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FAIRFIELD EDITION December 27, 2024

The Spirit of Christmas

By Maria Chandler

The Lancaster Holiday Festival Parade kicked off the holiday season on November 23, 2024, at 10 AM in downtown Lancaster. This year's parade theme was "The Spirit of Christmas". The parade was very well represented by many businesses, nonprofit organizations, school groups,

festival queens from across the state, horses and of course Santa and Mrs. Claus.

This year the parade committee honored Al and Phyllis Beavers, the founders of Beavers Field as grand marshal. Al began his coaching career in 1974 for the Lancaster Post 11 American Legion Baseball Team. Al decided to build a home field for the Post 11 team; that is located

on State Route 37 in Lancaster. Al, along with his wife, Phyllis, and other family members have devoted countless hours into creating and continuing to improve and grow this beautiful landmark in our city that has affected so many people across the state of Ohio.

The Parade Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the parade for making it such a beautiful event for the community to enjoy. We would also like to thank the



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Amanda-Clearcreek FFA strikes gold in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS - The Amanda-Clearcreek FFA Chapter upholds its tradition of excellence at the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo as the Agricultural Communications team earned ninth place in the nation and also earned a gold-rating.

The Agricultural Communications Career Development Event is a contest in which FFA members must demonstrate their ability to communicate with other industry professionals through multiple different types of media. This year's team consisted of Cate Buckley, Maddie Cordle, Haley Robinson and Emma Strickler.

After winning the state competition for Ohio in February, the team spent countless hours preparing for the national competition. This year was a bit different than past years because the format of the contest was

altered to reflect a real-life situation in the Agricultural Communications field. Team members had to first complete a written examination over Associated Press materials, then they were given three hours to create a communications plan, along with four individual practicums which included a feature story, magazine layout, broadcast production and a social media plan. All of these elements were based on a press conference that the FFA members listened to and took notes on.

For the past two years, the Amanda-Clearcreek FFA Chapter has sent an Agricultural Communications team to the National FFA Convention. This is the 11th team since the year 2000 to win the state championship in Ohio and move on to compete for a national title in the Agricultural Communications CDE. Buckley, Cordle, Robinson and Strickler



(L-R): Scott Sharp, A-C agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor; Haley Robinson, Cate Buckley, Emma Strickler and Maddie Cordle submitted

were so grateful for the opportunity to compete at the national level and to have such a

supportive advisor, Scott Sharp, helping them along the way. The skills learned from this contest

will be valuable in many different aspects of life in the future.

Upcoming Events

Family Movie Night Jan. 3rd @7PM
Youth Movie Night Jan. 4th @ 7PM

We wish all of you a Happy and Blessed New Year!

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Baltimore's founding to be marked with events in 2025

by Debbie Schaffner

Baltimore residents will soon be celebrating their village's founding 200 years ago with a number of events in 2025, including Baltimore history lectures and walking tours, a Heritage Tour featuring select Baltimore homes, an old fashioned ice cream social, and dedication of the new Bicentennial Park.

"It's going to be both educational and fun," said Debbie Schaffner, chair of the Bicentennial Planning Committee. "It will also be rich in history, because the story of

Baltimore and Basil is so fascinating that many current residents still talk about it".

In the early 1800s, Baltimore was divided into rivaling "twin cities", consisting of the Swiss-settled village of Basil (a misspelling of Basel, Switzerland) and the Virginian-settled village of Baltimore (originally New Market). The two cities merged after WWII and was almost named "Baseball" but ultimately Baltimore was deemed the official name of the united villages.

Schaffner said the celebration will officially kick off on March 2 at noon with the ringing of 200 church bells and an open house at

the Victoria Opera House. The Baltimore Museum will also be open to the public. Bicentennial 2025 calendars are currently on sale at the village office, featuring vintage photos of both Baltimore and Basil, along with brief descriptions of the photos. In addition, the village is also selling Legacy Bricks so that past and current residents can honor their ancestors or their current families, businesses and/or organizations.

For more information about the calendars or Legacy Bricks, contact Debbie Schaffner at 740-739-2909.

Details about upcoming events will be posted soon at visitfairfieldcounty.org/.

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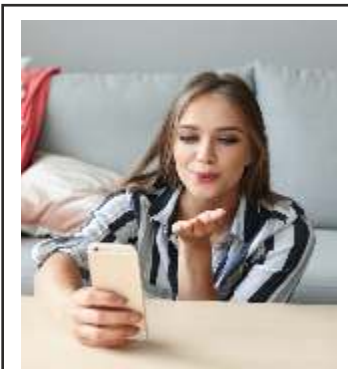
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Cover story continued



Al and Phyllis Beavers, the founders of Beavers Field, served as grand marshal of the parade. submitted

financial sponsors who continue to support this community event: Buckeye Lake Marina, Clark Insurance, Eagle Golf Carts, Fairfield County Ag Society, Fairfield County Foundation, Fairfield Federal Savings & Loan, Fairfield Medical Center, Fairhope Hospice and Palliative

Care, Frank E. Smith Funeral Home and Crematory, Lancaster Board of Realtors, Park National Bank, Porta Kleen, and TJ's Cement Work & Excavating. We would also like to thank the City of Lancaster Street Department and Police Department for their involvement with the parade.

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Everyone smiles for a cookie

by Amy Carpenter, Ph.D.

The Smile Cookie Fundraiser has been a big hit in Canada in the last several years, but this is the first year Tim Hortons has brought it to the United States.

From November 18 to 24, Tim Hortons has been busy promoting their Holiday Smile Cookie. The Holiday Smile Cookie is a white chocolate chip sugar cookie that is infused with red and green sprinkles, and decorated with an icing smile.

All of the proceeds from the Holiday Smile Cookies go to send local underprivileged children to camp at one of the Tim Hortons Camps in Kentucky, and all over the world. These camps provide life-changing opportunities by empowering children with social and resilience skills through camp and school activities.

According to Vanco Education, an organization that supports K-12 schools and community education, a lack of social skills can lead to poor outcomes in child development. It can hinder a child's ability to create relationships, affect their adjustment at school, lead to loneliness, and cause behavioral problems in the future. This is why it is important to instill social skills in children early on in life.

The American Psychological Association explains that building resilience is the ability to adapt well to adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or significant sources of stress. It can help our children manage stress, and feelings of anxiety and uncertainty. The National Association for the Education of Young Children adds that resilient students understand that changes and challenges can bring opportunities. They view mistakes as a chance to learn, accepting that failing often precedes succeeding, and recognizing that effort develops knowledge and skill.

Kids from our local YMCA are chosen to spend time at these camps during the summer months learning social skills and how to be more resilient. Some kids even go back for future visits and go on to become camp leaders and mentors. Over the last 50 years,



(L-R): Madison Larson, Murphy McLaren, Rob MacDonald, Tara Mowery, Dawn MacDonald, Melissa Alexander, JoAnn Sheppard, and Officer Andrew Bennett. (The check represents the entire Ohio region) submitted



Corporal Tiffany Hedrick (from the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office) decorating a Smile Cookie. submitted

the Foundation has supported over 325,000 young people from Tim Hortons restaurant communities.

As a district Tim Hortons raised \$14,685 this year to send kids to camp. Melissa Alexander, Manager at Tim Hortons on East Main Street, shares "Smile Cookie Week is important to me because without the fundraising my team and I do, these kids many never have an opportunity to go to camp. These camps are

life changing and I am so proud to have the opportunity to raise money to make a difference in lives."

If you weren't able to come out to Smile Cookie Week, you can still help! You can donate year-round by rounding up on the Tim Hortons app, or at the registers. Tim Hortons also has Camp Day Boxes in the store you can drop change and donations in as well.

Krile Communications celebrates new downtown Lancaster office with ribbon cutting



Angela Krile, President and CEO, cuts the ribbon in celebration of new downtown Lancaster office. submitted

LANCASTER, OH – Krile Communications officially opened their new office in downtown Lancaster with a ribbon cutting on December 5. The celebration marked a significant milestone for the company, which has been proudly serving clients for 14 years.

The event drew approximately 100 people, who enjoyed office

tours, cookies and a festive hot cocoa bar. The new office, located at 415 East Main St. in Lancaster, positions Krile Communications at the heart of the Lancaster community, aligning with the company's mission to "leave it better" by fostering meaningful connections and contributing to the vibrancy of the area.

"We are thrilled to be part of the downtown Lancaster community," said Angela Krile, President and CEO. "This new office not only enhances our ability to collaborate with clients but also strengthens our connection to the community we're proud to call home."

For over a decade, Krile Communications has specialized in marketing, strategy and public relations, harnessing creativity and communication to connect communities and empower clients to share their messages with clarity and impact. The move to downtown Lancaster reflects the company's dedication to collaboration and its commitment to making a positive impact on the local community.

To learn more about Krile Communications, visit www.krilecommunications.com or follow Krile Communications on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

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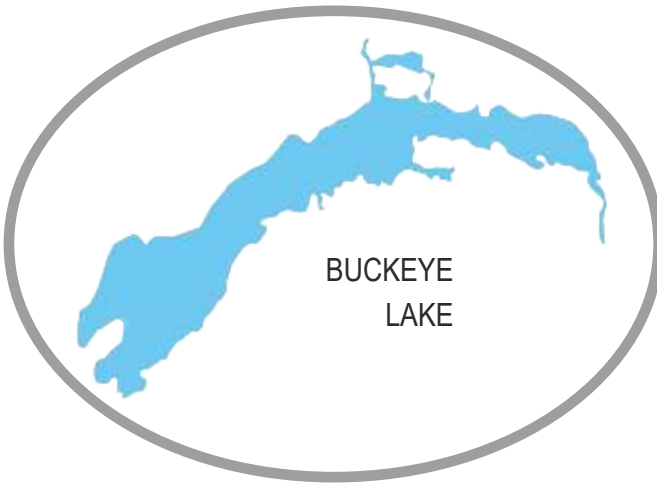
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Annual Christmas Parade and Millersport Tree Lighting

by Vince Popo

The 2024 Annual Christmas Parade and Millersport Tree Lighting took place on Sunday December 8, 2024. They did not come out of Compton but straight out of the North Pole, Santa and Mrs. Claus were the stars of the parade. As a surprise guest, they brought Benny the Bass.

Hosted by the Village of Millersport and the Millersport Lions Club guests were treated to a picture with Santa, hot chocolate and Nutrition 52 doughnuts. Santa was so impressed with the light display created by Tom Nebbergall and Bonnie and Mike Stutske that he decided to visit North Valley Bank on Saturday, December 21, 2024. Thanks to all for making 2024 parade a success.



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Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce announces 2025 Civics Bee participation



(LANCASTER, OH) - The Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce proudly announces the launch of the 2025 National Civics Bee®, an initiative aimed at encouraging more young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. Hosted in partnership with The Civic Trust® of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the competition will inspire middle schoolers to become better informed about American democracy, to engage respectfully and constructively in the community, and to build greater trust in others and institutions.

Middle school students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade from public, private, charter, and home schools are invited to take part in the first-round civics essay competition. After a distinguished panel of judges review the essays, the top 20 students will be selected to

advance to their local competition: an in-person live event featuring two rounds of civics questions followed by a Q&A round to test their civics knowledge. The Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce will host its local competition on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. The local finalists and top winners will receive various prizes, including prizes worth at least \$500 for the first-place student.

Participants in the National Civics Bee® will have the chance to gain recognition for their civics knowledge and skills and compete for prestigious prizes throughout the competition. The competition enables students to explore issues that matter to their communities, furthering their understanding of civic engagement and fostering responsible citizenship. Winners from each of the local competitions across Ohio will be invited to take part in the state finals. The first-place winner of the state finals will receive a trip to Washington, D.C. to compete for prizes worth at least \$50,000 during the national championship in the Fall of 2025.

"We are excited to once again have the opportunity to be a local

host of the National Civics Bee in partnership with US Chamber of Commerce Foundation. This effort aligns with the Chamber and its Legislative Action Committee's efforts to be involved in local, state and federal regulation and policy on behalf of our over 500 members," said Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce President, Travis Markwood. "This program is a great opportunity to promote civics and how our democracy works to young adults in our community, in hopes of building a greater understanding of how individuals can play important roles in our communities."

"Fostering a deep understanding of civics and government among our young students is critical to the vibrancy of democracy and civic life in America. The National Civics Bee® provides a unique platform for them to not only showcase their knowledge but also become active and engaged citizens of the future," said Hilary Crow, vice president of civics at the U.S. Chamber Foundation.

For more information on entering the National Civics Bee® in Ohio, visit: lancoc.org and select "National Civics Bee" under the News & Events tab. For more information, please contact Chamber President Travis Markwood at 740-653-8251 or email travis@lancoc.org.

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Bloom-Carroll wrestlers win Lakewood Invitational team championship



The Bloom-Carroll High School wrestling team competed amongst 14 teams on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at Lakewood High School.

The team dominated throughout the day and earned a first place team championship led by first

year head coach Rob Kanet.

106- Dalton Shick 3rd
113- Sam Dickey 1st
120- Ethan Moore 1st
126- Elias Kline 1st

138- Ayden Johns 2nd
150- Blake Tabol-Wheeler 3rd
157- Beau Sherman 5th

165- Landon Simpkins 4th

Tyson Bedard 5th

175- Riley Thaggard 5th

190- Kyle Van Burik 2nd

215- Jacob Moore 1st

Logan O'Connor

6th

285- Cole Thacker 1st



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It's going to be a good year



by Rick Schneider

Although we can seek to improve our life starting on any day, the first day of a new year seems like a good starting line. The serious planning of New Year resolutions seems to start right after Christmas. The main purpose of a resolution is to resolve to remove bad habits and anything undesirable allowing us to enjoy life more; hopefully, to the point of celebrating it.

As a thought, maybe this year make as your first resolution to resolve to not even think about the things you'd rather not think about. The truth is that when people regularly think about what they don't want they tend to attract more of the same. Maybe this year shift your awareness. To use a trite expression, think outside the box. Remove your attention from "don't" wants and place it with "do" wants.

None of us are perfect. We do need a little polishing here and there so this year maybe just choose a single word to guide your life for the next 12 months. A single word is not the same as a resolution in that it is not a set of goals. The word "Serve" may be a good word to guide you this year. Focusing on that word is a suggestion that will connect you with others and especially with God.

When your purpose in life is to serve, your focus is turned outward to others. In doing so, your inward problems tend to

decline, or even leave. As you focus on others the focus on yourself will diminish. And in time you may realize that what you were going to make a resolution to correct doesn't even exist anymore.

I learned a long time ago as a volunteer with FAIRHOPE Hospice how our staff is given the opportunity to demonstrate serving others with unconditional love. FAIRHOPE's staff and volunteers are in the position to bring God's love and compassion to those in the crisis of their life. Our involvement allows us to witness where the physical world and the spiritual world coalesce.

But not only in the last stage of life, in every facet of daily life let the word "serve" gradually direct your focus away from daily nuisances. Pay attention to what's being set in front of you. People at the end of life teach us that nothing matters but this moment. That is, what you are focusing your attention on right now.

The opportunity to help others is everywhere. Consider the next time you go to a restaurant leave a \$20 tip, even if the bill is \$19. That one outlandish tip will most likely not affect your standard of living. It will, however, lift the spirits of the server receiving it. That tip may lift their self-image in that you, the customer, realize how hard they are trying to please you. And, in reality, a large tip most likely will affect their standard of living.

With fewer "don't wants", it going to be a good year.

FMC Foundation donates \$1 million for Cath Lab renovation

LANCASTER, OHIO – A \$1 million donation from the Fairfield Medical Center Foundation will be used to renovate the hospital's Catheterization (Cath) Lab and purchase new technology that will benefit care for cardiovascular patients.

The FMC Foundation Board of Directors presented the check to FMC's Cath Lab team on Oct. 25 during the Red Heart Gala, which is one of the FMC Foundation's five signature fundraising events.

"We are honored to support this life-saving project, and grateful for the heartfelt support we have received from our community," said Tracy Kelly, executive director of the FMC Foundation.

A Cath Lab is designed for cardiac catheterization procedures, which are performed on patients with suspected heart or blood vessel problems. During a cardiac catheterization, a physician places a catheter into a blood vessel in the patient's arm or groin and guides it to the heart to evaluate cardiac function. Using this technology, doctors are able to diagnose and treat several common conditions,



Pictured left to right – Jon Forquer, DO; Andrew Stiff, MD; John Lazarus, MD, PhD; John R. "Jack" Janoso, Jr.; Denise Bauer; James Obney, MD; Craig Vandervoort, Phil Settecase and P. Aryeh Cohen, MD. submitted

including coronary artery blockages and heart attacks. FMC's Cath Lab provides vital access to scheduled procedures as well as emergency interventions for patients across several counties.

"All of the FMC Foundation's donors, event sponsors, and TWIG members should take great pride at this amazing donation," said Craig Vandervoort, chairman of the Foundation Board. As the philanthropic branch of Fairfield Medical Center, the FMC Foundation plays a vital role in supporting access to

medical care and wellness programs throughout the region, regardless of income. In 2023, the FMC Foundation designated cardiovascular services as the cause to support through its sponsorships and signature events like the Heart Gala. The Foundation's final signature event of the year is the Turkey Day 5K, which will take place on Thanksgiving morning at Forest Rose School in Lancaster. To learn more about the FMC Foundation, visit fmchealth.org/foundation.

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Hugus Fruit Farm voted top 7th orchard in the nation

by Tracy Shahan

Hugus Fruit Farm, a Fairfield County fall favorite was nominated to the USA Today 2024 Readers' Choice Best Orchard contest and placed 7th in the Top Ten in the nation!

Quoted from USA Today's website: "Hugus Fruit Farm features 30 acres of fruit trees set in the stunning Appalachian foothills. They've got a stellar lineup of apple varieties to choose from, plus Asian pears and cider made from both fruits. Visitors cannot pick their own apples from the trees, but the farm's market is well stocked, and the fruit is of the highest quality."

Hugus features apples, pears, plums, peaches and many varieties of cider including apple, pear and cherry. Their storefront features honey, vinegar, popcorn, cheese, trail bologna, caramel apples, jams, jellies, maple syrup, apple butter, pumpkin butter and of course the Hugus Cider Slushie. Their friendly staff are always willing to assist and most often you will also be greeted by Ralph and/or Nancy.

Ralph and Nancy appreciate and would like to thank their loyal customers and friends for their support with the orchard as well as taking the time to cast their votes. They also want to recognize their awesome staff from the pickers and sorters to the cider room and the sales floor.



The famous Hugus truck submitted



Sorting the apples submitted



Apple picking submitted



Great care and attention are given to the newly planted trees submitted



A variety of delicious apples and pears submitted



Nancy and Ralph checking the apples submitted

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School district completes 48 acts of giving to community, provides gifts to local families



LANCASTER, OH: Lancaster City Schools is proud to announce that the students and faculty, along with their families, completed 48 acts of giving to community members in need this holiday season while also providing gifts to 29 local families.

These acts reflect the District's commitment to one of the three elements of its Portrait of a Graduate model, Caring, which emphasizes empathy and a commitment to the community.

"All five elementary schools, the Bridges and preschool program, both junior high schools, and the clubs and classes at the high school have met the needs of hundreds of people in our community, as well

as the organizations that support them," Superintendent Nathan Hale. "Every year, I am blown away at the generosity of our students and staff and the innovative ways they make other people's holiday wishes come true."

To further their collaboration with others, many schools and clubs also partnered with local organizations such as the Salvation Army, Fairfield County 2-1-1, area churches, and non-profits, furthering their lesson in collaboration.

In addition to providing toys and food, many students have volunteered at events such as Gift of Time, Kiwanis Pancake Festival, Salvation Army Kettle Ringing, and Charity Newsies.

"From hosting dances to raise money to participating in canned food drives, Lancaster City Schools has stepped up and pitched in this holiday season," said Hale. "The Board and I could not be more proud."

To see the complete list of acts of giving, visit the District Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LancasterCitySchools.

Real estate tax relief for seniors and 100% disabled veterans available through county auditor



Lancaster, Ohio – Homeowners aged 65 and older or those who are permanently and totally disabled may qualify for Ohio's Homestead Exemption for property tax relief.

That relief is improved due to legislation passed in 2023. The Homestead income threshold and exemption amounts now adjust with inflation annually.

County Auditor Carri Brown, stated, "The Homestead Exemption program is an important program for Ohio. I am encouraged for how the state legislators have expanded the income threshold and exempted amount. They are supporting relief for seniors and disabled veterans with their actions to improve the program."

The new income threshold

will adjust to \$40,000 for 2025, up from \$38,600 in 2024.

The exemption amount, which reduces the amount of the value of the property that is taxed, will increase to \$28,000 in 2025, up from \$26,200 in 2024.

Those currently on the program will automatically see the increased exemption amount.

Disabled veterans with a 100% disability rating and their surviving spouses qualify for an enhanced exemption. This amount also adjusts annually for inflation. The enhanced exemption value will increase from \$52,300 in 2024 to \$56,000 in 2025.

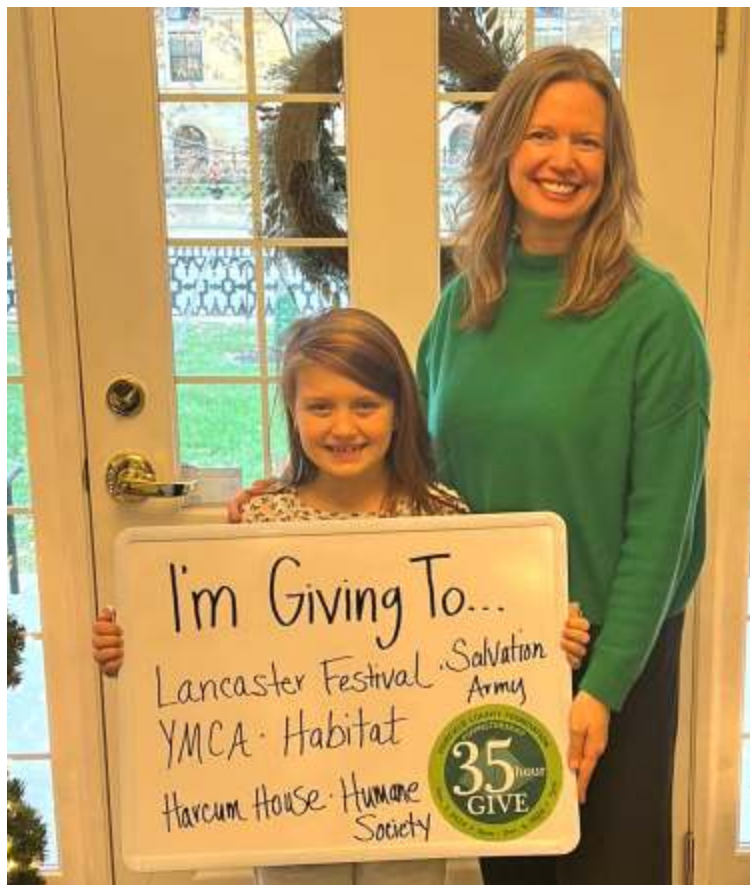
These amounts above apply to tax year 2024 (collected in calendar year 2025) for real property and to tax year 2025 (collected in calendar year 2025) for manufactured or mobile homes.

For more information on the Homestead program, please reach out to the Fairfield County Auditor's office at (740) 652-7020. Homestead application forms are available at:

<https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/Ohio-Homestead-Exemption-Program.html>

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Fairfield County Foundation raises record \$516,586 through "35-Hour Give" event



From left to right: Hazel and Laura Tussing submitted

LANCASTER, Ohio – The Fairfield County Foundation once again hosted its annual "Get Your Give On" event recently in conjunction with #GivingTuesday, which takes place annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

The Foundation began hosting their annual "Give" events in 2014 as a way to celebrate the organization's 25th Anniversary. Over the years, the event has been embraced by the Fairfield County community, with donations

Commissioner Levacu inducted into Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame by Governor DeWine



Commissioner Levacu inducted into Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame by Governor DeWine submitted

LANCASTER, OH — Fairfield County Commissioner Dave Levacu was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame recently at The Ohio State University's Fawcett Center in recognition of his outstanding post-military accomplishments.

The U.S. Army veteran is one of 20 inductees this year, including Fairfield County Air Force veteran Michael W. Carrell.

"As Governor, I am proud to welcome the Class of 2024 to the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame," said Governor DeWine. "The 20 exceptional Ohio veterans we are celebrating deserve our gratitude, not only for their service to our country in the Armed Forces but for their enduring service to our communities and our state in their post-military lives. These individuals have dedicated their lives to helping others and are an inspiration to all of us every day."

Hosted by the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS), this year's event marked the 33rd annual Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Induction

Ceremony and brought the total number of inductees to 994.

Lovacu, 79, was drafted into the Army in 1965 while a student at Ohio University and served until November 1967. College students were exempt from the draft, but he was drafted between exemptions. For much of his service, Levacu oversaw the personnel department at Fort Story in Virginia. After his military service, Levacu was the Millersport/Walnut Township Fire Department chief and also worked as a paramedic. He is a former Millersport Village Council president who was elected to Fairfield County Commissioner in 2012. His dedication to serving others has earned him significant recognitions, including the 2020 Floyd Wolfe Award for community service and the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fairfield County Lincoln Republican Club. Levacu resides in Millersport with Ann, his wife of 57 years.

growing year over year. During this year's 35-Hour Give, which began at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3 and ran through Dec. 4 at 7 p.m., the Foundation raised \$516,586 – a 64.5% increase over the 2023 total. This year, thanks to a special donation from the Lloyd F. and Diann L. Helber Fund in recognition of our 35th Anniversary, the Foundation was able to double the match provided for a total of \$70,000 in matching funds. As a result, the total amount awarded to participating funds this year was \$586,586.

"The Fairfield County community showed up in a huge way for this year's 35-Hour Give! From the bonus matching gift, to the supporters who have shown up in our lobby each year to personally make their donations, to the fact that 33% of our funds received donations, we truly couldn't ask for anything better," said Fairfield County Foundation CEO, Amy Eyman. "We have raised more than \$2 million through these events and when you add the Foundation's match, that is almost \$2.4 million to improve the lives of everyone in our community! We are so grateful to serve this community."

The Foundation matched funds contributed during the 35-Hour Give on a pro-rata basis, which gives everyone who participates the opportunity to have their donations increased. For more information about the 35-Hour Give, visit: www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org.



From left to right: Diann Helber, Amy Eyman and Lloyd Helber submitted

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\$500.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	CHAMPION SUPPORTER TO HELP US SPAY/NEUTER 10 OF OUR SHELTER DOGS OR 15 OF OUR SHELTER CATS.
\$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY SUPPORTER TO HELP US VACCINATE 25 SHELTER CATS AND DOGS.
\$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTER TO HELP US FEED OUR SHELTER ANIMALS FOR A DAY. WE FEED 120 MOST EVERY DAY!
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THIS 'N' THAT



Local Events, News, Happenings & More!

The deadline for the Jan. 20 Issue is Noon, Jan. 17

We Want Your News Items!

Submissions for This 'n' That accepted only by email at freedomptg@roadrunner.com in Microsoft Word, .TXT, or RTF (Rich Text Format) only. We can no longer accept "hard-copy" submissions by mail or fax. Please include your name and phone number in case we have questions. Non-profit events only please. We reserve the right to select which items are published. Group flea markets, yard/garage sales and craft bazaars should be submitted as a classified ad at \$10 for 25 words, or a display ad (call toll-free 1-888-354-1352 for pricing).

2 Mile Run on New Year's Day

Join us on January 1st in our New 2U Medal Swap 2-miler Road Race sponsored by the Liberty Union Athletic Boosters. The course begins and ends at the high school track. If interested, use the link to sign up! <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Baltimore/NewToYou>

Tractor Maintenance & Small Engines 4-H Club

Do you have a child or grandchild who would like to learn more about farm tractors or small engines? The Tractor Maintenance & Small Engines 4-H Club is accepting new members! 4-H is a non-

formal, educational youth development program for individuals aged 8 and in 3rd grade or 9 years old through age 18, as of January 1, 2025.

This 4-H club is unique in that they focus on one specific topic – Small Engines and Farm Tractors. Meetings are on Monday nights, January through March each year. Advisors teach members how to work on small engines and tractors while visiting different businesses and agriculture shops throughout the county. No experience is necessary – This is a great opportunity to learn something new!

The club is also using a new curriculum that focuses on tractor safety and how to properly perform tractor maintenance. The tractor maintenance courses are available to members who have completed the small engine project books or have had previous experience working on machinery.

The club meets every Monday in January through Mid-March. The first meeting will be Monday, January 6, 2025, at 7:00p.m. at the Fairfield County Ag Center, 831 College Ave, Lancaster. Joining 4-H is relatively inexpensive – members can participate in the Tractor Maintenance and Small Engine Club for \$20! All interested members are welcome to attend this first meeting to learn more and get registered! For more information, contact the Fairfield County Extension Office at 740-653-5419.

Food and Farm Marketing Basics

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 - 12:00pm to 3:00pm

Location: Fairfield County Ag Center; 831 College Avenue; Lancaster

Do you feel like your food and farm business marketing is missing the mark? We can help! Join us for Food and Farm Marketing Basics to improve your marketing skills and better connect with your customers.

In this workshop, you will learn how to identify your target customer, what to do with this information, and ensure your brand is effectively representing your business. This hands-on workshop will simplify your marketing and give your business a boost. Presented by the CFAES Center for Cooperatives and OSU Extension Direct Food & Agricultural Marketing Team. Register at: go.osu.edu/foodandfarm by January 6, 2025.

For more info contact Christie Welch at 614-247-9725 or email: welch.183@osu.edu

Ohio Genealogical Society Meeting

The Ohio Genealogical Society, Fairfield Chapter meeting is Thursday, January 16, 2025, at the Genealogical Research Library, 503 Lenwood Drive in Lancaster. Refreshments at 6:30 pm, business meeting at 7 pm, followed by the program with Bill Boone from Danison Monuments. All are welcome.

Private Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification 2025

Fertilizer Re-certification (cost: \$10) will be held on Monday, February 10, 2025, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. with Pesticide Recertification (Cost \$25) to follow immediately beginning at 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

The Fertilizer Recertification class will be repeated on Thursday, March 13, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Pesticide Recertification will be held the same day beginning at 9 am -12 pm. Pesticide Re-certification.

Remember to bring your current card with you to the training. Both training will be held at the Fairfield County Agriculture Center, 831 College Ave., Lancaster. For more information or to register online go to: <http://go.osu.edu/PestFert>

Questions? Call OSU Extension at 740.653.5419.

Fairfield County Foundation 2025-2026 Scholarship Application Available Online Now

The Fairfield County Foundation is currently accepting applications for more than 100 different scholarship funds for local students for the 2025-2026 school year using one online application, which can be found at <https://www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org/scholarships/applications>. The application officially opened December 1, 2024, and the deadline to submit applications is Friday, March 7, 2025. Applicants are encouraged to check out the scholarships page on our website for more details, criteria, tips and frequently asked questions to assist in filling out the application. The Foundation's application system filters down which scholarships students are eligible to receive based on the criteria of each scholarship fund.

The Foundation staff will conduct a preliminary review for completeness on all applications submitted by Friday, February 14, 2025. Applicants will receive an email with any issues by March 1, 2025, so that any problems can be corrected before the final deadline on Friday, March 7, 2025. This does not increase the chances of receiving a scholarship but provides an opportunity for mistakes to be corrected before the deadline and decreases the possibility of an application being ineligible.

Generally, scholarships are reserved for residents of Fairfield County or graduates of a high school in Fairfield County; however, there are a few that are available to students outside of the county. Applicants can be graduating high school seniors, current undergraduate, graduate, non-traditional or vocation/technical school students.

The program staff will be conducting FAFSA and scholarship nights throughout the next few months at the local high schools.

Farm Accounting with Quicken Workshop is Scheduled in Fairfield County

Reevaluate how your farm keeps financial records in Quicken in 2025. Quicken is a simple farm accounting system that is familiar to farmers and farm families. Each hands-on workshop brings a mobile OSU computer lab and examples of farm data to you.

Learn how to Customize the chart of accounts to align with the IRS Schedule F, utilized sub-categories to track and manage critical farm input expenses, allocate income and expenses to a farm enterprise, barn or farm location, build reports that describe the farm finances in real-time, explore how farm accounting can do more than a tax return.

The Fairfield County session will be held February 12 and 13 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. each night at the Fairfield County Ag Center located at 831 College Avenue in Lancaster. Cost is \$65 per farm business (2 individuals per business) and is limited to 10 farm businesses per location.

Registration: Call OSU Extension in Fairfield County at 740-653-5419 for details.

Deadline to register: One week prior to the start of each workshop. For additional questions, please call Wm. Bruce Clevenger, OSU Extension Field Specialist, Farm Management, clevenger.10@osu.edu

Healthy Meals on a Budget

Jan. 16, 2025 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Pickerington Public Library, 201 Opportunity Way, Pickerington.

Don't let the 6 o'clock dinner panic get you down! Come learn both the nutritional benefits and the cost savings of preparing healthy meals. This program, taught by Shannon Carter from OSU Extension, provides practical education on food selection, purchasing, and preparation, with emphasis on nutrition and the household budget.

Register by Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at <https://pickeringtonlibrary.libnet.info/event/11870435>

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**CHRISTMAS TREES**

Christmas Trees – Cut your own or pre-cut. Gift Shop, refreshments. Open Thanksgiving weekend, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 9am to 4pm. Open Saturday & Sundays after Thanksgiving weekend through December 21st, 9am to 4pm at 190 Rainbow Dr. NW, Lancaster. 740-653-6454

Flock Christmas Tree with Ornaments – Also a 7 foot Christmas Tree and a new child's jewelry box, never used. Phone 740-467-2453

PLACES OF INTEREST

Micheal Bolognone Art Gallery – Located at 12472 Lancaster Street in Millersport. Specializing in Surrealism and Abstract Expressions Art. Also featuring Bill Baker, Ray King, and William B. Turner. Always an original. Must visit to appreciate. Quality and large selection. Great to display in your home, office or for gift giving. Phone 614-404-0525

EVENTS

Craft Show - Nov. 30th, 9am to 1pm at Amanda Methodist Church, 200 East High Street, Amanda

Open To The Public Turkey Shoots at Fairfield Fish & Game, 2270 Bickel Church Road NW, Baltimore OH 43105. Shoots start at noon. Tickets go on sale at 11:30. Falsters Hams, Falsters Bacon. Turkeys and money shoots. 12/8 & 12/15.

HELP WANTED

Bookkeeping/financial - Village of Ruhsville has opening for part-time employment, 30 hours per week. Duties include bookkeeping, record keeping and financial reporting. Basic knowledge of bookkeeping principles are helpful. Email resume to council01@rushville-oh.com or call 740-785-0982. Ruhsville is an equal opportunity employer.

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1988 Cherokee Limited Jeep – In-Line 6, auto, good tires, lunch box lock on rear end. \$3,500. Call for more information 740-415-0269.

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1955 Mercury 4 Door – Runs and drives 95% rust free, lots of parts and dents with or without power steering, please leave message. 740-746-8147

2000 Yamaha Motorcycle V-Star Classic, 4,933 miles, like new. \$3,200. Call 740-569-9915

1979 Triumph 750 Bonneville. Under 20,000 miles. All original. Hasn't run since 2002. \$2000. Call Kelly @740-654-2259.

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MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale Cherry Drop Leaf Table – Seats twelve, great for Thanksgiving or Christmas! \$1,500 OBO cash. Call if interested, leave name and number 740-243-5884 or 740-652-1666.

Five Piece Girls or Teenage Twin Size, Cream Color Bedroom Set. Very good condition. Smoke & Bug Free Home. Mattress like new. \$199 OBO. Call 740-438-1414.

For Sale Vermeer 665A Stump Grinder – As-is. Needs piston and rings. \$4,000. Wisper Chipper, completely overhauled everything. \$10,000. Call Kare 740-654-8796 Lancaster

Federal #28 Police Siren old, but works. \$150 OBO. 1956 Auto Garage clock, works. \$10. Glass insulator \$3. Call 740-969-2066

Buying Collectibles – Arrowheads, Sports Cards, fishing lures, older toys, Misc Antiques. Call John at 740-814-2771

For Sale 6 foot wide x 8 foot long Trailer with Dexter Running Gear, one owner, floor in great condition. Front wheel jack. Grated tailgate. \$750. Call 740-503-4620 Lancaster

I Pay Cash For Cars, trucks, motorcycles, ATVs, boats, tractors, RVs, trailers - basically anything with a motor. Call 614-403-0168.

For Sale: Job Box – Completely redone-primed & painted orange-22"x22"x42" \$200.00 Call Craig 740-684-1486

For Sale – 65" TV \$150. 3 shelved TV Stand black with metal & glass top \$100, 2 seat sofa, gray, in good condition \$180. New single bed with mattress \$100. Call 740-503-6120

Due To A Relative Relocating From Southern CA, we are in need of an all-weather trailer or RV to purchase for temporary housing. Call Suzanne at 773-571-9300

(2) Cemetery Lots at Floral Hills Memory Gardens in the Resurrection Section, close to the Memorial. \$1400.00 each or both for \$2750.00. Plus Transfer Fee \$95.00. (740) 503-5946

Kentucky Derby Horse Prints, glassware, various sports memorabilia pool table with accessories. Lancaster 330-283-8223

For Sale Early 1900's Sleigh – \$250. Vintage Coke Cooler \$125. Vintage 1940 Tricycle \$65. Call 740-862-4023

Trailer For Sale – 6' wide x 8' long Utility Trailer, 2,400 lbs, GVWR load, heavy duty Dexter running gear, one owner, treated wood floor, in great condition, front wheel jack, grated tailgate \$750 OBO. Will trade for U.S. Coins dated before 1964. Call 740-503-4620 Lancaster

Now Accepting Indoor Storage for your vehicles, car, truck, motorcycle, small boat or campers. Carroll area. 5 months \$400, or 5 months \$250 for motorcycles. No rentals accepted after November 30th. Call for more information 740-400-3599.

For Sale Goodyear Tire 235/60 R18, 103H, 90% tread \$40. Also a Chesterfield Custom Built Vault at Floral Hills Memory Garden \$595, These now sell for \$1200. Questions? Call 740-415-5204.

Austin Air Freshener \$100, New Whirlpool Refrigerator 20.5 cu. Ft. \$300. 740-503-9468

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For Sale Early 1900's Sleigh \$250. Vintage Coke Cooler \$125. Vintage 1940 Tricycle \$65. Call 740-862-4023

Utility Trailer VGC – 5x10 item#2 new beauty shop hair dryer with hood and shampoo chair from Sallys. Call after 4pm @ 740 743-2384. Trailer price \$850 #2 Beauty Supplies \$150.00

Flock Christmas Tree with Ornaments – Also a 7 foot Christmas Tree and a new child's jewelry box, never used. Phone 740-467-2453

Roland Electric Piano - Model F-140R with storage bench and learn to play books. Call 740-974-3719

HELP WANTED

The Greif Baltimore Mill is hiring for positions in our maintenance department. Electrician - \$38.48/hr. Instrumentation Technician - \$41.60/hr. Work schedule can be discussed at the time of the interview, but typically 40+ hours per week. Apply online at grief.com or stop by the office. Location is 310 W. Water St. Baltimore, OH

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