

# Cortland NEWS

*"The Good News Newspaper"*

Vol. 22 No. 13

June 27, 2026

Serving the Lakeshore Communities

## Honoring Service Members, Celebrating Freedom: Cortland Prepares For America's 250th Anniversary From a Connecticut Western Reserve Wilderness to a Vibrant Community, Our Local History Reflects the Resilient Spirit of the American Journey

By Alex Irman

As summer warms the streets of Cortland, a profound sense of anticipation is beginning to take root across our community. This year marks a monumental milestone in the story of our nation - the Semiquincentennial, or the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Across all fifty states, communities are gathering to reflect on two and a half centuries of American freedom, democracy, and continuous progress. Here in Trumbull County, our local celebrations carry a distinct and heartfelt theme: *"Honoring service members - celebrating 250 years of American freedom."* It is a theme that beautifully bridges the grand narrative of our country with the deeply personal, dedicated service of the generations of local residents who helped build, defend, and preserve our home.

To fully appreciate the weight of America's 250th anniversary, one needs only to look at the ground beneath our feet and the history written into the landscape of Cortland. Our city's story is inextricably bound to the earliest days of the American republic. Following the Revolutionary War, the newly formed United States had to organize its vast, unexplored territories. The land that would become Northeast Ohio was designated as part of the Connecticut Western Reserve—a portion of land retained by the state of Connecticut to compensate its citizens whose property had been destroyed by British coastal raids during the war, and to reward continental army veterans who had fought valiantly for independence.

**The Birth of a Frontier Settlement** - It was from this post-revolutionary landscape that the seeds of Cortland were planted. In the early 19th century, intrepid pioneers began journeying westward from New England, seeking



new opportunities in the dense forests of Ohio. They brought with them deep-seated values of faith, hard work, local collaboration, and a fierce commitment to individual liberty, the very tenets upon which the nation was founded. These early settlers cleared the wilderness, established small family farms, and laid the foundations of a cooperative frontier society.

Originally known as Baconsburg, the fledgling settlement owed much of its early identity to Samuel Bacon, an enterprising pioneer who arrived in Trumbull County in the early 1800's. Bacon recognized the immense potential of the local geography and established a saw mill and a grist mill along the local waterways. These mills became the vital economic engine of the area, transforming raw timber into building materials and local grain into sustenance. The settlement grew steadily around these operations, quickly establishing itself as a crucial crossroads for trade, agriculture, and social gathering within Bazetta Township.

As the decades progressed, the community underwent a series of transformations that mirrored the broader expansion of the United States. The arrival of the railroad in the latter half of the 19th century forever changed the local economy, connecting our small agrarian village directly to major industrial and manufacturing centers. With this rapid growth came a collective desire for a distinct, formalized identity. In the 1870's, the village was officially incorporated, changing its name from Baconsburg to Cortland. The name was chosen in honor of Cortland, New York, reflecting the geographic roots of several influential families who

migrated to the area, bringing their traditions, architectural styles and civic ambitions with them.

**A Legacy of Service and Sacrifice** - As we look forward to the nationwide Semiquincentennial celebrations, the heart of our local reflection centers directly on our service members. Cortland's contribution to the defense of American freedom is a proud and continuous thread running through our entire history. From the local boys who answered President Lincoln's call to preserve the Union during the Civil War, to the brave soldiers who deployed to the trenches of Europe in World War I, and the Greatest Generation who fought across the Pacific and European theaters in World War II, Cortland has always punched far above its weight in its commitment to the nation.

This enduring legacy of patriotism continued through the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam and remains vibrantly alive today in the modern service members who have served in the Middle East or continue to defend our freedoms in the active-duty military, reserves, and National Guard.

The upcoming national anniversary provides our community with an intentional opportunity to say thank you—to acknowledge that the high price of the freedom we enjoy every single day in our quiet neighborhoods was paid for by the sacrifice, discipline, and unyielding courage of our local veterans.

**Community Institutions Leading the Charge** - A celebration of this magnitude requires a shared community vision, and Cortland's local organizations are proudly stepping forward to lead the way. Central to these efforts is the

Cortland Lions Club, an institution that has exemplified the spirit of community service for generations. In perfect alignment with the town's historical milestone, the Lions Club has centered its landmark summer initiatives around the theme of honoring our veterans and celebrating 250 years of American liberty. Through careful planning and an emphasis on local engagement, the Lions Club ensures that our celebrations remain focused on community unity and philanthropic support, raising vital funds that are directly reinvested into local parks, schools, and essential civic projects.

Furthermore, our city leadership, local historical preservationists, and civic volunteers are working tirelessly to ensure that the historical significance of the Semiquincentennial is woven into the very fabric of our local summer activities. Plans are underway for historical displays, veterans' recognitions, and educational outreach designed to remind our youngest citizens of the rich heritage they inherit as residents of Cortland and as citizens of the United States.

**Looking Forward to a Bright Future** - While the 250th anniversary is inherently a time for historical reflection; it is equally a moment to look forward. Cortland has managed to achieve something truly remarkable: we have grown, modernized, and embraced the future while successfully retaining the warm, close-knit, "small-town" charm that makes this community so exceptionally special. The historic homes that line our tree-shaded streets stand as beautiful, physical reminders of our past, while our thriving local businesses, excellent schools, and beautifully maintained public spaces demonstrate a community that is actively investing in its future generations.

The "Good News" of Cortland's participation in the nation's 250th anniversary is that our best days lie ahead. By anchoring our celebrations in the dual ideals of honoring service and celebrating freedom, we remind ourselves of the core principles that make our community resilient. We are a town built on neighbors helping neighbors, a town that honors its history, and a town that faces the future with confidence, unity, and a shared pride in the American dream.

As the national milestone approaches, let us take the time to look around our beautiful city, extend our deepest gratitude to the veterans who live among us, and recommit ourselves to preserving the vibrant legacy of freedom and community that has defined Cortland for over two centuries.

*Happy 250th Birthday, America—* and may the spirit of liberty continue to shine brightly on our home town.

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**CortlandNews.net**

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## CORTLAND CITY

CITYOFCORTLAND.ORG

Mayor .....	330-637-4003	<b>POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY .....</b>	<b>911</b>
City Hall .....	330-637-3916	Dispatch .....	330-675-2730
Fax .....	330-637-4778	Police - Business .....	330-638-1000
Clerk of Council .....	330-638-0142	Fire - Business .....	330-637-2891
Service Director .....	330-637-4637		

## MEETINGS

### CITY COUNCIL

First and Third Monday of each month.  
 Monday, July 6th - 7 pm  
 Monday, July 20th - 7 pm

### CORTLAND CITY COUNCIL

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

### PARKS AND RECREATION

Second Monday of each month  
 Monday, July 13 - 6 PM

### PLANNING & ZONING

Second Monday of each month  
 Monday, July 13 - 7 PM.

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

## BAZETTA TOWNSHIP

BAZETTATWP.ORG

**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

**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

### BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETINGS

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

**Tuesday, July 8 - 7 PM**

A 60 min. caucus with dept. heads preceding.

Meetings held via ZOOM. Visit [www.bazettatwp.org](http://www.bazettatwp.org)

### BAZETTA TOWNSHIP PARK BOARD

**Wednesday July 1 - 6 PM**

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

**Monday, July 20 - 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

Shawn Woods ..... 330-442-7549

### 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) Bob Mangold..... 330-637-8956

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

## Our Next Issue ... July 18, 2026

Article Deadline by July 6 • Display Advertising Deadline is July 8  
 Email articles to [editor@cortlandnews.net](mailto: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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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](mailto:editor@cortlandnews.net)  
 Display and classified advertising and photographs to:  
[sales@cortlandnews.net](mailto: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](http://www.lakeviewlocal.org).  
 American Red Cross blood donations, various dates. [www.redcrossblood.org](http://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 See their website for upcoming events.

### JUNE

25-27 Cortland Lion's Club Street Fair  
 26 Lakeview Alumni Weekend Basketball Games / New Gym / 6 & 7 PM.  
 27 Lakeview Alumni Weekend Tours / High School / 10AM; K-8 Building 11AM  
 27 Lakeview Alumni Weekend Golf Outing / Tamer Win Golf Club  
 29-7/2 LOAF Vacation Bible School / Cortland United Methodist Church / 9-Noon

### JULY

5 & 12 TNT auditions for PICNIC / start at 6:30 pm  
 7 MS Support Group Cortland Library / Meeting Room / 6 - 7:30 pm  
 14 American Red Cross Blood Drive / Cortland United Methodist Church / 12-5:30 pm  
 18 Cortland Trinity Baptist Church VBS Kick -Off / Pearl Park / 12-2pm  
 18 God Provides A Meal / Cortland United Methodist Church / 11:00 am  
 20-24 Cortland Trinity Baptist Church Vacation Bible School, from 6pm - 8:30 p.m.  
 25 No Garage - Garage Sale / Hosted by Bazetta Christian Church, 4131 Bazetta Rd, 9 AM to 5 PM

## Young Explorers Invited To Dig Into History At Archaeology Summer Camp

Young people ages 8 to 14 can step into the world of archaeology this summer at a hands-on camp hosted at a verified Underground Railroad site in Trumbull County. The Archaeology Summer Camp runs July 8- 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily at Center Brook Manor, 8745 Painesville Warren State Rd in North Bloomfield.

Campers will work alongside real archaeologists to identify artifacts, use excavation tools, and interpret clues left

behind by the people who lived here long ago. The camp blends discovery, teamwork, and outdoor adventure at a location where history actually happened. Lunch and snacks are included daily. Cost is \$80 per camper. Tickets are available at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/archaeology-summer-camp>. Contact Kate Pfouts, Archivist (330) 394-4653 or [kate@trumbullcountyhistory.org](mailto:kate@trumbullcountyhistory.org)

## Annual Garage Sale

Cortland recently held their 7th annual City Wide Garage Sale and it was bigger and better than ever. There are plans for next year to grow even more. The event is held the second full weekend every June. Next year it will be on Thursday, Friday & Saturday, June 10, 11, 12.

On behalf of the residents and businesses of Cortland we issue a big THANK YOU to these folks:

- All who participated by having a sale
- The City of Cortland Services Department who provided No Parking signs to keep roads open
- The Cortland Police

Department, who had a high visibility during the sales to help keep us safe

- Cortland City Council, The wonderful City Hall Staff and Mayor James Bradley for helping to make this happen

- All the businesses who held sales that day

- The Cortland Lions Club for having their famous Fires available for us

But the biggest THANK YOU must go to Jodi Clark who has organized this event every year. It is through her efforts that it grows yet stays coordinated, safe and fun for everyone. Thank you Jodi for helping to make this the best place in the world to live!

## Rescue Mission Of Mahoning Valley Leaves Time Capsule

As part of the nationwide celebration of America's 250th anniversary, the Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley is inviting community members to help preserve the voices, memories, and hopes of today for future generations through its America 250 Time Capsule project.

The time capsule will be sealed in July 2026 and reopened in July 2051, offering a unique glimpse into life, faith, and community in the Mahoning Valley during this historic year.

The Mission is encouraging donors, volunteers, clients, staff, board members, and friends of the organization to participate by writing a brief note to be included in the capsule. Letters must be submitted by July 22, 2026.

Participants are invited to share memories, reflections, words of encouragement, prayers, hopes for the future, or thoughts about what life is like in 2026.

"This time capsule will be more than a collection of letters," said Lynn Wyant, CFRE, Chief Development Officer of the Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley. "It is an opportunity to capture the stories, values, and experiences that define our Rescue Mission today so that future generations can better understand who we were and what mattered to us."

The America 250 Time Capsule will serve as a lasting reminder of the people whose compassion, generosity, and faith have helped sustain the Mission's work and impact throughout the years. Mission guests, volunteers, staff, donors, and community members who would like to participate are encouraged to submit a short handwritten or typed note before the capsule is sealed. Letters should be personal, heartfelt, and reflective of this moment in history. More information is available at [www.RescueMissionMV.org/timecapsule](http://www.RescueMissionMV.org/timecapsule).

Suggested topics include:

- A favorite memory from 2026
- Hopes & prayers for the future

- Reflections on family, faith, or community
- Encouragement for future generations
- Thoughts about the Rescue Mission and its impact

"This is an opportunity to send a message across time and become part of a project that will connect today's Mahoning Valley with the community of 2051," Wyant added.

Letters for the Time Capsule should be submitted by July 22, 2026 and may be:

- Delivered to the Rescue Mission reception office
- Mailed to: Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley, P.O. Box 298, Youngstown, OH 44501
- Emailed to: [LWyant@RescueMissionMV.org](mailto:LWyant@RescueMissionMV.org)

About The Rescue Mission of The Mahoning Valley - Since 1893, because of God's grace, the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley has partnered with our generous community to care for neighbors who are hungry and/or experiencing homelessness. The Mission proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ while promoting accountability and providing essential services. Because of the Lord's provision poured out through our caring donors, we provide:

- Free Shelter: Our 50,000-square-foot building at 1300 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd in Youngstown, Ohio, offers free emergency overnight and transitional shelter. (100 beds for men & 86 beds for women & families, including children)

- Free Meals: Not just a soup kitchen, full and nutritious meals are served to overnight guests and offered to the public. (3 daily meals are provided 365 days a year)

- Workforce Assistance and Biblical Guidance: Guests are helped with resources needed to gain stable employment with a goal to grow out of homelessness. They also can attend Bible studies, daily chapel services, and receive Christian discipleship during their stay.



Tim Pollock (Assistant Men's Director), Jack Trickett (Chief Program Officer), Mark Henry (Men's Director) and Joe Slifka (Men's Advisor)

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### Street Fair Pageant Contestants

There will be two pageants this year at the Cortland Lions Club Street Fair-Little Miss Cortland and Jr Miss Cortland.

Special Thank You to Natalie's Dance School for sponsoring the Trophies, Jo Marie's School of Dance and

Gymnastics for sponsoring the Tiaras, and Gallery 360-Michelle Greenert-Owner sponsoring Photographer for our Pageants.

Thank you to our contestants and sponsors.



The Contestants are far left-Little Miss Cortland contestants Olivia Spring, Amelia Taylor and far right Lauren Stowell and Harlow Rose Keck. Contestants for Jr Miss Cortland, L-R center, Brielle Phillips, Makenna Smith and Rachel Stowell.

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### Bazetta Township Park Board

The Bazetta Township Park Board meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the Bazetta Township Hall, 3372 State Route 5 at 6 pm. All Bazetta Township residents are encouraged to attend and be part of our growing community. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 1 at 6 PM.



**June-July-August - Sundays and Wednesdays from 4-7 we are having "Music in the Park".** Bring your own lawn chair. Food trucks will be there. Visit parks@bazettatwp.org or call Mary at 330-360-7867 to view the scheduled bands.

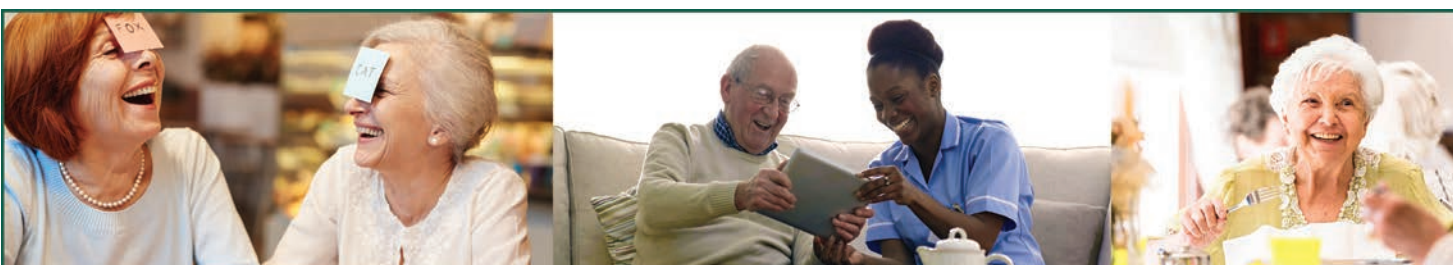
**Sunday - August 2 - Farm & Flea Market from 12-4.** Vendors, Food, Raffle Baskets and much more. Spots are \$20 - spaces are 10 X 10. No electric provided.

So you can see, we are busy but can't do it without the community coming out and helping us celebrate all of the above events. We have a beautiful park for children and adults to enjoy.

The above listed events planned with all proceeds benefiting the improvements of the Bazetta Township Imagination Station Park.

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### Sparkle Announces Brand Change

The owners of Cortland and Champion Sparkle have switched their brand to Golden Dawn. "This change will allow us to better serve our customers with products and pricing" stated Owners Chris Klingemier and Michael Rice.

There will be more to come in the next 2 issues of the Cortland News in print and online.



# What's "news" in the City of Cortland

**Just The Facts**

What is the world's longest-standing surviving written charter of government?

- a. The Constitution of the United States
- b. The Declaration of Independence
- c. The Bill of Rights

Find the answer at the bottom of the article.

**Mosquito Fogging**

This takes place between 7 p.m. and midnight every other Wednesday evening. There are certain conditions that must be present for effective pest control.

It cannot be raining, the temperature must be above 50 degrees, and the winds need to be between 5 and 10 miles per hour. If proper conditions are not present, it will be cancelled and a make-up date will be scheduled for the following evening. The next scheduled dates are July 1st and then again on July 15th.

**Keep Wipes Out of Pipes**

We have been seeing an increasing number of issues with our lift station pumps. They are unable to function when wipes, rags, string and other non-flushable items are flushed. Flushing wipes down the toilet can cause problems in the city's sewer system. Those "disposable" wipes may be labeled flushable, but they can clog the sewer system, contributing to costly cleanups and/or sewer backups for homeowners. Please do not flush wipes!

**Creek Maintenance**

Every property owner should understand who owns the creek. There are two components - the water flowing in it and the land beneath the water. The flowing water is considered a public good and therefore no one can own it, while the land beneath the water belongs to the property owner, which means the primary responsibility

for creek bank repair and maintenance falls to each individual property owner. Property owners can find out if a creek is on their property by looking at the title reports for their property or on the auditor's website. A property owner can utilize water flowing through their property as long as it does not infringe on the rights of others (ex. downstream property owners.) You can read more on the city website under the Community tab, Bulletin Board, and then Creek Maintenance Fact Sheet.

**Curbside Brush Pickup**

The City of Cortland Service Department will conduct branch and limb pick up service along city streets continuing through October. Pick-up is the week of the 4th Monday of each month. There will be one pick-up per month per household. The service day may vary during the collection week due to weather and workload. Branches should be placed at the curb no later than the Sunday prior to collection week to ensure removal. One pass will be made on each street. The week of July 27 is the next pick-up.

**LOAF Vacation Bible School**

Cortland United Methodist Church will have VBS June 29 - July 2 from 9:00 am to noon. Registration is on June 29th at 8:30 am. The cost is \$5 a child or \$10 a household.

**Dates to Remember**

- July 6th - City Council - 7 pm
- July 13th - Parks - 6 pm
- July 13th - Planning & Zoning - 7 pm

**Answer** - a. The Constitution of the United States. This document (1787) is the supreme law of our land that outlines the federal government's structure and separation of powers.

## John Barbo Named Democratic Nominee For Ohio House District 65

By Cathy Phifer

Geneva City Council President John Barbo has been selected as the Democratic Party's nominee for Ohio State Representative in the 65th District for the November 2026 election.

Barbo replaces Lorna Westlake as the Democratic nominee after Westlake recently withdrew her candidacy following her husband's illness.

Ohio's 65th House District includes portions of Ashtabula, Trumbull, and Mahoning counties.

Barbo is serving his second term on Geneva City Council and currently holds the position of Council President. Barbo is an educator, entering his 28th year as a science teacher at Geneva High School, where he serves as Science Department Chair and is a member of several school committees. Throughout his career, he has also coached both

basketball and football.

"As an educator, council member, and longtime resident of Geneva, I have seen firsthand the positive impact strong public schools have on their communities. Unfortunately, our legislators in Columbus have chosen not to properly fund our schools, instead funneling increasing amounts of taxpayer money into private school voucher programs. This forces school districts to make cuts that hurt students while placing greater financial pressure on local communities to make up for the difference.

The result is higher property taxes that create a real burden for many homeowners. If our legislators showed the same commitment to fully funding the Cupp-Patterson Fair School Funding Plan as they do to expanding voucher programs, our schools would have the resources they need to adequately serve their students, and schools would be less dependent on local property taxes." Barbo is also concerned about the rapid expansion of data centers across Ohio and has pledged to work to end what he describes as the wholesale giveaway of Ohio tax dollars and precious natural resources to large corporations.

"For more than three decades, Ohio has been governed almost exclusively by one party. It's time for a change."

John and his wife, Nancy, have been married for 32 years. Nancy coached girls' basketball at Geneva High School for more than two decades. They have one son, Luke, who is entering his sophomore year at Kent State University and is majoring in nursing.



### Trumbull County Democratic Party Reorganization Meeting

The Trumbull County Democratic Party held their reorganization meeting on June 14. The Central Committee voted to retain the following officers: Mark Alberini, Chair; Kathy DiCristofaro, Vice Chair; Cathy Phifer, Secretary/Treasurer.

The officers committed to continue working as a co-leadership team, building the necessary infrastructure for Democratic candidates at all levels. The team announced more young members have been added to the Central Committee and the volunteer base has grown extensively.

Alberini said, "I want to thank the Central Committee for placing their confidence in me to continue to build the Party by engaging new voters, increasing turnout, expanding our candidate recruitment and fundraising.

"We've seen voters leaving the Republican Party and voting in our Democratic Primary, and previously unaffiliated voters moving to our Party, clearly a sign that voters are fed up with the chaos and corruption of the Republicans."

Kathy DiCristofaro said "We're excited about the increased involvement in campaigns and energy of Democrats. We have a Weekend of Action planned and we'll be out in neighborhoods. We're all looking forward to electing our great candidates in November."

The Democratic Party is signing up volunteers for the Coordinated Campaign. If you would like to get involved with this or other activities, you can call Cathy Phifer at 330-307-9580 or send an email to cathytrumbulldem@outlook.com.

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## Patrol Reminds Drivers to Buckle Up, Drive Sober During 100 Deadliest Days of Summer

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is asking all motorists to do their part in promoting roadway safety during what has been characterized by safety officials as the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer. This time period, which runs from Memorial Day through Labor Day, sees an increase in traffic on the roads and an increased number of both serious-injury and fatal crashes.

"Data from the Ohio State Highway Patrol shows a direct connection between rising summer temperatures and an uptick in vehicle crashes," said Governor Mike DeWine. "I encourage everyone to do their part in promoting safety by buckling up and never driving distracted."

The increased risk of serious-injury and fatal crashes during this time of year is attributed to several factors, including increased driving time, increased distractions and driver inexperience.

- Increased driving time - School is out and teens have more unstructured time, which leads to more driving, often times with friends in the vehicle.

- Increased distractions - Distracted driving, including phone use and multiple passengers being in the vehicle, increase the risk of a serious crash.

- Driver inexperience - Statistics show that teen drivers are more likely to be involved in a crash due to their inexperience.

This time period also encompasses the primary motorcycle riding months. According to Patrol statistics, more than half of all motorcycle-involved crashes last year occurred during the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer.

During this time period last year, a total of 67,847 crashes occurred on Ohio's roadways, including 351 fatal crashes. Those fatal crashes resulted in 384 deaths.

"With more vehicles on the road in the summer, there is a greater responsibility for every driver to use caution when behind the wheel," said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent.

"By staying focused and driving sober, you can help prevent tragedies before they can occur."

Similar to a year ago, troopers will be highly visible on roadways across the state promoting traffic safety for all those who live in and travel through Ohio. In 2025, troopers made 4,596 OVI arrests, issued 18,259 seat belt citations and cited 7,567 motorists for driving with a suspended license during the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer.

Additional information regarding Ohio crashes statistics is available on the Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety (OSTATS) dashboard.

The public is encouraged to safely call #677 to report reckless or impaired drivers and drug activity.

## A Foul Ball

By John A. Trogot

I stare at my beloved 1961 Topps Cleveland Indians Team #467 baseball card. It was included in the Bazooka bubble gum packet my father bought me the winter after the baseball season ended. Memories flood my mind. I hear the roar of the crowd and the stomping of their feet in the stands. The smell of hot dogs and Cracker Jacks floats past my nose. Nothing like devouring a tasty dog slathered with mustard, relish, and onions while cheering on the team. Cleveland Indians' pennants flap in the gentle breeze.

My father, a World War II U.S. Army veteran, wanted to attend baseball games at Cleveland Municipal Stadium in Cleveland, Ohio, on military-related days such as Memorial Day and Independence Day. In 1960, he took my three younger aunts, Betty, Florance, and Toni, and me to four games there. We drove fifty-two miles from our home in Warren, quite a drive back then. Since he loved the New York Yankees, every game featured the Yankees against the Cleveland Indians. A thirteen-year-old little leaguer like me didn't care what team was playing. What an adventure! Sometimes the excitement of attending a game overwhelms me.

A rare thing happens during that first game. The sun shines on my Cleveland Indians baseball hat. The salty taste of peanuts delights my taste buds. Their empty shells litter the floor, crunching beneath my feet. It's the third inning, three to two, no outs. The Yankees are up to bat. Whitey Ford, "Chairman of the Board," hits a foul ball, which sails over our heads and lands between the nearby seats. Everyone, including my father, scrambles to find it. A couple of minutes later, he returns to his seat with the ball in hand, beaming. With a triumphant look in his eyes, he hands me the ball.

Later that day, I parade around the "hood" and show off the prize to my buds. When I see the envy on their faces, I feel like "Mr. Big Shot." They want to touch a foul ball hit by Whitey Ford with their grubby hands. Reluctantly, I offer it up as a replacement for the worn-out one we use in our sandlot games at Copperweld Field across from my house. After two weeks, the ball looks tattered and dirty.

Months later, at another game, another foul ball flies toward my aunts and me. Along with other fans, we scurry, hands over our heads, in an attempt to grab the prize. Guess who catches it in his bare hands? Yep, my father. What are the odds of that? I am now on Cloud 9.

"Gimme that ball, Pops," I yell.

The crowd roars. I am stoked. What does my father do? He gives the ball to a kid about my age sitting behind us. I look at my father with disgust. How can he do this? How can he give this hard-fought trophy to a total stranger? Crushed, my eyes tear up.

I sulk. Aunt Betty tries to console me. "Just leave me alone," I whisper.

A hurt look crosses her sunburnt face.

I don't say another word for the rest of the game. The noise of the crowd fails to reach my ears. Occasionally, I look at my father at the end of the row. He watches the game with a gentle smile on his face.

During the long drive home, I start to really mope. Aunt Florance squeezes my arm affectionately, and I pull away. Suddenly, my father pulls the car over to the side of the road.

He gives me his I-mean-business look. "Get out of the car."

Puzzled, I wonder if he's going to leave me there. He and I climb out of the car in front of this huge honey stand.

"Son, you are being greedy and insensitive. You need to learn about winning and losing. Things will not always go your way in this life."

Frowning, I glare at him.

"Did you see the look on that kid's face when I gave him that ball?"

"Yes, I did," I say in a weak voice.

Looking up at him, I recall how I felt when he gave me that ball three months earlier. Something clicks in my young, immature brain. "Hey, Pop, you really made that kid's day, didn't you?"

He nods and grins.

Back in the car, we head home. Aunt Toni puts her arm around me, and I feel better. Thanks to my father, I learn an important lesson that day. One that I will remember for the rest of my life. And he impacts the day for "that kid" with his kind gesture.

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At our June meeting, Carol Olson, current Chaplain, inducted the new slate of officers to the Mary Chesney Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. Kim Welch, Karen Mamula, Pauline Gapps, Martha Yoder, Diana Tripi, Karen Andrus, Marilyn Kegarise, Barbara Layfield, Janice Kistler and Carol Olson

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Cleveland is one of the most fun dogs here. He has three legs, but you would never know it by the way he runs, plays, and zooms around the yard. He doesn't sit around feeling sorry for himself. He lives every day to the fullest and is always ready for his next adventure. He's strong, athletic, smart, and full of personality. He keeps his kennel clean, loves spending time with volunteers.

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## EMBRACING THE WORD

Rev Dave Vensel, Prince of Peace Church



*America! America!  
God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!*

Katherine Lee Bates, a Wellesley College English teacher and department head, was inspired to pen the words to this hymn, "America, the Beautiful" after a trip up Pike's Peak and the grand view she witnessed in 1893. It was first published to commemorate the Fourth of July in 1895. Among patriotic hymns, this is probably my favorite because of the petition in the chorus for God to "shed his Grace...and crown thy good with brotherhood" across the breadth and population of our country.

For me, it reflects a humble plea to God for the Grace of His Life, Love, Mercy, Spirit and Peace among and between all people of this vast land. The composers and signers of our Declaration of Independence also appealed to: "the Supreme Judge of the world" and "firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence" declaring, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Additional commentary of Ms. Bates seems relevant and advisory still today, "We must match the greatness of our country with the goodness of personal Godly living. If only we could couple the daring of the pilgrims with the moral teachings of Moses, we would have something in this country that no one could ever take from us."

I like the wording of Mathew 5:2-10 using the Easy to Read (ERV) of the Bible where each of the Beatitudes begins with, "Great blessings belong to

those who..." and where each is followed by how God will respond.

2 Then Jesus began teaching the people. He said,

3 "Great blessings belong to those who know they are spiritually in need.

God's kingdom belongs to them.

4 Great blessings belong to those who are sad now.

God will comfort them.

5 Great blessings belong to those who are humble.

They will be given the land God promised.

6 Great blessings belong to those who want to do right more than anything else.

God will fully satisfy them.

7 Great blessings belong to those who show mercy to others.

Mercy will be given to them.

8 Great blessings belong to those whose thoughts are pure.

They will be with God.

9 Great blessings belong to those who work to bring peace.

God will call them his sons and daughters.

10 Great blessings belong to those who suffer persecution for doing what is right.

God's kingdom belongs to them.

In the spirit of those who with great vision and courage sought great blessing for life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, let us commit ourselves in pursuit of great blessings with personal goodness and Godly living.

That will be Good News to celebrate.

## Howland United Methodist Church Appalachian Service Project

By Anna Rider

Several Cortland residents, both youth and adults, of Howland United Methodist Church recently returned from their annual mission trip to Appalachia as a part of the Appalachian Service Project or ASP. ASP, a non-profit volunteer organization, has dedicated themselves to making homes "warmer, safer, and drier" since 1969.

This year, HUMC's group, including both first-time participants and experienced members, traveled to Knott County, Kentucky to repair sub-standard and weather-damaged homes. The team was divided into five crews, which were assigned to jobs ranging from building a porch to replacing deteriorating flooring. Their daily schedule consisted of devotions, evening gatherings and venturing into

town to see local sites.

Despite achieving significant physical progress, members of the group often consider the relationships built on the trip their most valuable acquisition.



Front: Lilly Mastellar, Katie Rider  
Back: Anne Monroe, Darin Ward and Ed Monroe. They all live in Cortland.

## No Garage - Garage Sale

Bazetta Christian Church, 4131 Bazetta Rd, Cortland is hosting a No Garage - Garage Sale, Saturday, July 25 from 9 AM to 5 PM in the Church parking lot.

Spaces are \$10.00 each. Participants keep all proceeds from their sale. For more information or to reserve a space, contact the church at 330-637-6312 or Tom Maloy at 330-891-9400.



Customers Logan and Peyton Palmer, Kelli Palmer and Greg Neigh enjoying a snack during the sales at Cortland Church of the Nazarene, located on East Main St..

## United Methodist Church Curbside Pantry

*"As you have done it for your brothers, you have done it for ME."*

~ Matthew 25:40

For more than a decade the Cortland United Methodist Church has provided an opportunity to "share God's bounty" with our neighbors. Our philosophy had been "bring some when you can and take some when you need", no questions asked.

The curbside pantry originated with a garden project that yielded nearly ½ ton of home-grown potatoes that were distributed from a wagon in the church yard. In later years tomatoes, squash, zucchini, and peppers were added during harvest time.

As the project grew, we discovered that more produce was appearing than those we were growing. This resulted in a realization that folks wanted to share

their bounty with others.

During the pandemic a picnic table provided a space for sharing canned and boxed goods as well as other nonperishable items. Since that time we rarely have an empty shelf.

Thanks to a very dedicated Eagle Scout, the current pantry building was added so that rain and sun would not destroy the products that came in daily.

Since that time the pantry is open 14/7 for Summer, Fall & Spring, closing only when cold weather makes outdoor storage impossible.

The pantry is self-sustaining with donated products provided daily making a constant flow in and out. No money changes hands. God's will keeps our shelves full. No attendant is on duty.

If you wish to share with your neighbors, please drop products off at the pantry and shelve them if possible. No clothing, toys, or furnishing please. Also no frozen goods. The picnic table will be available for garden produce.

The pantry is not a church project. It requires the whole Cortland Community to make God's will alive.

*Thank you & God bless each of you.*



## LOAF Vacation Bible School

Cortland United Methodist Church is the host church this year for the annual Vacation Bible School. It runs June 29 - July 2 from 9 am - 12 noon. PreK-7th grade are invited. \$5/child, \$10/household

# I ♥ VBS

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"*

~ Matthew 5:3

Being "poor in spirit" means recognizing your own spiritual bankruptcy and inability to earn salvation on your own.

### Cortland Christian Church

Where All Are Welcome!



Rev. Dr. David Gilbert

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Sunday Service 10 a.m.



### Cortland United Methodist Church

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CortlandUMC1880@gmail.com

Rev. Jonathan Williams, Pastor  
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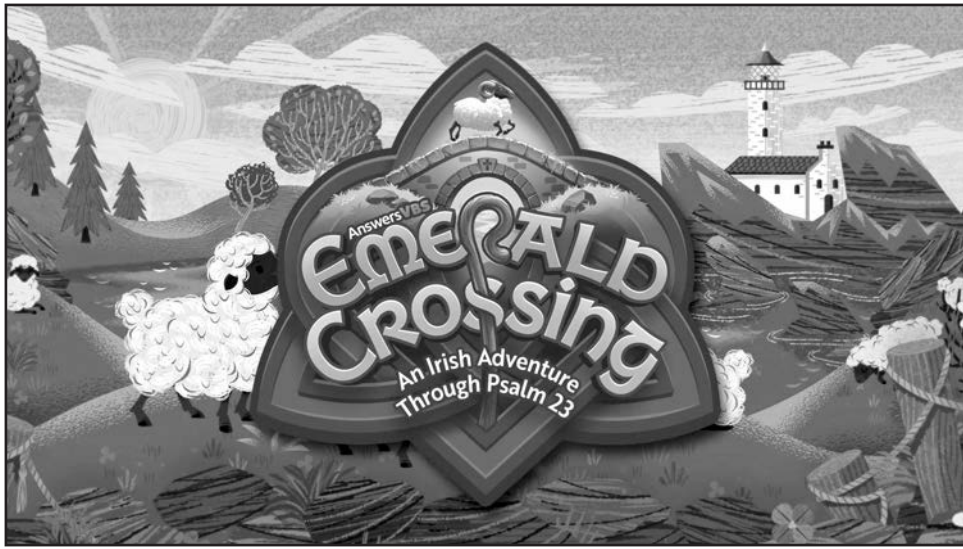
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### Journey Christian Church

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## Cortland Trinity Baptist Church Vacation Bible School EMERALD CROSSING: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23

From the lush meadows of its countryside to the cobblestone streets of its cities, there is something to delight the senses everywhere we turn in Ireland. So journey with us to EMERALD CROSSING: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23. Every stop along our path will teach us about the Good Shepherd and how he cares for his sheep. Like David discovered throughout his life, first as a shepherd

and later as a king, we'll discover important truths.

Join us for the Kick-off Event on Saturday, July 18, from noon-2:00 pm at Pearl Park in Cortland for food and games.

Then join us for Vacation Bible School Monday, July 20 - Friday, July 24 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 p.m. at Cortland Trinity Baptist Church, 2576 McCleary Jacoby Road, Cortland.

## Love Coffee And Dogs?

Special to The Cortland News

If you love coffee and dogs then stop by Makers Market Cafe in Cortland, Monday - Saturday, to get a delicious drink inspired by Delta, who is available for adoption at The Healthy Hearts and Paws Project! Every cup helps spread the word about Delta and gives him a better chance of finding the loving home he deserves.

The drink is called "The PB Rescue Brew: Delta Edition." A drink with heart, swagger, and Delta's big soft boy charm built right into the cup. The moment you pick it up you see it: A bold peanut butter swirl wrapped around the outside of the cup like a signature stripe announcing this drink means business! Then we lace the cup with a layered white chocolate drizzle, giving it that glossy, candy shop shine. At the bottom sits a rich pool of white chocolate syrup, ready to sweeten every sip. We fill it with ice & then pour in smooth cold brew and creamy milk, creating that gorgeous marbled swirl that makes



people stop mid conversation! And the finale: a fluffy whipped cream peak crowned with crunchy toffee bits, the perfect caramelized snap to finish the whole experience.

Now, Delta, well he is a lot like the drink.

- 3-4 years old, approximately 50 lbs
- Happy, calm, easy-going, and well-mannered
- Medium energy
- Loves walks and has the CUTEST strut
- Loves toys and bones
- Doesn't seem to mind other dogs
- Kennel trained
- Looking for his forever family

Interested in meeting Delta? Complete an adoption application with The Healthy Hearts and Paws Project. Appointments are required, and responses are typically provided within 24-48 hours.

If you are looking for a best friend like Delta, or a delicious treat supporting a local business who loves the animals in our community, then check both out. Coordination of project by: The Canine Classroom

The Maker's Market Cafe is located at 201 W. Main St. in Downtown Cortland.



## Church News & Notes

### Cortland Church of the Nazarene

Our Fellowship breakfasts are held on the first Friday of the month, 8 AM. All are welcome.

### Journey Christian Church

Every Thursday evening at 6:00 pm join us for Bible Study, a great way to grow spiritually and in friendship. We are collecting used shoes for Soles for Souls. There is a collection barrel outside the church.

### Cortland Christian Church

We are the home of the Carillon and ring the bells and hymns on the hour. We are celebrating 200 Years of existence in Cortland in 2028.

### Cortland United Methodist Church

God Provides A Meal, Saturday, July 18 at 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Sloppy Joe, macaroni salad, fruit cup, dessert & beverage. Donations accepted but not required.

United Methodist Men, Street Fair parking, Donation only

American Red Cross Blood Drive, July 14, 12:00-5:30 pm

### Bazetta Christian Church

is a collection point for new toys for The Warren Family Mission

Christmas in July Toy Drive. Every year, the Mission's Christmas Toy Distribution helps over 1,000 local children experience the joy of Christmas.

By collecting toys now, Warren Family Mission can get a head start on their toy collection. New toys can be dropped off at the church during normal business hours.

### Trinity Lutheran Church

Katharina's Closet Donation drop off - is the first Monday of the month from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm. We are receiving donations of Diapers, Wipes, and Baby Clothes.

During summer our Sunday services will be held at 9 am until the end of August. Bible studies and Sunday School will resume at their normal times on Sundays and Wednesdays in the fall.

*Join Us!*

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Pastor Chuck Hargenrader

9:30 am Sunday Adult Connection Group. (Bible Study)  
10:45 am Traditional Worship  
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Pastor Email: [pastortrinitywarren@gmail.com](mailto:pastortrinitywarren@gmail.com)  
(330) 372-1897  
[trinitylutheranwarren@gmail.com](mailto:trinitylutheranwarren@gmail.com)  
2742 North Rd NE Warren, OH 44483  
[www.trinitylutheranwarren.org](http://www.trinitylutheranwarren.org)

**PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Sunday Service 9:30 am**  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Cortland OH  
490 North High St.  
Reverend David Vensel, Presiding

Mecca Community Church  
**CHURCH** Welcome home! est. 1822  
Pastor Steve Garces

Sunday School 9 AM / Morning Worship 10 AM  
Kids Crusaders & Youth Groups Age 4 - Grade 12 ~ Weds 6PM

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330-638-5537

[www.meccacommunitychurch.com](http://www.meccacommunitychurch.com)  
[mcc@meccacommunitychurch.com](mailto:mcc@meccacommunitychurch.com)



# Lakeview School News

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## Lakeview Hall Of Fame Spotlight

By Michael DeToro

The Lakeview School District is inducting 11 new members for 2026 on Sat., Sept.26. Each issue between now and then we will be Spotlighting new members.

### Kaylee Neumeister ~ Class of 2016

Lakeview High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee proudly announces Kaylee Neumeister, Class of 2016, as a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame. One of the most accomplished golfers in school history, Neumeister, transformed personal adversity into athletic excellence while helping elevate the Lakeview girls' golf program to statewide prominence.

As a child, Neumeister faced a challenge far greater than any found on a golf course. Diagnosed with a rare brain tumor at just 10 years old, she underwent treatment at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital before

eventually making a full recovery. When health complications ended her softball career, Neumeister picked up a golf club and thus began a journey that would forever change Lakeview athletics.

Under head coach Mike Turco, Neumeister became one of the premier golfers in Ohio and one of the foundational figures in Lakeview girls' golf history. Neumeister helped lead Lakeview to three consecutive OHSAA Division II State Tournament appearances, with the Bulldogs finishing seventh in 2013, state runner-up in 2014, and capturing the program's

first-ever state championship in 2015.

Her senior season remains one of the finest individual campaigns in school history. At the 2015 Division II State Championships at Ohio State University Golf Club, Neumeister fired rounds of 75 and 78 to finish as the Division II individual state runner-up, just one stroke shy of an individual state title. This incredible second-place finish as an individual also earned her a spot on the 1st Team All-Ohio for the second year in a row.

Beyond high school golf, Neumeister continued her career at Division I Cleveland State University, where she immediately contributed to one of the most successful seasons in program history. As a freshman, she helped the Vikings capture the Horizon League Championship and advance to NCAA Regional competition. A chemical engineering major with aspirations in biomedical research, Neumeister balanced excellence in athletics and academics while continuing to inspire others



through her perseverance and service.

Kaylee stayed in Cleveland after graduating from Cleveland State and works as a process engineer for Sherwin-Williams.

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## The Lady Bulldogs

By Cullen Chadwick

The Lady Bulldogs had another successful season. They finished the

year with a 23-6 record and 11-1 league record. The Bulldogs were the Northeast



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8 Champions as well as Sectional and District Champions. Their season ended in the Regional semifinal game with a loss to Field 2-1 in extra innings.

The Bulldogs put up some impressive numbers this season. There were 6 girls that batted over .400 for the season. The team hit 20 home runs, 10 triples, and 58 doubles. We had another player win an award since the last article. Paige S won Gold Glove for the Big school division from the Trumbull area sports network.

We are going to miss our 4 graduating seniors- Carley B, Isabella I, Kalyssa W, and Mackenzie S. They have set the standard for future Bulldog teams. We would like to thank DiLucia's and Fellowship of Christian Athletes for providing the team with multiple meals during the playoff run.

We are so thankful for all the support of the Cortland community!!!!

### Nicole Bevilacqua Rush - Class Of 2008

The Lakeview High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is proud to announce Nicole Bevilacqua Rush (Class of 2008) as a member of the newest induction class. Nicole was a dominant two-sport athlete, making her mark in both soccer and track and field through four years of incredible achievements and record-setting performances.

Under head coach Shawn Varley, Bevilacqua became one of the premier soccer players in our part of the state. A four-year varsity letterwinner and explosive offensive threat, she helped guide the Bulldogs to three Trumbull Athletic Conference championships and a district finalist appearance during her senior season. Lakeview posted an impressive 54-16-5 overall record during her career, cementing the program as one of the valley's top teams.

Bevilacqua made an immediate impact as a freshman, scoring 13 goals with six assists while helping the Bulldogs capture a conference title. She elevated her game each season, earning team Offensive Player of the Year honors twice and team MVP honors as both a junior and senior. During her senior campaign, she scored 34 goals and added nine assists while serving as team captain, leading Lakeview to another TAC championship and a district finals appearance.

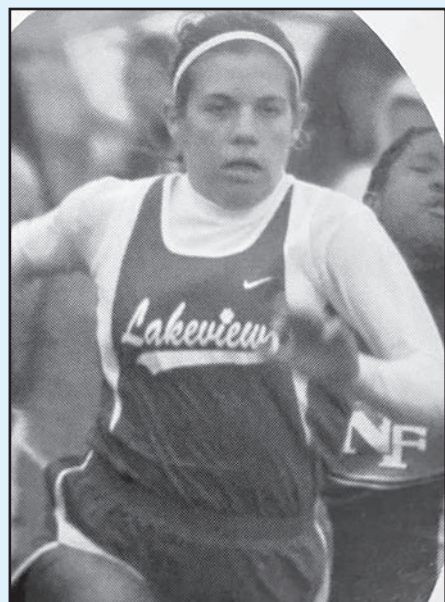
Her postseason honors reflected her dominance on the field. Bevilacqua earned First Team All-District honors, finished as the Youngstown District Player of the Year runner-up, and was selected First Team All-Ohio in Division II as a senior. She also received Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association Academic Excellence recognition multiple times, highlighting her success both on the field and in the classroom.

By the end of her high school career, Bevilacqua had compiled 80 goals and 24 assists, ranking among the top scorers in school history.

Equally accomplished on the track, Bevilacqua starred for Coach

Diane Neighbarger's Bulldog track and field program as a four-year varsity letterwinner. During her career, Lakeview captured multiple conference, county, and district championships while Bevilacqua developed into one of the area's premier sprinters.

As a freshman, she helped the 4x200 relay team earn a sixth-place finish at the OHSAA State Championships to secure All-Ohio honors. She also contributed to school-record performances in the 4x100 relay and sprint medley relay while earning TAC All-Star recognition and team Rookie of the Year honors. As a junior, she again reached the state



meet in the 4x200 relay, helping the Bulldogs place fifth in Ohio and earn another All-Ohio distinction. Along the way, she established school records in the 200-meter dash and 4x200 relay while earning multiple Outstanding Sprinter awards and Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches Academic All-Ohio honors.

Following her remarkable high school career, Bevilacqua continued her soccer career at the Division I level at Cleveland State University. Nicole is now a CNP specializing in Pediatric Cardiology in Cleveland.

### Maplewood Baseball Caps Memorable Season



Special to The Cortland News

For the first time in more than two decades, the Maplewood Rockets baseball team earned a trip to the regional tournament. In his first season at the helm, head coach Matthew Vadas guided the Rockets to a 17-10-1 record, a Northeast Athletic Conference Stripes Division Championship, a sectional championship, and a district championship in one of the most successful seasons in recent program history.

The Rockets combined timely hitting, strong pitching, and solid defense throughout the spring, finishing as one of the area's top Division VII programs. Offensively, Maplewood was led by senior outfielder Kenyan Clover, who turned in one of the finest seasons in program history. Clover paced the team with a .489 batting average, 44 hits, 40 runs scored, and 25 stolen bases while posting a stellar 1.155 OPS.

Zach Suba was another offensive catalyst, batting .440 with 22 hits, 17 RBIs, and an impressive 1.161 OPS. His ability to get on base and create scoring opportunities proved invaluable throughout the season.

Senior Tyson Webster anchored the middle of the lineup, hitting .383 while leading the team with 23 RBIs. Webster also added 31 hits and scored 25 runs during his standout season.

Additional offensive contributions came from Josh Suba, who batted .380 with 30 hits and 20 RBIs, and Gabe Erwin, who recorded 25 hits, 23 runs scored, and 14 stolen bases.

On the mound, Webster served as the staff ace, logging 57 innings and compiling a 7-3 record with a 3.19 ERA. His consistency and durability helped stabilize the pitching staff throughout the year.

Josh Suba emerged as one of the team's most effective pitchers, posting a 1.40 ERA and a 3-1 record in 25 innings of work. Preston Cooper also delivered key performances, finishing 3-0 with a team-best 1.17 ERA among pitchers with significant innings pitched while also earning a save.

The Rockets saved some of their best baseball for the season's biggest moments. A dramatic 10-inning regular-season victory over Western Reserve served as an early indication of the team's resilience. Tyson Webster pitched eight strong innings, Preston Cooper earned the victory with two scoreless innings of relief, and Cole Urchek delivered the game-winning hit to secure one of the season's most memorable wins.

When the teams met again in the district semifinal, Webster elevated his game to another level. The senior ace threw a complete-game no-hitter, leading Maplewood past Western Reserve and back into the district championship game.

The Rockets' postseason run reached its peak in the district final against Andrews Osborne Academy. In a tightly contested 4-3 victory, Josh Suba turned in a dominant performance on the mound, allowing just one hit while helping Maplewood secure the district championship. The win punched the Rockets' ticket to the regional tournament, marking the program's first regional appearance in more than two decades.

Those three games embodied the grit, determination, and competitive spirit that defined Maplewood's 2026 season. From extra-inning heroics to historic pitching performances, the Rockets consistently delivered when the stakes were highest.

Winning the NAC Stripes Division Championship was a significant accomplishment, but the team's postseason run added even more to an already memorable year. By claiming both sectional and district titles, the Rockets demonstrated their ability to perform under pressure and compete with the best teams in Northeast Ohio. The 2026 Maplewood Rockets will be remembered not only for their 17 victories and championship trophies, but also for the resilience, teamwork, and determination they displayed throughout an outstanding season.

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## Pioneer Life Walking Tour

Discover Warren's early days on this lively walking tour as we trace the paths of Trumbull County's first pioneers. Along the way, you'll uncover the stories, challenges, and triumphs that shaped our community and left a lasting mark on the landscape we know today.

The tour begins in Courthouse Square near the bandstand: 161 High Street NW, Warren. Tickets are \$10 per person and registration is required. Contact The Trumbull County Historical Society at 330-394-4653 or email ryan@trumbullcountyhistory.org

## Women's Equality Day

By Peggy Boyd

The committee for Women's Equality Day recently met to formulate the program for the free event to be held on August 26. The Theme for 2026 will be on the life of Carey Green Mountain, the first black woman to own property in Warren. Guest speaker to tell her story will be Helen Rucker, Warren City Councilwoman At-Large. She will chronicle Carey Green Mountain's journey from slave to freedom and then to property owner in 1892.

Women's Equality Day will be held at noon in the Women's Park in Warren on August 26. This celebration commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Refreshments will be served after the program at the Harriet Taylor Upton House located across the street from the Warren Women's Park. This program was sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County, Harriet Taylor Upton Association, Warren Civic League, GFWC Warren Junior Women's League, GFWC Warren City Federation of Women's Clubs and Women's History Committee.



Esther Gartland, Marty Flint, Danita Davis, Kim Welsh, Sue Smith, Paula, Sandy Mahaffey



# THE WISE INVESTORS

By Guidelight Financial Group



## Four Strategies To Make The Most Of Your Charitable Giving In 2026

Charitable giving is a meaningful way to support the organizations and communities that reflect your values. Whether you're drawn to helping local nonprofits, funding educational initiatives, or supporting national causes, thoughtful planning can help your generosity create deeper impact while aligning with your broader financial goals. By incorporating charitable strategies into your financial plan, you can support meaningful work today, while strengthening your long-term financial outlook.

**Donate appreciated assets for greater tax efficiency.** If you hold stocks or other investments that have increased in value, donating them directly to a qualified charity may offer significant advantages. When you gift appreciated assets, you may be able to avoid the capital gains taxes that would apply if you sold the investment yourself. The charity benefits by receiving the full market value of the asset, and if you itemize, you may be eligible to claim a charitable deduction within IRS limits. Before taking this step, be sure your preferred organization can accept non-cash contributions. This strategy allows you to maximize the value of your gift while keeping your financial plan working efficiently.

**Explore charitable trusts and donor-advised funds.** For individuals looking to integrate charitable giving into more comprehensive financial or estate planning, charitable trusts can serve as valuable tools. A Charitable Lead Trust provides income to a designated charity for a defined period, after which remaining assets pass to your beneficiaries. A Charitable Remainder Trust offers the inverse structure, providing income to you or a loved one first, with the remainder going to charity. Each option may offer tax and planning advantages, but guidance from legal and tax professionals is essential to ensure the structure aligns with your goals.

If you prefer a simpler, more flexible approach, a donor-advised fund may be worth considering. This type of fund allows you to make a significant contribution upfront—potentially receiving an immediate tax deduction—while recommending

grants to charities over time. It offers flexibility, administrative ease, and the ability to give thoughtfully at your own pace.

**Leverage workplace giving programs.** Some employers make charitable giving easier by offering payroll-deduction programs that allow you to support your favorite causes throughout the year. Many companies also offer donation-matching programs, which can increase the value of your gift at no additional cost to you. If your employer provides these benefits, review which charities qualify for matching funds. Workplace giving allows you to incorporate philanthropy into your routine and amplify the impact of your contributions.

**Make Charitable IRA distributions.** If you are age 70½ or older, a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA may provide a tax-efficient way to meet your philanthropic goals. A QCD allows you to transfer up to \$111,000 in 2026 directly to a qualified charity without treating the distribution as taxable income.<sup>1</sup> This approach can also help you meet required minimum distributions when that time comes. If you're approaching the age for mandatory withdrawals, incorporating charitable giving into your retirement strategy may offer both planning and tax benefits. For more details about required minimum distribution rules, visit IRS.gov.

Charitable giving is most impactful when it reflects your personal values and aligns with a thoughtful financial strategy. As you consider the best ways to support the causes you care about, a financial advisor and tax professional can help identify approaches that meet both your philanthropic and financial objectives. With the right planning, your generosity can create meaningful change today while supporting your long-term financial well-being.

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Please note this is an exterior walking tour only; we do not go inside any of the houses. The tour begins at First Presbyterian Church: 256 Mahoning Ave, Warren. Tickets are \$10 per person and reservation is required. Contact The Trumbull County Historical Society at 330-394-4653 or email ryan@trumbullcountyhistory.org

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## Ohio Goes To The Movies On Track To Set Record As Longest Running State Film Series

Ohio Goes to the Movies (OGTMM) is well on its way to setting a record for the first-of-its-kind Ohio-centric movies series running about 250 days (through October) in every one of Ohio's 88 counties. The signature event of America 250-Ohio aims to screen more than 250 free movies.

At the halfway mark of the series (as of June 18), OGTMM Program Director Molly Kreuzman reports:

- 136 OGTMM events have been held in 67 Ohio counties.
- A total of 151 films have been screened, with some events offering double features or multiple movies.
- Every film shown has an Ohio connection, either through its production in the state, the involvement of Ohioans on screen or behind the scenes, or centered on the life of a notable Ohioan.
- More than 10,000 people have attended the events organized by local communities. They selected their films based on Ohio Connections and are hosting additional activities during the events such as guest speakers, panel discussions, kids' activities, and red-carpet experiences. Some fans are traveling across the state to visit multiple events in communities beyond their hometowns. (See Superfan blog.)

"This first-of-its-kind film series has been embraced by traditional and non-traditional venues across Ohio," said Kreuzman. "At our halfway point, communities are reporting positive experiences collaborating with community partners, increased pride in their film connections and heritage, as well as sheer enjoyment from attendees

sharing the movie experience together."

The unique venues that stepped up to host OGTMM [Ohio Goes To The Movies] events make the series even more special. In addition to traditional cinemas, events are also hosted at historic theaters, drive-ins, museums, parks and rec centers, and libraries.

An example of traditional cinema venues is Atlas Cinemas Diamond Center (Mentor) screening "Air Force One" on July 7. Pre-event activities will include a demonstration from the Madison, Ohio, stuntman team that worked on the movie when it was filmed in Ohio (read Stuntman blog). AMC Theatres is hosting OGTMM at their cinemas statewide and will screen two movies this month: "Batman Begins" on July 24 at AMC Classic Findlay, and "Ready Player One" on July 31 at AMC Easton Town Center (Columbus).

Ohio's historic cinemas are popular OGTMM venues and CAPA's Ohio Theatre (Columbus) will host the July 4th movies "Cars" and "Forrest Gump," and on July 22 they will screen "Coal Miner's Daughter" starring Columbus' Beverly D'Angelo, who is providing a video message for the event. Also, among the many historic

theatres screening in July are the St. Marys Theater & Grand Opera House July 20 screening of "First Man" (about Auglaize County's own Neil Armstrong) and The Wayne Theatre's (Greenville) July 21 screening of "Annie Oakley" (about Darke County's own Annie Oakley).

Museum venues will set the stage when the Cincinnati Museum Center screens "Apollo 11: First Steps Edition" on July 18 and Great Lakes Science Center (Cleveland) screens "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" on July 11.

Outdoor movies are popular this summer and community parks as well as recreation centers are hosting OGTMM events like the Ariel-Foundation Park (Mount Vernon) screening of "Bye Bye Birdie" on July 26, starring Mount Vernon's own Paul Lynde. Grandview Heights Municipal Pool will screen "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" on July 24 and the same day Martins Ferry Veterans Memorial Recreation Center/Belmont County District Library are screening "Unstoppable." Grove City Parks (Columbus) will screen "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" on July 1, and "Hook" on July 15; while the



Colerain Park Amphitheater will show "Little Giants" on July 17.

Drive-in theatres also provide a perfect setting this summer like the Aut-O-Rama Twin Drive-In (North Ridgeville), which is hosting its Christmas in July event on July 28 with a holiday-themed double feature of "A Christmas Story" and "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation."

Libraries are key OGTMM supporters, with events across the state, including examples such as the Cleveland Public Library hosting Cleveland Silent Film Festival's screening of "The Scarlet Letter" on July 11; Mason Public Library at Kingswood Park screening "O Brother Where Art Thou?" on July 2; and the Carroll County District Library (Carrollton) screening of "The Avengers" on July 31.

For full details on OGTMM events in July, visit OhioGoestoTheMovies.org.

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**• Tuesdays - Midday Munch & Game 11:30 - 1:00 PM**  
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**• Wednesdays - Walkie Talkie's Walking Group 9:00 am**  
Instructor Lindsey Snowden; (Beginner level) 10:00 AM \$15.00/ Session July 2, 16 & 30

**• Thursdays - Yoga Every other Thursday**

**EVENTS**

- 6/27 Guest Chef- The Jamaican Kitchen - test kitchen (Registration preferred)
- 6/29 Mindful Mondays - Dog Adoption focus 10-12 pm
- 6/30 Cortland Car Cruise 5-8 pm
- 7/1 Walkie Talkies Walking Group - 9-10 am
- 7/1 CEO Roundtable - Sales Training for Collaborative Members 6-7:30 pm
- 7/3 Open Mic Night
- 7/4 4th of July- Open Holiday hours 8-12



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# Out & About in Trumbull County

~ FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT ~

## Ellis Music Events Bringing "Summer of '89" Concert to Penguin City Brewing

Following the successful launch of Penguin City Brewing Company's new live music stage, Ellis Music Events has announced the next major concert event: Summer of '89, taking place Saturday, July 25 inside Penguin City's expanding live entertainment venue.

The concert will feature Say Ahh, one of the region's premier Poison tribute acts, alongside special guest Steel Reserve, delivering a full night dedicated to the loud, unapologetic energy of late 1980's rock.

The announcement follows a strong debut concert partnership between Ellis Music Events and Penguin City Brewing, which drew nearly 250 fans to the brewery's new stage room for its grand opening show featuring Space Fehley and Live Wire. VIP table seating sold out, helping establish the venue as one of the Mahoning Valley's newest destinations for live entertainment.

"We wanted the launch show to prove this room could work and the response exceeded expectations," said Jake Ellis, owner of Ellis Music Events.

"The crowd energy, the turnout, the atmosphere, it showed there's a real appetite for rock shows in Youngstown again. Summer of '89 is the next step."

Located inside Penguin City Brewing, [460 E Federal St, Youngstown] the stage room known as "The Ballroom" was designed to host large-scale live music events and touring acts, further positioning Youngstown as an entertainment stop between Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

"We're building something bigger here," Ellis said. "The room is real. The crowds are real. We're just getting started."

Tickets for Summer of '89 are available by contacting [jake@ellismusicevents.com](mailto:jake@ellismusicevents.com) or calling 330-333-2186.



FRONT: Sherene Vernon, Caral Fell, Jan Kusiner, BACK: Karen Jackson, Peg Turna, Charles Walker, Rosemary Walker, Jackie Fackety.

## Trumbull New Theatre Holds PICNIC Auditions

By Terri Gilbert

Director Josh Crank will be holding auditions for TNT's September production, the drama Picnic, on July 5th and 12th from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Cast requirements are: 7 women and 4 men. Age ranges: 2 women/2 men in their 20's; others any age over 18.

A stirring and Pulitzer-winning drama by William Inge, Picnic takes place in the joint backyards of two widows during the Labor Day holiday in a small Kansas town in the 1950's, where the appearance of a handsome outsider upends their life. One house belongs to Flo Owens, who lives there with her two daughters, Madge and Millie, along with a schoolteacher boarder. The other house belongs to Helen Potts, who lives with her elderly invalid mother. When the young man named Hal Carter takes a shine to Madge, their sudden passion for each other disrupts the mundane routines of both houses, causing long-dormant desires to explode with ramifications of love and heartbreak that no one expects. Membership in TNT is not a requirement and no previous acting experience is necessary. Should you be interested in volunteering in a technical capacity or have questions on the auditions, please contact Josh via email at [webmaster@trumbullnewtheatre.com](mailto:webmaster@trumbullnewtheatre.com).

TNT is located at 5883 Youngstown-Warren Rd. in Niles.



Rhonda Aldrich, Sarah Halford, Matthew Gallenstein photo by Geoffrey Wade

## Travel Club

By Peggy Boyd

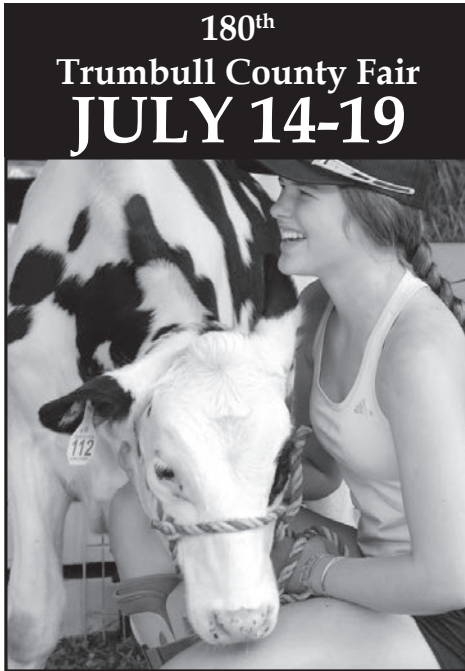
The Travel Club began their spring touring to Ottawa, Canada. Going first class by train, members toured the Capital of Canada, museums and experienced Canadian culture and food throughout their week-long vacation.

Fall day trips are planned for September 15, 2026. In celebrating the United States 250th Birthday; members will climb aboard a deluxe motor coach and explore the historic Lincoln Highway. This is the first coast-to-coast highway built and this Thursday day outing will let all who travel this day to learn history and see parts of the country built by man.

Saturday, Nov. 14, will open the "Holiday Season" with a brown bag bus tour to Amish Country where one can do more than stock your pantry. This day is a refreshing alternative where one does not have to fight the crowds at the store as well as find close spaces to park.

December 2-5 the club has booked three shows in Lancaster to celebrate the Christmas spirit. Joshua will be seen with 2 other performances on this mini excursion.

Please call Peggy for details and information on the club at 330-609-3971. there are no fees to belong to the Club.



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## Can I Change My Medicare Supplement Plan?

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Individual insurance companies will determine the initial monthly premium for each Medicare Supplement Plan they offer. Once an individual is enrolled in the plan there are typically annual increases to the premium. The amount, frequency and timing of this increase is dictated by the insurance company. In addition, there may be increases in monthly premiums as policy holders get older. In the last few years we have seen significant increases to premiums overall. As these premiums increase, you may want to consider changing to a different Medicare Supplement Plan or to a different insurance company if they offer a lower rate.

In most cases Medicare Supplement Insurance in Ohio is guaranteed acceptance at age 65 when first starting Medicare or during the first 6 months you are enrolled in Part B of Medicare. There are a few other specific situations where a policy could be issued without health questions. Each state has its own rules regarding open enrollment and guaranteed issue. If you are outside the open enrollment period and do not qualify

for guaranteed issue, you can change plans at any time, but the application will be subject to underwriting. Each insurance company has its own underwriting criteria, and the health questions will vary from company to company. As part of the application and underwriting process medical records are reviewed. If there are no issues, the new policy will typically be issued at the current standard rates for that company and plan. If you do have health conditions that are flagged during underwriting, the policy may be issued at the standard rate, issued at an increased rate or it may be declined.

It is important to keep your current coverage in place while exploring other options. Your current Medicare Supplement Insurance policy cannot be cancelled if you continue to pay the premiums. Once a new policy is approved, in place and paid for then the original policy can be cancelled. This provides continuous coverage and protection in case the new policy is not approved, or the premiums are higher than expected due to the underwriting process.

If premiums on the Medicare Supplement Insurance policy become too high and unaffordable, another option to consider is switching to a Medicare Advantage (Part C) plan. This can be done during Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period each fall or throughout the year if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. However, it is important to review the current available plans and basic coverage differences between Supplement Insurance and an Advantage Plan before making this decision. It is always helpful to consult your local agent. They can answer questions and look the different options for your specific situation.

*Jill Freeman is a licensed insurance agent with Wiley Insurance Services, located at 3470 Warren Meadville Rd, Cortland. She can be reached at 234-244-4014 or JFreeman.WileyInsurance@gmail.com*

# INSURANCE ANSWERS

By Mallory Novak, Associate Agent, Ruddy Insurance Group



## Vacation Peace Of Mind Starts At Home

There is a moment, usually somewhere between boarding the plane and finally exhaling into vacation mode, when an unsettling thought sneaks in: Did I lock the back door? Closely followed by: Did I unplug the curling iron? And for homeowners everywhere, the grand finale: What if something happens while we're gone?

Vacation is supposed to be a break from stress. Yet for many families, leaving home and often having a vehicle sitting unused in the driveway or airport parking lot, comes with a quiet worry no one really talks about until something goes wrong.

Those concerns are more common than people realize. Summer storms do not pause for travel plans, pipes do not conveniently wait to leak until after a return flight, and vehicles have an unfortunate habit of attracting trouble at the least convenient moments. The good news is that preparation tends to matter more than panic.

For homeowners, small steps can go a surprisingly long way: having someone collect mail, setting lights on timers, double-checking locks,

and asking a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on things. It is not about expecting disaster; it is about reducing opportunities for problems to become expensive stories. Vehicles deserve the same consideration. Whether parked at home or left at an airport for a week, we recommend removing valuables, parking in secure or well-lit areas when possible, and understanding what auto coverage actually includes if theft, weather, or vandalism occurs.

And then there is the least glamorous but perhaps most important vacation task of all: reviewing insurance coverage before leaving. No one enjoys reading policy details while mentally packing sandals. Still, understanding what homeowners or auto insurance covers (and what it does not) can spare travelers an unwelcome surprise later. Because vacations should end with stories about sunsets, family memories, and maybe an overconfident attempt at paddleboarding, not a frantic phone call about storm damage or a mysterious driveway incident. Peace of mind may not fit in a suitcase, but it can make coming home feel just a little sweeter.

## Trumbull County Master Gardener Volunteers



Several Trumbull County Master Gardener Volunteers took a field trip today to the James H. Barrow Biological Field Station in Portage County. It is a 500+ acre research and education facility affiliated with Hiram College. Rebecca Moore, animal care and husbandry expert, guided the group through the facility showing how

staff, students and interns work to provide hands-on learning experiences through observations, and field studies. Everyone enjoyed meeting the animal ambassadors, (rehabilitated but not releasable animals) and were amazed at the dedication of all those involved with their healing progress.

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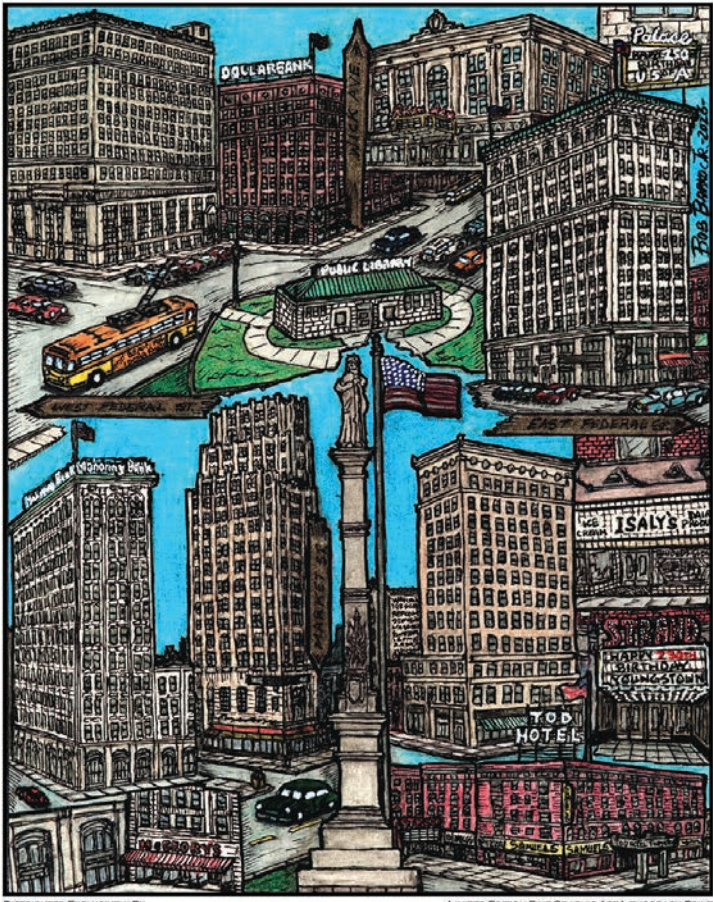
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## Barko Seeks Sponsors For His New Y-Town Artwork Youngstown Classic Central Square

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Since 1996, Bob Barko Jr. has been creating pieces of Youngstown-themed Fine Graphic Artwork. Over the last 30 years, his catalog has grown from a single short-run print in honor of Youngstown's bicentennial to many works celebrating our beloved hometown. Now, to mark 30 years of his Youngstown-themed art, the 230th Anniversary of Youngstown and the 250th Birthday of the United States America, he is launching a new series of pieces titled 'Images of Youngstown Past'.

The inaugural piece in this series focuses on the heart of Downtown Youngstown at the height of her historic glory... *Images of Youngstown Past - The Central Square Era • 1926-1964.*

Barko sent an 'Early Bird' invitation to his family of sponsors of some of his previous art projects recently. He said the response was great and 13 paid sponsors out of a total of 25 individual sponsors are now committed to the project. He is ready to go to press with the new piece and is seeking to fill 12 remaining sponsorships at \$100 each. For their \$100 patronage, the 12 sponsors will each receive their choice of one of remaining 12 Artist Proofs (#7 - #10, #14, #15, #17, #18, #20 - #22, and #24 are available on first come, first serve basis) and their name listed on the Art Certificate that will accompany each piece.

Individual (\$100 - One Artist Proof), Duet (\$200 - two Artist Proofs), Trio (\$300 - Three Artist Proofs), Quartet (\$400 - Four Artist Proofs) and Quintet (\$500 - Five Artist Proofs) Sponsorships are Available.

To reserve a sponsorship, contact Barko via phone or text at 330-881-5819 or e-mail at [steeltownstudios@gmail.com](mailto:steeltownstudios@gmail.com) by July 10, 2024, before this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity fades into history.

"Images of Youngstown Past - The Central Square Era • 1926-1964" is a 16" x 20" Limited Edition Piece of Fine Graphic Art, printed in Full Color using a 4-color process with a gloss Aquas flood coat on 100-pound white gloss cover stock. The original color pencil and ink illustration featured in this piece was drawn on hot press illustration board, taking about two months to complete while working from a collection of historic photographs, postcard reproductions and my own modern digital photography. The artwork features the iconic architecture

of our city's Central Square including skyscrapers that grace our city's skyline today and the buildings of our past, gone but not forgotten in our collective memory. The run is limited to 125 prints, at \$20 each.

"If Youngstown's Central Square lives in your memory, there is something in this artwork for you... *The Dollar and Union National Bank Buildings; the Stambaugh, Realty and Mahoning Bank Buildings; the Palace Theater, the Tod Hotel and the Central Tower,*" Barko said. "Plus, the *Man on the Monument and the Public Library downtown branch as well as insets of McCrory's, the Strand Theater and the Central Square Isaly's! It's all here to bring*

back an era that lives on today in the hearts of Youngstowners everywhere'!"

Barko said the individual sponsorships allow people from a wide walk of life to be recognized for helping bring this artwork to an audience across the Mahoning Valley and beyond.

Bob Barko Jr.'s "Images of Youngstown Past - The Central Square Era • 1926-1964" will be released for public sale at scheduled for release to the general public at Summer Festival of the Arts, 10 am - 5 pm, Saturday, July 11 and 11 am - 4 pm, Sunday, July 12, 2026, on Youngstown State University Campus in Youngstown, Ohio.

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## Bristol Public Library Holiday Closing

The Bristol Public Library will be closed Friday, July 3rd, in observance of Independence Day. Regular business hours will resume Monday, July 6th at 9:00 am.

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# LIBRARY NEWS

## Cortland Library ~ July 2026 Events

*Closed for Independence Day - All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations will be closed on Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day.*

All events will be held at the Cortland Library, 578 Lakeview Dr.

### Toddler Tales

Mondays at 10 a.m.: July 6, 13, 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.: July 7, 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.

### Seismic Shake-Up with PBS Western Reserve

Thurs., July 9 at 1 p.m. Children age 9 - 12 will explore how and why earthquakes happen, then take on a fun STEM challenge to design, build, and test a structure on a simulated shake table. It's a fun way to connect real-world science with problem solving and design! Presented in partnership with PBS Western Reserve. Registration is required. Sign up online at [www.wtcpl.org/events](http://www.wtcpl.org/events) or call (330) 638-6335. Free.

### Greek Mythology Trivia for Teens

Tues., July 14 from 4 - 5 p.m. Teens ages 12 - 18 can test their knowledge of myths, gods, and monsters with this trivia game. Registration is requested. Sign up online at [www.wtcpl.org/events](http://www.wtcpl.org/events) or call (330) 638-6335. Free.

### Totally Tweens: String Art

Wed., July 15 from 3 - 4 p.m. Tweens ages 10 - 14 will use wood, nails, and string to create a string art masterpiece. All materials will be provided. Registration is required. Sign up online at [www.wtcpl.org/events](http://www.wtcpl.org/events) or call (330) 638-6335. Free.

### Bigfoot in Ohio

Mon., July 20 at 6 p.m. Amy Bue is cofounder of Project Zoobook, a group of scientists and field researchers looking into Bigfoot sightings across the country. She will present her take on the recent reported sightings in Northeast Ohio and will update participants on sightings she's collected in the area. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cortland Library. Free.

### Escape the Mummy's Curse

Tues., July 21 from 3 - 4 p.m. Participating teens, ages 12 - 18, have disturbed an Ancient Egyptian Mummy, and a curse has been set on them by its spirit. Participants must lay the mummy to rest by unlocking clues, decoding ciphers, and escaping within the hour! Registration is required. Sign up online at [www.wtcpl.org/events](http://www.wtcpl.org/events) or call (330) 638-6335. Free.

### Summer Challenge Finale Party

Wed., July 22 between 2 - 3 p.m. All ages can drop in to celebrate the end of the library's Summer Challenge with chalk, games, and snow cones! Free.

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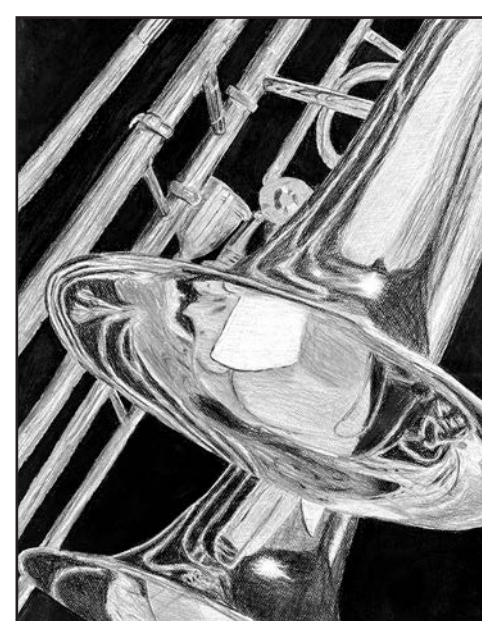


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## Work Of Sam Mastorides On Exhibit

The work of Sam Mastorides will be on exhibit in the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Art Gallery from June 8 to July 26. A reception for "A 'Designer' First" will be from 5 to 7 p.m. June 8 in the gallery in the JCC, 505 Gypsy Lane.

"When I came to Youngstown State University to study graphic design, I imagined jumping directly into design software and learning the basics of graphic design," said Mastorides. "Instead, I quickly learned that I couldn't take the design courses I wanted until I completed a series of



prerequisite art classes. At the time, this felt frustrating."

However, as he moved through these foundation courses, he began to realize these prerequisites weren't barriers, they were building blocks.

The work in "A 'Designer' First" comes directly from those classes, the first pieces he made in each medium, representing the beginning of his journey into forms of art other than graphic design.

Sam Mastorides is an interdisciplinary artist whose work explores the intersections of nature, physical reality, and the fantastical. Based in Youngstown, Ohio, Mastorides is a BFA graduate of Youngstown State University.



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