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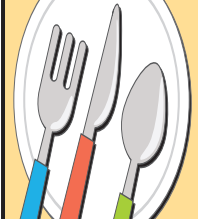
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Ashland Board Meets Ahead of New School Year

By Haley Bradfield

Ashland City Schools Board of Education met Monday, July 27, to prepare for the upcoming school year, reviewing back-to-school preparations, financial updates and routine business.

Superintendent Steve Paramore reminded families about August open houses and the district's upcoming start dates. He also encouraged parents to complete bus registration, free or reduced-price lunch applications, required forms and activity fee payments for fall sports.

Paramore said the district's operating levy renewal will appear on the November ballot and emphasized that it would not create a new tax.

He also announced that a proposal to add girls flag football as a varsity sport will be presented for board approval at the

August meeting. The program began as a club sport during the 2025-26 school year.

Treasurer Kyle Klingler reviewed the district's 2026 general fund and projected 2027 finances. He said changes to the Ohio tax code have delayed property tax bills, postponing school district tax distributions. Klingler said the district has sufficient cash reserves to avoid financial difficulties while waiting for the payments.

The board approved the treasurer's consent agenda, which included contracts for ParentSquare and KidsLink.

Board members approved a contract with Simonson Construction for excavation and replacement of a sidewalk at Ashland Middle School that has settled since the building opened about 12 years ago.

The district will seek new bids for an 84-passenger school bus after rejecting bids received in June. The project will be rebid with specifications requiring a Blue Bird bus to match the district's existing fleet and simplify maintenance.

The board approved updates to student handbooks for the 2026-27 school year, along with slight increases in school lunch prices and bus rates. Personnel changes were approved as part of the superintendent's consent agenda.

The board's next work session is scheduled for August 10, followed by its next regular meeting on August 24. Both meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the administrative offices, 1407 Claremont Avenue. All meetings are open to the public and regular meetings are livestreamed on YouTube.

Police Calls

ASHLAND

July 23, 1:04 a.m. Police responded to a report of vehicle theft in the 2000 block of Stone Gate Ct. A 40-year-old man was arrested for criminal trespass, vehicle trespass and falsification.

July 23, 2:29 p.m. Police served a warrant at the Wayne Co. Jail. A 27-year-old man was arrested for contempt of court.

July 23, 7:45 p.m. Police made a field contact in the 600 block of Cottage St. A 36-year-old man was arrested

ed for open container of liquor and disorderly conduct.

July 24, 7:16 p.m. Police responded to a request for assistance from another agency at Culvers, 725 US Route 250 E. A 26-year-old woman was arrested for unspecified charges.

July 25, 12:34 a.m. Police responded to a report of a suspicious person near E. 3rd St. and Union St. A 33-year-old man was arrested for disorderly conduct.

July 25, 1:16 a.m. Police responded to a report of a disturbance at Bullshooters,

35 E. Main St. A 35-year-old woman was arrested for disorderly conduct.

July 26, 1:31 p.m. Police responded to a report of a disturbance in the first block of E. 8th St. A 45-year-old man and a 37-year-old woman were arrested, and each was charged with disorderly conduct.

July 28, 10:07 a.m. Police responded to a report of suspicious circumstances in the 100 block of E. Walnut St. A 51-year-old woman was arrested for restricting the keeping of certain animals.

July 29, 12:00 a.m. Police conducted a field contact in the 500 block of Cottage St. A 24-year-old woman was arrested for having physical control of a vehicle while under the influence and open container of liquor in a stationary vehicle.

LOUDONVILLE

July 19, 12:17 a.m. Police conducted a traffic stop

in the 500 block of S. Market St. A 19-year-old Bellville man was issued a criminal summons for underage possession of beer or intoxicating liquor and cited for marked lanes violations.

July 19, 9:42 a.m. A 31-year-old Doylestown man was cited for expired vehicle registration.

July 19, 8:30 p.m. Police investigated a harassment complaint in the 300 block of W. Campbell St.

July 20, 6:29 p.m. Police responded to a juvenile complaint in the 300 block of W. Main St.

July 20, 6:53 p.m. Police took a report at the police department regarding a juvenile complaint.

July 21, 4:31 p.m. Police investigated a juvenile complaint in the 300 block of W. Main St. The investigation is pending.

July 22, 9:52 a.m. Police conducted a welfare check in the 100 block of E. Butler St. The resident was found safe and was provided with information on local resources.

July 23, 1:35 p.m. Police responded to a structure fire

in the 200 block of N. Water St. Officers extinguished the flames before the fire department arrived and assumed the investigation.

July 23, 3:15 p.m. Police investigated a report of a child operating a push mower in the 400 block of N. Market St. The child was under close supervision, and no issues were found.

July 23, 10:36 p.m. A 21-year-old Millersburg man was arrested on a Loudonville warrant and transported to the Ashland County Jail after being located by the Holmes County Sheriff's Office.

July 24, 9:54 a.m. Police assisted a motorist in the 400 block of Campus Dr. by unlocking a vehicle.

July 24, 2:27 p.m. Police documented a report from a driver who struck an unoccupied vehicle in a parking lot after the driver left insurance information for the owner.

July 24, 10 p.m. A 24-year-old Fresno, Ohio man was cited for failure to display a registration plate.

July 25, 8:42 a.m. Police

investigated a possible break-in at a vacant residence in the 300 block of N. Union St. A damaged padlock was found, but the building was unoccupied.

July 25, 3:54 p.m. Police assisted the Ashland County Sheriff's Office with an unconscious man found floating in the river near the 3000 block of County Road 3175. He was evaluated by EMS and released to the sheriff's office.

July 25, 5:53 p.m. Police investigated a trespassing and reckless operation complaint in the 3000 block of State Route 3. A 49-year-old Westerville woman was issued a criminal summons for trespass and cited for reckless operation on private property.

July 25, 7:37 p.m. Police responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of N. Water St. One individual was advised to remain in their room until tensions subsided.

July 25, 10:12 p.m. Police checked suspicious vehicles at a closed business in the 500 block of N. Union St. Officers determined the occupants were changing a flat tire, and no further action was taken.

Between July 19 and July 25, police also handled 72 additional routine calls, including business checks, EMS assists and reports of suspicious activity that did not require further action.

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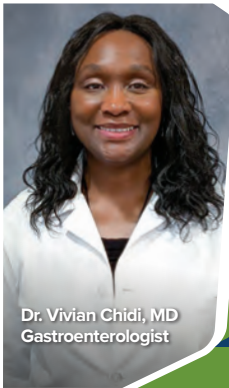
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Commissioners Advance Human Services Levy

By Amanda Chambers

The Ashland County Commissioners took steps Thursday toward placing the renewal of the county's 2.0-mill Human Services levy before voters in the November 3 general election.

Commissioners approved a resolution declaring their intent to proceed with renewing the existing five-year levy, which funds human and social services, including operating expenses, the care and placement of children, and senior citizens services and facilities.

Peter Stefaniuk, director of the Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services, emphasized that the measure is a renewal and would not result in a new tax. He said the levy costs approximately \$49 annually for a property valued at \$100,000.

The board appropriated and authorized the use of \$10,000 from the county's opioid settlement funds for Ashland County Juvenile Court to support a community-based education and prevention initiative. The funding request follows information Judge Karen DeSanto Kellogg of the Ashland County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile and Probate Division presented to commissioners last week about the court's "Hidden in Plain Sight" trailer program, which helps the public recognize youth mental health concerns and early indicators of substance abuse.

In other business, commissioners accepted an \$8,000 estimate from Advantage Home and Property Services to repair the roof membrane and roof walk pad at the Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services building.

Commissioners appointed Ervin Yoder to replace Eric Schneider as the alternate member for Commissioner Jim Justice on the Ashland County Planning Commission. Yoder's term runs from Aug. 1, 2026, through Dec. 31, 2028. They also approved a routine travel request for county maintenance employees.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, August 6, in the second-floor conference room of the Ashland County Building, 110 Cottage Street. Meetings are open to the public and streamed live on the "Ashland, OH County Government" Facebook page.

Museum Hosts Cabin Tour Derr Brothers Pace League

Submitted

The Cleo Redd Fisher Museum will host an open house at the historic Workman Cabin from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, August 8, in Central Park in Loudonville.

Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the 1838 log cabin, learn about life in the

1800s and try writing with a quill and ink. The event is the end-of-summer project for museum interns Moira Miller, Olivia Hiner and Owen Sainiak, who will provide tours and answer questions about the cabin and early pioneer life.



Cleo Redd Fisher Museum interns stand in front of the historic Workman Cabin in Central Park in Loudonville. They will host an open house August 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. From left are Owen Sainiak, Moira Miller and Olivia Hiner.

Submitted Photo

Built by Morgan Workman in 1838, the cabin originally stood east of Loudonville, where it served as both a family home and a Dunkard church for nearly a century. It was donated to the Mohican Historical Society in 1963 and relocated to Central Park for the village's sesquicentennial celebration. The cabin has since undergone restoration to more closely reflect its original appearance.

The event is free and open to the public.

Information:
www.crfmuseum.com

By Jim Brewer

Kevin Derr earned medalist honors with a 1-under-par 35 during the Mohican Men's Golf League at Apple Valley on July 16, then returned the following week to share season-best honors with his brother.

On July 16, Kevin Derr recorded eight pars and a birdie to finish with the league's low score. His eight pars were the most recorded that night, while his birdie tied for the league lead with Rusty Burkepile, Trey Trumpower, Ed Gillette, Adam

Harper, Rick Milliken and Jim Arnholt.

Other top performances included Trey Trumpower, who scored a league-high 20 points and shared low-net honors with Fred Wachtel

after each shot a 31. Ken Gosche recorded the most bogeys with six.

PACE cont. to pg.8

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RECIPES
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**GRILLED PORK
TENDERLOIN KABOBS**
Yield: 6 kabobs

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds pork tenderloins, cut into 1 1/2- inch cubes
- 1 onion, quartered
- 2 bell peppers, cut in 1"-2" squares

Marinade:

- 1 Tablespoon white vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon mild chili peppers, finely minced
- 1 can (6 ounces) pineapple juice
- 2 Tablespoons lime juice
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil

DIRECTIONS

Combine all marinade ingredients in a shallow, glass baking dish or gallon size sealable plastic bag; remove 1 cup of marinade and place in a separate baking dish or bag. Add pork tenderloin to the first container of marinade and the vegetables to the second container. Refrigerate, covered 4 to 6 hours.

Drain marinade from pork and vegetables into a small saucepan. Bring to a boil over high heat and boil for 20 seconds.

Thread pork, peppers and onion onto skewers so pieces are not touching allowing heat to circulate and cook evenly.

Place skewers on preheated grill over direct medium heat for 10 to 12 minutes, turning and basting with the reserved marinade once. Serve immediately.



**BLUEBERRY AND
TORTELLINI FRUIT SALAD**
Yield: Six 1-cup servings

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pkg. (9 oz.) cheese tortellini
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup fresh strawberries, sliced
- 1 can (11 oz.) Mandarin orange segments, drained
- 3/4 cup green grapes, cut in half
- 1/2 cup Low Fat Poppy Seed dressing
- Sliced almonds, if desired

DIRECTIONS

Cook tortellini according to directions on package; drain.

In a large bowl, add pasta and fruit. Pour dressing over salad and toss lightly; refrigerate until ready to serve.

If desired, sprinkle sliced almonds over salad just before serving.

Note: Other fruits such as bananas, peaches, apples, and navel oranges may be used.

Photo and styling by Webstop
Please note that some ingredients and brands may not be available in every store.

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Gardener's Guild Tours Tallgrass Prairie

By Jim Brewer

Members of the Loudonville Gardener's Guild toured the tallgrass prairie of naturalist Guy Denny on July 27, exploring a habitat he has spent three decades researching and restoring.

Denny, whose career began as a naturalist at Mohican State Park in the late 1960s, welcomed 16 guild members to his 20-acre prairie west of Fredericktown.

He explained that much of Ohio was once covered by prairie before a wetter climate allowed forests to dominate, leaving only scattered remnants today.

Denny introduced visitors to eight native prairie grasses and about 80 species of wildflowers. Many are familiar to gardeners for their value to pollinators, including coneflowers, common milkweed and black-eyed Susans. Members were surprised to see large stands of pink and red coneflowers growing naturally throughout the prairie.

The prairie was alive with butterflies, bees and hummingbirds as Denny described the unique characteristics of many native plants, including species that naturally align themselves in north-south or east-west directions.



Naturalist Guy Denny shares the history of his 20-acre tallgrass prairie with members of the Loudonville Gardener's Guild during the club's July 27 tour.

Photo by Jim Brewer

Towering big bluestem, the prairie's dominant grass, reaches more than 8 feet tall, while many other grasses and flowering plants stand 4 to 6 feet high.

Denny encouraged anyone interested in establishing a prairie to attend his annual free seed collection day, scheduled this year for October 3.

"Prairie plants take up to three years to become established, but from then on they will flourish," he said.

He also explained that prescribed fire is essential to maintaining a healthy prairie. Each spring, between March 10 and April 15, he burns the entire 20-acre site.

"Prairies need fire," Denny said. "Fire recycles nutrients while helping control ticks, chiggers and other unwanted pests. In nature, lightning-caused fires provided that renewal."

Following the tour, the guild held its regular meeting. President Pam Tuttle reported that judges will soon evaluate the club's landscaping project

at the Central Park Veterans Memorial.

Tuttle also announced that member Joy Strine-Sprang recently presented a program at E & J School, a Nature Study Retreat will be held September 13-18 in Bloomingville, and the Region 7 fall meeting is scheduled for October 28 at Marengo United Methodist Church.

Planning also began for next year's programs. Linda O'Brien and Linda Bush volunteered to host one stop on next July's Progressive Dinner, joining Guinn Bandy and Lee and Diana Fromme.

The guild's next meeting will be held at the home of Larry and Linda Kauffman, where Larry Kauffman will present a program on plant propagation. Hosts will be Joy Strine-Sprang, Connie Dalton, and Lee and Diana Fromme. New members are welcome to attend guild meetings.



Installation of new visitor-side bleachers at Loudonville High School's Redbird Stadium was recently completed. The previous bleachers were deemed deteriorated and unsafe and were replaced by the Board of Education this summer, with part of the cost covered by a \$60,000 donation from American Legion Post 257.

Photo by Jim Brewer

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HELP WANTED
Shopper News Reporter/Writer: Attend Bellville and/or Butler City Council and/or Clear Fork School Board meetings. Using notes and official minutes write news articles for the Mohican Area Shopper. 3-6 hours per week. Requires an interest in journalism, strong writing, communication, and organizational skills, plus an interest in community activities. Basic Microsoft Word or Pages, email, and internet navigation skills required. Must have a computer, Wi-Fi, cell phone, and vehicle. Work independently with the support of a great team. Contact David at 419-670-3408.

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Local Students Earn Degrees from Kent State University

By Amanda Chambers

Kent State University awarded degrees to spring graduates during commencement ceremonies held May 7-9 and May 15 on the Kent Campus. Among the graduates were several students from the Ashland and Mohican area.

Avery Butts, of Loudonville, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science from the College of Arts and Sciences. The magna cum laude honor is awarded to students who earn a grade point average between 3.7 and 3.89.

Skyler Hines, of Ashland, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences. The cum laude honor is awarded to students who earn a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69.

Hailey Hammitt, of Loudonville, graduated with distinction with an Associate of Applied Science from the College of Applied and Technical Studies. The “with distinction” honor is awarded to associate degree students who earn a grade point average above 3.5 and have completed a minimum of 32 credit hours at Kent State University.

Other graduates from Ashland include Dylan David, who earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Education, Health & Human Services; Jake Rivenburgh, who earned a Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences; and Eleanor Rundus, who earned a Master of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Trevor Portz, of Loudonville, earned a Bachelor of Business Administration.

Lynsey Holly, of Lucas, earned a Master of Science in Nursing.

The university’s spring commencement recognized more than 4,000 graduates from a variety of academic disciplines across Kent State’s colleges.

University academic honors are published using information provided by the institutions or submitted by parents. To have a student’s college honors considered for publication, email achambers@ohioprogamsolutions.com.

Derr Inducted Into Adaptive Golf Hall of Fame

By Jim Brewer

Loudonville native Mindy Derr was recently inducted into the inaugural Adaptive Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2026 for her work developing programs that use golf to help people with disabilities.

The Hall of Fame, operated by the National Alliance for Accessible Golf, recognizes individuals who have contributed to the growth of adaptive golf.

Derr founded Fore Hope in 1989 to help her father, Guy Derr, continue playing golf after he became disabled. At the time, adaptive golf programs were not widely available.

Fore Hope was later adopted by the OhioHealth healthcare system in Columbus for patients with neurological conditions.

Derr now shares her experience in adaptive golf through her Wellness and Golf platform and works with golf, health care and sports organizations to promote opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in the sport.

"Being recognized by the Adaptive Golf Hall of Fame is an incredible honor, but the true reward has been watching the growth of adaptive golf," Derr said. "Growing up in Loudonville taught me the value of a tight-knit community, and I want to use



Mindy Derr helps a golfer with a disability address his ball using an adaptive golf cart. Derr has spent nearly 40 years developing ways to make the sport more accessible for players with disabilities.

Submitted Photo
this platform to ensure that anyone, regardless of their health challenges, has the opportunity to experience the game of golf."

Derr grew up a few hundred yards north of Round Lake Golf Course near Loudonville, where her father spent much of his free time. Her younger brothers, Kim and Kevin, became accomplished golfers in the area and are now involved in the maintenance and operation of the course.

STROLL cont. from pg.6

soil, and add compost to improve soil quality. Magnolias

prefer slightly acidic soil with a pH between 5.5 and 6.5. After planting, spread 3 to 4 inches of hardwood mulch to retain moisture, keeping it a few inches away from the trunk. Water regularly every couple of days for the first month or two, then weekly as needed.

Fertilizer is usually not necessary, though a balanced 10-10-10 product can be applied in the second or third year. Prune only to shape the tree or remove dead or damaged branches. Pruning should be done after flowering because magnolias heal more slowly than many other trees.

Magnolias are forgiving, beautiful, and rewarding, even for beginner gardeners.

As you stroll through your garden this week, take a moment to enjoy your blooms.

Author’s email: ericlarson546@yahoo.com

PACE cont. from pg.3

On July 23, brothers Kim and Kevin Derr each fired 4-under-par 32s to earn co-medalist honors. Their rounds were the lowest scores recorded in league play this season. Both also shared low-net honors with 30s.

Kim Derr carded five birdies, while Kevin Derr posted the week’s highest point total with 19. Austin Burkepile recorded the most pars with six, and Joey Raines, Elmer Kline and Mike Price tied for the most bogeys with six each.

Team standings after the July 23 round are: Shriv-ers Pharmacy, 599; Trails End Pizza, 571; Brennstuhl Construction and Doc’s Duffers, tied at 525; Stake’s IGA, 480; and Harris Auto-motive, 458.

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