

CortlandNEWS

"The Good News Newspaper"

Vol. 22 No. 1 October 11, 2025 Serving the Lakeshore Communities



The First Amendment, Freedom Of Speech

By Alex Irman

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution is a cornerstone of American democracy, protecting a set of

fundamental freedoms that are essential for a free and functional society. Adopted as part of the Bill of Rights in, its provisions—freedom of religion, speech, the press, assembly, and the right to petition the government—are not isolated clauses but are deeply interconnected, working together to create an environment where citizens can engage in open discourse and hold power accountable. Without these protections, the United States would be unable to sustain the ideals of liberty and self-governance upon which it was founded.

Freedom of speech and the press, in particular, serve as the primary engines of public debate and the dissemination of information. They empower individuals to express their thoughts, criticize government actions, and share ideas without fear of censorship or reprisal. This open exchange is crucial for a democracy to thrive, as it allows for the challenging of established norms, the exposure of injustice, and the emergence of new perspectives. Simultaneously, the freedom of

assembly and the right to petition give citizens the power to collectively voice their concerns and advocate for change, ensuring that the government remains responsive to the will of the people. Taken together, these freedoms create a vital check on power and a space for a vibrant public sphere.

Ultimately, the importance of the First Amendment lies in its role as a safeguard for minority opinions and a catalyst for social progress. It protects not only popular ideas but also those that are controversial or unpopular, recognizing that today's dissent may become tomorrow's consensus. This protection is what allows for meaningful change to occur from the ground up, whether through social movements, scientific discoveries, or artistic expression. While these rights are not absolute and have been subject to interpretation over time, their enduring presence in the Constitution underscores a foundational belief: that a government is strongest when its people are free to think, speak, and act according to their own conscience.

To Our Valued Readers And Advertisers


With this issue of October 11, 2025 the Cortland News is celebrating a significant milestone: the start of our 22nd year of publication. It's a moment of immense pride and gratitude, and I want to personally thank all of you for your unwavering support.

When we first started this newspaper, our philosophy was simple yet powerful: to bring you the "Good News" of our community and the surrounding area. We believed that by highlighting the positive stories—the local achievements, the community events, and the people making a difference—we could foster a stronger, more connected town. We've always strived to be a publication that brings people together and celebrates what makes our community special.

In today's often unsettling times, our mission feels more important than ever. The core of a free and open society is the ability to share ideas and information without fear. That's why,

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CORTLAND CITY

CITYOFCORTLAND.ORG

Mayor 330-637-4003

City Hall 330-637-3916

Fax 330-637-4778

Clerk of Council 330-638-0142

Service Director 330-637-4637

POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY 911

Dispatch 330-675-2730

Police - Business 330-638-1000

Fire - Business 330-637-2891

MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL
First and Third Monday of each month.
Monday, Oct 20 – 7 PM
Monday Nov 3 – 7 PM

PARKS AND RECREATION
Second Monday of each month
Monday, Oct 13 - 5:30 PM

CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL
Read the minutes from Cortland
City Council meetings at
www.cityofcortland.org under
City Council Minutes.

PLANNING & ZONING
Second Monday of each month
Monday, Oct 13 - 7 PM.

Meetings and agenda of Council and
Planning meetings area available at
www.cortlandoh.gov

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP

BAZETTATWP.ORG

Admin Building 330-637-8816

3372 State Route 5 ...fax: 330-637-4588

**Trustees, Clerk, Zoning Inspector
and Cemetery Sexton 330-637-8816**

Road Department 330-637-8311

FIRE - POLICE - RESCUE 911

Police Department 330-638-5503

Fire Station #11 330-637-4136

3000 Warren Meadville Rd

Non Emergency Calls ... 330-675-2730

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings the second Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, Oct 14 - 7 PM

A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit www.bazettatwp.org

THE CORTLAND BAZETTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

The Second Wednesday of each month at 5 PM at The Opera House

LAKEVIEW BOARD OF
EDUCATION MEETINGS

Regular meetings the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
in the Lakeview High School Media Center, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, Oct 27- 6 PM

Area Service Clubs

Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club
Steve Rock 330-240-1634
Cortland Bazetta Historical Society & Museum
Curt Moll/Info@cortlandohiohistory.org. 330-638-2330
Cortland Lions Club
Dawna Wiland 330-219-9852
Cortland Masonic Lodge
Chuck Chagnot 330-307-3405
Cortland Moose Lodge
Bill Bartholomew 330-637-9957
Cortland Rotary Club
Donald Petrosky 330-637-7627
Cortland SCOPE
Terri Donahue 330-980-5363
Cortland Opal CH 181, O.E.S
Carla Kahler 330-856-2356
The Opera House (Event Rentals)
Maribeth Albu 330-219-1488

Four Seasons Garden Club
Nancy Finlay 330-637-8931
Johnston Senior Center
Jim Bacorn 330-924-0412
Warren City Federation of Women's Clubs
Terri Crabbs 330-637-3845
American Assoc of University Women
Ruth Bradshaw 330-307-1151
League of Woman Voters
Peggy Boyd 330-856-5398
Cortland Area Cares
Donna Kittle 330-637-0821
Friends of the Cortland Library
(Cheryl Bush or Karen Murphy) .. 330-637-2717
Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship
(LOAF) 330-720-9136

Please contact the Cortland News if you
would like your organization listed here.

Our Next Issue ... November 1, 2025

Our theme will be

Veterans Day / Giving Thanks / Get Ready for the Holidays

Article Deadline by Oct 20 • Display Advertising Deadline is Oct 22

Email articles to editor@cortlandnews.net

The mission of the Cortland News is to focus on the positive aspects and events of our community. Our goal is to inspire pride and bring the residents of our community closer to one another by providing accurate, timely and useful information. We hold ourselves to high standards of journalism and strive to be a source of trust for our readers.

Based on the policy of the Cortland News to print positive news about our community, we reserve the right to reject contributed material considered inappropriate. We reserve the right to edit information accepted for publication for accuracy, style, length, spelling, grammar, and clarity.

The Cortland News wishes to present a fair and accurate news report. If you have a concern about anything published, please call our office at 330-565-2637 and leave a message for our Manager or Editor.

Death notices and obituaries will be printed in the Cortland News at the request of the family. Arrangement should be made to have information for death notices and obituaries sent directly to the Cortland News from the funeral home. Space restraints may require some editing. Publication dates for the Cortland News may prohibit an obituary from appearing prior to a funeral or memorial service.

Cortland News SELF SERVE Paper Box Locations

Tr. Co. Health Dept

4 Star Diner

Vasilios

Lakeside Sport Shop

Top Notch Diner

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Cortland, OH 44410
(330) 565-2637
www.cortlandnews.net


We do not keep regular office hours but if
you leave us a message, we will return your
call as soon as possible.


The Cortland News will no longer
be accepting any facsimile "fax"
documents. Please direct all
communications to the following
email addresses.

Article submissions to:
editor@cortlandnews.net

Display and classified advertising
and photographs to:
sales@cortlandnews.net

The Cortland News is published every
three weeks free of charge and mailed
via USPS to over 5000 area residents
and businesses in Cortland and parts
of Bazetta Township.



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While every effort has been made to ensure the
accuracy of the information in this newspaper,
the Cortland News cannot be held responsible
for any errors or omissions.

Community Events

Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules. See pg. 2
Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules visit www.lakeviewlocal.org.
American Red Cross blood donations, various dates. www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-733-2767.
Cortland Public Library - Check out the ongoing events on Library page.
<https://wtcpl.org/locations-hours/cortland-library/>
Cortland Senior Center - Open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cortland Christian Church.
Charity Benefit Pancake Breakfast, [1st Saturday] 9 a.m.-noon, Cortland Masonic Lodge, 3263 Everett-Hull Road (E. Main Street).
Church Events - See the Church News and Notes on the Faith pages.
Trumbull County Combined Health District has numerous free upcoming Vaccine Clinics. See their website or the article in this issue.

OCTOBER

- 10 Bazetta Fire Department Open House / 4-8 PM
- 10 & 11 "Halloween at Harriet's" / Upton Association / Family Event / 5-7 PM
- 10 & 11 Rummage Sale / Cortland Christian Church / Friday @ 9 am-4 pm, Sat @ 9 am -Noon.
- 11 Cortland Lions Club Membership Drive / The 1547 Project! / Noon - 3 PM
- 13 Hands-Only CPR Awareness Night at Opera House / Pizza Joe's & American Heart Association / 7-8 PM
- 13 Farmington Senior Center Paint & Sip / Noon
- 15 Meet The Board Of Education Candidates Forum / K-8 building
Sponsored by The Lakeview Teachers Association / 6 PM
- 15 Genealogy Class "Preserving Family Memories" / Warren-Trumbull County Public Library / 6 PM
- 16 Cortland Christian Church Soup and Sandwich / 11 am-1 pm
- 17, 18 37th Annual Ghost Walk Downtown Warren
- 24, 25 God Provides a Meal / Cortland United Methodist Church / 11 AM-1 PM
- 19 Trunk or Treat Event / Trinity Lutheran Church / 12:30 pm - 2
- 22 Stuffed Chicken Breast Drive thru Dinner / Cortland United Methodist Church 4:30 - 6:00 pm.
- 24 Amish Wedding Dinner / Farmington Senior Center / 4-7 PM
- 25 Halloween on W Main / Downtown Cortland / 5-7 PM
- 27 League Of Women Voters Meeting / Cortland Library / 6 PM

November

- 4 Election Day - BE SURE TO VOTE
- 5 Upton's First Wednesday Speaker Series "Women Pilots of World War II" / 9:30 AM

Cortland & Bazetta
FOP Sponsoring
FREE Halloween
Event

The Cortland and Bazetta Police FOP Lodge 168 are hosting a FREE Trick or Treat event on Saturday, Oct 25 from 5-7 PM. The event will be on West Main St from Erie to Park Ave and on N Bank St from Main to Latin . Over 40 families have volunteered to set up tables and pass out candy.

According to Detective John Weston "The purpose of this event is to provide a safe environment for children to Trick or Treat."

There will be a Fire Truck available and children will be able to meet and talk with Police Officers and Fire Fighters. If you would like to participate passing out candy, contact the FOP at ohfop168@gmail.com



Celebrating 22 Years

To Our Valued...
...continued from front page

our front page of this issue is focusing on a topic of vital importance: the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. This cornerstone of our nation's framework guarantees freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the right to assemble peacefully. It is a reminder that the free exchange of ideas is not a privilege, but a fundamental right.

As we look to the future, we remain dedicated to our founding principles. We will continue to be your source for local news, a platform for community voices, and a testament to the power of positive storytelling.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Here's to another year of bringing you the good news.

Sincerely,
Jim Woofter
Owner / Publisher, Cortland News



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Pizza Joe's Partners
With AHA For Free
CPR Awareness
Event

Pizza Joe's of Cortland, in partnership with the American Heart Association (AHA), is sponsoring a free community event designed to save lives. The Hands-Only CPR Awareness Night will be held on Thursday, October 23 from 7:00-8:00 PM at the Cortland Opera House.

The event is open to all community members and will provide step-by-step instruction on hands-only CPR from local EMS and fire personnel. While this is not a full certification course, participants will leave with the confidence to act in an emergency and potentially save a life.

Pizza Joe's Cortland owners, Bill and Diana, who took over the location in June, are committed to being more than a restaurant in the community. "We want Pizza Joe's to be a place that not only serves good food but also strengthens our community. Partnering with the AHA and supporting this event reflects that mission," said Bill.

The evening will also include refreshments provided by Pizza Joe's, along with a free CPR keychain face shield giveaway for the first 25 guests. While admission is free, donations will be accepted to support the American Heart Association. Registration is required. Use the QR code or call 330-638-1222

The Pearl Street
Market Grand
Opening

The Pearl Street Market, a new destination for vintage finds, artisan goods, and local vendors, is excited to announce a week-long Grand Opening celebration from October 6-12, 2025. Located next to the Pearl Street Park in the heart of Cortland, The Pearl Street Market brings together a curated mix of unique treasures, handmade goods, and community spirit in a welcoming rustic setting.

The Pearl Street Market is a one-of-a-kind shopping destination in Cortland offering a blend of vintage finds, artisan goods, and local vendor showcases. With its rustic charm and community-driven spirit, the market provides a space for discovery, creativity, and connection

"Our vision for the Pearl Street Market is to create a space where people can shop, gather, and discover something new every time they visit," said Kevin Denman, Owner, "We can't wait to share this space with the community and celebrate with a week full of fun."

The Pearl Street Market will host exciting events each day during the Grand Opening week. Guests can enjoy: Exclusive vendor showcases, highlighting local artisans and makers; Daily themed activities for families, shoppers, and collectors Special giveaways and promotions throughout the week.

Food trucks: The full schedule of daily events is on The Pearl Street Market's website and social media. The Pearl Street Market is at 124 Pearl Street, Cortland. For more information and updates, follow The Pearl Street Market on social media at facebook.com/thepearlstmarket or contact Kelli Denman at 330-442-2335 ormanagement@thepearlstmarket.com

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\$21.99

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\$33.99

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7013841, 7013842

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-\$10 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE

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\$16.99

Ace® Winterizer

16,000 Sq. Ft. 7475937

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Rake and remove leaves and debris to help prevent lawn mold and disease.

FERTILIZE

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League Of Women Voters Of Trumbull County

By Peggy Boyd

National Voter Registration Day was observed by the League of Women Voters on Tuesday, September 16 at the Warren Trumbull County Library. Members of the League set up a table to provide forms to register to vote, update information or to apply for an absentee ballot. Questions from people who have recently moved, changed their name or felt they could not make it to the polls were answered that afternoon.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization.

Members are encouraged to be informed and inform the public clear and fair information about voting, candidates and issues on the ballot. The League does not support any candidate.

The League meets once a month on the fourth Monday at various location. The October 27 meeting will be at the Cortland Library at 6 PM. Information on becoming a member in the League can be had by contacting membership chairman, Jan Gibson at 330-716-0094.

Sue Smith, Kirsten Burkey, Donna Beatty & Peggy Boyd

The Trumbull County Democratic Party

The Trumbull County Democratic Party met with Dr. Bryan Hambley, a candidate for Ohio Secretary of State. Dr. Hambley spoke about the many ways he has seen how his patients and communities have suffered from a broken and gerrymandered system.

The Trumbull County Democratic Party participated in the Ohio Democratic County Chairs Association annual Summit in Columbus. The Trumbull County Democratic Party Vice Chair presented a session detailing the impact of the Ohio budget on communities and the Trumbull Co. Young Dems presented a session on digital communications.

Rebecca Cevetto, Bethany Double, Cathy Phifer, Kathy DiCristofaro, Tommy Summers

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What's "news" in the City of Cortland

Just The Facts

It takes approximately how many medium sized apples to yield one gallon of cider?

a. 70
b. 65
c. 50
d. 35

Find the answer at the bottom of the article.

Resurfacing

The city was awarded an Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Grant of \$100,000.00 and will have the following streets resurfaced this year:

- Corrin Cir
- Charles St
- Emerson Cir
- Fairview Ave
- Frostwood Dr
- Richards Ave
- Fowler St (Heather Ln to eastern city limits)
- Heritage Ln (E Main St to Frostwood Dr)
- Woodview Dr (Cricket Ln to S Colonial Dr)
- Fairway Dr
- Heather Ln
- N High St (portion)

Cortland Police Levy

Please support our local police department by voting to approve the levy on November 4th ! If you have specific questions about the levy or the operation of the police department, contact Chief David Morris at 330.638.1000 ext. 1601 or dmorris@cortlandoh.gov instead of relying on social media posts alone as your sole source of information.

Domain Change

The City of Cortland began the migration to a more secure .GOV

domain. Our new website address is: <https://www.cortlandoh.gov> Please update your bookmarks to the new URL. Also, employee email domains have changed from @cityofcortland.org to @cortlandoh.gov The city was awarded a \$5,997.00 grant, which required a 10% match, to help fund the migration.

Let The Rain Drain

Leaves and grass clippings in the roadway can block storm drains creating the potential for standing water and street flooding. City ordinances state "No person shall deposit litter on any public property, on any private property not owned by the person, or in or on waters of the state or municipality". Please do not purposely rake or blow leaves into storm inlets. Part of the contract with Republic Services provides that they pick up unlimited yard waste for residential customers. Any leaves and grass clippings should be bagged separately from your regular trash.

Thank you for your help in keeping our storm drains clear.

Lions Club

The Cortland Lions Club will have a Membership Drive at The 1547 Project! This will take place on Saturday, Oct. 11th from noon to 3pm.

Dates to Remember

Oct. 13 - Parks Board - 5:30 pm
Oct. 13 - Planning & Zoning - 7 p.m.
Oct. 20 - City Council - 7 p.m.

Answer

d. 35. Of course, this is dependent upon the size and juiciness of the apples being used and also the efficiency of the equipment. For reference, a standard bushel is about 125 apples; this can make about 3 or 4 gallons of cider.

Trumbull County Family Court Issues New Notice

By Caleb Holscher

The Trumbull County Family Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, has issued a Notice to all local attorneys setting forth new expectations for attorneys practicing before the Court. The Notice, signed by Judge David L. Engler and Administrative Judge Samuel F. Bluedorn, emphasizes the Court's commitment to efficiency, transparency, and professionalism in family law proceedings.

Judge Bluedorn stated "We must respect the public's time. People often must take off work, so ensuring that attorneys are punctual and prepared is our way of respecting the people of Trumbull County". Judge Bluedorn emphasized that resolving cases swiftly often reduces suffering for individuals going through divorce.

"These directives are really to help the people of Trumbull County. We want the parties that appear before us to know exactly what is going on" said Judge Engler. This Notice reflects Judge Engler's broader efforts to enhance communication. Judge Engler has recently extended public outreach with his TikTok account @judgingdavid2, where he explains court processes in an accessible way. This Court provides more Self-Help videos and instructional guides on its website at https://www.co.trumbull.oh.us/family-court/fc_selfhelpforms.html

For more information, please contact the Trumbull County Family Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division. 330-675-2605.

Farmington Senior Center Fall Fundraiser

AMISH WEDDING

CHICKEN DINNER

all the trimmings* homemade pies

HANDCRAFTED CRADLE, QUILT,

AND DOLL BABY RAFFLE

50/50 RAFFLE*CHINESE AUCTION

FRIDAY, OCT 24, 4P-7P

\$20 PRE-SALE TICKET

Carry-out available 3pm-5pm

Farmington Senior Center*330-889-2733

150 College Street, West Farmington, 44491



37th Annual Ghost Walk In Downtown Warren

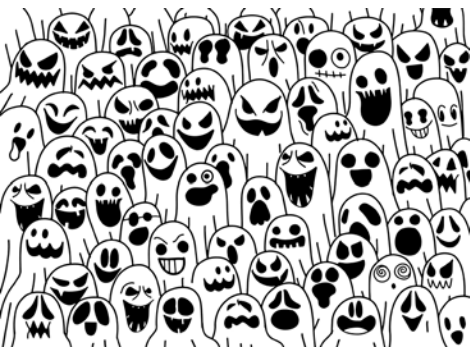
By Samantha Ensminger

Step back in time and experience the haunted history of Warren, Ohio, at the 37th Annual Ghost Walk, presented by the Fine Arts Council of Trumbull County and the Trumbull County Historical Society. This beloved community tradition returns for two weekends: October 17-18 and October 24-25, starting at the First Presbyterian Church in Warren.

Featuring a collection of true tales drawn from Warren's rich past, each guided tour brings the stories to life through costumed actors and atmospheric stops at some of the city's most historic landmarks. From local legends to mysterious happenings, the Ghost Walk offers an unforgettable evening of storytelling, history, and a touch of the supernatural.

Event Details:


- Starting Location: First Presbyterian Church, Warren
- Dates: October 17-18 and October 24-25
- Tour Times: Every 15 minutes from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM



Whether you're a lifelong resident or visiting for the first time, the Ghost Walk offers a one-of-a-kind way to explore the heart of downtown Warren and its fascinating, sometimes eerie, history.

Want to be part of the fun? Volunteer tour guides are still welcome and will get to enjoy the event up close while helping lead guests through the walk. Sign up here: <https://ghost-walk-tour-guide-sign-up.cheddarup.com>

Tickets & More Info: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/ghost-walk--2025>



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What does it mean to be rich?
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Meet Your Candidates brought to you by The Cortland News

In our effort to help our community grow stronger together, The Cortland News is giving all candidates for City Council and Bazetta Trustee an opportunity to introduce themselves to the community.

We asked all 10 candidates the same questions. Here are the questions and their unedited answers. We listed all candidates alphabetically by last name.
Questionnaire for Cortland City Council or Bazetta Township Trustee Candidates 2025

- A. Personal Information**
 - Candidate’s Full Name:
 - Current Occupation:
 - Previous Public Service or Community Involvement (if any):
 - Educational Background:

B. Why are you running?
 - What motivated you to run for a seat?
 - What is the most pressing issue facing the Bazetta/Cortland today, and how do you plan to address it?
 - What are your top three priorities if elected?
 - What specific skills, experiences or perspectives do you possess that would make you an effective member?
 - How do you plan to engage with and represent the residents?

C. Vision and Goals
 - What is your long-term vision for the City/Township?
 - How do you plan to balance the budget while ensuring essential services are maintained or improved?
 - What are your thoughts on economic development in the city/township and what steps would you take to attract new businesses or support existing ones?
 - How would you approach community projects and improvements, such as parks, infrastructure, and public services?
 - In one paragraph, please explain why voters should elect you to the Cortland City Council or Bazetta Township Trustee.

BAZETTA

- John R Barhoover III**
- Deputy Sheriff
- Previous Public Service 17 ½ Years in toe United States Airforce
- Education- B.A. Hiram College Social Services, Associates Community College of The Airforce- Aircraft Maintenance Technology
- I am running for Bazetta Township Trustee because I want to contribute to the growth and success of our township. As I lifelong resident I feel I have a lot to offer the Board of Trustees as well as to the residents.
- The most pressing Issue in Bazetta Township is that Roadways. There are a lot of roadways that are in rough shape right now. That is the number one complaint that I get. The trustees are replacing roads as needed. However, I feel that we should have a grading scale of worst to best regarding the roadways and address 2-3 roads a year if possible.
- My Top 3 priorities are Roadways, Parks and outdoor recreation, and Emergency Services.
- I believe I have a lot to offer Bazetta due to my law enforcement and military background. I have extensive knowledge in dealing with the public and helping the public during times of crisis.
- I plan for each and every resident to have my cellphone number as I believe that I should be assessible to every Bazetta Resident 365 days a year as I should be held accountable for every decision that I make.
- My long-term vison for Bazetta Township is Economic growth.
- No reply
- I am 100% open to economic development and would welcome any and all new business to our township.
- I would take the same approach to any community project. I would be open to any new projects in the township within reason.
- As a lifelong Bazetta township resident with two children in the school district, my goal is to grow this community that I love and returned home to after my military service. I want to make this community a place where people want to come and a place where my children would want to stay.

- Joel Davis**
- Small Business Owner
- I.T. Consultant for multiple Townships and Villages throughout Trumbull County
- No reply
- I have proudly called Bazetta home for over 30 years. This community raised my family, and I have always believed in giving back. As a local business owner and IT consultant who already serves our township, including the police, fire, and road departments, I have seen firsthand the needs, challenges, and potential of our community. I’m running for Trustee because I care about Bazetta’s future, and I want to ensure our government remains transparent, responsive, and focused on the residents. We deserve leadership that listens, acts, and puts people first.
- One of the most pressing issues is maintaining and upgrading our infrastructure, including roads, public safety services, and technology, while staying within budget. I plan to address this by using my experience in IT and consulting to help modernize systems, find cost effective solutions, and work collaboratively to prioritize projects that directly benefit our residents. Smart planning and transparency in spending will be key.
- Ensuring that residents are informed, heard, and involved in decisions.
Supporting our police, fire, road, and maintenance departments with the resources they need to serve efficiently.
Responsible Growth and Infrastructure: Making improvements to roads, parks, and community spaces while preserving the character of our township.
- As an IT consultant and business owner, I bring problem-solving skills, budgeting experience, and a strong understanding of how to run efficient operations. I already provide IT services to Bazetta’s police and fire departments, which gives me a unique perspective on how our township functions day-to-day. I am honest, transparent, and approachable — qualities that help build trust and collaboration. I understand the importance of both fiscal responsibility and long-term planning.
- I will maintain open lines of communication through regular updates, public meetings, and direct engagement with residents. Whether it’s answering emails, attending community events, or holding forums, I want residents to feel heard and valued. I believe that trust is earned through transparency, consistency, and action — and I will work hard every day to represent our community’s interests.
- My long-term vision for Bazetta is a community that grows responsibly while preserving its small-town character. I envision a township with strong infrastructure, thriving local businesses, safe neighborhoods, and parks and public spaces that bring people together. I want Bazetta to be a place where families continue to choose to live, work, and thrive — supported by a local government that truly works for them.
- Fiscal responsibility is critical. As a business owner, I understand the importance of budgeting smartly while delivering results. I will work closely with department heads to evaluate needs, eliminate inefficiencies, and explore grants or partnerships to stretch every tax dollar. We must prioritize essential services while planning carefully for future needs — without burdening our residents.
- Economic development is essential to keeping our community strong, vibrant, and financially stable. I believe in smart, balanced growth that aligns with the character of Bazetta while expanding opportunities for residents and businesses alike. To attract new businesses, I would work to make Bazetta more business-friendly by streamlining processes, improving infrastructure, and promoting our township as a great place to live and work. Supporting existing businesses is just as important — that means listening to their needs, encouraging collaboration, and exploring local partnerships. As someone who owns a small business and works with many others across the county, I understand the challenges business owners face, and I’m committed to helping them succeed right here in our township.
- Community projects should be planned with resident input and clear goals. I would advocate for a collaborative approach involving public feedback and using data to drive decisions. Improvements should focus on safety, accessibility, and quality of life. I would also look for opportunities to secure funding through state and federal programs to reduce the cost to our local taxpayers.
- I am a dedicated, long-time resident of Bazetta with over 30 years of commitment to this community. As a business owner and IT consultant who already serves the township’s police and fire departments, I bring hands-on experience, practical problem-solving skills, and a strong understanding of local government operations. I am honest, transparent, and approachable — and I will always put the needs of our residents first. I am running to be a Trustee who listens, leads with integrity, and works every day to make Bazetta a better place for all.

- Michael J. Hovis**
- Retired Chief of Police, Owner of Hovis Construction LLC.
- Retired from Bazetta Township Police Department on December 31, 2018, as Chief of Police.
- Associate degree in Police Science Technology, bachelor’s degree in criminal justice with an emphasis in Law Enforcement. Western Reserve Institute Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy.
- Our community needs to be run very effectively and efficiently. A fiscal plan and executing that plan everyday is what keeps our taxes low in Bazetta. I have many years in budgeting and managing government monies and I enjoy working for the taxpayers.
- Our most pressing issue is how we are going to fund our local services if property taxes are done away with. This is a legislative decision that must be made by our state legislature.
- Pave roads, fully staff all services and ensure that the budget is followed by all departments to ensure that taxes can remain low in Bazetta.
- I have served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees since I began my term on January 1, 2022. I bring a law enforcement background and an independent business owner of 37 years to the office. I manage government contracts in construction and demolition for the federal government. This experience allows me to have a diverse background in law enforcement and government contracting.
- Service to the residents is the priority. Issues that are important to the residents will be dealt with prior to the Trustee Meetings. This will instill confidence in our local government.
- Controlled growth in the commercial and residential areas of Bazetta will be a priority. We have plenty of area for development in both areas of the township. This will preserve the tax base for our community and school district.
- As I have done with the entire budget, each line item in the budget will be constantly monitored on a bi-weekly basis. This ensures that the budget is always followed.
- Economic development is a priority as it has been in the past. Such projects as the Amazon warehouse in the Industrial zones portion of Bazetta will bring additional funding to the township as well as Lakeview Schools. The stronger financially the township and school district become, the value of property already owned will increase.
- Infrastructure such as parks, roads and other pieces of infrastructure will be a top priority. Tax dollars that are not spent on a scheduled replacement of infrastructure will lead to unforeseen expenditures to the budget. When unforeseen expenditures occur in local government the services tend to suffer, making our community less safe and secure.
- Experience counts! In a time when government missteps cost taxpayers dearly, I pledge also to continue to fight to collect your hard-earned tax dollars that were given away at the county level. This election is about you, me, our children, our neighbors – it’s about keeping Bazetta on a path of responsible growth, financial strength and strong public services. With your support, we can continue building a township that attracts new residents and that future generations will be proud to call home. I am humbly asking for your vote.

Meet Your Candidates brought to you by The Cortland News

BAZETTA

1. Benjamin R. Moody
2. Residential Insurance Adjuster
3. 2025 Lakeview Little Bulldogs Head Coach
4. Lakeview High School, Cornell University, Youngstown State University, Hondros Business College
5. Belief in the inevitable, evolving nature of our community and the need for new perspectives and leadership development of younger generations.
6. Rising cost of living; No one can reach out to help others from a sinking ship. Additional funds should not be expected, requested or required from any government body without every avenue of efficiency and efficacy being explored and implemented.
7. Review of operational policies and practices that are outdated, no longer serving the community or costing excessive tax dollar in inefficient operations. Budgeting and allocation of funds for advancing technologies, public service equipment, infrastructure, and the continued demand of maximized service with minimum burden. Evolution of economic growth, demand, and expansion. Making Bazetta Township a developmental promise for more companies, as Amazon, while also ensuring the history, heart, and beauty of our community is preserved.
8. Perspective. I was born and raised here. I’ve also traveled to nearly all 48 continental states, attended college and lived in New York. I’ve worked as a landscaper, construction grunt, EMT/Firefighter, and Head of Operations in Security Technologies managing 7 states and 3 time zones simultaneously. Friends I’ve dug ditches with and others who are CEO’s of start up multi-million dollar businesses. All voices are heard, all perspectives considered, all points of view and walks of life cherished.
9. By simply being a member of our community, as it should be. I am not, and will never be, anything above a citizen. I am a constituent, a tax payer, a parent...with the same worries, concerns, stresses and dreams as anyone else. “I am only one, but I am one; I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do I ought to do, and what I ought to do, by God’s grace, I will do.” -Edward Everett Hale.
10. To maintain the heart and soul of our community - a quiet, peaceful, scenic small town to raise your family while also providing economic stability and growth allowing our community to thrive. Our community shouldn’t be a place our children grow up in waiting for the day they can leave it in the rearview, but rather a place they can’t wait to return to one day.
11. Previous trustee boards have done a phenomenal job at maintaining a budget sound operation. An overhaul is not needed, rather maintaining based off of the foundations that have been set while always and continuously looking for improvements to provide the maximum benefit to our community with minimum cost.
12. Amazon is a much needed and long awaited boost to our area. Big or small, businesses rely on infrastructure. Roads, public services, utilities, internet and technology; all are areas we must improve.
13. By involving the community. In my short time campaigning, my pride in the area has been echoed in almost every conversation. The conversations always turn to our community members asking “how could we help” or “what can we do” and the knowledge of what’s going on feels hidden to them. Sure, our township makes the required announcements but it isn’t enough - the most recent case being imagination station and how far more people learned of it after it was already closed for tear down. Technology and communication are paramount.
14. I am not a politician. Quite frankly, my independence from political parties is because of my agreement with our founding fathers. Holding public office, on any level, is a civic duty held for one purpose only; To serve. To refrain from personal or party benefit, refrain from agendas, from personal feelings, judgement, or partiality. To serve the community by listening, embracing ALL who reside whether they agree with you or not. Win or lose, this is my home and I will continue to serve in every way I can as I always have - whether in office, or picking up trash as I was my kids playing, carrying groceries that just looked too heavy, volunteering when a need is found. Serving, put simply, is just part of who I am.

CORTLAND

1. Rich McDermott
2. General Manager. I oversee daily operations, lead cross-functional teams, and ensure every customer interaction reflects our commitment to quality and responsiveness.
3. Civil Service Commission Expires December 2025
4. BS, Business Administration, Minor in Marketing
5. After living in Cortland for over 20 years I want to bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to the city council.
6. The trust in our local government has deteriorated and I will bring transparency, ethics and common sense thinking back to the city.
7. Improve City Services, Budget Conscience, Work closely with our State Rep to inform them of resident wants and needs.
8. I have a tremendous amount of management experience running businesses, negotiating union contracts, budget planning, employee cross training and my main goal is the success of my team members.
9. I would engage the residents at council meetings, phone call or meeting them to discuss at their home of business.
10. I would like to have a part in revitalizing the city, especially the West Main Street area with businesses that the residents will support and want to frequent for their needs.
11. We will have to keep a close eye on our budgets, look for avenues to save money through grants and cost saving initiatives.
12. We need to have more events in the city. I.E. Car Shows on Main Street, Craft Shows, Food Truck Saturdays with vendor stands, Bouncey Houses for the little ones and giveaways (gift cards, ect) from the businesses to create excitement and bring people to the event. If this would happen both people and businesses will notice and want to be in Cortland.
13. We can have volunteer community involvement days to help clean up the city and looking for infrastructure grants.
14. I’m a results-driven operations and sales leader with 25+ years of experience driving performance, building teams, and improving business processes. I have a strong focus on customer satisfaction, team development, and strategic thinking, I’ve built sales teams from the ground up, introduced systems that cut costs and improved efficiency. I’m passionate about ethical leadership, practical innovation, and building organizations where people thrive.

- 1 Allison McGregor
2. Administrative Assistant/Realtor
3. Cortland Lion’s Club
4. Licensed Realtor in Ohio and Pennsylvania
5. I have been following city business for a few years. After learning that several current council members were not running for reelection, I saw this as an opportunity to serve my community. I think local government, even in our little city, is very important. Our city needs a voice, fresh faces and new perspectives.
6. I think that the most pressing issue facing the city today is the loss of focus on what our residents need. We need to prioritize completing numerous unfinished projects and fulfilling the role of important city positions.
7. My top three Priorities if elected are: a.) Engaging more residents to participate in City Business. b.) Promoting our Safety Services (Fire, Police, etc.) c.) Working together and bringing new ideas to maintain the charm and character of our City.
8. As a real estate agent it’s important to listen to what people want, need, desire, etc...and to find a solution and a plan of action. I believe that listening to the residents of Cortland is important. If elected, I look forward to working with fellow council members, as well as the Mayor to move the city forward and do what is best for our residents. I plan to put as much dedication into this position as I do in my work and home life. I enjoy listening to other people’s opinions and taking them into consideration. I understand that we will not always agree, but I do enjoy a good debate.
9. I’m a people person, I consider myself approachable and will do my best to integrate resident’s thoughts and ideas to my decisions on council.
10. My long-term vision of Cortland is to improve on what we already have. A place where people want to raise their families, grow older, and retire.
11. I plan to ask a lot of questions and make sure that spending is kept under control.
12. Economic development is crucial. I think we need to support our existing businesses. A city that’s known for retaining and supporting its local businesses sends a powerful message to potential investors: this is a place where business is valued and where success is possible.
13. This is where I thrive.... I love a good project, getting my hands dirty, being a part of something good. I think it’s important to encourage the residents to actually be involved. I think we need to allow the residents to have a say, and be able to contribute ideas on parks and projects.
14. I love Cortland. I am not afraid to ask questions and will stand up for myself and our residents. I’ve been attending council meetings and I understand what is going on and what the position entails. As a longtime resident, and a Lakeview graduate, I have a lot of pride in our city, our schools and our safety services. I look forward to serving Cortland with integrity, transparency and respect.

1. Donald Petrosky
2. General Contractor
3. Past 2-time President of Cortland Rotary and current Rotary President.
4. [No Reply]
5. There are 4 seats open, and 3 council members are not seeking re-election. This will create an opportunity to attract some quality replacements.
6. There are many issues facing the city today. The most pressing is the clear rainwater entering into our sewers. This is taxing our sewer system and costing the city to treat this clear water. I intend to create awareness and solutions for this problem.
7. Work on the clear rainwater issues, commercial blight and absent landlords.
8. As a successful businessman for 42 years, I have many skills that could benefit council. Namely the ability to work within a group setting. I have great communication skills along with the ability to recognize good ideas and take action steps to implement them.
9. To be present, listen and to be helpful with the concerns of the residents.
10. To keep the city improving and to keep the city a top destination for business, retirement and tourism.
11. To work with the set budget and keep the departments accountable for their spending.
12. Building a sense of Community with events such as food truck night, movie night and music in the park will get residents in the habit of coming to the downtown area, this will help to support the existing businesses. By creating legislation to hold current landowners in the downtown area accountable for their property to fix them up or to sell them. This will create more opportunities for growth.
13. I support the current proposals for Park upgrades and community spaces. Depending on available monies, I support the expansion of pickleball courts and lights at Willow Park. Talk of a concession stand at Pearl Park is also an option for serving the soccer fields and the splash pad.
14. Our city is ripe for community development, building a great sense of community pride and growth. Council has the responsibility of creating legislation to make this happen. I work in many surrounding cities and work within the parameters of their laws and ordinances. We have a situation here to move our city forward. I have the time, energy and ability to put in the hard work to create legislation to keep our great little city in a position to attract new businesses.

Meet Your Candidates brought to you by The Cortland News

CORTLAND

1.

Chelsea Munroe
2.

Sr. Project Specialist at Enbridge Gas Ohio
3.

Chapter President of Sleep in Heavenly Peace Trumbull Co. (5 years), Board Member of Autism Society Mahoning Valley (2 years), Volunteer with Junior Achievement (8 years).
4.

Bachelors of Science Business Admin, Marketing Management from YSU in 2010; Masters of Business Admin, Resource Planning from YSU 2015; Bachelors of Science Civil Engineering Tech, in progress.
5.

Cortland deserves leaders who are engaged, willing to listen to residents and deliver results. I believe I am a strong candidate who can accomplish this. I strive to provide transparent communication and bring cooperation back to the city that we know and love.
6.

Lack of transparency and trust in how our city is currently being run is a major issue. The residents do not feel informed or heard which is creating division. My goal is to rebuild transparency, trust and cultivate an environment where cooperation is restored within Council and the Mayor so we can continue to move Cortland forward.
7.

Restore transparency and repair trust with our local government. Finish what we started. Prioritizing current projects before starting new ones and spending additional funds. Downtown development that is realistic for Cortland. Preserving small town charm.
8.

I have experience in steel mill production planning, industrial materials management, gas utility project management and GPS pipeline program development, implementation and training. Additionally, I have experience with grants, budgeting, event coordination and volunteer management as a local nonprofit leader. I was raised in Cortland and am now raising my own children here. I bring a well-rounded background, education and personal perspective to Council.
9.

I want to provide opportunities for residents and students to get involved with our city. Regular updates from City Hall, open dialogue and a chance to ask questions. I am already involved in the community and plan to continue to be visible and available for residents.
10.

Ethical leadership throughout the city to ensure that funds are used properly, and employment selections that best serve the community. Maintaining a city that is a safe place to live with a highly rated school system. City projects that are funded by a mix of grants, partnerships and mindful budgeting to minimize taxpayer burden. Well organized city events that provide ways to connect residents with downtown and local businesses.
11.

I want a budget that works for our residents while protecting our essential services. We need to spend wisely and promote efficiency. Being creative in growing our revenues in an appropriate way. Cortland is known to be an attractive place to live and we need to preserve that while also attracting business.
12.

There is much work to be done with attracting the right types of businesses that will allow residents and visitors to spend time downtown versus being a pass thru. I believe we need to preserve our small-town charm and make economic decisions that are realistic for our city and are sustainable. Cortland is known to be an attractive place to live and we need to preserve that while also attracting business.
13.

Utilizing grants is a great opportunity for the city to make improvements and I will continue to support that effort. I want to see clear project timelines, documented progress and transparent financial impacts of projects.
14.

I am a dedicated Cortland resident, gas utility professional, and nonprofit leader running for City Council to bring transparent, forward-thinking leadership to our city. With my education, deep roots in the community, and knowledge in utilities/infrastructure, I bring experience, energy, and a commitment to transparency and communication. I’m running because I care — about this community, its people, and its potential. I’m ready to listen, to lead, and to work with you to ensure our city continues to be a place we’re proud to call home.

1.

Kevin M Piros
2.

Researcher for State of Ohio/Ohio Department of Health
3.

City County 2010-current, Board Member for Cortland-Bazetta Historical Society
4.

Associate of Applied Business from Kent State University
5.

Continue to work to better the residents of Cortland and finish projects started while currently elected to council
6.

Property tax reform being introduced in Columbus, continued to have balanced budget, maintaining police and fire staffing despite pressure from other areas of the state.
7.

a.) revitalizing downtown, b.) improving infrastructure (ie water, sewer, roads), c.) addressing flooding in areas of the city
8.

Almost 16 years of working with 3 mayors and countless council members, numerous department heads while maintaining a great relationship with city departments and employees.
9.

I would like to initiate town hall meetings to allow open dialog outside the formal structure of council meetings
10.

Construct a new fire station to address current deficiencies of current station, increase occupancy in downtown business offerings, attract residents with continued recreational opportunities and leverage the state park to draw visitors.
11.

We have a healthy financial foundation, but we need to work with neighboring communities to find ways to strengthen the collaboration and sharing resources where possible. Health care is our #1 expense so we have to find ways to reduce the cost while continuing to offer premium value to our employees.
12.

We already have instituted an inventorying of available property and will work with countywide agencies to try and match our spaces with interested parties. If we can grant incentives to attract new businesses, that could increase businesses wanting to expand/relocate to Cortland. We have to identify and eliminate obstacles/barriers to economic growth.
13.

Our last Strategic Planning survey let residents tell us what is important and recreational opportunities was high on the list. We will continue to expand and refresh our parks with amenities geared to a wide range of interests. The new restrooms provide modern facilities for families visiting the parks. The Splashpad has been a huge hit during the summer and I am proud to have been a key part of making that dream come to fruition. The new downtown event space will offer a wide variety of programs and entertainment. Our continued investment in the city’s infrastructure has reduced the burden on many of our aging water, sanitary and storm water systems. Our resurfacing program is aggressive and continues to provide the residents with roads to be proud of although last winter was especially hard on the roads and we will have to continue to evaluate and target roads most affected by the harsh winter. Our service department and safety services are dedicated to providing the highest quality of life to our residents and I, as part of city council, remain committed to that promise.
14.

I am proud to have served the city since 2010 and I am more proud of the progress the city has made during that time. The improvement to our parks, condition of our roads, the pride the community continues to demonstrate, and the dedication of the city employees are what I am most proud of. I do not have any conflict of interests with my employment, family business or relationships with developers or those seeking to do business in the city that might cloud my judgement on zoning decisions or ordinances granting political favors. I have tried to make the best decisions based on the information provided. I have a great relationships with the city departments and enjoy working with all those employed by the city. I have grown up, graduated, worked in the community nearly all my life, first working for my father in the 70’s pumping gas at the Piros SOHIO gas station (where the Circle K and Subway currently is). I cherish an aerial photo showing the gas station and the open field which is now Wakefield Dr and Shepherds Hill. I continued working into the 80’s at the service station after he sold the station back to the Standard Oil Company and left to teach at what is now TCTC. I continue to run into customers who remember those times where there was no self-service and we washed windows, checked oil and aired up tires. This is home and I am proud to be a Cortland City Council member and most of all a Cortland resident.

1.

Chris Wadley
2.

Lieutenant, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks & Watercraft, Law Enforcement. Over 21 years in law enforcement as officer, investigator, and supervisor. Instructor at Kent State University and Youngstown State University Police Academies.
3.

Former Union Board Member for State of Ohio Unit 2 Association; two-term Secretary and current member of Fraternal Order of Police Ohio Lodge 149; Member of Trumbull County Rod & Gun Club.
4.

Studied Police Science at Hocking College and completed Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training. Additional training at multiple law enforcement academies in Ohio, New York, Florida, and Maryland in investigations, fire response, instructional skills, patrol operations, and supervision.
5.

With three council members not seeking reelection and hearing resident concerns about taxes and current issues, now is the right time to run to improve the city and create positive change.
6.

Cortland faces challenges like hiring a service director, stalled projects, and lack of transparency. The Fire Department needs a new station with proper facilities to protect firefighters from harmful contaminants. The proposed complex was scaled back due to cost, but no alternative options or grant opportunities have been shared. A plan is needed to upgrade the station affordably, exploring new construction, remodeling, or repurposing existing buildings with minimal taxpayer impact. Funding to maintain the current level of service of our Police Department is also a major issue.
7.

a.) Support Safety Services: Ensure strong emergency response from Fire, EMS, and Police. Cortland’s Police Department offers exceptional service beyond typical law enforcement. b.) Complete Projects: Address unfinished initiatives like the fire station, safety city, downtown civic center/stage, and flooding solutions. Projects with secured grants should be completed; others should be reevaluated for feasibility. c.) Promote Transparency: Limit emergency ordinance uses to true emergencies (e.g., equipment repairs, broken water lines, urgent bills). Emergency legislation bypasses public input and council review. Residents deserve transparency and involvement.
8.

Extensive government experience and investigative skills to verify facts and avoid manipulation. Deep understanding of law enforcement and public safety operations. Experience in labor relations from both union and supervisory perspectives.
9.

Committed to respectful dialogue with residents and open communication via phone, email, Facebook, and mail. Opposes public shaming of dissenting voices and supports free expression. Advocates for better city communication on road closures, events, and issues.
10.

Long-Term Vision: Make Cortland a welcoming place to live, work, and visit, with trustworthy officials, quality infrastructure, and affordable living.
11.

Budget Management: Prioritize essential services like water, roads, and safety. Evaluate long-term costs and sustainability before approving projects. Promote competitive bidding and efficient use of existing funds.
12.

Economic Development: While downtown revitalization may be limited by building constraints, support for small businesses is key. Encourage development in other city areas and streamline permit processes. Host events to attract visitors and support local businesses. Residents prefer avoiding more chain stores and pizza places.
13.

Community Projects: Focus on roads, water/sewer infrastructure, and public safety. Seek grants and funding to reduce costs. Address Walnut Creek flooding. Ensure transparency and resident support before approving new projects.
14.

I am committed to asking tough questions, understanding legislation thoroughly, and ensuring fiscal responsibility by being aware of the cost and funding sources before voting on ordinances and legislation. I value respectful engagement with residents and will not personally attack those with a different point of view or those who disagree with me. I support Cortland’s Fire and Police Departments. I am running to make sure we have Checks & Balances on City Council. I pledge to be a thoughtful, independent voice on City Council, promoting accountability and transparency.

The Trumbull County Republican Women’s Club

The Trumbull County Republican Women’s Club held the 1st meeting of the 2025 -2026 season with speaker Thomas P. Shortreed, CFP, Guidelight Financial Wealth Management Services with topics “Anticipating the Unexpected” and the “Family Love Letter”.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Sat, Oct. 4 at The Chophouse. For more information or to RSVP, contact Lori Hineman @ 330- 442-7468.



Jo Anne Szczyglowski, Judie Shortreed, Thomas Shortreed.



Girl Scouts Annual Flag Display

By Sarah Gyure

Girl Scout Troop 80161 of Cortland will be constructing their annual flag display, 100 Flags for 100 Heroes, to honor local military members for Veterans Day.

If you would like to submit a new Veteran to be honored, please remit name & branch to gsneotroop80161@gmail.com by 11/1/25. All past year’s submissions will be on display. The community is invited to view the flags 11/8/25-11/12/25 at 224 N High St.

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Girl Scouts Sharpen Survival Skills

By Sarah Gyure

Girl Scout Troop 80161 of Cortland sharpened their survival skills in September. Army veterans Dave & Sally Hall of Warren Ohio led the Troop through fire starting, signaling, weather preparedness and outdoor safety. The girls walked away with a wealth of knowledge and an appreciation for uncommon skills. Along with their new skills the girls were given ‘survival pouches’ by the couple containing all

they need to get them through a rough spot outdoors.

The girls plan to carry these pouches in their Girl Scout Day Packs at camp and further fine tune their survival skills.

Without their knowledge and willingness to give back to our youth this program would not be possible. Community members like Dave & Sally are a treasure within our society.




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Rev Timothy McCollum, Bazetta Christian Church



The 4 G’s

A few weeks back I preached a message on the 4 G’s and received quite a bit feedback. It was based on Ken Sandi’s book on ‘peacemaking’. If we had more peacemakers in our world perhaps a difference could be made in our culture.

1st G: Glorify God When the Apostle Paul urged the Corinthians to live “to the glory of God,” He wanted them to show God honor & bring him praise in day-to-day life, especially by the way that they resolved personal conflicts 1 Cor. 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

2nd G: Get the Log Out of Your Own Eye. One of the most challenging principles of peacemaking is found in Matthew 7:5, where Jesus says, “You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

One way to do this is to use the Seven A’s of Confession.

1. Address everyone involved (All those whom you affected)
2. Avoid if, but and maybe (Do not try to excuse your wrongs)
3. Admit specifically (Both attitudes & actions)
4. Acknowledge the hurt (Express sorrow for hurting someone)
5. Accept the consequences (Such as making restitution)
6. Alter your behavior (Change your attitudes & actions)
7. Ask for forgiveness

3rd G: Gently Restore Another key

principle of peacemaking involves an effort to help others understand how they have contributed to a conflict. We must tread lightly here. When we think about talking to someone else about a conflict, one of the first verses that comes to mind is Matt. 18:15: “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you.” Jesus repeats this theme just after telling us to “go and show him -his fault” by adding, “If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.” And then he hits the restoration theme a third time with the parable of the unmerciful servant, it reminds us to be as merciful & forgiving to others as God is to us (Matt. 18:21:35). Remember that it is appropriate to overlook minor offenses. Proverbs 19:11 teaches that good sense & patience are signs of wisdom & it is a glory to overlook or forgive offenses rather than react with anger or seek revenge.

4th G: Go and be Reconciled, This is the pursuit of genuine forgiveness & reconciliation. Even though Christians have experienced the greatest forgiveness in the world, we often fail to show that forgiveness to others. To cover up our disobedience we often use the shallow statement, “I forgive her—I just don’t want to have anything to do with her again.”

Just think, how you would feel if God said to you, “I forgive you; I just don’t want to have anything to do with you again”? Praise God that he never says this! Instead, He forgives you totally & opens the way for genuine reconciliation.

Making A Difference

Make a difference! A great many of us grew up with that intent, and even that promise. That we are meant to make a difference in the world. As culture grew around the aspect of parenting, it became something almost continually implanted in children. We are special and unique. Our lives are meant to make a difference. And I agree with the sentiment whole-heartedly.

The trouble is, we often consider the difference we make based on the size of the impact. There is a bit of wisdom that’s been floating around a while and is typically attributed to Theodore Roosevelt, “Comparison is the thief of joy.” Over the course of years, entire generations have been raised with the belief that they are meant to make a difference. And yet, there has seemingly been a haunting narrative that the difference we might make matters only if it has a greater impact than that of someone else. And that’s where the rub lies.

I remember several years ago watching a YouTube clip about a garbage man that always stopped to talk to a little boy on his route. The boy was often waiting for him on garbage day. Being a young boy, he was entranced by the garbage truck and the man who drove it. Their relationship became so regular that the boy even shared cookies with the man in one of their videos because he was so grateful to see him.

Little bits of kindness make a difference. Not only did the garbage man bless the boy, the boy blessed the

garbage man. The parent who was taking the video was blessed with a moment of joy and I was there watching the videos considering how awesome it is that someone took a moment to show a little kindness to someone else, and it only grew from there.

And I think that’s the thing. While there is so much going on in the world, a little bit of kindness can be the thing that makes someone’s day. The measure of its impact will likely be unknown, but the difference it might be, could change a life from despair to hope or grief to gratitude. I have a shirt from the TilValhalla Project supporting veterans that says “Be Kind. Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about.”

Mark Twain once said, “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” And Barbara De Angelis is quoted saying “Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.”

For me, kindness is a natural reflection of genuine love. Jesus tells us multiple times in multiple ways that we are called to love one another. And Paul lifts up kindness as one of the fruits of the Spirit, ways in which we see the movement of God coming to life in us. I would suggest we can never overestimate the difference kindness can make. It’s worth aiming for again and again.

You are loved. I love you and I know God loves you so much more.

Church News And Notes

Cortland United Methodist -

God Provides a Meal on Saturday, Oct 18, 11 AM – 1 PM. All are welcome. Donations accepted but are not required.

On Wednesday, Oct 22 from 4:30 - 6:00 pm we will have a Stuffed Chicken Breast Drive thru Dinner. Pre-order at 330-637-2571

Cortland Christian Church

Located on Grove Drive from where the sound of the bells rings all over the city. We are having a Rummage Sale on October 10-9 am-4 pm and October 11 from 9 am -Noon.

This sale is a “ Make A Fair Offer” sale. We have a Fellowship Hall full of great stuff. Come and spend some time and get some good bargains. No clothes or shoes.

Soup and Sandwich will be on Thursday, October 16th from 11 am-1 pm. The best soups in town and great sloppy joes and chicken salad sandwiches. Pies galore. Eat in or call and have it delivered. Call to order 330-637-4611 or email officeatccc@gmail.com Thanks to all who have participated in recent events.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Trunk or Treat event on Sunday

October 19th from 12:30 pm-2 pm at 2742 North Rd NE, Warren. Candy, prizes, games and more! If the weather does not cooperate, we will move the event inside. All ages.

Reunion Celebration: Join our sister congregation, St. Mark’s Victory Lutheran Church (280 Millcreek Dr., Ygn) in celebrating together on Saturday October 18th for service at 10:45 am with a meal to follow. The Rev. Hosea Ekong is preaching, and the Rev. Robert Wacker is conducting the liturgy.

Katharina’s Closet: Drop off is the first Mon. of the month from 4:30-6:30 pm.

Bible Studies on Sunday are at 9 am on the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays through May. Wednesday Bible Studies at 5:30 pm and we are studying what the Bible says about Angels and Demons.

Sunday School 9 am on first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays during the school year. We have Sunday School for the kids K-12th (*preschool if parents stay with child*).

Reformation Service Sunday October 26th at 10:15 am we will celebrate the anniversary of the Reformation.


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Rev. Jonathan Williams, Pastor
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Stepping Up for Our Children LOAF's Annual Adopt-A-Foot Program Launches

By Theresa Hutton

Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF) is joyfully announcing the return of its Annual Adopt-A-Foot Program—a ministry of compassion and community partnership that provides brand-new shoes to children in need each fall.

This ecumenical outreach works hand-in-hand with the Lakeview, Maplewood, Mathews, Champion, Badger, and Bristol school districts. Teachers and staff identify students in need, and their information is shared with Ms. Carol Cleal of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, a LOAF representative. From there, Neal's Shoes of Warren, Ohio—faithful partners since Adopt-A-Foot's beginning—carefully order the right size and style for each child. Once the shoes arrive, schools coordinate pickup so students can receive them quickly. Each pair of shoes costs \$30.

What began as a small effort has grown in both size and importance as costs rise and needs increase. LOAF continues to serve as the central coordinator—raising donations, building awareness, and ensuring that every request is fulfilled through the loving support of our communities, schools, and Neal's Shoes.

At the heart of Adopt-A-Foot is

a shared belief: every child deserves a sturdy, supportive pair of shoes. We offer heartfelt gratitude to the generosity of our neighbors who continue to help children step confidently into their futures.

This year, we warmly invite community members, churches, and organizations to join us in "Stepping Up for the Kids." A suggested donation of \$30 covers one pair of shoes, though every gift—large or small—makes a difference. Please write "Adopt-A-Foot" in the memo line. Donations are requested by November 15th for timely delivery.

Checks may be made payable to: LOAF P.O. Box 494, Cortland, OH 44410.

Together, through faith and fellowship, LOAF and our community are making a lasting, positive difference in the lives of local children. For additional questions, please contact: Theresa Hutton, LOAF President Teca2218@gmail.com



Eleanor's Last Dig

By Cait Morgan

Mom and I would fight. Frequently. It was just the way our relationship worked. She claimed I tried to kill her while being born. I used to tell her I should have tried harder. Yeah, that's how it was. We loved each other but we didn't understand each other at all. She had me arrested once. During a company meeting where the probate judge was the speaker a township cop came in and told me I was being arrested. Looks great on a resumé, huh? Seems she claimed she was getting harassing phone calls multiple times a day and calls where the people wouldn't say anything or started rattling off in Chinese. So they put a tracer on the line and the majority came back to the same number: mine. It was easily explained if you knew Eleanor.

Mom was not good with cordless phones, she would hold it upside down therefore could not hear whoever was on the other end (usually me) so I would just hang up. If I didn't hang up fast enough, the answering machine would kick on and she could hear that from the other room and thought the woman (me) was talking at her in Chinese. Ok, Mom. Thanks a bunch for that one. Oh, and she would tell anyone who listened how she hadn't heard from me in days! Weeks! I never called her, ever! She

loved to tap dance on my last nerve.

For instance, Mom told me that since I was a baby I hated purple. Before I could even walk, I would take off anything she put on me that was purple. I really dislike it to this day. All shades of purple. She would often wear this gawd-awful purple suit when I would take her somewhere just to bug me. She always got her 'digs' in. Always. I just assumed, though, that they would stop when she passed away. Not.

When our friend (and funeral director) came up to me as I walked in the funeral home for her calling hours and said how hard it must have been to order the flowers I did for her spray I admit I was confused. Until I turned the corner. The pink and white carnations and roses I ordered had turned into purple irises, purple wildflowers, deep lavender hyacinths and greenery (the florist still insists he delivered the pink and white flowers). And her light blue suit we bought for her had become a lovely shade of lavender when illuminated by the pink bulbs used in the casket lamps alongside the casket. She got me again and just about every person who walked into that room knew it, too. I had to admit defeat. For now. We'll see – eternity is a long, long time and I have learned from the best!



Medicare Support Services Now Available At Scope

If you are a Trumbull County older adult S.C.O.P.E. Senior Services assists with various programs and services. S.C.O.P.E. stands for 'Senior Citizens Opportunity for Personal Endeavors' and is one of many agencies supported financially by the Trumbull County Senior Levy.

Beginning in October through early December each year is 'Medicare Renewal' time. This program is one of the major support services SCOPE offers for free with Program Manager Marge Haley. She travels to each of the SCOPE Senior Community Centers to meet with those asking for information or needing assistance with their plan renewals and prescription discounts. To make an appointment call 330-399-8846. Senior Levy agencies provide many individual support services to older adults over 60 years of age such as discounts on utilities, restaurants, and stores. Free consultations are provided on Medicare, or Medicaid and prescription information, as well as Social Security assistance.

Those needing free help with their cell phones, laptops, and computers can get assistance from SCOPE's IT Director Kevin Weber. Call 330-399-8846 to set up an appointment. He can also sit down with a senior and go online to set up accounts, make changes to governmental assistance programs and

to communicate. Training sessions on SCAMS are another vital and important part of SCOPE and the other senior centers located throughout Trumbull County. Plus, SCOPE offers a 'Skype with Scope' program so older adults can stay in touch with their family and friends. This technology service received a national award as the best program in America by The National Council on Aging.

Through a network of attorneys, and Community Legal Aid free legal advice as well as Notary services are offered. SCOPE also partners with the AARP Tax Aide Foundation and our public library system during tax season to provide free tax preparation services.

SCOPE, Help Network, and Direction Home offer older adult information and referral services. SCOPE receives thousands of calls a year from family members as well as care givers wanting to know how local senior levy services can assist their elderly loved ones. These senior citizen needs provided by Senior Levy agencies include financial, housing, utilities, meals, transportation, homemaker, chore services, employment, adult protective services, ombudsman support, and personal care.

For more information on any of these benefits, visit any SCOPE Senior Citizen Center or call 330-399-8846.

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Lakeview School News

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Lakeview Athletic Hall Of Fame Welcomes Class Of 2025, Looks Ahead To 2026

By Michael DeToro

The Lakeview Athletic Hall of Fame proudly welcomed its newest class of inductees during a ceremony held Saturday, September 13, 2025, at Dilucia’s Banquet Center. The evening celebrated the rich tradition of Lakeview athletics while honoring athletes, coaches, teams, and community members whose impact continues to shape Bulldog pride.

The Class of 2025 included:

• **Lauren Schattinger** (2012, Track & Field) – A record-setting sprinter and four-time state qualifier who earned multiple All-Ohio honors and competed collegiately at Miami University.

• **Greg Solarz** (1983, Baseball/Basketball) – A standout two-sport athlete who excelled on the diamond and hardwood, earning All-County honors and later starring at Youngstown State University.

• **Laura Nochta Martinsen** (2006, Golf) – A state medalist and All-State golfer who went on to compete at Indiana University, later winning the Ohio Women’s Amateur and serving as Director of Championships for the USGA.

• **Kyle Smedi** (2008, Football) – A defensive standout who helped lead the Bulldogs to the 2007 Division III Elite 8, setting multiple school records and later continuing his career at Slippery Rock and YSU.

• **Ben Moody** (2009, Football/Track & Field) – A state champion hurdler and record-breaking track star who also excelled on the football field before competing at Cornell University.

• **Diane Neighbarger** (Coach) – A longtime coach in basketball, track, cross country, and soccer whose teams won multiple league, district, and county titles over her 30+ years of service.

• **Dave Christner** (Contributor) – A dedicated booster club leader and announcer whose vision and commitment modernized Lakeview’s athletic facilities and supported countless athletes.

• **2014 Girls Golf Team** – State runners-up, marking the program’s first-ever trip to the OHSAA Division II State Championship podium.

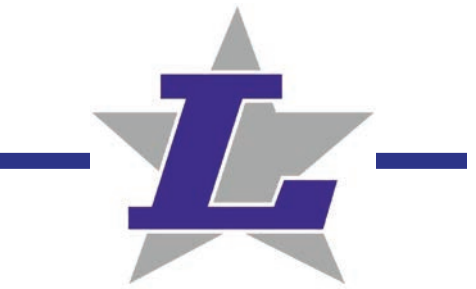
• **2015 Girls Golf Team** – The first Lakeview team to win a state championship, capturing the OHSAA Division II title and cementing their legacy in school history.

• **1990’s Track Booster Club** – A dedicated group that spearheaded the construction of Trumbull County’s first eight-lane all-weather track, laying the foundation for decades of athletic success.

Committee Chairman Michael DeToro closed the ceremony with a reminder that “this weekend was just the beginning” and encouraged honorees and the community to remain engaged in celebrating Bulldog athletics.

Looking forward, the next Hall of Fame induction will take place the weekend of September 25–26, 2026. The nomination process is now open, with submissions accepted through April 15, 2026. Nomination links can be found on the Lakeview High School Athletics website.

The Lakeview Athletic Hall of Fame Committee thanks the community for its support and invites all alumni, athletes, and fans to help carry forward the proud tradition of Lakeview athletics.



Class of 2026 Spotlight Bulldog

By Michael DeToro

This tri-weekly installment will spotlight an outstanding graduating senior at Lakeview High School. Each showcased student will be someone who represents their family, Lakeview Schools, and most importantly, our Bazetta/Cortland community with integrity, commitment, and loyalty.

This issue’s Spotlight Bulldog is Trent Nale, a talented student and leader at Lakeview High School. Trent, the son of Jamie and Michael Nale, has been a proud Lakeview Bulldog his entire academic career. Academically, Trent challenges himself with a mix of Lakeview High School classes and college courses through Youngstown State University. He is also a talented musician, performing as a percussionist in both the marching and symphonic bands. Outside of school, Trent works at Pizza Joe’s in Cortland and enjoys gaming, with Elden Ring as his favorite. Looking ahead, he plans to pursue either a four-year degree in business or attend a local trade school.

Get to know Trent better with a quick 60-second rapid-fire interview.

1.) What is something that you do exceptionally well? - Being a student here at Lakeview. I try my best and I think I do pretty well.

2.) What is your favorite part of the Lakeview Local School District? - The bands.

3.) Where is your favorite place to eat in Bazetta/Cortland? - Burger King

4.) Where is your favorite place to hang out in Bazetta/Cortland? - My house.

5.) Describe your fashion style. - Adventurous. I try a lot of new things.


6.) You might catch me ... - Lying in my bed scrolling on TikTok.

7.) What is something you are watching, listening to, or reading right now? - Prison Break

8.) What are your future aspirations? - To better myself and have an impact on the community.



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LHS Class Of 1975 Reunion

By Chris Brown

More than 40 members of the Lakeview High School class of 1975 met for their 50th class reunion in the afternoon on Sept 20, 2025.

It was held at the SLOAS Airport Museum at 4059 North River Road, Warren.

Jim Whetstone generously hosted the event by providing the location and the buffet dinner for all the classmates and their guests.

There was lots of laughter, hugs and tears as the group reminisced and remembered good times. Letterman jackets and yearbooks were on display. The graduates wore name tags which

many at the reunion said was a good thing, because it is hard to remember everyone’s name after 50 years!

Special thanks to Jim Whetstone and his wife Diana for hosting the reunion and to the committee: Janet Williams Onatz, Pam Dockery Griffith, Chris McCurdy Brown and all the folks who reached out to classmates all over the country.

Many classmates will continue to stay in touch with a Facebook group called LHS Class of 75 50th reunion. Tentative plans are being made for a possible 55-year reunion.



Cortland’s own “Inflatable House” is decorated for Halloween. Jeff and Tiffany Scherer decorate year-round for every holiday. They really out do themselves at Halloween and Christmas. The home is located at the corner of East Main and Maple Ave. Be sure to drive around the side to see the back yard also. Thank you for helping to make Cortland ‘the best place in the world to live!’

Lakeview Homecoming



Lakeview held their Annual Homecoming on Sept 20. Students attend the football game on Friday the 19th and the dance on the 20th. Among those attending were Katie Rider, daughter of David & Lynn Rider with her date David Erwin, son of David & Shannon Erwin. Everyone had a great time!

Meet The Board Of Education Candidates

By Nicholas Facciolo

The Lakeview Teachers Association is hosting a school board candidate night on Wednesday October 15th at 6 pm in the K-8 building. A panel of moderators will be asking the group a series of questions for the public to become more informed about the candidates.

The candidates are Derek Bush, Angela Campana (Incumbent), Mark Harper (Incumbent), Nicholas Lawrence, and Dani Scherer (Incumbent).

Band Boosters Halloween Parade



The Lakeview Band Boosters will be having our annual Halloween Parade on Wednesday October 29th at 6:00p.m. Beginning at the K-7 Building and ending at the High School with a full performance of our band night show.

Admission is free but we do ask that you please bring a new unwrapped toy as the Marines will be there collecting toys to kick off their Toys for Tots program for the Holidays. Candy will also be passed out in the stands.





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Street Fair Update From The Cortland Lions Club

By Ralph McCord

The Cortland Lions Club Street Fair Committee held another Public Meeting in reorganizing the Cortland Street Fair on Wednesday September 17th. Dawna Wiland, our Club President, announced that one of our Lions Club members, David Kovacs, has volunteered to be the Street Fair Chairman. David has been a Lions member for over a year and with his organizational skills and strong desire to give back to his community the Street Fair will be in good hands. David and his family live in Cortland and he is a Commercial Loan Specialist at 7-17 Credit Union.

David outlined his suggestions to more than 35 attendees, as to how he feels the Street Fair can be reorganized and how he plans to build Street Fair Committees by prioritizing volunteer's passions, build support to lighten the workload and minimize burnout, provide a clear vision with goals reducing confusion and frustration and lastly foster creativity.

He outlined his plan to establish Street Fair Committees who will have complete responsibility for their specific facet of the Street Fair. Some of the highlights of his outline were:

- Secure a volunteer General Manager for the Street Fair to oversee all administrative and operational functions.
- Secure a volunteer Sponsorships/ Development Coordinator to cultivate relationships and secure financial and in-kind support from businesses, organizations and individuals.
- Secure a volunteer Parade Manager to coordinate the entire planning, logistics and execution of the



Street Fair Parade.

- Secure a volunteer Pageant Manager to coordinate the planning, promotion and execution of Pageants at the Street Fair.

- Secure a volunteer Event Planner who will manage the entire entertainment schedule for the Street Fair including the opening ceremony, booking and scheduling bands for the Main Stage, secure vendor contracts, and coordinate contests such as pizza eating, ice cream eating and etc.

- Secure a volunteer Marketing Manager to increase attendance, engage the community, drive fundraising by creating and executing a promotional strategy, manage digital marketing and handle media outreach.

- Secure a volunteer Operations Manager who will be responsible for execution of the Street Fair, managing vendors, overseeing logistics and ensuring all operational aspects run smoothly, safely and efficiently.

Several people at the meeting signed up for various open volunteer positions and David will meet individually with them in September and early October.

At our next meeting, to be held in late October, David will provide a summary of the feedback from these meetings with the volunteers. Watch for the meeting date on Face Book-Everything Cortland

If some of these responsibilities are of interest to you, we invite you to our next meeting. You can join with a group of regular people doing amazing things to benefit Cortland's Premier summer event - The Cortland Street Fair.



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Upton Association Events

By Bonnie Hood

The Upton Association announces "Halloween at Harriet's" on October 10 & 11 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. The Open House is a family-friendly event, so come see the spooky decorations and enjoy refreshments at the historic Harriet Taylor Upton House in Warren. The Upton's First Wednesday speaker series will feature a program about Women Pilots of World War II on Wednesday, November 5. The presenter will be Alexandra Lausin, the Interim Director of the International Women's Air & Space Museum in Cleveland. During World War II, 102 American women flew as part of the WASP. Women played important and sometimes understated roles during the Second World War.

In this program attendees will enhance their understanding of the vital roles women played during the global conflict. From manufacturing to nursing, to research and other facets of aviation, this program will shine a light on not only American women's experiences during the war and aviation, but international connections.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 and the free program will begin at 10:00 at the Harriet Taylor Upton House, located at 380 Mahoning Avenue in Warren.

For more information call 330-395-1840 or visit uptonhouse.org.

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The Children at Bazetta Christian Childcare Center having fun as they play in the leaves. Maybe that is because they can make a mess of them and don't have to rake them up!



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Our handsome boy has suffered a heartbreaking loss with the passing of his lifelong companion, Bones. Despite his size (about 100 lbs), he is a gentle soul with the sweetest personality. He doesn't pass a toy bin without diving in headfirst for a ball. He keeps his kennel spotless and patiently waits until he's outside to go potty. Mando walks beautifully on a leash and truly loves being with people. He is very strong, so we recommend no small children at this time.

Very food motivated — treats are the way to his heart! Dog selective — he can walk past other dogs calmly but will bark back if barked at. We'd definitely schedule a proper dog meet if you already have a pup at home.

- Not cat-tested yet.
- Likely best with older children right now.
- Keeps his kennel nice and clean as long as he gets out on time.
- Such a good boy with a gentle soul. Just needs you to help him bloom into the happy, goofy dog he's meant to be.

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Baby on the Way?
Here's How You Can Prepare Financially

If you are expecting a baby, or have recently adopted one into your family, you have likely begun making big plans for the future. One of the most important aspects to consider while preparing for your new arrival is how your financial habits, responsibilities and goals might change. Here are six things to consider:

Evaluate how your goals may evolve. A new baby has a way of adjusting your short-term and long-term goals. According to the Ameriprise Parents & Finances study, 60% of parents are concerned that the financial tradeoffs they're making today will impact their long-term financial goals. From childcare to college, planning for the myriads of expenses that come with parenthood can be overwhelming. Consider working with a financial advisor to discuss how your goals may evolve when the new family member arrives.

Think about lifestyle changes. How will your baby impact your day-to-day activities? Incorporate the cost of family outings and increased expenses into your budget to avoid surprises. Keep in mind that supporting your children in their childcare, hobbies and healthcare needs will take additional investment. Childcare can be very expensive, and this cost continues to rise across much of the U.S. So, whether you choose daycare, a nanny, an au pair, an afterschool sitter or a combination of options, make planning for this expense a priority. If your ideal lifestyle involves a big expenditure, like a new home or car, consult a financial advisor about the pros and cons of making the move today - or further down the road.

Take stock of your career goals. The arrival of a new child may cause you to think differently about your career goals. Perhaps you want to earn a promotion, seek a job with a higher salary or better benefits, or pursue continuing education. Maybe you or your partner are ready to reduce your hours or become a stay-at-home parent. If you are thinking about changing your job status, evaluate how the move may affect your paycheck, retirement savings and benefits, including any available family leave.

Prepare for tuition. While the cost of childcare may decrease if you choose to send your child to public school, private

elementary or secondary school often comes with a price tag. Furthermore, the cost of college continues to rise. Consider utilizing a 529 plan, a saving option for educational expenses. You may withdraw up to \$10,000 in federal income tax-free per beneficiary, per year to pay for kindergarten through 12th grade tuition at a public or private school. And, if funding college tuition is important to you, it's never too early to start saving.

Plan for the unexpected. Unexpected events can affect your finances at any time. Resolve to build or maintain an emergency fund that could cover three to six months of expenses, in addition to prioritizing your retirement savings. After your baby arrives, update your estate plan and insurance coverage (e.g. medical, life, disability policies) as necessary. (Contact your human resources department for details on when the open enrollment deadline is for you.) According to the Parents & Finances survey, one-fifth (21%) of parents do not have updated beneficiaries on their accounts. No one wants to think about the worst-case scenario, but planning is important. Having updated legacy documents is critical to ensuring your child is best taken care of should the unexpected happen.

Ponder family values. Start thinking about how you want to teach your child about financial responsibility. Will you give him or her an allowance? What is your vision for giving birthday presents, holiday gifts, vacation souvenirs and other items to your child? What money values do you want to pass down? Being intentional early can help set clear expectations and ensure you and your partner are on the same page.

Expanding your family often has a way of putting your priorities into perspective. If you would like an objective opinion on how to best plan for your goals, talk with a financial advisor in your area.

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Autism Society of Mahoning Valley
New Executive Director

By Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer

The Autism Society of Mahoning Valley (ASMV) is proud to announce the appointment of Jodi Glass as its new Executive Director, effective November 1, 2025.

Glass has been a dedicated leader within ASMV for more than seven years, most recently serving as Board President. She helped guide the Society through a period of transition, ensuring stability, transparency, and uninterrupted support for families. A co-founder of the organization's signature Mahoning Valley Warrior fundraiser, Glass has also been directly involved in relaunching the Social Connections program and expanding Camp F.R.I.E.N.D. offerings for children, teens, and young adults.

In addition to her volunteer leadership, Glass brings extensive professional experience in communications, marketing, and community outreach. She currently serves as Marketing and Recruiting Coordinator at the Mahoning County Career & Technical Center (MCCTC) Adult Career Center, where she manages strategic advertising campaigns, enrollment initiatives, social media, video production, and major public events. Her career has also included roles in media, sales, and workforce development.

"Jodi has been a steady hand and a passionate advocate for the Autism community," said Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer, former Acting Executive Director and immediate past Board President. "Her professional expertise, community leadership, and personal commitment make her the right leader to carry ASMV forward."

As Executive Director, Glass will oversee ASMV's programs, fundraising, and strategic partnerships across Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana

counties. She will work closely with staff, the Board, and volunteers to expand inclusive programming and deepen connections with local families. "I am honored to continue serving ASMV in this new role," Glass said. "The Autism community in the Mahoning Valley inspires me every day. I look forward to building on our strong foundation and ensuring that families have the resources, connections, and advocacy they need to thrive."

Founded in 1989 by local families, ASMV is dedicated to fostering connections and empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources necessary to live fully. Through advocacy, education, and year-round programming, the organization serves thousands of individuals and families across the Valley.

For more information about the Autism Society of Mahoning Valley and its programs, please visit <https://autismmv.org> or contact the office at (330) 333-9609 or info@autismmv.org



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New Beginnings And Community Traditions At Farmington Senior Center

By Mary Lepisto, Director, Farmington Senior Center

In February, I stepped into the role of Director at the Farmington Senior Center, and it has been an incredible journey so far. Taking on this position has given me the opportunity to listen, learn, and grow with an amazing community of older adults who value connection, activity, and shared experiences.

My primary goals as Director are to enhance the programs we offer, increase community engagement, and ensure that every senior who walks through our doors feels welcomed and valued. I hope to build on the center's strengths while exploring new possibilities that meet the needs and interests of our members.

One of the most exciting parts of this role is organizing events that bring people together. We have several activities planned this fall that I am thrilled to share with you:

- **Paint and Sip** - October 13 at 12:00 PM

Whether you're a seasoned artist or a curious beginner, join us for a relaxing afternoon of painting and socializing. All supplies are provided—just bring your creativity!

- **Amish Wedding Dinner** - October 24

This special event is one of our highlights of the year. We'll be serving a traditional Amish-style dinner with chicken, mashed potatoes, and all the "fixins".

- Takeout is available from 3-4 PM
- Dine-in is available from 4-7 PM

Tickets are \$20 and we strongly recommend purchasing in advance.

- **Bingo Night** - Every 4th Tuesday of the Month

Join us monthly for Bingo with great prizes, a 50/50 raffle, and a concession stand for snacks and drinks. Admission is \$20 for 10 games, and each round offers a chance to win cash prizes.

These events not only bring joy and entertainment but also help strengthen the bonds that make our community so special.

For tickets or more information, please contact Mary Lepisto at 330-889-2733. As we move forward together, I look forward to getting to know more of our members and supporters and continuing to make the Farmington Senior Center a place of warmth, connection, and celebration.

INSURANCE ANSWERS

By Kelly Ray, CISR ~ L. Calvin Jones & Co



Non-Profit Advice For Volunteers And Board Members

As the final quarter of 2025 unfolds and the Holiday Season approaches, many people are thinking about ways to give back to their communities. Whether you're planning to volunteer your time or donate to a charitable organization, it's common to have questions about how insurance works for nonprofits. Understanding these basics can help both everyday volunteers and nonprofit board members feel confident and protected as they serve.

Are volunteers covered under a nonprofit's insurance policy?

If you're helping out at a nonprofit, you might wonder whether you're protected if something unexpected happens. Most general liability insurance policies include volunteers as covered individuals. This means if you're volunteering at an event or helping with daily operations, you're typically protected under the organization's insurance. However, it's always a good idea to ask the nonprofit for specifics about their policy so you understand exactly what's covered.

Do board members need special insurance? Serving on a nonprofit's board can be deeply rewarding, but it also comes with more responsibility. Board members are involved in decision-making that can impact the organization, which means they face additional risks. To address these,

nonprofits should carry a Directors & Officers (D&O) Liability policy. This type of coverage protects board members if they're sued for decisions made on behalf of the organization. In addition, it's wise for board members to review their own insurance policies—like homeowners and umbrella policies—to ensure they provide extra protection while serving in this role.

What about insurance for fundraising events? If your group is hosting a fundraising event, you may need additional insurance coverage. Requirements depend on your nonprofit's current insurance company and the specifics of the event—like the number of attendees, activities planned, and whether alcohol will be served. Some insurers may increase your existing premium for the event, while others might require you to purchase a separate event policy. The best step is to contact your insurance provider early and discuss the event details, so you can be sure your organization is properly protected.

Whether you're volunteering just a few hours or serving on a nonprofit board, understanding these common insurance questions can help you contribute with peace of mind and ensure your organization is prepared for any situation.



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Several changes happened in 2025 to the basic plan formats as part of the Inflation Reduction Act that was passed in 2022. Arguably the biggest of these changes was the elimination of the coverage gap, also referred to as the donut hole and the reduction of the maximum out of pocket Amount to \$2000. For 2026 the new format of the prescription plans will continue with some slight adjustments. The following information applies to both Stand-Alone Part D plans and prescription portion of Medicare Advantage plans with prescription drug coverage. Keep in mind, the medical coverage on Part C Advantage plans including copays, deductibles and out of pocket limits are separate from the prescription portion of the plan.

In 2025 the annual prescription deductible could have been between \$0-\$590 for 2026 that amount increased by \$25 allowing insurance companies to set their deductible between \$0-\$615. This is the phase where the individual pays 100% of the costs of the prescriptions until the deductible is met. After the deductible is met, the initial phase is where you pay a set copay amount or coinsurance percentage depending on the drug tier, and the plan pays the remainder of the costs. For 2025 the initial phase threshold was lowered to \$2,000 and once the individual reached that amount paid in total drug costs, they would enter catastrophic coverage paying \$0 for the remainder of the year for their medications. For 2026 the maximum out of pocket amount is increasing to \$2100. Several factors figure into the calculation to reach this amount but in general, an individual

will pay no more than \$2100 in their costs for medications.

Another component of the new regulations is the option to participate in a monthly payment plan. This is an optional program where those with high costing medications can choose to participate in a program through their insurance company where payments are divided by the remaining months of the year and made to an account that is then used to pay for the prescriptions, similar to a budget plan for utilities.

One exception to the above format will continue to be insulin medications. There are insulin savings programs that limit the cost of insulin to \$35 per month without regard to the different Part D phases. Each company can decide if the plan will participate in the program and which specific insulins they will include for this price.

If you cannot afford your medications, there are different options that may be available to help with these costs depending on your specific situation. You may qualify for "Extra Help" through Medicare if you meet certain income limits or receive both Medicare and Medicaid. Manufacturers may offer assistance programs to help offset costs. Information for these can be obtained from your insurance agent, Medicare.gov and oftentimes your physician's office. If you are a veteran, it might be helpful to check and see if you can receive prescriptions through the VA.

Specific plan information for 2026 will be available October 1st; your current plan is required to send you an "Annual Notice of Change" to inform you of any changes to your plan. These notices are typically mailed in late September. Each year during the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period which runs October 15th through December 7th you can change your Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug plan or stand-alone Prescription Drug plan for the next year. Reach out to your agent if you have any questions or concerns.

Zachary Freeman is a licensed insurance agent with Wiley Insurance Services, located at 3470 Warren Meadville Rd, Cortland and 400 Detroit St, Conneaut. He can be reached at 330-720-4815, 440-599-7559 or Zachary@AWileyInsurance.com.



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Cortland Police Levy Clarification

By Chief of Police David Morris

After a previous article concerning the police levy was published in the last edition of the Cortland News, I received an email from a resident who believed the stated cost was what the levy would be monthly, and not annually as it is.

I apologize for the misunderstanding and want to clarify what the levy will cost per \$100,000.00 appraised value of your property. The requested levy is a 1.5 mil additional levy to maintain police services within the city of Cortland, Ohio. The levy will generate \$315,673.00 annually. The levy will cost \$53.00 annually per \$100,000.00 of the auditor's appraised value. This equates to \$4.42 per month.

Residents wishing to find out exactly how much the proposed levy would cost them can go to the Trumbull County Auditor's website and look up their property on the "property search" tab. When you find your property information and click on it you can scroll down towards the end of the screen, and you will see exactly how much the additional tax will cost you annually.

This levy will allow for the department to maintain a minimum staffing of two police officers per shift. Increased overtime and healthcare costs have now surpassed the amount generated from our last levy, which was passed in 2020, and forced the department to ask the voters for an increase.

Should you have any questions concerning the levy or the operations of the police department, please feel free to reach out to Chief David Morris at (330) 638-1000 ext. 1601 or e-mail him at dmorris@cortlandoh.gov.

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By Mary Nora and John Trogotgott

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A bond we ask, not just in gold,
But in the trust that we uphold.
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This levy is a pledge we make,
For every risk they daily take,
To stand behind their noble call,
To build a safer home for all.

So cast your vote with heart and pride,
Let honor, hope, and strength abide.
Support the ones who serve
and strive –
For they keep our dreams alive.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR POLICE



News From The Bazetta Fire Department

By Rob Wasser

Our annual Open House will be held on October 10, 2025 from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm. People attending can expect to see multiple agencies and resources related to Bazetta Fire Department's emergency response and specialty services such as the Trumbull County EMA and the newly formed Trumbull County Water Rescue Team. Equipment display and literature will accompany these agencies. Food and refreshments will be available for all that attend. Food and refreshments are provided by National Fire & Water Repair, Disaster Recovery Services and Bazetta Fire Department.

We are still participating in the American Red Cross' "Sound the Alarm" smoke detector installation program. Residents can obtain up to (3) detectors per household at no cost and they will be installed by fire department personnel on a date and time of their choosing. All residents need to do is call the fire department and request smoke detectors.

As part of our senior watch program, we still have some secure codes lock boxes for seniors and those with disabilities. These lock boxes were generously donated by the Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club and are an invaluable resource to the fire department in the event of an emergency at a resident's home when they can't open the door themselves. These lock boxes can hold up to (5) keys so firefighters, paramedics and police officers can gain entry without causing damage to the residence.

EXCITING NEWS We just received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (FG) from FEMA in the amount of \$47,610. This grant will be used to purchase new structural firefighting turnout gear that includes coats, pants, helmets and boots. Every element of firefighting turnout gear has an expiration date and needs to be replaced after so many years. It is imperative that our department provides new equipment like this gear before it expires to ensure the safety of our personnel. The fire department's financial responsibility to obtain the full amount of this grant is \$2,267.15 (5%). The fire department can pursue these grants through the cooperative efforts by our firefighters, our fire department trustee liaison Mike Hovis, our Fire Chief, Tom Rink and the entire administration of our township. Without the cooperation of these individuals, obtaining these grants would not be possible.

Lastly, October is fire prevention month. Change your clocks, means changing your carbon monoxide and smoke detector batteries. For those that have multi-year batteries as well as other types, it is essential to test detectors once every 30 days to ensure proper operation. Fire safety literature is available at the station and available to all residents. Also: people this time of year are going to begin leaf and brush cleanup. Please be aware of the current burning laws for the state of Ohio. We have copies of the current burning laws at the fire department for anyone needing them. Stop at the station and pick them up.

Warren Women's Club Begins Fall Season

By Peggy Boyd

The Warren Women's Club, located at 708 North Park Ave. Warren, held their first meeting of the year featuring upcoming events and house updates. Dates were revealed for the two "Holiday Teas". The first will be served on Sunday, November 23rd with a second tea planned for Sunday, December 7, 2025. The cost will be \$15 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Sandy Mahaffey at 330-518-6927. Lunch was served to 32 members before the business meeting was brought to order.

The Warren Women's Club meets at noon on the third Monday of the month, September through June. The monthly meetings feature a luncheon prepared by the ladies of the club, fellowship and a program with a speaker. Contact Louise Kline for details on membership at 330-399-4661.

November Charity Breakfasts At Cortland Masonic Lodge

By Dick McClain

The next two charity fund-raiser pancake breakfast at the Cortland Masonic Lodge will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1st and Nov. 15th, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am - at 3263 Everett-Hull Rd. (E. Main St.) in Cortland.

The benefiting organization, on Nov. 1st, will be the Warren Chapter of DeMolay -- a Masonic youth organization for boys. Representatives will be available to share detailed information and answer questions about DeMolay activities.

Then on Nov. 15th, the breakfast will benefit the Champion Robotics Club, to help them raise funds for building their robots and for their competitive events.

The "all you can eat" breakfast costs \$9.00 for adults, and \$6.00 for youth age 6 to 10, and FREE for any children age 5 and under. Included are pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee, with take-outs available.

The public is invited to attend and enjoy these monthly breakfasts at the Masonic Lodge. As a community service project, the lodge donates all the breakfast supplies, then cooks the menu, and donates 100% of the income to a local area charity.





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At 4:00 on September 17, to commemorate the 238th year anniversary of the signing of the US Constitution, Mary Chesney Chapter Daughters gathered in front of the Warren Trumbull County Public Library to ring bells for one minute. Martha Yoder, regent, read a brief history and we all recited the preamble together. Pictured are Barb Layfield, Martha Yoder, Diana Tripi, Kim Welch and Karen Andrus.

Warren City Federation Helps Healthy Hearts & Paws

By Terri Crabbs

Warren City Federation of Women’s Clubs members donated much needed supplies for the Healthy Hearts and Paws Project at their September meeting. Different outreaches are chosen monthly, and the member clubs donate to a specific need within our local community.

Warren City Federation of Women’s Clubs consist of nineteen member clubs and meet monthly September through May at various locations in Trumbull County. We offer an opportunity to network with like-minded individuals/organizations who share common goals of volunteering to make our community a better place. Single memberships

are available to interested individuals without direct membership in one of our member clubs.

Warren City Federation of Women’s Clubs is a member of the General and Ohio Federation of Women’s Clubs. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14 at The Chophouse in Howland. Anyone interested in attending a meeting must have a reservation. For further information contact Valerie Kokor, Membership Chair at 404-944-8687.

Pictured with the donations for Healthy Hearts and Paws are Lori Hineman and Debbie Reel, board members for Warren City Federation of Women’s Clubs.



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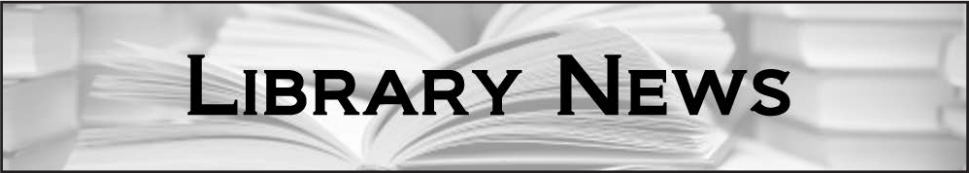
Genealogy Class At Warren Library

The Warren-Trumbull County Public Library is offering a FREE Genealogy class on Wednesday, October 15 from 6-7 PM. It is titled "Preserving Family Memories". Savannah Moss, Collections & Researcher Manager, and Kate Pfouts, Archivist at the Trumbull County Historical Society, will discuss preserving family items such as photographs and documents. Guests may bring one item each about which they may have questions. Registration is required. Call (330) 399-8807 ext. 202 or Visit www.wtcpl.org/events

Bristol Public Library Events

By D'Lynn Johnson

It's That "Time" at Bristol Public Library - Children's programming will resume in October at the Bristol Public Library. Story Time, for 3, 4 and 5 year olds, will be held on Mondays at 10:00 am. Sessions will end on October 27th. Children will enjoy stories, songs, and games during each session. This is the perfect opportunity for your child to learn to interact and socialize as they make new friends as well as learn to be away from parents or caregivers. Registration is required, due to limited space, and began on September 15th. Visit the Bristol Public Library for more information and to register or contact the Circulation Desk at 330-889-3651.



Cortland Library Events In October

Holiday Closing - CLOSED FOR COLUMBUS DAY All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations will be closed on Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day. This includes the libraries in Brookfield, Cortland, Eastwood Mall, Howland, Liberty, and Warren; the Bookmobile; and outreach services. Events All events will be held at the Cortland Library, 578 Lakeview Dr.

Midweek Mayhem Wednesdays from 3 – 4 p.m.: Oct. 15, 22, 29. Teens ages 12 – 18 can enjoy games, activities, and a small snack at the library's weekly teen hangout! Free.

Toddler Tales Mondays at 10 a.m.: Oct. 20 A fun and active Storytime for toddlers ages 19 – 35 months with a parent or caregiver. Free.

Preschool Storytime Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: Oct. 14, 21 Preschool Storytime features stories, songs, and movement activities and reinforces the development of early literacy skills. For children ages 3 – 5 with a parent or caregiver. Free.

Teen Advisory Board Tues., Oct. 14 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. Teens ages 12 – 18 who have ideas about what they'd like to see at the library, want to earn service hours, or collaborate on creative ideas can be part of the Teen Advisory Board! Free.

Creature Powers Coding with PBS KIDS Scratch Jr. Thurs., Oct. 16 from 5 – 6:30 p.m. Inspired by the "WILD KRATTS" television show, this program will challenge children ages 5 – 9 to create projects that explore different animals

and their unique behaviors and traits using the coding and programming app, PBS KIDS ScratchJr. Presented in partnership with Ohio PBS Western Reserve stations. Registration is required by Oct. 11. Sign up online at www.wtcpl.org/events or call (330) 399-8807 ext. 206. Free.

Family LEGO Afternoon Sat., Oct. 18 from 3 – 4 p.m. Practice problem-solving and engineering skills while building with the library's collection of LEGO building bricks. Finished projects will remain at the library. For families with children ages 3 and older. Free.

Totally Tweens Tues., Oct. 21 from 3 – 4 p.m. Tweens ages 10 – 14 can let their creative juices flow with crafts and activities. Free.

Hauntings of Trumbull County Sat., Oct. 25 from 1 – 2 p.m. Explore the eerie and unexplained in this chilling presentation focused on the haunted history of Trumbull County. This program dives deep into the region's most spine-tingling stories. Local author Wendy Koile will recount tales of ghostly encounters, unsolved mysteries, and local lore that refuse to stay buried. Perfect for fans of true crime, the paranormal, and Ohio folklore. Free.

Halloween Murder Mystery Tues., Oct. 28 from 4 – 6 p.m. Teens ages 12 – 18 can solve a murder mystery working with other humans, sorcerers, vampires, and werewolves! Characters will be provided at registration. Registration is required by Oct. 23. Sign up online at www.wtcpl.org/events or call (330) 638-6335. Free.

Warren-Trumbull County Public Library Launches New Reading Initiatives for Children

The Warren-Trumbull County Public Library (W-TCPL) is launching two new reading initiatives to help children develop early literacy skills and a love of reading. Children who are ages 0 through kindergarten age can participate in the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. The nationwide 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten reading initiative encourages parents and caregivers to read 1,000 books with their child before he or she starts kindergarten. Reading aloud to children strengthens early literacy skills, preparing children to be ready to read when they enter kindergarten. Studies have shown that children who are read to at an early age are more successful in school. Children can participate by using a keepsake booklet from the library that will allow them to track the number of books read and color in or work on different skills for each 100 books read. Every book counts, whether it is a book that the child loves and has re-read many times, or a book the child hears read by teachers, librarians, siblings, and other family and friends. At each

level, the child will receive a prize. The new 500 Books Before Middle School program challenges children in grades K to 5 to read 500 books before they enter middle school. Children will track their reading by using bookmarks and will receive prizes along the way. Children can sign up for both programs at any W-TCPL library branch, the Bookmobile, or Pop-Up Library. Participants can choose to participate in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten or 500 Books Before Middle School online. Create a free account through the library's convenient online platform called Beanstack at <https://wtcpl.beanstack.org/reader365>. Track reading progress and then visit any W-TCPL location to pick up prizes. The W-TCPL system includes branch libraries in Brookfield, Cortland, Eastwood Mall, Howland, Liberty, and Warren; a Bookmobile; Pop-Up Library; and Library-By-Mail services. To learn about programs and services at the Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, visit the library website at www.WTCPL.org or call (330) 399-8807 ext. 128.

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