbullcountyhistory.org). Their website is [www.trumbullcountyhistory.org](http://www.trumbullcountyhistory.org)

## Team Trivia Games At Scope Centers

SCOPE Senior Services is excited to announce the opportunity to hold 50's ,60's, 70's era Trivia Games at the SCOPE centers. This is NOT Jeopardy style, but where seniors over 60 will group up in teams to play trivia at the centers for one hour and snacks will be provided.

Trivia Times per center: Cortland on Thursday March 9th at 2 PM; Warren on Monday March 13th at 2 PM; Newton Falls on Friday March 17th at 1 PM; Howland on Friday March 24th at 2 PM. The plan is to have fun trivia games and finding those individuals who would like to become part of trivia teams to play in a new senior citizen center competition in the Mahoning Valley.

This is part of the 'Mind Challenge for The New Majority' tournament that can earn money for the participating senior centers. The Mahoning Valley senior citizen trivia competition will take place in May and June of 2023.



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