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EQUIPMENT SERVICE & SUPPLY

Ashland Council Approves Contract for Transit Facility

By Amanda Chambers

Ashland City Council approved a contract Tuesday, March 3, with Simonson Construction Services Inc. for the design and construction of a public transit facility.

The 14,500-square-foot building is estimated to cost about \$2.4 million. The city has received a \$1.9 million federal grant and a \$175,000 state grant and could receive an additional \$125,000 Brownfields grant, Mayor Matt Miller said. The facility will be built at the corner of 3rd and Union streets, with construction expected to begin this spring and be completed in 2027.

The building will provide indoor transit vehicle storage and office space, easing parking shortages at the Municipal Building.

Council also approved an ordinance authorizing the purchase of property at Maple and Arthur streets, the site of the former Arthur Street school.

Miller said the site has changed hands several times, with each owner finding renovation costs extensive. The current owner, Simplified Living LLC, holds a lien of approximately \$95,390 with People's Bank in Gambier. The city negotiated the amount to \$65,000.

The Ashland County Land Bank agreed to share costs after deeming the project a priority. Demolition and cleanup are estimated at \$200,000. Miller said the city is better positioned



Mayor Matt Miller points to a map showing the alleys proposed for vacation during the Ashland City Council meeting March 3.

Photo by Amanda Chambers

than a private owner to secure grants to offset those expenses and plans to clear the site for future redevelopment.

A public hearing was held on the proposed vacation of alleys near Electric and Buckeye streets and near 7th, 8th and Birch streets. Three affected property owners spoke in favor of the Electric and Buckeye proposal.

The Board of Revision of Assessments, consisting of Miller, Finance Director Larry Paxton and Assistant Law Director Andrew Bush, approved the actions during the meeting, allowing council to immediately adopt the ordinances.

Bush said vacated alleys are divided between adjacent property owners, who retain shared easement access.

Paxton presented proposed 2026 appropriations, saying the city's \$94 million budget could rise to \$133 million due to infrastructure projects, potentially requiring loans. Miller emphasized any borrowing would be limited to capital improvements, not operating expenses. Council approved the permanent appropriations as presented.

Miller announced the city's St. Patrick's Day celebration will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 14, at Foundation Plaza. Participants will parade from the plaza to Corner Park, where children who win the coloring contest will assist city officials in dyeing the creek green. The contest is open to children ages 5 to 18.

Spring cleanup is scheduled to begin the first week of April. Coloring contest details and cleanup maps are available on the city's website.

The next Ashland City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. at the City of Ashland Municipal Building, 206 Claremont Ave. All meetings are open to the public and are livestreamed on YouTube.

Police Calls

ASHLAND

Feb. 26, 5:05 a.m. Police responded to a report of trespassing at Hampton Inn, 2055 E. Main St. A 29-year-old man was arrested for criminal trespass.

Feb. 26, 12:46 p.m. Police responded to a report of threats at the Ashland Municipal Building, 206 Claremont Ave. A 36-year-old man was arrested and charged with menacing by stalking and possessing criminal tools.

Feb. 27, 12:30 a.m. Police conducted a traffic stop in the 300 block of Pleasant St. A 30-year-old man was arrested and charged with aggravated menacing, resisting arrest, obstructing official business,

disorderly conduct, open container of liquor in a motor vehicle, OVI, and OVI-refusal. He also received citations for marked lane violation, failure to reinstate license, operation under Financial Responsibility Law violation and hit and skip.

Feb. 27, 3:32 p.m. Police responded to a report of assault at UH Samaritan Med Center, 1025 Center St. A 40-year-old woman was arrested for assault and disorderly conduct.

Feb. 27, 9:15 p.m. Police conducted a traffic stop at College Ave. and King Rd. A 34-year-old woman was arrested for OVI and cited for marked lane violation. A 56-year-old woman was arrested at the same stop for prohibi-

tions against consumption in a motor vehicle.

Feb. 28, 6:22 a.m. Police responded to a request for assistance from EMS in the 700 block of W. 17th St. A 43-year-old man was arrested for disorderly conduct while intoxicated.

Feb. 28, 6:57 p.m. Police responded to a request for assistance from EMS in the 200 block of Sherman Ave. A 41-year-old man was arrested for misconduct at an emergency.

March 1, 2:48 a.m. Police conducted a traffic stop at Orange Rd. and Delafield Ave. A 22-year-old man was arrested for OVI. He was also cited for marked lane violation.

March 2, 12:51 a.m. Police responded to a report of a disturbance in the 1400 block of Orange Rd. A 41-year-old man was arrested for domestic violence.

March 2, 7:11 p.m. Police responded to a report of a disturbance at Meadowbrook Trailer Park, 1520 Orange Rd. A 25-year-old man was arrested for disorderly conduct.

March 3, 2:59 a.m. Police responded to a report of assault at UH Samaritan Med Center, 1025 Center St. A 26-year-old woman was arrested for assault.

LOUDONVILLE

Feb. 22, 7:06 p.m. Police were called to the 300 block of N. Spring St. for a report of harassment via telecommunications. An adult male was served a formal notice to cease harassment.

Feb. 23, 2:58 p.m. Police began investigating the theft of a bank card in the 200 block of W. Main St. The case remains under investigation.

Feb. 24, 12:29 p.m. Police responded to a trespassing complaint in the 100 block of W. Washington St. An adult male was served a formal no-trespass notice.

Feb. 25, 9:56 p.m. Police responded to a fight in progress in the 100 block of N. Water St. A 35-year-old Butler man was arrested for disorderly conduct and transported to jail. Additional charges may be pending.

Feb. 25, 11:44 p.m. Police investigated suspicious behavior in the 100 block of E. Loudon Ave. The case remains under investigation.

Feb. 26, 10:04 a.m. An 18-year-old Loudonville man was cited for speed on Mill Rd. near W. Loudon Ave. (54/35).

Feb. 26, 9:04 p.m. Police were alerted to a burglary in the Perrysville area and given a vehicle description. They located a matching vehicle in Loudonville, conducted a traffic stop, and determined it was not involved.

Feb. 27, 7:40 a.m. Police began investigating a theft at a residence in the 700 block of N. Water St.

Feb. 28, 8:10 a.m. Police took a report of criminal mischief in the 200 block of N. Market St.

Feb. 28, 1:24 p.m. Police cited a 27-year-old Harwich, Mass. man for speed on E. Main St. near Youngs Terr. (50/35).

Feb. 28, 3:33 p.m. A 38-year-old Loudonville man was cited for speed on S. Market St. near Wally Rd. (64/50).

Feb. 28, 4:31 p.m. Police assisted Ashland County sheriff's deputies with an active domestic violence incident on County Road 3006.

Feb. 28, 7:53 p.m. A juvenile was cited for speed on S. Mt. Vernon Ave. near Valley View Dr. (50/35).

Between Feb. 22 and Feb. 28 police also conducted 61 other routine calls including business checks, EMS assistance, and investigating suspicious activity that did not result in further action.

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Ashland County Awarded \$750,000 for Housing Program

By Amanda Chambers

The Ashland County Board of Commissioners accepted a \$750,000 grant Thursday from the Ohio Department of Development for the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program.

The grant will be administered in Ashland County by the Ohio Regional Development Corporation and will provide funding to support affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents through home repairs and rehabilitation.

An estimate of \$410,572 from Worner Roofing was approved to replace the roof on the county office building.

Commissioner Denny Bittle said they inspect roofs on county buildings and keep a list ranking them by replacement priority. The county office building roof is next on the list and has several leaks, making replacement necessary.

An agreement with Shaffer, Johnston, Lichtenwalter & Associates for \$166,313 was approved for design work on the replacement of Bridge 1550-50 in Perry Township.

County Engineer Ed Meixner said commissioners had previously approved approximately \$139,000 for the project. However, difficulties with siting and placing the bridge

increased the cost, making the action an amendment to the previously approved amount.

Commissioners also completed another reading for a \$6,532,000 contract with Campbell Construction of Wooster to build the new county administration building.

Anne Rapin, a Red Cross representative, was appointed to the Local Emergency Planning Committee effective immediately through May 31, 2027.

The board approved generator repairs, several sheriff opioid grant fund transfers, the auction of surplus items, travel expenses and the regular payment of warrants.

Advertising for proposals for recycling drop-off services was approved, with submissions due by 3 p.m. April 20. Jim Skora, Ashland County Solid Waste District coordinator, said the county now owns the recycling containers, so proposals will cover pickup services only. The contract will begin July 1 and run for three years with an option to extend.

At the close of the meeting, bids were opened for county infrastructure supplies and maintenance.

One bid was received from U.S. Bridge of Cambridge to provide structural steel for four bridges in the county, totaling

approximately \$725,000. Meixner said the bridges still have good abutments but are 40 to 50 years old and need replacement to maintain load limits.

Three bids were received for road sealing in the county, ranging from \$235,000 to \$361,900. The two lowest bids matched, and Meixner said he will research how to proceed before awarding the contract.

Three bids were also received for pavement marking, ranging from \$278,720 to \$284,726. The lowest bid was submitted by J.D. Striping of Ravenna.

One bid was received for liquid asphalt materials from Asphalt Materials of Edison totaling approximately \$691,700. An alternate materials cost was also included.

The meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 10 was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, March 12, in the second-floor conference room of the Ashland County Building, 110 Cottage St. Meetings are open to the public and streamed live on the "Ashland, OH County Government" Facebook page.

Cathy Lance Sworn In as Interim Loudonville Mayor March 2

By Jim Brewer

Veteran Village Council member Cathy Lance was sworn in as Loudonville's mayor during the council session Monday, March 2.

Lance succeeds Jason A. Van Sickle, who submitted his resignation February 16. Village Law Director Thom Gilman administered the oath of office as about 20 people, including several family members, applauded.

The council next faced the challenge of electing a new council president from its five remaining members but failed to do so. Bill Huffman nominated Tom Young, citing Young's 11 years of service, but no one seconded the motion. Sean Wade then nominated Matt Armstrong, but that nomination also received no second.

With no president elected, Lance conducted the meeting. The council president's primary duty is to chair meetings in the mayor's absence. Gilman said the council could attempt the election again at its next meeting on March 16 and noted that appointing a replacement for Lance's vacated council seat could influence a majority vote.

In other business, Village Administrator Garret DeWitt reported that he is awaiting pricing for several projects, including a new ra-

dar sign from Ohio Buys. He said engineering work on the North Union Street sidewalk project should be completed soon and Spring Street improvements are expected to be completed within one to two weeks.

DeWitt said he is still accepting applications for the swimming pool manager position. Council approved changes to the salary ordinance for the pool manager, moving the pay schedule to a May start date. "I can't see paying for that position in April when there is no work to do," DeWitt said.

Lance received council approval to interview applicants for her vacated council seat after the March 16 meeting. Two people have applied so far. Interested residents should submit a letter

to the village office and be prepared for an interview on March 16.

Huffman said he is preparing a grant application to improve the village bike path and requested letters of support from residents, groups, and businesses. He and Armstrong also asked about the Ashland County Park District project to build a canoe put-in at Riverside Park and whether matching funds had been secured.

Armstrong asked if \$2,000 of the \$5,000 appropriated to the Chamber of Commerce could be used to provide music at the village farmers market in Central Park. Council approved the request, citing the market's limited ability to pay musicians for the three-hour event.

The meeting closed with Lance reading a proclamation honoring Van Sickle, who served on council from 2016 to 2021 and as mayor since July 2021. She praised his service and said, "He as mayor was a friend to everyone. We will miss him helping with village affairs, but his family needs him more."

The next council meeting is Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m. in the village council chambers, 156 N. Water St., upstairs. Meetings are open to the public, and the chambers are wheelchair accessible via the rear fire escape entrance.



Law Director Thom Gilman administers the oath of office to new Loudonville Mayor Cathy Lance on March 2. Lance succeeds Jason Van Sickle, who resigned effective March 1. Photo by Jim Brewer

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Chef Boyardee Traditional Pizza Maker	\$3.99
40 oz.	
IGA Creamy Peanut Butter	\$5.49
24 ct.	
IGA Family Size Tea Bags	\$1.79
10.4 oz. asst.	
Nutrigrain Bars	\$3.49
2.12-3.12 oz. asst. Digital coupon available	
McCormick Grill Mates Seasoning	2/\$5.00
45 oz. asst.	
Ragu Pasta Sauce	\$3.99
6 oz. asst.	
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RECIPES OF THE WEEK

CHEDDAR AND MUSHROOM BREAKFAST SQUARES

Ingredients:

- 3 Tablespoons butter, divided
- 6 slices sourdough bread, crusts removed and cut into 1 inch cubes (4-5 cups), divided
- 1 1/2 cups coarsely chopped mushrooms
- 1/2 cup red bell pepper, diced
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups fresh spinach, stems removed
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded, cheddar cheese (divided)
- 8 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cups milk

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F
 Spray an 8 x 8-inch square glass or ceramic baking dish with cooking spray; set aside.

In a medium skillet over medium heat, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Add the bread cubes and toss in the skillet until toasted and golden brown, about 5 minutes. Pour the bread into a bowl and set aside.

Wipe out the skillet with a paper towel. Melt the remaining 1 tablespoon butter over medium heat. Add the mushrooms and red peppers and saute for 3 minutes; stir in the thyme and pepper. Remove from the heat. Add the spinach and gently stir until wilted, about 1 minute.

Place half of the bread cubes in a single layer in the baking dish. Sprinkle with half of the cheese. Add the mushroom mixture evenly over the top. Add the remaining cheese and bread cubes.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs and milk and pour over the contents in the baking dish.

Bake for 45 to 50 minutes until top is puffy and golden brown. Let cool for 10 minutes; cut into squares and serve.

Note:

This recipe can be made ahead and covered and refrigerated for 8 to 10 hours before baking.

You can create recipe variations by using other vegetables.

Photo and food styling by Webstop

Please note that some ingredients and brands may not be available in every store.

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Obituary

Teresa Anne (Wise) Francisco

Colorado: Teresa Anne (Wise) Francisco passed away peacefully at her home, surrounded by her family, on February 24, 2026, following a 10-year battle with ALS. Her life was defined by compassion, perseverance, and a steadfast belief in the power of education.



Terri was born on July 17th, 1953, the cherished only child of the late Carl Milton Wise and Opal Kathryn (Derrow) Wise. Terri was raised on their farm south of Loudonville, where she first developed her strong work ethic and love of nature.

Following her 1971 graduation from Loudonville High School, where she served as class valedictorian, Terri began her life-long journey in nursing by earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, summa cum laude, from The Ohio State University in 1975. While at OSU, Terri met her beloved husband of 50 years, G. Michael Francisco, whom she married on September 6th, 1975. In addition, Terri was the proud mother of Amanda (Benjamin) McLellan and Matthew Francisco, and the adoring grandmother of Ella McLellan and Hazel McLellan.

From early on, Terri understood that education is not a destination but rather a continuous path. While caring for her growing family, she completed her Master of Science in Nursing from The Ohio State University in 1987. Her dedication to advancing the profession she loved never wavered, and in 2009, she achieved her lifelong dream by earning her Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing from The Ohio State University.

Terri split her time between Colorado and her family farm near Loudonville. While in Colorado, she enjoyed the great outdoors whether hiking, skiing, or camping. In later years, she enjoyed extensive travel with her family and never tired of the beauty surrounding her in this world.

As her terminal illness progressed, Terri always held onto her faith in God. She maintained her love of life until the very end and is now at peace with the Lord. She was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother who will be deeply missed.

Snyder Funeral Homes- Lindsey Chapel is honored to serve Terri's family. Online condolences and memories may be expressed to the family by visiting www.SnyderFuneralHomes.com.



Advertising Deadlines:

Tuesday 5:00 pm: For ads that need creation or significant revision.

Wednesday Noon: For simple updates to repeated ads.

Perrysville Council to Reinstate Public Affairs Board

By Amanda Chambers

The Perrysville Village Council met Monday, March 2. The council swore in a new member and announced openings on the Planning Commission, as well as plans to reinstate a three-member Board of Public Affairs.

The Board of Public Affairs was dissolved when the village hired a village administrator several years ago. The board oversees water and sewer operations, sets utility rates and supervises the water and sewer superintendent. Following the village administrator's resignation in November, the village is required under state law to reinstate the board, as villages must have either a village administrator or a Board of Public Affairs.

There are two openings on the Planning Commission. The positions will be advertised on Facebook and the village website. Interested residents are asked to submit a letter of intent to the village office by April 6th.

A resident addressed council and presented photos of a sewer backup in his home that he said was caused by a plugged lift station. He requested that his February water bill be waived due to cleanup costs. Council approved waiving the bill.

Council member Carol Secoy reported that a resident had requested the village vacate Perry Alley. The alley cannot be vacated because doing so would landlock a residence and a sewer line runs beneath it. The Planning Commission recommended grading the alley and adding gravel to make it usable when the weather permits.

Council approved the annual appropriation ordinance. Discussion included expenses for a GIS mapping contract, website ordinance updates, a cybersecurity policy and an employee compensation policy.

Members also approved increasing the community



Perrysville Mayor Steve Goines (left) administers the oath of office to new council member Matt Schwartz. Schwartz was appointed after Councilman David Artrip Jr. vacated the seat in January.

Photo by Amanda Chambers

building rental fee from \$35 to \$50 to offset rising utility costs.

Council discussed scheduling a spring cleanup and will contact Rumpke to set a date. Members also approved beginning a search for a new part-time employee to assist the street

superintendent and support operations at the water and sewer plant.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6, at 6 p.m. in the community building. Meetings are open to the public.

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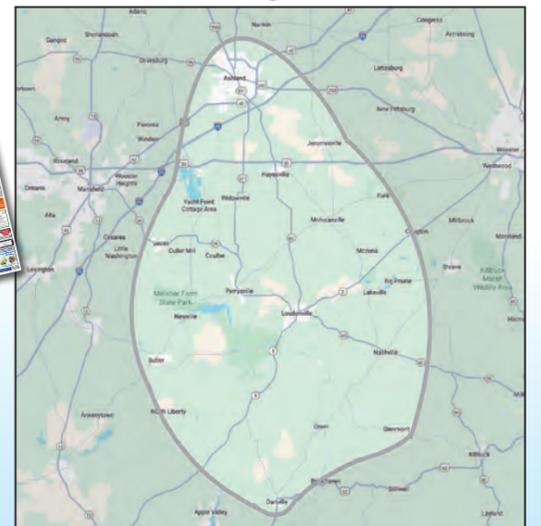
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Ashland County Officials Set Groundbreaking Ceremony

Submitted

Ashland County officials will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the new administration building at 1 p.m. Friday, March 20, at 345 Cottage Street.

The facility will consolidate the Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, and Tax Map offices into a single location. Commissioners say the move will provide more space for the court system and improve security.

"For decades the Ashland County Commissioners and judges have talked about the need for non-court offices to relocate to another building," Commissioner Michael Welch said. "This is not only going to give the court system ample room to reconfigure the expanding needs of the court, but will also enhance court security."

Officials invited residents, local leaders, and media to attend the event.

Information: Nikki Hiller, (419) 282-4263



A groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. March 20 for the new county administration building at 345 Cottage Street.

Photo credit: Google Maps

Hammitt Completes Eagle Scout Project

By Jim Brewer

Loudonville Scout Dylan Hammitt and members of Troop 537 installed a bicycle repair station February 28 at the bridge in Riverside Park.

The project is Hammitt's Eagle Scout effort, the highest honor in Scouting America. His older brother, Caleb, earned Eagle in April 2025 and now serves in the U.S. Air Force.

Hammitt said he got the idea during a 50-mile bike ride in West Virginia while working on a merit badge for bicycling.

"I thought the repair equipment unit was pretty neat and useful. It could also be used in Loudonville, where we have a lot of bicycling activity," said Hammitt, a Loudonville High School senior and son of Jason and Sandi Hammitt.



Dylan Hammitt (third from left) joins fellow members of Troop 537 in Loudonville to make the first repair at the bike repair station at the Riverside Park bridge. Installing the station February 28 was Hammitt's Eagle Scout project. Helping him are, from left, Dane Stake, Grayson Oswald and Nehemiah Yohe. Photo by Jim Brewer

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Hammitt raised funds and solicited donated materials to complete the station. An anonymous donor provided funds for the station, and local businesses contributed: The Lord's Concrete installed the 4-by-4-foot concrete pad, Young's Sand and Gravel donated gravel, Modern Home Supply provided a drill bit, and The Parts Warehouse gave a 20 percent discount on the station itself.

The repair station includes multiple tools secured with hooks and cables and an air pump for inflating tires.

Troop 537 members Nehemiah Yohe, Dane Stake, and Grayson Oswald helped with installation. Oswald brought his bicycle to be the first repaired at the station.

Hammitt completed much of the preliminary work for the project while balancing sports and school. He played soccer and ran cross country in the fall, basketball in winter, and plans to run track this spring.

He plans to enlist in the Ohio Air National Guard and enroll in the engineering technology program at Ohio State University's Mansfield campus after graduation.

Program Explores 1812 Copus Massacre

Submitted

The Cleo Redd Fisher Museum in Loudonville will host "Conflict and Memory: Digging into the Copus Massacre" Monday, March 16, at 7 p.m. in its lecture hall.

The program will examine the 1812 conflict, the relationships between settlers, Native Americans, and the U.S. military, and how the event has been remembered. Archaeological findings from the historic site also will be discussed.

Museum curator Kenny Libben said the presentation will "look beyond the violence to examine the broader context and complex relationships of the period."

Information: crfmuseum.com



A March 16 program at the Cleo Redd Fisher Museum will explore the Copus Massacre. The Copus Hill Historic Site, 2290 Township Highway 1225 in Perrysville, is open to the public. Submitted Photo

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Sage Caps Season With All-Ohio Finish

By Kinah Yoder

The Loudonville High School swim team wrapped up its season with a strong showing at the OHSAA State Championships, where sophomore Cooper Sage competed in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events.

Sage opened competition February 26 in the 50-yard freestyle, finishing 16th in the preliminary round to advance to the evening B final. He returned the next night and posted a time of 22.10 seconds, moving up to 13th place overall. His top-16 finish earned him All-Ohio honors.

In the 100-yard freestyle, Sage recorded a time of 49.15 seconds, placing 24th in a competitive field. His results add another milestone to his season, marking the conclusion of a postseason run that carried him through sectionals and districts to his first appearance at the state level.



Cooper Sage, wearing a black swim cap with a redbird logo, loosens up before competing in the OHSAA State Championships at C. T. Branin Natatorium on February 27. Photo by Lisa Sage

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Marotta Leads Redbirds at Sectional Meet

By Kinah Yoder

The Redbirds wrestling teams closed out sectional weekend with several individual placements across both the boys and girls lineups.

At the Rootstown boys sectional February 28, senior Brayden Marotta recorded the team's top performance with a second-place finish at 157 pounds, going 3-1 on the day. Senior Trevor Dawson placed fifth at 165 pounds with a 2-2 record, earning alternate status for districts, and junior Josh Brown also finished fifth at 126 pounds, becoming an alternate.

Marotta advanced to the district tournament in Independence, scheduled for March 6-7. Results were not available at press time.

The girls team competed at the Northwest sectional in Canal Fulton, finishing 24th out of 29 teams while entering only three wrestlers. Freshmen Maci Eikleberry and Rylee Denny each went 0-2 in their brackets against challenging opponents. Sophomore Natalya Miller posted the strongest result of the day, finishing 2-3 and placing sixth. Several of her matches were decided by narrow margins, leaving her just short of a district berth in her first year of competition. Reflecting on her performance, head coach David Vaughan said, "Taly gave it her all and was close to qualifying for districts in her first year of competing."

With the girls team completing its first official season, the coaching staff emphasized the progress made throughout the



Members of the Redbirds girls wrestling team pose after the sectional tournament in Canal Fulton. The team just completed its first season. From left: coach David Vaughan, Rylee Denny, Natalya Miller, Maci Eikleberry, Claire Dunlap and coach Zoey Wittel. Submitted Photo

year. "Our coaching staff is proud of the progress and effort of our girls this year and this past weekend at sectionals," Vaughan said. "We are sad that this season is over, but we will get back to work and come back stronger next season."

JH Redbirds Finish Second at KMAC Tournament

By Kinah Yoder

On January 31, the Loudonville Junior High wrestling team closed its season with a second-place finish at the Knox Morrow Athletic Conference League Meet, capping a year that included multiple top-ten tournament results and several league champions.

The Redbirds earned strong showings throughout the season, starting with sixth out of 19 teams at the Centerburg



The Loudonville Junior High wrestling team gathers after finishing second at the Knox-Morrow Athletic Conference meet January 31. Submitted Photo

Tournament on December 6, then fifth out of 14 teams at the Northwestern Duals on December 13. After the new year, they placed seventh out of 18 teams at the Norwayne Cat Classic on January 3 and sixth out of 18 teams at the New London Tournament on January 17. The team added fifth out of 19 teams at the Seneca East Tournament on January 24 before finishing second out of nine teams at the KMAC League Meet.

At the league meet, four wrestlers captured titles in their weight classes: seventh graders Tanner Gaines, Harper Carr and Adam Reeder, and eighth grader Casen McCollough. Three were runners-up: seventh graders Layne Daugherty and Jarret Stitzlein, and eighth grader Max McCollough, while eighth grader Wesley Stone took fourth.

Season leaders included Casen McCollough with 32 wins, 22 pins, and 27 takedowns; Max McCollough with 28 wins, 21 pins, and 29 takedowns; Reeder with 28 wins, 17 pins, and a team-high 48 takedowns; Gaines with 24 wins, 15 pins, and 39 takedowns; and Stone with 24 wins and 35 takedowns. Additional season records included Carr at 19-8, eighth grader Jacob Bright at 20-15, Daugherty at 7-20, and Stitzlein at 6-16.

Ashland Cancer Association Honors Volunteers

By Amanda Chambers

The Ashland County Cancer Association held its annual volunteer recognition banquet February 19 at Mount Vernon Estate, honoring those who supported the organization throughout 2025.

About 75 volunteers and guests attended the event, titled "We Love Our Volunteers." All volunteers were recognized individually for their service.

Several volunteers received special recognition, including Rebecca Humric-

houser, who helped establish the association's card ministry in 2021 and now helps send more than 1,900 cards each year to clients and caregivers. Hutch Woodward was honored for his wide-ranging volunteer work, while Sue Barker was recognized for logging the most volunteer hours in 2025 with 326.5 hours.

Ron Boyd was recognized for transporting the most clients during the year, completing more than 50 trips. Mamie Singleton was honored for more than 20 years of service, and Jeff Morrison was commended for driving more than 160 volunteer hours in 2025 as the association's transportation leader.

"Volunteers are the lifeline, the hands and feet of our organization," said Angela Woodward, executive director of the Ashland County Cancer Association. "They generously give more than 5,000 hours each year to serve cancer patients with compassion and care."

In 2025, the association served more than 900 cancer patients and caregivers across



Ashland County Cancer Association volunteers Heather Gangi and Debra Brownson were recognized for their service at a banquet February 19 at Mount Vernon Estate. Submitted Photo

Ashland County. Volunteer drivers traveled more than 39,000 miles, and more than

12,000 services were provided to those facing cancer.

Founded in 1947, the Ashland County Cancer Association provides free practical and financial assistance to county residents facing cancer, with no income guidelines. All funds raised remain in Ashland County.

Information: ashlandcancer.org

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MOHICAN AREA FORECAST

7-Day Forecast as of March 5th | Source: AccuWeather

- Monday:** High 69°. Low 55°. Mostly sunny, breezy and warm.
- Tuesday:** High 71°. Low 60°. An a.m. shower; cloudy, warm.
- Wednesday:** High 65°. Low 32°. A Shower and t-storm; warm.
- Thursday:** High 39°. Low 30°. Much colder.
- Friday:** High 56°. Low 38°. Windy with clouds and sun.
- Saturday:** High 50°. Low 32°. Some brightening.