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Obituary

Richard Everhart Van Sickle "Pop Sickle"

Richard Everhart Van Sickle "Pop Sickle" 91 of Loudonville passed away on June 4, 2025 at Wooster Hospice Center after a brief illness. Richard was born February 3, 1934 on a minus 30 degree day to Glen & Florence Van Sickle of Millersburg, Ohio.

A celebration of life will be held at New Hope Church Loudonville Saturday, August 23, 2025 at 11am.



Richard married Mary J. Bechtel on May 2,1954. They were happily married for 61 years before her passing. They had three children; Richard C Van Sickle (deceased), surviving Brad (Kelly) Van Sickle, Jill (Jeff) Dunlap, and Scout, his dog and number one companion. You rarely saw Dick without his Scout.

Richard was drafted into the US Army 1955-1957. He then enlisted in the Army Reserves at Ashland for 8 years. Richard was a tank operator. He was proud to be a Veteran of the Army.

Richard started working for his dad picking up milk and delivering papers from Wooster to Coshocton as a young boy. He then went to work painting for Parsons of Nashville, Ohio until 1962. After that he attended Engineering school in Mansfield, which led him to a successful career of 40 plus years working at The FLXIBLE Company in Loudonville and later in Delaware. He finished his career back in Loudonville working for MCI. He was a collector of FLXIBLE memorabilia and was happy to talk about the Flxible and never missed a "Flxible Bus Parade".

Richard was active in Jaycees, coaching little league baseball, and driving the church bus for Zion Lutheran Church. Richard painted many houses, barns, and churches in the area. He co-owned Mohican Country Potato chips in Loudonville. He co-owned an Antique store including stripping and refinishing furniture. In his retirement, he caned chairs, made canes & crosses, and mowed for New Hope Church.

RICHARD is also survived by grandchildren Jason (Rose) Van Sickle, Jerry (Susan) Van Sickle, Kendra (Chad) Buzzard, Michael (Jennifer) Van Sickle, Addison (Megan) Dunlap, Ethan Dunlap, Jesse (Melissa) Starner.

Great-grandchildren Andrea (Mason) Harper, Shelbee Van Sickle, Payton Van Sickle, Austin (Hannah) Van Sickle, Ashley Van Sickle, Justin (Karli) Van Sickle, CJ Van Sickle, Ava Buzzard, Claire & Brogan Dunlap, Gavin & Summer Dunlap, Caleb & Katlin McDougall, Isabella & Ryder Starner.

Great-Great Grandchildren Elle Harper, Dallas & Dutton Van Sickle, Leighton Van Sickle and Paisley McDougall.

Sisters Lydia Ramseyer & Linda Boyde. Brother-in-law Mickey Schmidt & Bob Boyde & many nieces & nephews

Richard was preceded in death by his sisters Sandy Schmidt, Judy (Ray) Lawter, Brothers Glenn, Robert, Tom (Eva), Ray (Gay& Mary), Brother-in-law Walter Ramseyer, Sister and Brother-in-law Louise and Don Uhler. One month after his passing his sister, Patsy Stephens joined her brothers and sisters in their heavenly home.

Dick will be missed by his family and many friends. In Lieu of flowers, please donate to New Hope Church Loudonville or Loudonville Fire Department.







LOUDONVILLE

THE SHROCK COMPANIES HAVE BEEN SERVING THIS AREA FOR 3 GENERATIONS.

School Board Hears About Anti-Bullying Initiatives

Two anti-bullying initiatives were presented at the regular meeting of the Loudonville-Perrysville Board of Education on Monday, Aug. 11, as part of an ongoing effort to address concerns of bullying within the district.

School liaisons Danielle Clady and Samantha Thiemens introduced the Hope Squad and Rachel's Challenge programs during the meeting.

Hope Squad is a peer-support initiative for students in grades 4 through 12 and will run throughout the school year. Clady said the program encourages students to identify and confide in trusted peers, aiming to foster a supportive environment. The initiative includes lessons on bullying prevention and how to respond when other students are in distress. For younger students, Hope Squad incorporates a leadership component to promote positive peer interactions.

"What we hope to achieve through Hope Squad is to provide lessons in how to deal with issues between students," Clady said.

Rachel's Challenge features school-wide assemblies, one for older students and another for younger students, followed by a community event held the same evening.

"Rachel Scott was the first victim in the Columbine, Colorado, school shootings, who, it was found later, had written messages that challenged people to find more positive influences," Thiemens said. "The assemblies tell stories from her life. For grades K through 6, they use music, videos and activities to challenge kids to choose positive influences. For grades 7 through 12, the inspiring story of Rachel Scott is retold."

Thiemens said the evening community event builds on the message shared during the assemblies.

"This can be a very emotional program," she said.

Superintendent Jennifer Allerding said the assemblies have a strong impact on students.

"They're begging their parents to attend the evening program," she said.

The remainder of the Aug. 11 meeting focused primarily on routine administrative matters.

One highlight was the retirement of Roger Humphrey, who served the district for 38 years as a maintenance worker.

Board member David Hunter, liaison to the Heartland Technical Education Center, formerly the Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center, reported that construction of the center's main building is progressing, with completion expected in December. Construction on the adult education building, which was acquired from the county last year,

Legislative liaison John Carroll said there was no report this month, as the state legislature is in recess until September.

Allerding addressed concerns over the district's lack of participation in the Community Eligibility Provision, or CEP. Participation in the program would provide free meals to all students at an estimated cost to the district of \$112,000 annually. The district continues to provide free meals to students that are eligible for free or reduced meals and will continue to

BOARD cont. to Pg.3

Loudonville Police Calls

Aug. 4, 2:10 p.m. Police assisted a patron who left floor mats at the car wash on N. Jefferson St. The mats were located and returned.

Aug. 4, 10:30 p.m. Police cited a 36-year-old Salem woman for criminal mischief and disorderly conduct-intoxication after damaging property in the 900 block of S. Market St. She was taken to the Ashland County Jail.

Aug. 5, 1:44 a.m. Police discovered an open door at a building in the 200 block of E. Butler St. They checked and secured the building.

Aug. 5, 2:18 a.m. Police were advised of a person missing in the 200 block of N. Water St. The subject was located and given a ride home.

Aug. 5, 4:35 a.m. Police investigated an alarm going off in the 300 block of W. Main St. The alarm was set off accidentally.

Aug. 5, 6:29 p.m. Police provided backup to the fire department during a false alarm investigation at the Mohican Young Star Academy.

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Aug. 5, 7:23 p.m. Police investigated a report of juveniles asking adults to purchase vapes for them in the 1000 block of S. Market St.

Aug. 5, 9:26 p.m. Police received a complaint of an ATV being driven in a 600 N. Union St. neighborhood causing loud noise. The operator was advised not to ride the ATV at night due to noise concerns.

Aug. 6, 3:27 a.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff with a call involving an argument between two juveniles in the 100 block of E. First St. in Perrysville.

Aug. 6, 2:30 p.m. Police cited a 21-year-old Ashland female for speed, 54/35, on Mill Rd. at Loudon Ave.

Aug. 7, 12:57 a.m. Police assisted the State Patrol in locating a reported one vehicle crash on Ohio 97 near Twp. Rd. 3234.

Aug. 7, 6:45 a.m. Police responded to a medical alarm in the 800 block of S. Mt. Vernon Ave. Emergency personnel assisted a subject at the scene, who declined further treat-

Aug. 8, 7:03 a.m. Police cited a 57-year-old Butler woman for speed, 66/50, on S. Market St. at CR 529.

Aug. 8, 10:27 a.m. Police provided backup to the fire department at the Mohican Young Star Academy, where several fire alarms had been activated. As a result of the



ongoing investigation, the fire department was delayed in assisting the Perrysville Fire Department with a separate

Aug. 8, 5:39 p.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff in investigating an injury accident involving a SUV and an ATV on CR 775 at CR 687.

Aug. 9, 2:47 a.m. Police cited a 23-year-old Avon man for a turn signal violation at N. Spring St. at Riverside Dr. He was also issued a warning for no license plate light and no insurance.

Aug. 9, 4:44 a.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff in serving a warrant in the 2000 block of Ohio 60. **Aug. 9, 9:25 a.m.** Police were called to the 1000 block of S. Market St., where a juvenile attempted to buy cigarettes. The sale was refused, and no arrest was made.

Aug. 9, 11:44 a.m. Police assisted the emergency squad on a call in the 300 block of N. Adams St. The subject was transported.

Aug. 9, 3:39 p.m. Police received two wallets, found in the 1000 block of S. Market St. **Aug. 9, 6:34 p.m.** Police received a report of an intoxicated person in the 1000 block of S. Market St. Police encountered an emotional female and detained a male. Because the incident occurred outside the village limits, the Ashland County Sheriff took over the investigation.

Aug. 9, 7:15 p.m. Police responded to a report of a partially clothed female drawing a crowd in the 500 block of S. Market St. She had left the area before police arrived.

Aug. 9, 7:58 p.m. Police met with the Wayne County Sheriff at the intersection of Ohio 3 and Ohio 97 to pick up a person wanted on a warrant from the Loudonville police. The person was taken to the Ashland County Jail.

Aug. 9, 9:09 p.m. At the request of the fire department, police provided backup during a backyard fire investigation in the 100 block of N. Market St. No arrests were

Aug. 9, 9:10 p.m. Police cited a 26-year-old Loudonville man for a seat belt violation on E. Main St. at Twp. Rd. 455. He was also issued a warning for no license plate

Aug. 10, 3:18 a.m. Police investigated a suspicious vehicle parked sideways in the 100 block of Banks Ave. for over an hour. The subject was contacted, and no issue was found.

Aug. 10, 8:03 a.m. Police cited a 34-year-old Mt. Vernon man for speed, 90/50, on S. Market St.

Aug. 10, 7:38 p.m. Police provided backup to an alarm company working to repair the alarm system at the Mohican Young Star Academy following multiple recent calls. **Aug. 10, 10:49 p.m.** Police assisted the emergency squad on a call to the 500 block of Vincent Dr.

Aug. 10, 11:44 p.m. Police were advised of found property in the 100 block of N. Water St. The item had been located at Pleasant Hill Lake. The finder was instructed to contact the Richland County Sheriff, which has jurisdiction over that area.



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Hi everyone! I can't believe school will begin in just a matter of days! Back in the dark ages, I didn't start school until after Labor Day.

I came across a couple of stories that might just give you a warm glow about how others make it through the day: Tulips and a Thank You

Recently, I had a knock at my door. When I opened it, there was a stranger holding a gift voucher for a local garden shop. Apparently, her child had been picking tulips from my garden every day to give to his mother, and once they discovered whose garden the flowers came from, they wanted to pay for them.

I had thought it was squirrels and had regretted planting them the year before, since I never got to enjoy them. I ended up spending the voucher on more bulbs.

A Nose to Remember

Last summer, at a Wendy's, I bumped into a childhood friend I hadn't seen in over 40 years. He recognized me, rushed over (startling me a bit), and immediately began a barrage of questions

We were both in our 70s, both widowed, and everyone we used to know was long gone. So the conversation turned rather somber

When I asked him how he recognized me after all these years, he laughed and said, "Nobody's got a nose like yours!"

The Long-Lost Daughter

When I bought my house, the previous owner had passed away, and many of his belongings were left behind. This included his wallet, briefcase, several family photo albums dating back to the 1940s, and hundreds of letters and cards from as far back as the 1920s. There were love letters, a 25-foot-long family tree, his great-grandmother's passport, a marriage license, and basically every important document or memento from the family.

He was quite an interesting person. He made jewelry, did leatherwork, built his own cabin in the mountains (I had the plans and pictures of it when it was finished), owned racehorses, and had sailed all over the world. I knew he had a daughter, but was told she was a hippie living on the beach in Santa Monica.

I kept everything for 15 years. One day, while cleaning out the garage, I found some children's books, and inside one was the daughter's name. It said, "To [her name], Love, Daddy."

I Googled her first and maiden name. She turned out to be a schoolteacher and real estate agent. She had kept her

I finally found her. We both cried on the phone. She hadn't kept anything from her father, as he had remarried and passed away before his wife. I sent her everything.

At last, I found my long-lost stranger.

I still can't believe school starts on August 19! Where, oh where, did the summer go?

Way back when I was a child, school started the Tuesday after Labor Day and ended just before Memorial Day. Wow, how things have changed!

+++

Speaking of school starting, please be extra careful while driving during school days. Children are excited and often forget to watch for traffic.

Until next week, keep smiling! It makes folks wonder who or what you are thinking about!

Tessico

Governor Joins Hundreds to Dedicate Visitor's Center

By Jim Brewer



Gov. Mike DeWine addresses a crowd of more than 500 during the dedication of the new Visitor Center at Mohican State Park on Tuesday, Aug. 12.

Photo Jim Brewer

Governor Mike DeWine, joined by more than 500 supporters of Mohican State Park and officials from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, helped dedicate the park's new \$4.7 million visitor center Tuesday morning, Aug. 12.

CENTER cont. to Pg.7

BOARD cont. from Pg.2

monitor the CEP program for potential future participation.

She encouraged residents to complete a community survey recently distributed by the district. Paper copies are available at the Loudonville Public Library.

"In places, the survey sounds stilted because we had to use state-required language," Allerding said. "But there are several opportunities for people to share their own ideas on school issues."

The board approved several personnel changes, including the hiring of Abby Washinger as elementary music teacher and Holli Gentle as a cafeteria aide. Bus routes were assigned to Dennis Myrwold and Brian Wilson, and a list of substitute staff was





approved. Mentors were appointed for new teachers, and supplemental contracts were issued for advisors, coaches and club leaders across academic, music, athletic and student life programs. Several pupil activity contracts were also approved, including those for coaches, cheer advisors and club sponsors.

The board acknowledged donations totaling more than \$29,000. These included \$150 in memory of Gary McClure to the athletic department, \$23,650 from the Music Booster Association to support the L-P Music Department, and nearly \$5,700

from the Ashland County Community Foundation to benefit athletics, school programs and the L-P Endowment Fund.

The board also approved the first reading of several policy revisions.

At the close of the public session, the board entered executive session to discuss personnel matters.

The next meeting of the Loudonville-Perrysville Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. in the LHS cafeteria. All board meetings are open to the public.





Mohican-Memorial State Forest Campsites Now Available by Reservation

By Amanda Chambers

Campers heading to Mohican-Memorial State Forest will soon need to reserve their spot in advance, as the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry launches a new online reservation system for seven Park-and-Pack campsites within the forest.

Starting Sept. 1, campers must show a valid camping permit, which will be issued via email upon completing a reservation. The new system replaces the previous first come, first served model.

ODNR officials say the change will help visitors plan their trips and provide the agency with better data on campground use.

"There is no charge to create or cancel a reservation," said Dan Balser, chief of the Division of Forestry. "This new system will not only allow people to plan ahead but give us a better idea of who is using the campground and allow us to improve our services."

Until Sept. 1, Mohican-Memorial's campsites remain first come, first served. More information, including links to the reservation portal, is available on the Mohican-Memorial State Forest webpage at forestry.ohiodnr.gov.



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9.5-11.7 oz. asst.).33
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13.5-17.4 oz. select asst.). 4 3
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26 oz. asst.	,,,,,
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ORZO SALAD WITH SUMMER ROASTED VEGETABLES

Ingredients:

- For the Roasted Vegetables: - 1 small eggplant, peeled and 3/4-inch diced
- 1 yellow bell pepper and 1-inch diced
- 1 red onion, peeled and 1-inch diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/3 cup olive oil 11/2 teaspoons sea salt
- · freshly ground black pepper - 1/2 pound orzo
- For the Dressing: - 1/3 cup freshly squeezed lemon
- juice (about 2 lemons) - 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 Tablespoon dijon mustard 1 Tablespoon honey
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

To Finish:

- 4 scallions, minced (white and green parts)
- 1/2 cup pine nuts, toasted • 4 ounces crumbled goat cheese
- 10 fresh basil leaves, cut into chiffonade

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Toss the eggplant, bell peppers, onion, and garlic with the olive oil, salt, and pepper on a large baking sheet. Roast until softened, about 25 minutes, but still al dente. Turn vegetables over once with spatula.

Meanwhile, cook the orzo in boiling salted water for 7 to 9 minutes, until tender. Drain and transfer to a large serving bowl.

For the dressing, whisk together the lemon juice, olive oil, dijon mustard, honey, salt, and pepper.

Once the vegetables are roasted, add to the pasta, scraping all the liquid and seasonings from the roasting pan into the pasta bowl. Then toss with the dressing.

Let the pasta and vegetable mixture cool to room temperature. To finish, add the scallions, pine nuts, goat cheese, and basil. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Photo and food styling by Webstop Please note that some ingredients and brands may not be available in every store. Stake's IGA Recipes www.stakesiga.com/Recipes







Dear Loudonville-Perrysville Community

Over the summer, I shared our plan to engage the community in public meetings, surveys and open conversations to better understand our shared priorities and address perceived gaps in trust with our district.

Below is a link to a community-wide survey open now through August 31, 2025. A paper version is also available at the Loudonville Public Library. This is the first opportunity for you to share your thoughts and opinions on the future of our schools. We want to ensure everyone has a chance to share their perspectives, as your input will help us better understand our community's needs and priorities.

Our focus moving forward remains on providing clear, consistent, and factual information about the district's needs, finances, and the potential impacts of any decisions made.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and for working with us to create a brighter future for our students.

bit.ly/LPCommunitySurvey

Sincerely, Jennifer Allerding Superintendent Loudonville-Perrysville Exempted Village Schools



Jennifer Allerding Superintendent

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A Stroll Our Mohican Garden: Why Is My Zucchini Wilting?

By Eric Larson

I recently received a question from a reader about a common concern this time of year: wilted zucchini plants, despite plenty of rain. While zucchini is typically easy to grow, wilting leaves can point to more than just dry soil. Deformed fruit, a lack of flowers, or entire plants collapsing can signal deeper issues, ranging from pests to diseases or problems with the soil.

One of the most destructive pests you may encounter is the squash vine borer, a moth whose larvae bore into the vines and feed from the inside. As the stem hollows out, the plant wilts, often quite suddenly and without other warning signs. Adult vine borers are fast-flying moths with black and red bodies and dark wings, making them difficult to spot.

The real giveaway is the larvae. If you notice a sawdust-like substance, called frass, near the base of the plant, it's a strong indication that the pest has taken up residence inside the stem. To prevent this problem, you can wrap aluminum foil around the base of the plant early in the season.

I've also seen gardeners use fabric row covers, essentially mini greenhouses, to keep the adult moths from laying their eggs. These covers are most effective when used before the plant comes into full bloom. Once the plant is blooming, you can safely remove the covers, as the moths will have missed their window to lay eggs.

Another common issue is powdery mildew, a fungal disease that coats squash leaves in a white, powdery film. While it may seem like a cosmetic nuisance at first, the mildew can block photosynthesis, weaken the plant, and eventually cause it to die.

To reduce the chances of this fungus taking hold, it's helpful to give your plants plenty of space between them to allow for better air circulation. Growing squash vertically on arbors or trellises can also reduce moisture buildup and keep leaves dry. In addition, there are many powdery mildew-resistant squash varieties available, which are worth considering when planning your garden.

Sometimes the problem isn't a pest or a fungus, but rather something related to the plant variety, the soil, or the balance of nutrients. All zucchini varieties have slightly different characteristics. Some are higher yielding, while others are more disease resistant. Tracking which varieties you plant and how they perform can help you make better choices for future seasons.



A gourd squash tunnel supports vines off the ground, improving airflow and reducing the risk of fungal diseases like powdery mildew. Vertical growing methods, including trellises, also make harvesting easier and conserve garden space.

Photo by Eric Larson

Zucchini plants don't require extremely rich soil, but they do benefit from a good amount of organic matter and a balanced pH level. Ideally, the soil pH should be around 6.5. If it's too high or too low, the plant may produce lots of leaves but little or no fruit. In some cases, nutrient imbalances or poor soil structure can also contribute to wilting vines.

Another common pest is the squash bug, which causes similar symptoms such as wilting, yellowing, and browning leaves by piercing the plant and sucking out its sap with a pointed mouthpart called a proboscis. I've written about this pest in past columns. It tends to appear in clusters and lays small, bronze-colored, football-shaped eggs on the undersides of leaves.

Squash bugs are unfortunately resistant to many typical insecticides, but horticultural oil has proven effective in controlling their spread when applied consistently and carefully.

Squash of many varieties grow well in our region, but they do require observation and a bit of intervention when problems arise. I hope the information I've shared today will help you identify and address whatever might be causing your zucchini to wilt.

I hope you have a great stroll through your garden. If you see a problem, let me know by dropping me an email at ericlarson546@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Aug. 30, Will Be a Busy Day in Loudonville

By Jim Brewer

Lucas:

Library

Dollar General

Lucas Hair Designs

Lucas High School

Post Office Lobby

Meggs on Main Open Door Cafe

Pinhook Meats

McKay:

Mifflin:

Chuy's Tacos Mifflin Market

The End Zone Millersburg:

Rodhe's Market

Nashville:

Barkman Engine

Harvey's Market

Post Office Foyer

Mohicanville:

Paullin Milk Cartage

Buckeye Deli & Grocery

Prairie Lane Furniture

Prairie Lane Market

Sunny Slope Winery

Chad's Automotive Repair

Perrysville:

C-Store Marathon

Rainbow Gardens

Hochstetler Log Homes

McKay Country Growers

Danbury Senior Living Center

First Choice Auto/Truck & Trailer

Lucas Food Mart Marathon

Route 39 Designs (The Local Stitch)

With thousands of campers and other visitors already in the area, Labor Day weekend is always a busy time in Mohican Country. This year, it will be even busier as a new event, a semi-truck show, is added to the list of attractions.

The truck show is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 30, and will take place alongside the longtime Mohican Traditions

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Arts and Crafts Show, a tradition organized for many years by the Loudonville Chamber of Commerce.

"In the past, a decision was made to cancel the Labor Day weekend craft show, but about five years ago, several vendors requested we bring it back, so we did," said Chamber Executive Director Valerie Spreng. "Between the new truck show, the craft show, our farmers market from 9 a.m. to noon in Central Park, plus the things that are always happening in the community, it's going to be an extremely busy weekend."

The events will take place rain or shine.

The truck show will require the closure of Main Street for what organizers are calling one of the most ambitious truck

DAY cont. to Pg.8

Mohican Area SHOPPER'S Marketplace over 200 Loudonville locations and campgrounds PLUS the following locations:

Ashland: Brethren Care Village The Greens Bistro & Pub Big Prairie: Post Office Lobby

Butler:
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Dollar General
Duchess Gas Station
Ducky's Pub & Grill
Five Points Drive-In
Library

Library
Post Office
Refreshing Images Hair Salon
Stratford Guns
Tall Timber Inn
Three Crosses Church
Weekley's Automotive

Whiffletree Restaurant

Danville:
205 Sales
Apple Valley Vintage
Chapel Valley Dry Goods
Community Health Center
Conway's Pharmacy
Danville Family Dental
Danville Feed, Supply & Hardware
Danville Harness & Shoe

Raber's Bakery

Danville Outdoors
Danville Tire
Danville Veterinary Clinic
Don Leo's Market
Lyons Den
Maytag Laundry/Danville Laundromat
Moore Style Hair Salon
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Farmhouse Parlor & Grill
Hayesville Hairport
Hayesville Opera House
HOP Armament
John's Clip Shop/Clip Art
Matt's Auto Repair
Rohrer Corp.
Village Point Market

Village Point Market

Jelloway (rural):

Mohican Hardware

Jeromesville:

Fickes Furniture
Golf Club House
Heffelfinger Meats
Jeromesville Daily Grind
Jeromesville Market
K&D Market Gas Station
Rustic Cuts Hair Salon
Scenic Ridge Fruit Farm (seasonal)
Killbuck:

Killbuck Valley Market

Lakeville:
Iron Pony Saloon
Post Office Lobby
Round Lake Golf Course

Loudonville (rural):

Round Lake Golf Course **Loudonville (rural):** Richardson's Greenhouse Haudenschild Insurance Ugly Bunny Winery

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Loudonville Family's Good **Deed Earns** \$1000 Donation

Submitted



Jennifer Koch, CEO of Dugood Cookie Company, stands with the Armstrong family, recipients of the nonprofit's 1,000th good deed donation, on Aug. 9. The family directed the \$1,000 donation to the Loudonville Swim Team Boosters.

A local family's act of community service has resulted in a \$1,000 donation to the Loudonville Swim Team Boosters, thanks to a giveaway held by Dugood Cookie Company.

The Armstrong family was selected at random by the nonprofit organization to receive the donation after submitting their good deed: volunteering to weed flower beds at Loudonville United Methodist Church. The family's daughter, Lailen Armstrong, chose the swim team boosters as the donation recipient, citing her interest in joining the team next summer.

The donation marks the 1,000th good deed tracked by Dugood Cookie Company, a Loudonville-based nonprofit that trades cookies for community service. Participants tag the company after performing an act of kindness to be entered into periodic drawings.

Reaching 1,000 good deeds is a testament to the incredible community fostered by the Loudonville Farmers' Market," said Jennifer Koch, CEO of Dugood Cookie Company.

The Loudonville-based nonprofit hands out cookies at its booth during the Loudonville Farmers' Market to individuals who pledge to perform small acts of goodwill. For more information about the company and its mission, visit dugoodcookies.com.

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Shreve Lake Reopens After Repairs, **Improvements**

By Amanda Chambers

Shreve Lake Wildlife Area in Wayne County officially reopened Thursday, Aug. 14, following a multi-year restoration project led by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources

The \$6.5 million project included major repairs to the lake's dam and spillway, which required the lake to be drained beginning in 2022. Additional upgrades included repairs to a fishing pier and boat ramp, as well as construction of a new parking lot and boat launch.

"This is a project that has been a long time coming, and, under Governor DeWine's leadership, we are proud to finally re-open Shreve Lake for those who love to fish or paddle in Wayne County," ODNR Director Mary Mertz said during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held to mark the reopening.

To support fish populations, ODNR's Division of Wildlife stocked the lake with 1,500 adult bluegills and plans to add largemouth bass and bluegill fingerlings later this year. Channel catfish will also be introduced in future stockings.

Shreve Lake, located about one mile north of the village of Shreve, covers 58 acres and is part of a larger wildlife area acquired by ODNR in 1958. It was originally constructed



ODNR staff and community members stock bluegill into Shreve Lake during the reopening celebration.

In addition to fishing and paddling, the area supports hunting, trapping, and birding. The lake is a popular site for observing migrating waterfowl and songbirds in spring and fall.

For more information, visit the Shreve Lake Wildlife Area page at ohiodnr.gov.

CENTER cont. from Pg.3

The governor's appearance, though unannounced until shortly before the event, underscored his longstanding support for Ohio's 76 state parks, which he described as family-friendly and free to all visitors.

"I grew up in the shadow of John Bryan State Park, and my parents took us camping all over Ohio," DeWine said during a casual address inside a shelter house near the new visitor center. Many in the crowd packed into the shelter to escape the 90-degree heat.

DeWine highlighted Ohio's policy of not charging admission to its state parks, which differs from the approach of many other states, including neighboring Michigan.

"Our goal is to make Ohio's state parks the best in the country, and our mission is education," he said. "Like our naturalist programs, this visitor center serves as a starting point for educating visitors about the park, its history, wildlife and natural treasures."

ODNR Director Mary Mertz echoed the theme of



Gov. Mike DeWine, joined by ODNR officials and several of his grandchildren, cuts the ribbon at the Mohican Visitor Center dedication on Tuesday, Aug. 12. Photo Jim Brewer

accessibility and education, calling the new facility "the gateway to the great outdoors here."

She recognized several local organizations that support the park's mission, including the Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau, the Mohican Trails Club, the Mohican-Malabar Bike Club, the Wayne County Chapter Ohio Horseman's Council and the Wolf Creek - Pine Run Grist Mill.

"Inside the visitor center, you'll learn about the history of Mohican, the forests, the grist mill, the creatures of the forest, the scenic river, the Memorial Shrine, the suspension bridge and lots of fun things," Mertz said. "It will become a natural place to begin your visit, a true gateway."

Additional remarks were made by Glen Cobb, chief of the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft; Jeremy Wenner, chief of the ODNR Division of Engineering; and Jenny Roar, Mohican State Park's manager.

Roar delivered an emotional thank-you to the park's staff, saying they had taken on "dozens of extra tasks along with their regular jobs to see this project to its completion."

Following the speeches, attendees toured the new facility alongside the governor.

Mertz, in a partially tongue-in-cheek comment, pointed out a practical upgrade: "The new visitor center has fabulous restrooms. And believe me, we at ODNR know about restrooms. We maintain more than 1,400 across the state to make our visitors comfortable."

She also praised the park's trail system, especially the suspension bridge opened two years ago that connects trails on both sides of the

Mertz credited DeWine and his administration for supporting ongoing improvements across the state park system, from trail maintenance to lodge renovations.

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The fair book contains all egistration details for all fair entries, contests, and judging, as well as the fair schedule and vendors rules, Fair Book Loudonville Area History Contest and advertising from local businesses. **Registration date for** placing an entry in the

fair Sept. 6th



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See page 7 of the 2025 Loudonville Fair Book for contest question and rules.

Sponsored by Cleo Redd Fisher Museum & The Loudonville Shopper

Redbirds Football Ready to Take the Field in 2025

By Kinah Yoder

As the 2025 season approaches, the Loudonville football team is concentrating on core fundamentals and steady development. Head coach Ed Honabarger highlighted the importance of applying offseason training to in-game performance, particularly the team's work in the weight room.

"Our players have worked really hard in the off-season," Honabarger said. "Now that strength needs to transfer onto the field in their play."

The Redbirds return several lettermen from last season, including Josiah Hershberger, Zeb Brecheisen, Gavin Eikleberry, Trevor Dawson, Coalton Poole, Drew Robinson, Dakota Wright, Jakub Poole, Chayse Wright, Nic Buzzard, and Collin Caley. The roster also includes Braylon and Quinten Kauffman, transfers from Danville.

"We are focusing on being better at the basic fundamentals," Honabarger said. "We want to be a clock-controlling offense and play good, solid defense."

The Redbirds open their season with the first two games at home, facing Mapleton at 7 p.m. on August 22 and Richmond Heights at 7 p.m. on August 29.

Loudonville Girls Soccer Prepares for 2025 Season

Bv Kinah Yoder

The Loudonville High School girls' soccer team enters the 2025 season with its entire starting lineup returning from last year.

Head coach Bill Lonsinger described the 2024 season as a developmental year, noting the team had no seniors but still managed to win a tourna-

"Last year was a development year with no seniors. We won one tournament game and we return our entire starting 11," Lonsinger said.

This season's roster includes Maggie England, Quinn Morris, Laila Manchester, Brynn Bitner, Kate Frankford and Laney Polen. Also returning are Rebekah Carroll, Taly Miller, Emlyn Bitner, Addie Lowe, Amber Manchester, Becca Shriver and Emma Harris.

New additions to the team are Kaytelyn Endslow, Summer Endslow and Ella Whelan.

"We will look to our six seniors to lead us and build on last year," Lonsinger said. "Expectations will be to improve on our passing and overall team

"More than putting a goal on wins, we just want to play good soccer, do the little things right and be competitive," he added.

The coaching staff includes assistant coach Jeff Frankford, junior varsity coach Kara Pearce and goalkeepers coach Dennis Morgan.

The Redbirds will begin their season Tuesday, Aug. 19, with a home game against Crestview at 5 p.m. They face Galion at home at 7 p.m. on Thursday, followed by a home game against Hillsdale at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Industries Adds to **Mohican-Apple Lead**

By Jim Brewer

Contact Industries extended its second-half lead over first-half champion Brennstuhl Construction during league play on Aug. 7, now holding a 257-240 advantage.

Trailing in the standings are Harris Automotive with 232 points; Doc's Duffers, 216; Trails End Pizza, 205; Van Horn Home Restorations, 200; Stake's IGA, 191; and Shriver's Pharmacy, 188.

Chuck Cline was the week's medalist, shooting a oneover-par 37 and leading the league with eight pars. Charlie Scott recorded the most bogeys with seven, while Milt Spreng, Rusty Burkepile and Kevin Derr each had two

Sharing low net honors with scores of 31 were Jim Arnholt, Charlie Arnholt, Ken Gosche and Scott Van Horn. High-point honors, with 17 points each, went to Jim Arnholt, Jack Arnholt, Jeff Huffman and Heath Snyder.







MOHICAN AREA FORECAST

5-Day Forecast as of August 15th | Source: National Weather Service

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

Tuesday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after

2pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 83. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Tuesday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Wednesday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny,

with a high near 80. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Wednesday Night: A chance of thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with

a low around 61. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 80.



Mike Paullin, now of Delaware, Ohio, holds the mailbox from 135 S. Spring St. in Loudonville. The home, which stood for 124 years, was recently demolished by the village to expand parking near Riverside Park and the downtown area. Paullin spent his childhood there; his family owned the house from 1929 to 1995.

DAY cont. from Pg.6

shows Ohio has seen. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature tractor units only, with no trailers.

"This isn't just a show. It's a fundraiser for trade,





Vendors line the sidewalk during a past arts and crafts show in Loudonville's Central Park. Photo by Amanda Chambers

tech, and CDL school scholarsnips, said founder and promoter Gabe Griffith, a Loudonville native now working in the trucking industry in Wooster. "We're helping future mechanics, welders, drivers and techs build their dreams, one truck at a time. We are awarding scholarships for two Loudonville students to attend trade school."

The event will also include food trucks, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle, a people's choice trophy, live music, and a Power Wheels competition for children.

We hope to have something for everyone," Griffith said.

Nearly 100 trucks have already been registered for the event.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Movie: "Jaws" 50th Anniversary showing rated PG. August 29, 30, September 1 at 7:30 pm and August 31 at 4:00 pm. \$5.00 general admission. HayesvilleOperaHouse.org

REUNION

The 118th Stitzlein Strang Reunion will be Sunday, August 31, 2025 at 12:30 pm at Riverside Park in Loudonville. Bring your own tableware and a dish to share!

THE OHIO THEATRE

Movie: **"The Naked Gun"** Aug 22, 23 at 7:00 & 24 at 2:00. www.theohiotheatre.com

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