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Monday, June 16, 2025 • Advertising Contacts: David Truax 419-670-3408 • djtruax@ohioprogramsolutions.com • Betti Weimer 419-651-6158 • Vol. 3 No. 6



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School Board Ratifies Contracts with Teachers, Staff

By Jim Brewer

The Loudonville-Perrysville School Board unanimously approved new three-year contracts for both certified and non-certified employees at its June 9 meeting. Each group will receive 3% raises annually through 2028. Board Member Dave Hunter was absent.

The contracts, approved after a 51-minute executive session, are with the Loudonville-Perrysville Education Association (effective July 1, 2025–June 30, 2028) and the Ohio Association of Public School Employees, Local 245 (effective Aug. 1, 2025–July 31, 2028).

Superintendent Jen Allarding and board members discussed pending state legislation that could limit how long districts can retain unspent funds. In response, the board approved transferring \$9.9 million from the general fund to the USAS 070 and 035 accounts.

“All funds in an 0-70 account for facilities/building projects can currently be held for up to 10 years,” Treasurer Christine Angerer said.

The legislation remains under debate in the Ohio Legislature.

Allarding advised against pursuing a bond issue on the November ballot. She said the district is focusing on cost-sav-

ing efforts and plans to roll out a community engagement plan, which includes a survey, to gather public feedback on future steps.

Allarding also reported a sewer backup the day before graduation, though the ceremony proceeded outdoors without issue.

David Vaughan, assistant wrestling coach, proposed forming a girls’ wrestling team, citing the success of Zoey Eades and increased student interest. The board took no action.

Athletic Director Chad Spurlock recognized the following Redbird athletes for spring Knox-Morrow Athletic Conference honors:

Softball – Helaina Gray (first team); Alesha Felix (second team, all-academic); Jocelyn Kegley (honorable mention)

Baseball – Judah Layton (first team, all-academic); Dilan Wade (second team); Chayse Wright (honorable mention)

Track and Field – Tess Shultz (1600m, 3200m, 4x800 relay, all-academic); Sophie Shultz, Brynn Bitner, Kylar Staten (4x800 relay); Maggie England, Lina Brecheisen, Kate Frankford, Kaylinn Freelon (4x100 relay); Lina Brecheisen, Sophie Shultz, Jordyn Johnson, Tess Shultz (4x400 relay); Sophie Shultz (high jump); Josiah Hershberger (all-academic).

Tess Shultz was also named all-Ohio after placing fourth in the 1600 meters and sixth in the 3200 at the state meet. She holds all Loudonville High School track and cross-country distance records.

Braden Carr and Cooper Sage also qualified for the state meet in pole vault.

The board accepted a \$50,000 grant from the Loudonville-Perrysville School Foundation and a \$1,500 grant from the Mohican Area Community Fund. Donations also included lunch account support and contributions for field trips and field day events.

Personnel actions included accepting the resignation of kindergarten teacher Shelby Van Sickie, approving a 2% salary increase for administrators, renewing contracts for administrators and non-union staff, and awarding several supplemental and pupil activity contracts.

The next board meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, July 14, in the high school cafeteria. Meetings are open to the public.

Loudonville-Perrysville Schools Announce Soft Start Schedule for 2025-26 School Year

Submitted

The Loudonville-Perrysville Exempted Village School District has released its soft start schedule for the 2025–26 academic year. The staggered start is designed to ease the transition for students as they begin the new school year.

R.F. McMullen Elementary School

Students in grades 1 through 3 will begin classes on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

Kindergarten students will start on a staggered basis:

- Students with last names beginning A–L will attend on Tuesday, Aug. 19.
 - Students with last names beginning M–Z will attend on Wednesday, Aug. 20.
 - All kindergarten students will attend together starting Thursday, Aug. 21.
- C.E. Budd Elementary School**
- Fifth- and sixth-grade students will begin school on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

Fourth-grade students will also follow a staggered schedule:

- Students with last names A–L will attend on Tuesday, Aug. 19. These students will not attend on Wednesday.
- Students with last names M–Z will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 20. These students will not attend on Tuesday.
- All fourth-grade students will attend together on Thursday, Aug. 21.

Loudonville High

There will be no school for students in grades 9–12 on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

Students in grades 7 and 8 will begin school on Tuesday, Aug. 19. All students in grades 7–12 will report to school on Wednesday, Aug. 20.

Parents or guardians with questions should contact their student’s school:

- R.F. McMullen Elementary: (419) 994-3913
- C.E. Budd Elementary: (419) 994-3327
- Loudonville High School: (419) 994-4101

Additional information, including meal prices, supply lists, and enrollment forms, is available on the district website at lpschools.k12.oh.us.

Loudonville Police Calls

During the week of June 1–7, police conducted 25 business checks and issued 13 warnings following traffic stops.

June 2, 4:24 p.m. Police conducted a welfare check in the 800 block of S. Mount Vernon Ave. Contact was made; the person was found to be OK.

June 3, 12:04 p.m. Police responded to a reported assault in the 700 block of N. Market St. The incident was covered in detail in last week’s Shopper.

June 3, 3:20 p.m. Police investigated a fraud report in the 100 block of N. Water St.

June 3, 8:34 p.m. Police performed a welfare check in the 300 block of W. Campbell St. after the subject was unreachable by phone. Police determined the person was OK and the phone was not working.

June 4, 2:04 a.m. Police assisted the emergency squad on a call to the 200 block of N. Water St.

June 4, 5:15 a.m. Police investigated an alarm going off in the 500 block of E. Washington St. The building was secured; attempts to reach the keyholder were unsuccessful.

June 4, 5:33 a.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff with a single-vehicle crash in the 2000 block of State Route 60 N. The vehicle had struck a tree.

June 4, 8:40 a.m. Police were advised of a missing person from a 200 block of Middle Dr. residence. The person was located and returned to the home.

June 4, 12:01 p.m. Police investigated a verbal dispute in the 100 block of Banks Ave. The Holmes County Department of Developmental Disabilities also responded. No charges.

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were filed due to insufficient information.

June 4, 4:21 p.m. Police investigated a 911 hang-up call in the 100 block of Banks Ave. The caller explained he had decided the call was unnecessary.

June 4, 5:27 p.m. Police assisted on an emergency squad call to the 400 block of S. Market St.

June 4, 6:52 p.m. A disturbance involving three individuals arguing on a porch in the 500 block of S. Water St. was reported. One person was asked to leave. No arrests were made.

June 5, 7:24 a.m. Police investigated a missing person case in the 600 block of E. Washington St. Police located the subject and returned him to his home.

June 5, 10:53 a.m. Police mediated a property dispute between neighbors in the 600 block of E. Washington St. One neighbor was cutting down a tree; the other objected. Officers advised that the property owner had the right to remove the tree.

June 5, 12:57 p.m. Police responded to a theft report in the 700 block of N. Market St. Family members later confirmed the items were moved by a relative and were not stolen.

June 5, 3:48 p.m. A 57-year-old Strongsville woman was stopped on N. Union St. at Campbell St. after reports of reckless driving. She was cited for operating a vehicle while impaired (OVI), reckless operation, and open container. A crime lab assisted with evidence evaluation.

June 5, 5:20 p.m. Police performed a welfare check in the 500 block of E. Campbell St. The person was contacted and was OK.

June 5, 8 p.m. Police responded to reports of a possible fire, which was determined to be downed power lines arcing in a tree. The utility company was notified.

June 6, 12:19 p.m. Police responded to a report of utility lines downed in the roadway in the 200 block of S. Wood St. Ohio Edison was called to repair.

June 6, 7:09 p.m. Police investigated a suspicious person report in the 1100 block of S. Market St. It turned out to be two individuals who were lost. Police gave them directions.

June 6, 7:49 p.m. Police assisted the driver of a disabled vehicle at W. Main and S. Mount Vernon Ave. The driver was able to get his vehicle running.

June 6, 7:59 p.m. Police investigated a report of two vehicles

CALLS cont. to Pg.3

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The Green Township Trustees, Ashland County, Ohio will accept sealed bids for a 2007 Roadclipper 18’ Trailer, 7000 GVW. Minimum Starting Bid \$1,500.00.

Bids will be opened at the next regular meeting on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Green Township Garage, 137 E. Pleasant St., Perrysville, Ohio.

Bids should be received by mail no later than 06/20/25 at the following address: Green Township Trustees, P O Box 267, Loudonville, Ohio 44842, or brought to the Township Garage no later than 7:00 p.m. on 06/23/2025.

All bids should be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked **“Trailer Bid”** For questions please call the Township Garage at (419) 938-8832.

The Green Township Trustees will award the bid to the highest responsible bidder. The Green Township Trustees reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

Andi Purcell, Fiscal Officer



Tessie's tidbits...

Hi everyone! I hope all is well at your home. The lawns are growing faster than ever and all we do is mow! I actually love mowing; it gives me time to reflect on the world and the people around me.

I came across these short stories that I found truly inspiring, and I hope you feel the same!

The innocence of youth

Not much touches our hearts more than children who give selflessly — like 7-year-old Quinn Callander, who did just that for his best friend, Brayden Grozdanich. Brayden has cerebral palsy, and Quinn simply wanted to help him walk and move with less pain. So, he set up a lemonade stand to raise money for Brayden and began selling drinks outside a local grocery store.

Quinn's mom shared the story online, hoping to raise a few extra dollars. What the family didn't expect was an outpouring of support — more than \$61,000 in donations

came rolling in, helping fund a much-needed surgery for Brayden later that year.

It all started with a small boy, a simple idea, and a huge heart.

An inspiring proposal

With so many types of cancer threatening our lives, it's uplifting to hear a story with a hopeful twist. Jim Koch, an Iowa man, made sure his wife Lora's cancer journey had a moment of beauty and strength.

Just one week after Lora underwent a bilateral mastectomy, Jim re-proposed to her. They had already been married for 26 years. "I've known Lora as the most selfless person," Jim told ABC News, "and as she was going through this rough patch, I really wanted to give a sign and a reminder of love and commitment."

Their youngest daughter captured the heartfelt moment in photos, reminding us all that true love not only endures — it grows stronger in the hardest times.

A teenage hero

If you've ever heard the phrase "right place, right time," this story embodies it. In 2014, 17-year-old volunteer firefighter Joseph Chambers heard a loud crash outside his sister's home. Two vehicles had collided — one of them a police cruiser.

Without hesitation, Joseph rushed to the scene and found Officer Mark Kimsey trapped inside his car. As

flames began to spread, Joseph and a bystander pulled the officer out through the window, saving his life.

Whether it was his firefighter training or pure instinct, Joseph didn't stop to think of his own safety — he simply acted. A true hero in every sense.

Gone, but never forgotten

Losing a loved one can make the world feel empty. But sometimes, little reminders show us they're never truly gone.

Debora Taylor was already battling cancer when her husband, Hank, was diagnosed in 2015. Despite her own struggle, she stood by him, believing it was her purpose. Sadly, Hank passed away just a month after his diagnosis.

Later, while going through her phone, Debora found a voicemail from Hank — his voice slightly irritated on his commute home, yet still full of the goofy charm she loved. She treasured that message until a phone carrier change caused her to lose it. Heartbroken, she vented on Facebook.

To her surprise, her former phone provider reached out — and helped her recover the voicemail. It was a small gesture, but to Debora, it was like having a part of Hank back with her once more.

+++

Finally — "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible!'" - *Audrey Hepburn*

Tessie

Cleo Redd Fisher Museum Celebrates International Museum Day with Annual Meeting

Submitted



Young museum visitors assemble and paint models of flexible buses to take home during the Cleo Redd Fisher Museum's International Museum Day and annual meeting festivities on May 18. Submitted Photo



The Cleo Redd Fisher Museum's 1914 Ford Model T, donated by the Heffelfinger family, is pictured in front of the museum. The vehicle, formerly owned by Loudonville resident Wayne Heffelfinger, was used for rides through town during the International Museum Day celebration. Submitted Photo

The Cleo Redd Fisher Museum marked International Museum Day with its annual meeting on Sunday, May 18, offering Model T rides, heritage demonstrations, and updates on future plans.

The museum highlighted its recent Best Exhibition Award from the Ohio Museum Association for its "Johnny Appleseed: Cultivating a Nation" exhibit and curator Kenny Libben's upcoming role at national and international conferences.

Volunteer of the Year Cindy Zody was recognized

for her service and selected the museum's planned collections storage facility as this year's featured fundraising project.

Three new trustees — Judy Dudte, Cindy Zody, and Dave Switzer — were elected to the board, replacing outgoing members Aimee Ross, Gail Hall and David Spreng.

The museum also reported progress at the Copus Hill Historic Site, where archaeological surveys are underway to guide future development.

In addition to its regular weekday hours, the museum

will be open Saturday mornings throughout the summer to coincide with the Loudonville Farmers Market.

More information is available at crfmuseum.com.

CALLS cont. from Pg.2

racing on Wooster Rd. near the village limits. Both vehicles were located at McDonald's, and police spoke with the drivers.

June 6, 8:59 p.m. Police cited a 43-year-old Butler man at E. Main and Madison St. for a seat belt violation. He was also given a warning for speed.

June 6, 10:05 p.m. Police assisted with a river rescue off Township Road 629. A woman rescued from the river was given a courtesy ride to River Run Campground by the sheriff's department.

June 6, 10:55 p.m. Police investigated a report of a suspicious vehicle parked in a private driveway in the 500 block of E. Campbell St. The vehicle was gone when officers arrived.

June 7, 7 a.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff with a report of a woman sitting on a guardrail on State Route 39 at Twp. Rd. 455. She stated she had argued with her boyfriend, exited the vehicle and was walking to Coshocton.

June 7, 8:58 a.m. Police delivered a message for the Ashland County Sheriff to an address on Kettering Dr.

June 7, 1:52 p.m. Police cited a 52-year-old Lewis Center female for speed, 52/35, on E. Main St. at Madison Ave.

June 7, 3:42 p.m. Police investigated a 911 hang-up in the area of S. Market St. and Wally Rd. The caller was not located.

June 7, 4:12 p.m. Police assisted a driver who reported losing his wallet on CR 23 near the Ashland-Knox County line. The wallet was found and returned.

June 7, 4:41 p.m. Police cited a 21-year-old Marion female in

the 500 block of S. Market St. for driving under suspension after they received a report she might be intoxicated. She was not impaired.

June 7, 5:05 p.m. Police assisted the Ohio State Patrol with an OVI arrest in the 500 block of S. Market St.

June 7, 5:14 p.m. Police cited a 68-year-old Loudonville man for failure to control and driving under suspension after he struck debris at Spring and Campbell Streets.

June 7, 6:44 p.m. Police were advised of a fight in the 1000 block of S. Market St. The subjects had left the scene before officers arrived.

June 7, 8:30 p.m. Police investigated a 911 hang-up in the 1000 block of S. Market St. The signal originated from the Mohican Adventures area, but the caller was not located.

June 8, 12:25 a.m. Police cited a 22-year-old Cleveland man at S. Market and Pendleton St. for crossing marked lanes, unsafe operation, and seat belt violation. He was also issued a warning for speeding and failure

to dim his lights. The incident was observed after the driver failed to slow down when he passed a vehicle stopped by police.

June 8, 1:02 a.m. Police responded to a noise complaint at Stone Meadow Circle and Union St. A large porch party was relocated indoors.

June 8, 5:23 p.m. Police cited a 34-year-old Loudonville female at E. Main and Union St. for driving with expired plates. She was stopped and warned for texting while driving.

June 8, 5:40 p.m. Police cited a 61-year-old Lancaster female for a stop sign violation at Highland Ct. and Walnut Ct.

June 8, 6:34 p.m. Police investigated a report of harassing phone calls in the 300 block of N. Water St. The caller was advised to cease contact.

June 9, 3:02 a.m. Police discovered an open door in the 500 block of Wooster Rd. The building was secured, and the keyholder was contacted.

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Pure Life Water	\$3.99
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176 oz. select asst.	
Duncan Hines Brownie Mix	\$2.99
31.9 oz.	
Chef Boyardee Cheese Pizza Mix	\$3.99
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Chef Boyardee Pepperoni Pizza Mix	\$4.99
22 ct.	
Lipton Family Size Cold Brew Tea	\$4.99
26.5 oz.	
Lipton Lemon Tea Mix	\$4.99
6.5-71 oz. asst.	
Nature Valley Crispy Creamy Wafer or Protein Bars	\$3.99
15.4 oz. Original or Honey Nut	
Large Size Cheerios	\$3.99
6 ct. Mega Rolls asst.	
Northern Bath Tissue	\$7.99
12 oz.	
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Totino's Pizza Rolls	\$5.49
12-13 oz. asst.	
Super Pretzel Pretzels or Bites	\$3.49
8-11 oz. select asst.	
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RECIPES OF THE WEEK

GINGERED VEGETABLE MEDLEY

- Ingredients:
- 2 Tablespoons butter
 - 1 pound yellow summer squash, ends removed and sliced into 1/2" slices
 - 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
 - 1 medium green bell pepper cut into 1/4" strips
 - 3 medium tomatoes, cored and quartered
 - 1 teaspoon fresh ginger root, peeled and minced
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt

Directions:
Melt butter in large skillet. Add squash, onion and green pepper; cook and stir over medium heat until vegetables are crisp-tender, about 6 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Stir in tomatoes, salt and fresh ginger. Cook another 2 to 3 minutes until tomatoes are heated through.

ASIAN BEEF AND NOODLES

- Ingredients:
- 1 1/4 pounds ground beef
 - 2 packages (3 ounces each) Asian-flavored instant Ramen noodles, broken up
 - 2 cups frozen vegetable mixture, such as broccoli, carrots, red pepper, water chestnuts
 - 2 cups water
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
 - 2 Tablespoons thinly sliced green onion

Directions:
Brown ground beef in large nonstick skillet over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until beef is not pink, breaking up into 3/4" crumbles. Remove from skillet with slotted spoon; season with one seasoning packet from noodles and set aside. Pour off drippings.

Place noodles in same skillet. Add vegetable mixture, water, ginger and remaining seasoning packet; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 3 minutes or until noodles are tender, stirring occasionally.

Return beef to skillet; heat through. Stir in green onion.

Recipe provided by National Cattlemen's Beef Association

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

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Rain Barrels on Display in Loudonville for Annual Conservation Event

Submitted

Painted rain barrels will be displayed in parks across Loudonville and Ashland from June 16 to July 9 as part of the Ashland Soil and Water Conservation District's (ASWCD) sixth annual Rain Beat on Main Street.

The event features 27 rain barrels that have been painted by local artists and sponsored by area businesses. The barrels will be exhibited in Loudonville's Central Park from June 16 to 23, at Freer Field during the Ashland BalloonFest from June 23 to 30, and in Ashland's Corner Park from July 1 to 9.

The number of barrels has grown steadily since the event began in 2020, when it featured just 10 entries.

"We're just excited to see interest in the program continue to grow," said Jane Houin, director of the Ashland SWCD.

The event aims to raise awareness about stormwater management through community art and education. The barrels will be sold through an online auction, with proceeds supporting local stormwater education initiatives. Programs

funded by the auction include precipitation monitoring, stormwater workshops, and public outreach activities.

- Some of the participating sponsors and artists include:
- Brethren Care Village, with artists from Brethren Care Village
 - Centerra Cooperative, with artist LeAnn Stadler
 - Hart & Son Repair, with artist Emily Spreng
 - Loudonville Equity, with artist Jennifer Hess
 - Loudonville Lions Club, with artist Emily Spreng
 - Modern Home Supply, with artist Drew Anderson
 - Meyer Hatchery, with artist Evelyn Brockway
 - Shakley Mechanical, with artist David Miller
 - Simonson Construction Services Inc., with artist Michaela Brehm
 - Truax Printing, with artist Kinley Schmidt
- For more information, contact Cora Crilow at (419) 281-7645 or ccrilow@ashlandcounty.org.



Rain barrels painted by local artists are displayed in Central Park during a previous Rain Beat on Main Street event in Loudonville. The annual exhibit highlights stormwater conservation through community art.

Photo by Jim Brewer

AREA WORSHIP

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15528 St. Rt. 3 N, Loudonville OH 419-994-1161
Sunday: 11:00 am/6:00 pm
LOUDONVILLE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
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Sunday: 10:30 am
MOHICANVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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Sunday: 10:30 am
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A Stroll Through Our Mohican Garden: How to Spot and Stop Black Knot in Cherry Trees

By Eric Larson

A reader from Mohicanville contacted me about the deformed branches on her sour cherry tree. The tree had elongated, rough black swellings, commonly known as “knots”, on its twigs and branches. These knots are a sign of black knot, a serious fungal disease caused by *Dibotryon morbosum*.

Black knot infects cherry trees and thrives in the wet conditions between April and June, especially at temperatures between 60 and 80°F. The fungus overwinters in the knots and nearby infected branches. In spring, it forms microscopic spore sacs on the surface of the knot. When rain hits these sacs, spores are ejected into the air and carried moderate distances by wind.

Only new, green twigs are susceptible, especially if they remain wet for several hours. Early symptoms appear as soft green swellings, which harden over time and turn brown, then black. By early summer, infected knots may produce a white or pink powdery layer — the spores themselves.

If left untreated, the disease spreads further down the branch each year. Black knot weakens the tree’s structure, making it more vulnerable to insect damage, winter injury, and overall decline. In severe cases, even major scaffold branches and trunks may become infected.

Early intervention is key. Winter pruning, when



Black knot disease causes hard, black swellings on cherry tree branches. Pruning and early detection are key to preventing its spread.

Photo by Eric Larson

the tree is dormant and the fungus less active, is the best time to remove black knot. You can see the knots more clearly without leaves, and pruning wounds are less likely to become new infection sites. However, if you notice knots during the growing season, prune them out immediately to reduce spore production and spread. Just be sure to disinfect your pruning tools with rubbing alcohol between each cut to avoid spreading the disease.

Cut out each knot by removing two to four inches of healthy wood below the infection. Never compost pruned material; instead, bag and discard it in the trash or burn it. For larger branches, make your cut at least half an inch beyond the infected tissue and

treat the exposed wound with 70% rubbing alcohol.

Fungicides are also effective when applied properly. Recommended options include Captan, Lime Sulfur, Benomyl, or Benlate. Apply the first treatment when green tissue appears in spring, again just before and after blooming, and then every two weeks until terminal bud growth stops in mid-June. Follow all manufacturer instructions carefully.

This year’s cooler, rainy weather has been especially favorable for the fungus to spread, so next spring is when you’ll likely see the resulting knots. Now’s the time to act: inspect your cherry trees for early signs of infection, remove any visible knots right away, and consider starting a

fungicide program if your tree has had issues in past years. Also, take time to scout nearby cherry trees — especially those upwind — for signs of infection. If you find any, work to remove or treat them promptly to help reduce future spread.

Black knot is a serious threat to cherry trees, but with vigilance and timely action, it can be managed. Regular inspections during the growing season will help you catch the disease early and prevent it from spreading.

Have a nice stroll through your garden this week. If you have any gardening challenges, feel free to email me at ericlson546@yahoo.com.

Free Summer Meals for Children Offered at Loudonville Library

Submitted



Jeremiah Turner receives a free lunch from library staff members Sarah Moreland and Brie Haag as part of the Summer Meals Program, sponsored by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. Photo by Amanda Chambers

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank has launched its Summer Meals Program and is providing free lunches for all children under age 18. Meals will be served at the Loudonville Public Library every weekday from 12 to 1 p.m.

The program began June 3 and will continue through Aug. 8.

For more information, visit greaterclevelandfoodbank.org/summermeals.

Craig Henderson Shoots Low-Net 26 to Lead Mohican Apple League

By Jim Brewer

Craig Henderson Sr. carded a low-net score of 26 — an impressive 10 under par — to set a new standard in the Mohican Men’s Golf League at Apple Valley on Thursday, June 12.

Henderson also led the league in points that day, finishing with 19.

Weekly medalist honors went to Kevin Derr and Chuck Cline, who each shot even-par 36s. Derr recorded nine consecutive pars to earn most pars honors. Dick Knight, Trey Trumpower and Henderson tied for most bogeys, each with six. Brad Young led the league in birdies with two.

In team standings, Stake’s IGA (233) moved into first place, surpassing Brennstuhl Construction (231). Other team scores include: Trails End Pizza, 229; Shriver’s Pharmacy, 219; Harris Automotive, 211; Doc’s Duffers, 202; Contact Industries, 188; and Van Horn Home Renovations, 181.



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stores beginning June 20.



Shoppers explore fresh foods and handmade goods during the opening day of the Loudonville Farmers Market on Saturday, June 7. The market kicked off its summer season with a variety of local vendors and a steady crowd of visitors.

Photo by Amanda Chambers



A customer selects a bouquet of fresh flowers from a vendor booth during opening day of the Loudonville Farmers Market on Saturday, June 7. The market featured a colorful array of locally grown blooms, food items, and handmade goods.


Photo by Amanda Chambers




Axe throwing was a popular attraction during the Loudonville Farmers Market's opening day on Saturday, June 7.

Photo by Amanda Chambers

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Cora, Jace, and Ellie Mickley enjoy summer reading program activities at the Loudonville Public Library, including lunch provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. This year's theme, "Color Our World", features storytimes, scheduled art experiences, and creative projects like coloring materials from the library.

Photo by Amanda Chambers

More than 100 local children received free Kona Ice treats on Monday, June 9, during Shriver's Pharmacy's annual Kona Ice Day event in Loudonville.

Submitted Photo

Pioneers Waded to Church

Excerpts from the 1985 book "Tales of the Mohican Country" by the late author, local historian, and Loudonville Times editor Lee Cavin. Printed by permission of copyright holder Sally Truax.

Organized religion seemed to reach the Loudonville community, bereft of passable roads and centered on the headwaters of a river, in bits and pieces during pioneer times.

The Methodists were the first to acquire an organized congregation and a permanent place to worship. The Baptists were close behind.

Early church historians cite the Methodist enthusiasm for organization, which gave its itinerant preachers a good base from which to assail the wilderness.

Back in 1784, three men, Asbury, Coke and Whatcoat, decided it would be a good idea to hold a conference (a word still dear to Methodists in America) to consider the future of Methodism in the newly-created United States of America.

Just six weeks later, 63 of the known 83 traveling preachers of the denomination showed up in Baltimore to organize what would become the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

The turnout was astounding. The denomination's "Paul Revere," Freeborn Mason, jumped into his saddle immediately to spread the tidings from Virginia to New England, covering a tremendous amount of territory during

a short period of time. One preacher complained, however, that Mason would have made even better time if he had not stopped to preach to every likely-looking group he passed on the way!

Thirty years and another war later, according to J.L. Quick, an early historian of local churches, Methodists were straining at the leash in Mohican country.

Five miles east of Loudonville in 1814, the Lake Fork of the Mohican River at the base of a range of hills separated the Buras and Henderson families from the Quick family.

Church dogma concerning baptism became a moot point as the two groups waded and paddled back and forth across the river to hold stated meetings in each other's homes that year.

A touring preacher soon found the Quick clearing. Then John Boling opened his home for prayer meetings in Drake's Valley. David Drake hosted the meetings in the south; and Joseph Newkirk led a congregation at Newkirk to the north.

Evangelists coming through included Bigelow, Swasey, Sheldon Girley, Parker and Waddell, all of whom became noted in the denomination's history. Drake's Valley became a campground meeting point, and a cabin there became one of the first churches in the area.

Then Cornelious Quick added a wing to his house near Lakeville to provide a place for church services, and shortly after this the Bigelow, Morehead, Nashville and

Loudonville congregations formed the Nashville circuit, with its own traveling preacher, holding regular services.

Some of these communities would be hard to find today, but the church thrived.

Elmore Yokum supposedly preached the first Methodist sermon in Loudonville Village in the plank school on the square in 1834. Then a meeting was held in a warehouse owned by Thomas McMahon, and some fiery preacher whose name was not preserved secured 44 converts.

The new congregation's first prayer meeting was in the home of Dr. E.E. Fuller. Later a lot was secured and a small brick church was erected on North Water Street. Contemporary newspaper accounts praised members of the congregation, who had the foresight to erect a post on which to hang a lantern that would guide members down the front steps after evening meetings. Loudonville streets were dark in those days.

The little brick building was later replaced by a larger frame structure. By 1901, 67 years after the first meeting on the public square, the cornerstone for the older part of the existing building on Market Street was set.

And talking about the changes that have occurred in organized religion in the United States, Dr. Dwayne E. Woodring, director of facilities for the 200th annual Methodist conference in Baltimore, pointed out to an area group that many of the transportation and lodging logistics which were plaguing

him did not bother the men who attended the first gathering. In 1784, he said, all the traveling preachers knew exactly how to get to Baltimore... by horseback. They rode 40 to 60 miles a day in every kind of weather, and stayed wherever they could find a roof, in cabins, abandoned buildings, or barns. Sometimes they slept in the open, using saddlebags for pillows.

The preacher who came the farthest rode 1,081 miles. It took him 20 days on the trail. When this delegate reached Baltimore in 1784 he had just his horse with its saddlebags for both suitcases and library. There were no signs directing him to his meeting; he had to find the gathering place... the Lovely Lane Meeting House with benches, some with backs, for 100 people... by asking passersby.

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Shultz Earns Two Podium Finishes at State Track Meet

By Amanda Chambers

Loudonville's Tess Shultz capped her final track and field season as a Redbird with a pair of top-six finishes Saturday at the OHSAA State Track and Field Championships, held June 7 at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium.

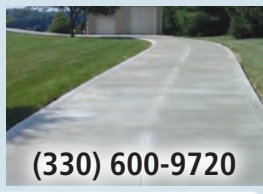
Shultz placed fourth in the Division III girls' 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:03.80. She also finished sixth in the 3,200-meter run, clocking 11:14.95.

Braden Carr and Cooper Sage also represented the Redbirds in the boys' pole vault. Neither placed in the final standings.

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