

The Athens NEWS MEDIA

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

FREE

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PHOTO BY JOHN HALLEY

BOOGIE ON THE BRICKS

Some boogied, some ate and drank, and others just smiled at the annual Boogie on the Bricks Saturday on Court Street in Athens. For more coverage from the event, visit the photo gallery at athensnews.com.



All-around raises

OU Trustees approve salary raise for president, tuition hike for students. See page A2



Porchfest

Near Eastside Neighborhood to host day of music and fun. See page A8

What's happening

Enjoy area activities such as concerts, movie series and more.

See page A11-A13

LOCAL

OHIO UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustees approve salary raise for president, tuition and fee hike for students

NICOLE BOWMAN-LAYTON

Editor

DUBLIN — The Ohio University Board of Trustees approved a resolution giving President Lori Stewart Gonzalez a bonus and raise for her performance during her first year in office. The board also approved resolutions increasing tuition and fees and room and board rates during the 2024-25 academic year during its meeting Thursday and Friday at the Dublin campus.

BONUS AND RAISE

The board passed a resolution giving Gonzalez a salary increase of 2% — or \$12,000 — of her base salary (\$600,000) and a one-time bonus of \$15 of her base salary — or \$90,000. The increase becomes active this upcoming fiscal year.

According to previous reports, her contract states that in July of each year, Gonzalez will be eligible for a performance bonus of up to 15% of her base salary in effect during the previous contract year. The Board of Trustees will determine the amount of the bonus, which will be contingent on the university achieving mutually agreed upon, predefined goals and the “availability of funds.”

According to the resolution, the board evaluated her performance since joining the university on July 1, 2023, and noted that during her almost year in office, Gonzalez has “enhanced the legacy of the institution through her effective outreach and visible stewardship, passion for OHIO and by strongly asserting the transformational value of public higher education on our campuses and throughout the region, state and beyond.”

The resolution credits her for successfully completing the recruitment and on-boarding of critical new members of her leadership team, positioning the university to build a new culture that advances and executes its mission, vision and values; and Dynamic Strategy Goals and Priorities by:

- “Building a strategic vision of OHIO’s future, academic future, and financial stability.

- “Producing structurally balanced and financially sustainable operations.

- “Improving academic quality and student success.

- “Recruiting top faculty to OHIO.

- “Building highly engaged partnerships with alumni, corporations, and communities (domestically and globally) to produce mutually beneficial and durable relationships and outcomes.

- “Enhancing marketing and communications.”



Lori Stewart Gonzalez

TUITION AND FEE INCREASE

In other financial matters, the trustees passed resolutions increasing tuition and fees for the 2024-25 academic year. This will only impact those who are not guarantee students. They call for:

- A 3% increase in the Athens undergraduate tuition guarantee rates and a 3% increase in the non-resident fee.

- A 3% increase in the Regional undergraduate tuition guarantee rates and a 3% increase in the non-resident fee.

- A 4.6% increase in guaranteed room rates and a 4.6% increase in the guaranteed board rates.

- A 3% increase in the Heritage College of Medicine instructional and medical resource fees, and a 10% increase in the non-resident fee.

Undergraduate students at the regional campuses pay less than those on the Athens campus.

For four-credit hours, students on regional campuses will pay \$1,100 for their credit hours. Residents of Ohio will pay a \$12 fee (total of \$1,112), while non-residents will pay a \$560 fee (total of \$1,672). There is also a \$24 career and experiential fee.

For undergraduate students at the Athens Campus, the base rate for four hours of

credit is \$1,776. Residents will pay a \$198 fee (total of \$1,974), while nonresidents pay a \$1,572 fee for a total of \$3,546. There is also a \$27 career and experiential fee.

In regard to room and board rates for non-guarantee students, the OU administration pointed out that the rates have not increased in 10 years and are currently 15% to 29% below the rates for guarantee students.

The plan increases the rates by up to 12.6% for the next three to five years to “achieve parity with the guarantee rates. The plan will have little student impact since the vast majority of the students subject to these rates are part of the Chubu program where students only study here for one semester,” the university told trustees in the agenda packet.

According to a graphic provided in the meeting agenda, a standard double that costs \$3,256 per semester for a non-guarantee student during the 2023-24 academic year will cost \$3,569 per semester, an increase of 9.6%, for the 2024-25 academic year. The highest increase will be for a suite double/trip, which was \$3,692 per semester in 2023-24. It will cost \$4,157 per semester — about 12.6% more — starting the 2024-25 academic year.

The board meal plans also received a rate increase. The lowest increase — 5.42% — is for the 14 meal plan, which will go from \$2,177 to \$2,295 per semester and 20 meal plan, which will go from \$2,325 to \$2,451 per semester. The highest increase is 6.38% for the 10 meal plan, which was \$1,881 per semester last school year and will be \$2,001 per semester this upcoming school year.

Guarantee students are locked into a cohort based, level-rate tuition, housing and dining model during their time at OU. Non-guarantee students are online students, Athens students whose first term of enrollment was prior to summer 2015, regional students whose first term of enrollment was prior to summer 2018 and nondegree-seeking students.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice President for Enrollment Management Candace J. Boeninger provided the Board with an enrollment update, noting that interest in OU is at an all-time high, with record Athens freshman applications over 27,000 — a 7% increase from the previous year. Boeninger also updated the Board on the federal government’s ongoing changes to FAFSA and its application system, noting that the Enrollment Management team has successfully shared aid offers to students despite an evolving distribution timeline.

Also during the meeting, on Friday, the Board recognized Executive Vice President and Provost Elizabeth Sayrs, who has been instrumental in leading Ohio University through significant accomplishments that will continue to make a lasting impact across the institution. Don Leo will officially begin his role as the new executive vice president and provost on July 1.

The Board also commended the Ohio University Police Department for 200 years of service to the University community. The proclamation of appreciation thanked the department and celebrated its dedicated staff, storied history and longstanding commitment to professionalism, integrity and humanity.

Additional highlights from the June 2024 Board of Trustees meetings included:

- The Board approved a resolution to expand the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS-N) pre-licensure program to the Lancaster campus, pending completion of the required external approval processes. Currently, the AAS-N program is offered on OU’s Chillicothe, Southern and Zanesville campuses. Through this expansion, students across the Lancaster community would have the opportunity to pursue their degree closer to home.

- The Board approved OU’s reimagined

'I get to play with Emma now'

Alexander Elementary's inclusive playground progresses

ANNA MILLAR

Staff Writer

ALBANY — The Alexander Inclusive Playground Project has made swift work of their scheduled community build since they began on June 10, and are nearly a full week ahead of schedule.

According to a previous Messenger report, the group is chaired by Annah Korpi and Lisa Wigal and strives to replace the playground equipment at Alexander Elementary School to create a more inclusive environment.

The group split the project into three sections in order to bring each to full completion. It is in the midst of constructing section one, located behind the school.

"We're really surprised at how quickly everything has come up," Wigal said. "Looking at it now, it looks like it's almost finished. We had a lot of volunteers come out and show up and help; and a lot of people with a lot of skill and we're grateful. And I think it's gone great."

Not only did the group receive volunteers from their requests to the community, but Demco Construction and Little Tykes sent teams to help with the build, Korpi said. Their work, in conjunction with the excellent weather, played a huge role in staying ahead of schedule, she added.

Volunteers and the construction teams

worked to remove both the equipment and mulch that were previously used to make way for a new ground layer and brand new play structures, Wigal said.

Erin Shultz, a build volunteer and intervention specialist at Alexander Elementary, emphasized not only her excitement regarding the build, but also the importance of the project for children.

She pointed out the downfalls of mulch on playgrounds — although it is Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant — it often causes trouble for those who use wheels to get around. Additionally, the previous play structure's access points consisted of ladders, stairs or climbing walls, which caused a barrier for children who are unable to use those methods of movement, she added.

"The reason that's problematic is because, you know, the business of childhood is play, right and building those social interactions and making friendships that are going to last you throughout school and a lot of that happens at recess," Shultz said. "And if you're stuck on the sidelines because you can't go play with all the other kids on the pieces of equipment, that's really limiting."

In order to address these concerns, Wigal and Korpi worked to find play structures which feature ramps throughout to allow all children to be able to easily access each



PHOTO BY ANNA MILLAR

Straining above their heads, volunteers attach the pieces of equipment at the Alexander Elementary School playground community build.

area. Further, the mulch will be replaced with a type of rubberized surfacing to allow those who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices to more easily access the playground, Wigal said.

The group is still working to install appropriate drainage for the surfacing, but they are hopeful they will be able to move up the surfacing's pour date given their fast build, Korpi added. At the end of the build's first week, each piece of vibrant blue equipment was almost complete, with just a few parts missing due to shipping mishaps, she said.

Both Korpi and Wigal are excited to reveal the finished product in just a few weeks, particularly considering the feedback they have received. Not only was the color and theme — which will be revealed when the project is finished — chosen by the student body, Wigal's own children have given their stamp of approval, Korpi said.

"My son today — his twin is in a wheelchair — my son is like 'I get to play with Emma now,' and so that was like, you know, that got my heart," Wigal said.

OU/from A2

mission, vision and values statement, as well as the goals and strategies set forth by President Lori Stewart Gonzalez and the respective pillar working groups. The Dynamic Strategy effort is focused on the creation of strategic goals and priorities to help guide the University into the future, engage thousands of students, faculty, staff and alumni and help guide the University's work for the next three years.

■ The Board received an update from Sayrs on faculty retention and outlined many of the initiatives that have been implemented to foster faculty engagement,

highlight accomplishments and offer varied opportunities for professional development and career growth.

The Board approved several new capital projects, including:

■ Zanesville Herrold Hall Nursing Labs Renovation — The Board approved a resolution to increase the budget of the nursing labs renovation by \$75,000. The project will create purpose-built space for academic and hands-on lab instruction for more than 225 students. The \$1.5 million project is anticipated to be funded by internal bank financing and regional higher education departmental reserves.

■ Bush Airport New Hangar Construction — The Board approved a resolution

to create a safe and secure storage facility for University-owned and private aircraft. This project will provide new hangar space for 16 aircraft. The \$1.9 million project is anticipated to be funded by federal and state grants and departmental reserves.

■ Convocation Center Lower Flat Roof Replacement — The Board approved a resolution to replace the membrane flat roof sections on the Convocation Center to prevent water intrusion. This \$1 million project is anticipated to be funded by deferred maintenance century bond funding.

■ Morton Hall Elevator Repairs — The Board approved a resolution to modernize the existing elevator in Morton Hall. This \$640,000 project is anticipated to be

funded by deferred maintenance century bond funding. Construction will begin during the summer.

■ West Green Chilled Water Plant Equipment Updates — The Board approved a resolution to renew and replace critical equipment to ensure uninterrupted utility service from the West Green Water Plant. This \$550,000 project is anticipated to be funded by century bond residual funding and departmental funding.

The complete Board of Trustees agenda from the June 13-14 meetings is available with the online edition of this story and online at <https://www.ohio.edu/trustees>.

Information was also provided by Ohio University.

TIPS FOR TENANT

It's your money: Getting back your security deposit

Brenda Jean Searcy

WHOSE MONEY IS IT?

A security deposit is your money until proven otherwise. In general, a landlord must return it in full within 30 days after your lease ends, you turn in your keys, and you give the landlord written notice of your forwarding address.

WHEN CAN A LANDLORD KEEP MY SECURITY DEPOSIT?

A landlord can keep security deposit funds for a few reasons, including unpaid rent, unpaid utilities that belong to the tenants but are being charged to the landlord, and property damages that can be linked to the tenants or their guests. Landlords cannot charge tenants for damages that already existed when they moved in or for damages caused by the landlord not maintaining the property. That's why it is so important to take pictures of the entire rental property before you move in as well as after you move out.

And to report all condition issues to the landlord promptly and in writing.

A landlord cannot keep your security deposit due to "ordinary wear and tear" to the property. For example, if you spill spaghetti on the carpet and cause a noticeable stain because you did not clean it up properly, the landlord can deduct that cleaning expense from your security deposit. But the landlord cannot charge you for the wear that occurs simply because you walk on the carpet under normal usage.



If the landlord keeps all or part of your security deposit and you provided your forwarding address, the landlord must notify you within 30 days of the amount withheld and specifically identify each cause and amount. Landlords cannot claim amounts that unreasonably exceed their actual costs; in other words, they can't just make up a number. For example, Ohio caselaw does not support an penalty fee of \$100 to have an extra key made — even if it is in the lease — because the actual expense is less than \$10.

I STILL HAVEN'T RECEIVED MY SECURITY DEPOSIT FROM THE LANDLORD AFTER MORE THAN 30 DAYS. WHAT CAN I DO?

If you did not receive written notice identifying the causes for any withholding, you have a legal claim. If you received notice but are not actually liable for some of the identified causes, you have a legal claim.

In either case, it is generally a good idea to send a letter to the landlord first. Include the address of the property, the date your lease ended, the fact that you gave the landlord your forwarding address in writing and turned in the keys, and that it has been more than 30 days. If you received notice of the causes for withholding but are not liable for some of them, inform the landlord of the reasons you are not responsible for each cause that you dispute. A sample fill-in-the-blank letter for this purpose is online at <https://www.studentlegalrights.org/housing-publications> under the "Security Deposit Packet" button.

Ohio law gives you the right to "double damages" for the portion of your security deposit that was "wrongfully withheld," so long as you gave your forwarding address in writing.

The law also provides for reasonable attorney fees for tenants who require an attorney to retrieve their security deposit and who win their case.

Here's an example:

You submitted a \$500 security deposit to the landlord. You returned the keys and gave your forwarding address to the landlord at lease end. Thirty days later, you receive a \$100 check in the mail from the landlord, with a statement identifying that the landlord spent \$200 repairing holes to the wall and \$200 replacing a broken sink. You broke the sink, but the holes were there when you moved in. If the landlord cannot show that you are responsible for the holes -or- return the \$200 within the original 30 days, the landlord now owes you \$400 under Ohio law: \$200 "wrongfully withheld" times two.

And here's another example:

You submitted a \$500 security deposit to the landlord. You returned the keys and gave your forwarding address to the landlord at lease end. You left the premises in as good a condition as you found them, minus ordinary wear and tear. Thirty days later, you have received nothing from the landlord. Unless the landlord can show they had a right to withhold some or all your security deposit, the landlord now owes you \$1,000 under Ohio law: \$500 wrongfully withheld times two.

In your letter, you might choose to give the landlord one last chance to refund your security deposit (minus legitimate withholdings) before demanding the double damages mandated under the law. It might make the landlord more likely to cooperate.

I sent the letter requesting the return of my wrongfully withheld security deposit ... but the landlord did not respond at all. Now what do I do?

That's what small claims court is for! It is set up so folks can proceed without a lawyer if they choose. Each county in Ohio has one and they generally have templates available to help you file your claim ("Complaint"). Check with the clerk's office for instructions on how to proceed; they will assist you on procedural issues. You will have to pay court costs to file but you will get them back if you prevail. If you have a low income and cannot pay the costs upfront, ask the clerk's office for an Affidavit of Indigency. You must then fill out your financial information and swear to it in front of a notary (usually available at the clerk's office).

The court will set a date for the small claims hearing. Bring your evidence: receipts or other evidence that you paid the security deposit, the lease, photos or videos of the condition of the rental when you left, rent and utility receipts showing you paid them, witnesses (including yourself) who can swear to the conditions at the rental and/or the payments you made, etc.

More information on taking your security deposit case to court is available at <https://www.seols.org/resource-center-2#HOUSING> under the "Security Deposits" header. If you are an Ohio University student, you may be eligible for legal assistance at Center for Student Legal Services (740) 594-8093. For non-students, you can call the intake line for the Legal Aid of Southeast and Central Ohio at 844-302-1800 to be screened. Both organizations have offices in Athens.

Brenda Jean Searcy is the staff attorney of Center for Student Legal Services.

If you suspect child abuse or neglect

call 740-592-3061 or 1-866-863-7373 to speak

with a Children Services worker.



**Athens County
Children Services**

• www.athenschilchildrenservices.com
• facebook.com/athenschilchildrenservices

OPINION

The Athens NEWS
MEDIA

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The Athens NEWS is published
every Wednesday in Athens,
Ohio, by Adams Publishing
Group (APG) Media of Ohio, LLC.

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Printed with recycled newsprint.

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13 Awards 2020

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Hooper Newspaper
of the Year 2018

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Hooper Newspaper
of the Year 2016

ISSN 0882-8695 in the
U.S. Library of Congress.
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The Athens VOICE



Marietta and Air Force Museum are among resident's favorite stops for road trips

Staff Report

This week's question: What's your best way to beat the summer heat?

Submit Athens Voice items via the form at athensnews.com/site/forms/online_services/athens_voice/ or use the QR code.

Last week's question: What's your favorite place to visit that is within a three hour drive of Athens County?

Readers' answers:

■ "The Air Force Museum near Dayton."

■ "Ash Cave."

■ "The Wilds."

■ "Marietta."

■ "Hocking Hills."

■ "The Dawes

Arboretum."

■ Other submis-

sions:

**Regarding the
need for affordable
housing in Athens
County:**

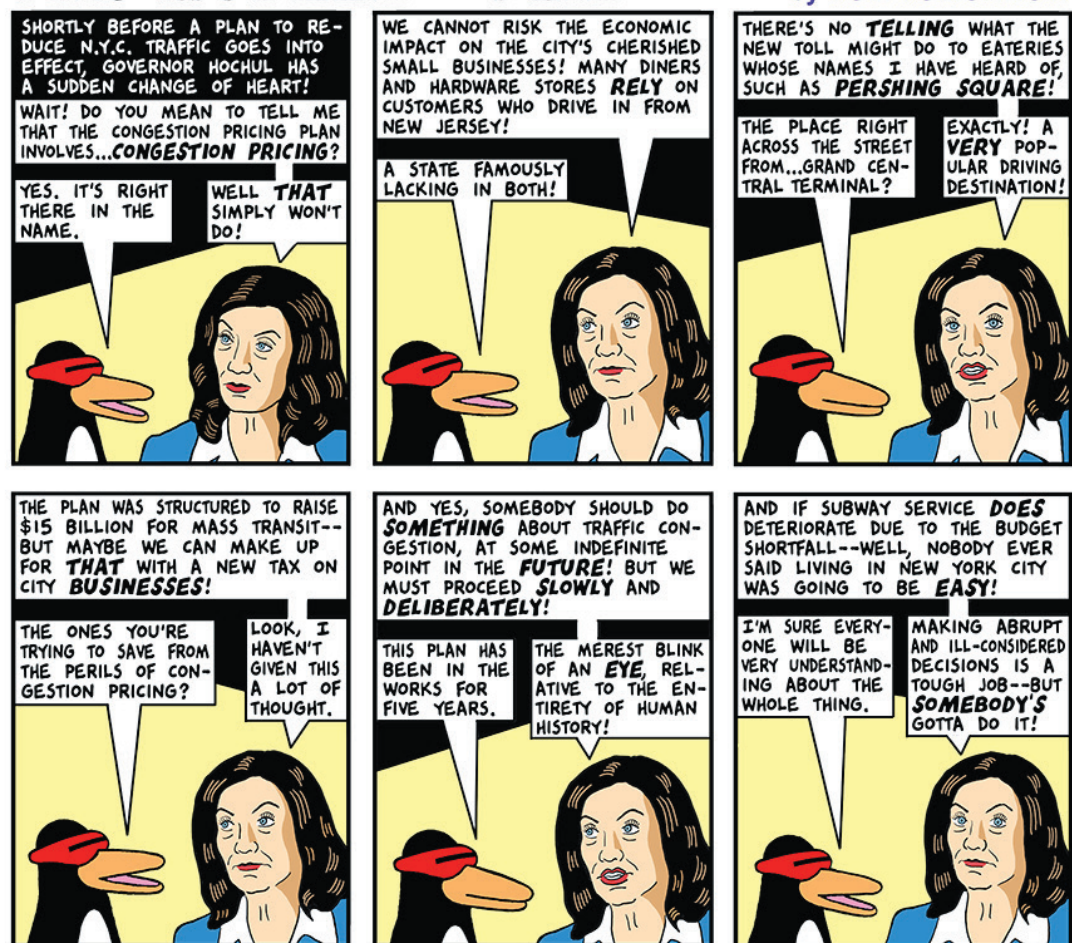
■ "I currently live in a home in Athens County with my husband and four children. I lucked into this home because they couldn't get it rented to students. We got it a discounted rate of \$1,000 and all homes of this size rent originally for \$2,400. We can barely afford \$1,000. He works at a bank and I'm a property manager, even with these nicer jobs, it's hard to raise a family in Athens, and we don't have options to move to a home with a yard. We need affordable housing for families."

■ "Seventy percent housing stock is rentals! The beautiful past history of Athens' lovely, historic homes converted to rentals dwindles and fades each year as they degrade into barely livable eye sores. Is it possible to explore ways of restoring some of our "lost" houses (perhaps even neighborhoods?) back to a condition where a family or a retired person would consider living! Grants? Subsidies? Are there means to incentivize such an effort and support the return of available housing once again in Athens? It would be one answer to what is now both an impossible and discouraging lack of neighborhood houses."



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Look at abortion issue through lens of children who are not wanted

StarMary Castro

Supporters of Choice and "Abortion Rights" tend to focus on the rights of a woman to control her body, to protect her physical and mental health, and to guarantee her right to medical care when needed. These are all very valid demands. One more very powerful element and an important issue that needs to be seen by all is the fate of unwanted children.

Some people shouldn't be parents. They might try their best to not conceive, but failures happen. Imagine being told you were not wanted. If balanced by love and care it may not hurt, but without that it can be a heavy burden. There are people who have children as their bodies dictate but they are not prepared to love and care for them. Some of these children wind up chained in the basement, fed dog food.

There are people who carelessly have children and neglect them in dozens of ways. Alcohol-dependent parents might put their need for booze over

the children's need for food. Our foster care system is overrun with children whose addicted parents are charged with "Neglect", because they have not fed or

More ABORTION | A6

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Athens NEWS welcomes your opinions. Please write us at:

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Or send your letter to:
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P.O. Box 543, Athens, OH 45701
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Letters must be 400 words or less and include your full name, street address and telephone number. Letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. We do not print letters from non-residents of Athens County unless the topic is specifically relevant to our readers.

|||| OPINION ||||

Don't hate the player, hate the game

MILES LAYTON

APG Media

Ohio University Board of Trustees has awarded President Lori Stewart Gonzalez a salary increase of 2% — or \$12,000 — of her base salary of \$600,000 and a one-time \$90,000 bonus equal to 15% of her base pay. That's a total payout of \$102,000. The pay increase becomes active this upcoming fiscal year.

Wow — it must be nice to not to have to worry about making ends meet or living on a paycheck that is worth less and less. Those faculty who are poised to unionize must be thrilled with your good fortune. And the staff, whose last raise was 2%, must be feeling the love too.

The bonus is not a surprise since it was part of Gonzalez's employment contract — if she met the grade, she got the full \$90,000.

According to Gonzalez's employment contract, she is eligible for a performance bonus of up to 15% of her base salary in effect during the previous contract year.

In July 2024, that bonus would be up to \$90,000. According to the contract, the Board of Trustees will determine the amount of the bonus, which is contingent on the university achieving mutually agreed upon, predefined goals and the "availability of funds."

BOT evaluated Gonzalez' performance since joining the university on July 1, 2023, and approved a resolution that during her almost year in office, Gonzalez has "enhanced the legacy of the institution through her effective outreach and visible stewardship, passion for OHIO and by strongly asserting the transformational value of public higher education on our campuses and throughout the region, state, and beyond."

For what it's worth, I agree that Gonzalez is doing a good job. She's a top administrator and good for a quote. There are a lot of good things going on for the Bobcats these days.

That said, high administrative salaries like this, and much higher at OU and other places, are repulsive, particularly in these recessionary times.

And it's not like university presidents don't already have a lot of perks.

Let's not forget the free lodging — Gonzalez and her husband Randy bought their house for \$860,000 last June, according to land records filed with the Athens County Auditor's Office.

According to Gonzalez's employment contract, she receives a monthly housing

allowance of \$5,000 (\$60,000 a year) to live in Athens County.

Built in 1992, the multi-story 3,032-square-foot home is about a 10-minute drive to Cutler Hall where OU presidents have worked for decades.

The residence may be used for university-related business and entertainment. OU will pay costs for these university-related events.

In regards to travel, the university will pay or reimburse Gonzalez for expenses that are made on behalf of the university or the Ohio University Foundation. She will receive a discretionary account of \$90,000 per year to be spent for a direct university or Ohio University Foundation business purposes.

Gonzalez receives a monthly car allowance of \$1,000, a designated parking space near the Office of the President and a permit that allows parking in all university lots, according to her employment contract.

Think about all that when considering how faculty are unionizing because of stagnant wages. More than 70% of the faculty has endorsed the formation of a union to address demands for better pay and an equitable teaching workload.

Raises, when they do happen, do not keep pace with inflation, which is why OU lags behind many of the state's public universities. For Fiscal Year 2024-25, OU will allocate funding to each University division equal to 2% of salary for eligible employees to fund merit-based raises. Eligible employees will receive a raise ranging from 0.5% to 5%, with the final raise amount determined at the unit level and tied to the individual's performance evaluation.

The annual rate of inflation hovers between 3% to 4%, higher in some indexes. Everyone knows gasoline costs more in Athens County than most anywhere in the state.

Health care costs seldom remain fixed too. Although the cost of OU's healthcare premiums benefits is expected to once again increase by approximately 9% in fiscal year 2025, the university will cover all cost escalation and will not increase premiums for faculty and staff.

Because of past hiring freezes and hiring shortfalls, faculty workloads have increased too — more work, same money, actually less if you think about it. With faculty earning more money at other institutions, some have probably thought long and hard about leaving Ohio winters behind.

And though Gonzalez is getting \$600,000+ annually plus \$102,000 from a \$90,000

one-time bonus and a 2% pay increase — \$12,000 — she is not the highest paid OU employee but she's close to the top.

The President of the United States earns \$400,000 annually, plus a few other perks including the White House, Air Force One, and top-notch health care too where he doesn't have to worry about paying a high deductible.

Gov. Mike DeWine earns around \$168,000 annually, plus perks.

Ohio State University President Ted Carter earns a base salary of \$1.1 million annually, but the additional perks and benefits bring that total closer to \$2 million per year.

West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee pulls in \$800,000 annually, plus perks. Interestingly enough, Gee earned millions when he was OSU's president.

Based on the pay scale for college administrators and elected politicians, maybe being a university administrator is the way to go — free house, beautiful campus, scholarly life, no need for Secret Service protection, and free football tickets.

Don't hate the player, hate the game.

Gonzalez's bonus and pay increase comes on top of tuition and fee increases — salary increases are unrelated to annual fee hikes.

That said, it's not a good look to be awarded a big raise when students are expected to pay 3% more for tuition and 4.6% more to live in the residence halls.

Once upon a time to be able to afford a college education, parents were able to save money and college students could work a part-time job to pay tuition bills, but that's no longer true.

That's because the price of doing business at universities remains relatively unchecked since these costs are underwritten by ever-increasing amounts of financial aid — loans that have created a permanent underclass of debtors.

Much like the reforms needed to tame the Pentagon's bloated budget to pursue its misguided ambitions, higher education needs to be changed so that we don't continue to pay overinflated salaries and build pricey palaces on campus instead of supporting faculty and institutions that make education the primary mission.

Given that public confidence in higher education is at an all-time low, perhaps change is on the horizon as people come to realize that the price of learning has become too expensive. That's a shame since only the rich will be able to afford a college education.

Miles Layton is Region Editor for APG Ohio.

Abortion/

from A5

bathed or sent to school or even clothed their children.

The nightmares of unwanted children are many. Unwanted children are prey for pedophiles. They may be sexually abused by a friend of the family and have their parent look the other way. Or one parent might be the predator and other parent not caring enough to protest and protect the child. Children have been left in alleys and dumpsters. Some are rescued, others aren't.

Sometimes money is what the parent wants more than a child. Children have been sold away from their families in various cultures around the world. It happens here today. We continue to have a large market in the sale of newborns. What are fates of such sold off children? Do you really want to know? Slavery and prostitution head the list. Then there are the torturers, who revel in every hurt they inflict.

"Ah well" you say, some of those lost children get better families and become good people. That can happen. Ask yourself: How many people do you personally know who have fostered a child or adopted a child in need of a loving home? How many? Are you aware of the large numbers of forsaken children? Some of the unfortunates manage to mature and become good people. Do Not Discount Them.

Tortured people often torture others. We see this in some families through generations. Torture may be physical or mental. Some children look okay on the surface. They mind all the social courtesies and somehow fit in enough to not be noticed. Inside, there may be a sorry or even horrific existence. Then there are the children treated like garbage, wasted by the wayside and never loved.

Reproductive education well funded would seriously cut down the number of unloved children. Save abortion for times when a longed for fetus is not viable, or threatens the life of the mother. Also save it for the victims of rape and incest. NO MORE UNWANTED CHILDREN!

Abortion opponents, please think about this. Could you take on the love, care, expense of an unwanted child? And when will you? Think about this when you want to deny abortion. What if a person is incapable of parenting and they know it. "Use means to avoid conception" you say. Sure, IF the person has the ways and means of protecting against pregnancy. And people mess up. You know it's true.

Let's focus on the children who already exist in our midst.

StarMary Castro is a Millfield resident.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



PUBLICITY PHOTO

It's cold up there in "Fargo" (1996), most of which is actually set in the Minnesota town of Brainerd.

In search of a big chill

BOB HART

Entertainment Writer

Man, it's hot.

As if my overall sweatiness weren't evidence enough, the interior temperature of my car (102 degree Fahrenheit) after sitting in a parking lot for less than 45 minutes (windows down a bit) confirmed the obvious.

This is no laughing matter. Cooling centers are opening in New York and other northeastern cities as the much-discussed heat dome moves in that direction. People are being advised to hydrate like never before.

Even those of us who are fortunate to have air conditioning may fantasize about escaping to a cooler climate.

I don't mean moderate cool. Right now, I want "Doctor Zhivago" cold. You know, for balance.

So what are some really cold movies? (I don't mean emotionally detached, but literally cold.)

The king of modern-day chill may be Leonardo DiCaprio, whose credits include at least two memorably freezing moments etched into my memory.

First, of course, is that "Titanic" scene just before Jack bites the dust. Now, we can argue 'til the cows come



home — as many continue to do — whether there was room up there with Rose on that piece of floating, life-saving wood.

Jack and Rose didn't think so; or perhaps they simply lacked the energy at that point to give it a try. They'd been through a lot in the previous three hours.

Even more harrowing to me, though less iconic, is a scene in "The Revenant" (Warning: Spoiler and gross-out alerts.) In that one, Leo's character, Hugh Glass, slices, hollows out, crawls inside and sleeps in a horse carcass. Yes, this is in an effort to survive the bitter cold. As Chandler Bing might have asked: Could there *be* another reason?

Okay, enough of freezing ocean water and expired equine lodgings. The thought of both has brought my internal temperature down a bit, to the point where I'll now

fantasize about somewhere cold but also livable.

All roads lead to "Fargo," mentioned in this column before as my all-time favorite film.

This Coen brothers classic from 1996 is set (ironically, given the title) in Brainerd, Minnesota, with only a short portion of the film taking place in the title town. Everything surrounding the film's characters is freezing cold — from the ice-packed windshield William H. Macy ultimately attacks with his scraper; to the industrial winter wear worn by Frances McDormand, *et al*; to the hearts of many of its characters.

McDormand's character, Marge Gunderson, is the kind, decent soul at the center of a story filled with murder and mayhem.

In one of the final scenes, looking out at blustery winds blowing across frozen terrain from inside her police vehicle, she caps a lecture to an apprehended criminal with the following:

"There's more to life than a little money, ya know. Don't ya know that? And here you are, and it's a beautiful day."

Marge sees things a little differently. It's her inner goodness, and it feels warm in the best possible way.

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You should expect more from your local healthcare; that's why **Memorial Health System** has opened the **Athens Medical Campus**. We are excited to offer local access to our world-class network of expert doctors, national providers, and a 24/7 Emergency Department in our new state-of-the-art facility right here in Athens. **Memorial Health System** has long served our communities throughout southeastern Ohio by understanding the need not to travel away for better healthcare but to receive world-class, cutting-edge care right here at home.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY ROB DELACH

Local band, Hickory Jack, plays traditional music on Jackie O's Taproom's porch. The Taproom will be the site of the Near Eastside Neighborhood Athens Porchfest's closing concert.



Photo of @Stimson Chickens

Local Athens band, Stimson Chickens performs at a Near Eastside Neighborhood social event. The band will kick off Near Eastside Neighborhood Athens Porchfest with a concert at noon June at Kiser's Barbeque.

Porchfest aims to keep Athens funky

Near Eastside Neighborhood to host free live music event

Submitted Report

Athens Near Eastside Neighborhood will host the city's first ever Porchfest music event on June 30.

Come experience a unique, free live music event showcasing Athens musical talent. The Near Eastside Neighborhood Athens (NENA) welcomes neighbors from across the Athens area to enjoy the inaugural Porchfest music festival. Over a dozen residents of the Near Eastside — located between East State Street and Stimson Avenue in the City of Athens — will host music sets on their porches or yards.

Music will begin at noon at Kiser's Barbeque on East State Street, continue with sets around the neighborhood from 1-6 p.m.,

with the finale at Jackie O's Taproom.

Porch performing musicians will be accepting tips via cash or Venmo/Paypal.

Locations and lineup include:

■ 12 p.m. — Porchfest Kickoff at Kiser's Barbeque with music by Stimson Chickens

■ 12-5:50 p.m. — Neighborhood Porch Music Sessions. Acts will play 50-minute sets, beginning at the top of each hour. Most time slots will feature three to four simultaneous acts playing at various locations around the neighborhood. The lineup features the best of our local and regional musicians, playing rock, pop, folk, traditional music and blues. Full lineup and location information can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/Porchfest2024>

■ 6-9 p.m. — Finale at Jackie O's Taproom with music by Liberty Furnace and Water Witches

ALCOHOL

Every neighborhood porch show is

BYOB (bring your own beer/bottle).

Attendees of legal drinking age will be allowed to bring beer and liquor and consume it at the Porchfest shows at neighborhood residences; those partaking must stay on venue property. Neighborhood venues are outside of Athens' DORA zone, so alcohol is not allowed on sidewalks or streets. Kiser's Barbeque does not sell or allow alcohol, and Jackie O's Taproom has a full selection of beer and other beverages (no outside alcohol permitted).

PARKING AND GETTING AROUND

We encourage attendees to find a place to park their car in the area, and then walk, bike, scooter, skateboard, etc. to and between the Porchfest venues. Parking is free and is available on streets throughout the neighborhood; at the Athens Public Library (on Home Street), East Elementary School

(on Wallace Drive), and Moquin Funeral Home (corner of May and Morris). Please refrain from parking on the street in front of, or immediately next to Porchfest venues. There are free electric vehicle (EV) charging stations available in the Athens Public Library parking lot. Six spaces with level 2 chargers are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

FOOD

Food will be available for purchase at Kiser's Barbeque beginning at 11 a.m.. Jackie O's Taproom will have the Bagel Street Deli trailer open for sales beginning at 4 p.m. In addition, there are other food take out options at locally owned businesses in the neighborhood along East State Street, during the event including Avalanche Pizza, Dr. May's Thai Kitchen, and Kindred Market, plus fast-food options on Stimson Avenue.

Sign up to participate in the Ohio State Old Time Fiddlers Contest set for Aug. 16

Submitted Report

NELSONVILLE — The Ohio State Old Time Fiddlers Contest is seeking participants for this year's contest, which will be held at 6 p.m. Aug. 16 at Stuart's Opera House, 52 Public Square, Nelsonville.

Fiddlers will compete in four age groups — age 12 and under, 13-18, 19-54 and 55 and over.

In the ages 12 and under category, the first-place winner will receive \$75 and a plaque, while second place will get \$50 and a medal and third place will get \$25 and a medal.

In the other age groups, the first-place winner will get \$300 and a plaque, second-place winner will get \$200 and a medal and the third-place winner will get \$100 and a medal.

The winners of each age group will compete against each other for the title of grand champion, which comes with a \$300 prize

and a plaque.

The contest is certified by the National Old Time Fiddlers Association.

To register, visit paradeofthehills.org/fiddlers or stuartsopeahouse.org online or come to Stuart's Opera House the day of the contest.



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Amy Maggard, DO - Pediatrics at Holzer Athens



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Athena Cinema announces summer film series

Ohio University

The Athena Cinema has released its summer schedule full of unique events and new opportunities for the whole family to enjoy.

“Our team is excited to present a fun lineup this summer for the Athens community,” said Executive Director of the Athena Cinema Alexandra Kamody. “We have Beat the Heat for families and kids, Classics and Cocktails for an evening date night, and the return of Movies on the Rooftop, which offers a beautiful, breezy view of Athens in the summer.”

The Athena’s summer programming delivers much appreciated cultural options for the community, with this year having two well-loved event series, rooftop movies and in-person art making events paired together. The community will have a chance to explore new potential materials with ceramic art alongside fan favorite flicks.

“Due to the popularity of our Paint and Sip events, we decided to try Ceramics at the Cinema this summer which brings art and film together in a unique, new way,” Kamody explained. “We are excited to offer our patrons the chance to glaze a beautiful piece of pottery and see how it is transformed once it is fired in the kiln.”

An overview of the summer events schedule is listed below. For a full schedule, more details, and to purchase tickets, visit athenacinema.com.

JUNE

■ Classics & Cocktails — Each Friday in



FILE PHOTO BY JOHN HALLEY

The Athena Cinema hosts a screening of “Rear Window” as part of its Classics & Cocktail film series on the roof of the Athens parking garage in this 2023 file photo. The cinema has a new set of films ready to play this some, including some on the parking garage roof.

June, pair a classic or cult classic film with a themed drink in partnership with the West End Ciderhouse. The series began June 7 with “Repo Man.”

■ I Love the Gay 90’s — Enjoy free admission to this new Pride Month series featuring a different 90’s film each Thursday in June (also paired with a signature cocktail) sponsored by the Ohio University Pride Center, Ohio University Women’s Center, Ohio University Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies, College of Health Sciences and Professions, Women of Color Athens,

City of Athens, College of Fine Arts, Arts for OHIO and the Ohio Arts Council. The series began June 6 with “The Birdcage.”

MONTHLY

■ Beat the Heat — The ninth annual Beat the Heat event is a low-cost family matinee film series at 3 p.m. on Saturdays beginning June 29 through August 17 that benefits area children’s organizations. The series aims to offer area families a low-cost entertainment option, raise money for children’s organizations and increase traffic uptown

during the summer. The series begins June 29 with “The Wizard of Oz.”

■ Ceramics at the Cinema — A first of its kind event at the Athena, participants will glaze bisque-ware pieces themed to outdoor rooftop film screenings. Admission includes a ceramics project glazing session at the Athena with an option for an inclusive package that includes admission to a rooftop screening that evening and drink tickets. Participants can pick up their final piece one week after the event. The series includes: June 22, Terra Cotta Planters, paired with “Little Shop of Horrors”; July 13, Ohio Brew Week steins, paired with “Strange Brew”; Aug. 10, Hanging Bird Feeders, paired with “The Birds”

Summer Movies on the Rooftop

Each month this summer, the Athena will feature an outdoor movie on the rooftop of the Athens City Parking Garage. Patrons are asked to bring their own chair or seating to both reduce costs and allow for their own comfortability. Visit the Rooftop FAQ on the Athena website for more information. The series begins June 22 with “Little Shop of Horrors.”

The Athena Cinema is one of uptown Athens’ unique historic treasures and a proud member of the College of Fine Arts at Ohio University. Its mission is to bring the finest independent film to Southeastern Ohio and create a shared space for dialogue. To learn more about the Athena Cinema visit athenacinema.com.

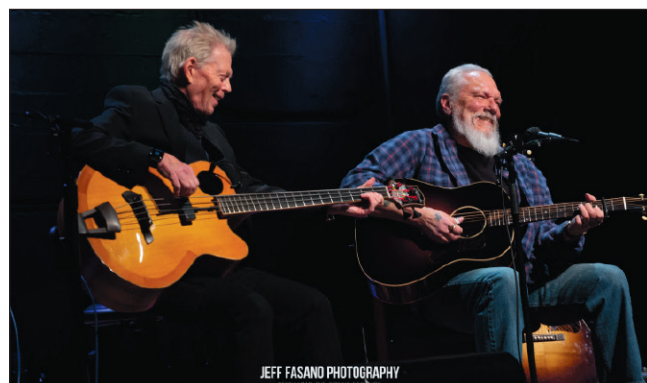


PHOTO BY JEFF FASANO PHOTOGRAPHY

Jack Casady (left) and Jorma Kaukonen, Hot Tuna, smile during a performance on Feb. 18, 2022 at the Franklin Theatre. Acoustic Hot Tuna will go on a tour throughout the United States on July through September.

Acoustic Hot Tuna to kick off new tour in July

Submitted Report

With continual creativity and finesse Acoustic Hot Tuna sets out touring across the United States in July, August and September. Masters in their field, Jorma Kaukonen and Jack Casady’s joy in playing unfiltered riffs, swapping notes and smiles, has delighted them and thrilled their audiences for seven decades.

Hot Tuna has brought a wealth of emotions to their music through deep perceptions and tremendous talent. Members of the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame and Grammy recipients they are always injecting fresh energy into their sound with constant improvisation taking their musical horizons further. Every note is a unique

expression of that very moment.

The tour will start on June 22 with a free concert at River of Time Boutique and Gallery, 19 W. Washington St., Athens.

They will perform at 7:30 p.m. July 11 at Natalie’s Music Hall, 945 King Ave., Columbus. For tickets, visit showclix.com/tickets/hot-tuna--97z8rkp.

The group will also perform July 13 and 14 at Fur Peace Station, in Pomeroy. Both shows are sold out.

Information about other tour dates is available online at hottuna.com/tour/.

Hot Tuna, Jorma Kaukonen and Jack Casady, perform with a well-honed and solid power — always in the groove from their years of experience and friendship.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

What's happening

Editor's note: To preserve space, complete information for continuing events, such as exhibits and plays, is listed only on its first day in the calendar.

WEDNESDAY, JUN 19

ARTS

- **Mount Zion Rose Window Mural Unveiling.** Join Mount Zion Black Cultural Center for the unveiling of the Rose Window mural. Athens muralist Keith Wilde, with the assistance of community volunteers, has created a 16-foot mural that will cover the Rose Window plug of the Mount Zion Baptist Church. Special guests at the event will include the Ted Harris Trio, John Carey (Director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia), Ohio University President Lori Stewart Gonzalez, Athens Mayor Steve Patterson, and the poet and founder of "Black By God, The West Virginian" newspaper, Crystal Good. A reception will follow at the Southeast Ohio History Center. Avery Nelson, Vistanelson@mountzionathens.org. 6-7 p.m., Mount Zion Baptist Church, 32 W. Carpenter Street, Athens.
- **Green Project Camp.** The Patton College of Education's Stevens Literacy Center is pleased to announce the Green Project Camp is returning for summer 2024. This unique summer program is designed to educate and empower children about environmental conservation and climate change. The camp will take place on June 3 to June 28, 9:30-3:30 p.m., at the Stevens Literacy Center located on Ohio University's Athens Campus. A new addition to the camp this summer are Reading and Math Boosts which are available before and after camp from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants have the option to register for all four weeks at a discounted price of \$600 or choose to register for individual weeks at a cost of \$200 per week. The Reading and Math Boosts will be an additional \$50 a week for children who choose to participate. Field trips and experiential learning opportunities outside the Stevens Literacy Center will be organized as frequently as possible, further enhancing the campers' understanding of environmental conservation. Emily Van Meter, ev422019@ohio.edu, 740-416-4283. \$200. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Stevens Literacy Center, 100 E Union Street, Athens. https://ohio.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dojlpFFiHKFz70.
- **Paper Circle's Growing Wiser Exhibition.** Paper Circle is proud to announce its first senior citizen art exhibit, the Growing Wiser Exhibition. Participants must be 55 years or older. All submissions must be original. Entry dates for this showcase starts June 1 and ends Aug. 24. Enter submissions through our website and there is a \$25 entry fee. Opening Night for the Exhibition is Sept. 27. Scout Ery, shop.papercircle@gmail.com. \$25. 12 a.m., Paper Circle, 35 W Columbus St, Nelsonville. <http://www.papercircle.org>.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Disabilities Commission Meeting.** The Athens City Commission on Disabilities meets the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Athens Community Center conference room, 701 E. State Street. The meetings are open to the public. If an accommodation is needed, email disabilitiescommission@ci.athens.oh.us. The Athens City Commission on Disabilities is a committee of city government whose commitment is to provide a means for the concerns of people with disabilities to be heard; to advocate for public policy change; to provide expertise to the community on disabilities; and to tell the community about the strengths and limitations of people with disabilities, as well as how the community can help them improve their quality of life, thereby ensuring equality of opportunity and full participation in community life for everyone. David McNelley, President, disabilitiescommission@ci.athens.oh.us. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Athens Community Center, 701 E State Street, Athens. <https://www.ci.athens.oh.us/99/Commission-on-Disabilities>.

- **Wednesday Lunch - UCM Center's Free Community Meal.** Serving free meals to the community with no questions asked for 30 years. Our meal includes a meat and vegetarian entree, several side dishes, a mixed greens salad, dessert and drinks. We are dedicated to serving the freshest and most nutritious meals possible. Hosted by UCM. Ari Faber, connect@ucmathens.org, 740-593-7301. 12-1:30 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens. <http://www.ucmathens.org>.
- **Open Meditation.** Enjoy a calm hour of quiet meditation offered by Athens KTC. All welcome, even if you have never meditated before. No registration needed. Jenny Byers, athensktcemail@gmail.com, 740 590 6632. 12-1 p.m., Serenity Roots, 8950 Lavelle Rd., Athens. <http://athensktc.org>.
- **Summer at the Library.** Join the Athens County Public Libraries for free, adventure-themed events this June and July for all ages. Free lunches will also be available for kids & teens at participating library branches. Grab a summer magazine at your nearest ACPL library to find out all we've been planning for you: guided hikes, kayak trips, and bike rides; arts, music, & craft workshops; community parties; dinosaur visitors; special guests from the Columbus Zoo, and more. Becca Lachman, blachman@myacpl.org. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., All Athens County Public Libraries. <http://www.myacpl.org/summer>.
- **Athens Farmers Market.** The place to shop for locally grown and raised meats, cheeses, vegetables, fruits, prepared foods, pastries, traditional and specialty bread, coffee, wine and cider, jams, jellies and preserves, pickled and fermented vegetables, honey and maple syrup, fudge and candies, plants and seeds. Also find items hand-crafted by members of the Athens Art Guild. The market is located under the solar panels at the Athens Community Center. SNAP/EBT accepted. Sean Pierce, afmkeepintouch@gmail.com. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Athens Community Center, 701 East State Street, Athens. <http://athensfarmersmarket.org>.
- **Volunteer opportunity — help build an inclusive playground!** We are looking for volunteers with some basic building and construction skills to help us assemble a new inclusive playground at Alexander Elementary School in Albany. This is a playground for the entire community outside of school hours, so we invite you to be a part of it! The Alexander Inclusive Playground Project has worked hard to fundraise more than \$350,000 to pay for the equipment for children of all abilities and the accessible rubber surfacing. Now we need people to install it! Supervisors from Little Tikes will be facilitating the build. Sign up using the link givepul.se/nf5cv2 or send an email or text to alexanderinclusiveplayground@gmail.com or (740)591-9387. Annah Korpi, AlexanderInclusivePlayground@gmail.com, 740-591-9387. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Alexander Elementary School, 6105 Ayers Road, Albany. <https://givepul.se/nf5cv2>.
- **Summer Session is open for Registration!** The Dairy Barn has opened registration for summer session classes and workshops in pottery, glass, fiber arts, painting and drawing .. just to name a few. Classes/Workshops have different start and end dates, so head over to our webpage and search under the Education tab for an up-to-date list of our current offerings or call (740) 592-4981 ext. 1. The Dairy Barn Arts Center, education@dairybarn.org, (740)592-4981. Varies by Class/Workshop. 12 a.m., The Dairy Barn Arts Center, 8000 Dairy Lane, Athens. <https://dairybarn.coursetorm.com/>.

MUSIC

- **Open Stage.** Open Stage with Chris Biester. All performers welcome. 8 p.m., Casa Cantina.
- **High Stakes Karaoke w/Lady J.** Come on in and be a star. 8 p.m., Smiling Skull Saloon, 108 West Union Street, Athens.
- **Open Stage with Chris Biester.** All acts welcome. Sign up at the stage. 7:30-11:30 p.m., Casa Cantina.
- **Take Two at Eclipse.** Live on the Eclipse Company Store stage. 6-9 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.
- **Jazz Night at Rhapsody Restaurant.** Join Kay Carter and the Bernie Nau Quartet for great jazz, drinks, food, and fun! Kay Carter, kaycarter@me.com, 740-707-2645. 6-8 p.m., Rhapsody Restaurant, 18 Public Square, Nelsonville. <https://rhapsody.hocking.edu/>.

THURSDAY, JUN 20

ARTS

- **I LOVE GAY 90'S Film Series: THE WATERMELON WOMAN.** Written, directed by, and starring Cheryl Dunye, THE WATERMELON WOMAN was the first feature film to be directed by a black lesbian when it was released in 1996. Shot in a documentary style and featuring a protagonist named "Cheryl" who is a black lesbian filmmaker like Dunye

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

herself, this humorous (and sexy) film sets out to tell the story of black lesbians in cinema — particularly that of Fae Richards, star of the 1930's film called "The Watermelon Woman." Made with an initial budget of \$300K which was financed by a grant from the NEA and grass-roots fundraising efforts, Dunye's humble film has since been recognized as a milestone in New Queer Cinema. Beneath its cheeky surface, THE WATERMELON WOMAN digs deep into the issues surrounding representation in media and the challenges of trying to look at history through a new lens. 7-8:30 p.m., The Athena Cinema, 20 S Court St, Athens. <https://athenacinema.com/watermelonwoman/>.

- **Green Project Camp.** The Patton College of Education's Stevens Literacy Center is pleased to announce the Green Project Camp is returning for summer 2024. This unique summer program is designed to educate and empower children about environmental conservation and climate change. The camp will take place on June 3 to June 28, 9:30-3:30 p.m., at the Stevens Literacy Center located on Ohio University's Athens Campus. A new addition to the camp this summer are Reading and Math Boosts which are available before and after camp from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants

have the option to register for all four weeks at a discounted price of \$600 or choose to register for individual weeks at a cost of \$200 per week. The Reading and Math Boosts will be an additional \$50 a week for children who choose to participate. Field trips and experiential learning opportunities outside the Stevens Literacy Center will be organized as frequently as possible, further enhancing the campers' understanding of environmental conservation. Emily Van Meter, ev422019@ohio.edu, 740 416 4283. \$200. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Stevens Literacy Center, 100 E Union Street, Athens. https://ohio.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dojlpFFiHKFz70.

- **Summer Workshops at Paper Circle.** Paper Circle is offering workshops in book binding, linoleum printmaking, paste paper and many more. These workshops have different start and end dates so check out our website. For those who just cannot wait, we also have workshops on demand for groups. Contact Paper Circle at shop.papercircle@gmail.com with these requests and all your aspired details such as dates, hours, and your intended number of guests. Scout Ery, shop.papercircle@gmail.com. \$25.12 a.m., Paper Circle, 35 W Columbus St, Nelsonville. <http://www.papercircle.org>.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **NAMI Athens Support group.** Do you have a loved one or friend who is struggling with mental health challenges and you do not know what to do? Join NAMI Athens for a bi-monthly support group. Come and go as you need to. 6-8 p.m., Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare, Athens.
- **Pride Screen Printing at Little Fish Brewing Company.** Screen Printing w/ Mike Miller, MFA and guests PRISM After School Art Program! Print a rainbow Little Fish logo on a shirt! BYO clean shirt - \$15, print on a Little Fish supplied shirt - \$25. Portion of proceeds to PRISM After School Art Program. Jennifer Sartwell, kitchen@littlefishbrewing.com, 7405911603.15/25.5-8 p.m., Little Fish Brewing Company, 8675 Armitage Rd, Athens. <http://www.littlefishbrewing.com>.
- **Thursday Supper - UCM Center's Free Community Meal.** Serving free meals to the community with no questions asked for 30 years! Our meal includes a meat and vegetarian entree, several side dishes, a mixed greens salad, dessert and drinks. We are dedicated to serving the freshest and most nutritious meals possible. We rely on donations of fresh and non-perishable foods and local discounts to make our meals possible. Meals are prepared by volunteers who start 2.5 hours before the serving time (2:30 - 5 p.m.). Ari Faber, connect@ucmathens.org, 740-593-7301.5-6:30 p.m., UCM Center, 18 N. College Street, Athens. <http://www.ucmathens.org>.

- **Appalachian Summer Solstice.** Attend a celebration of community, eco-spirituality, Appalachian traditions old and new, and the longest day of the year. This will be the seventh Appalachian Summer Solstice, which will focus on regional and cultural folk traditions. Through Friday. 12 p.m.-12 a.m., Wisteria Campground, Meigs County. <http://wisteria.org/summer-solstice>.

- **Volunteer opportunity — help build an inclusive playground!** We are looking for volunteers with some basic building and construction skills to help us assemble a new inclusive playground at Alexander Elementary School in Albany. This is a playground for the entire community outside of school hours, so we invite you to be a part of it! The Alexander Inclusive Playground Project has worked hard to fundraise more than \$350,000 to pay for the equipment for children of all abilities and the accessible rubber surfacing. Now we need people to install it! Supervisors from Little Tikes will be facilitating the build. Sign up using the link givepul.se/nf5cv2 or send an email or text to alexanderinclusiveplayground@gmail.com or (740)591-9387. Annah Korpi, AlexanderInclusivePlayground@gmail.com, 740-591-9387.8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Alexander Elementary School, 6105 Ayers Road, Albany. <https://givepul.se/nf5cv2>.

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MUSIC

- **Free Early Show.** Featuring The Come On Come Ons 7-9 p.m., Casa Cantina.
- **Summer Concert Series.** Join us for the first installment of the Summer Concert in the Parks Series. Located on the outdoor basketball courts behind the Athens Community Center. Performers will be Megan Bee & Paula and the Rescue Dogs. There will be live music, kids activities, and food vendors! Don't forget to bring your lawn chair! Adam West, awest@ci.athens.oh.us, 740-592-3325.6-8 p.m., Athens Community Center, 701 East State Street, Athens. <http://www.athensapr.com>.
- **Colin Richards.** Come enjoy the acoustic vibe with Colin Richards. 6-9 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.

FRIDAY, JUN 21

ARTS

- **Green Project Camp.** The Patton College of Education's Stevens Literacy Center is pleased to announce the Green Project Camp is returning for summer 2024. This unique summer program is designed to educate and empower children about environmental conservation and climate change. The camp will take place on June 3 to June 28, 9:30-3:30 p.m., at the Stevens Literacy Center located on Ohio University's Athens Campus. A new addition to the camp this summer are Reading and Math Boosts which are available before and after camp from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants have the option to register for all four weeks at a discounted price of \$600 or choose to register for individual weeks at a cost of \$200 per week. The Reading and Math Boosts will be an additional \$50 a week for children who choose to participate. Field trips and experiential learning opportunities outside the Stevens Literacy Center will be organized as frequently as possible, further enhancing the campers' understanding of environmental conservation. Emily Van Meter, ev422019@ohio.edu, 740 416 4283. \$200. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Stevens Literacy Center, 100 E Union Street, Athens. https://ohio.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dojlpFFiHKFz70.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Free Hot Meal.** Free Hot Meal provided by the community of Good Works every Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Good Works Property, 7857 Luhrig Road, Athens. Dinner starts at 5:15 pm with some announcements. There is additional "take-home" food provided after the meal. For information, give us a call or send us an email! Keith Wasserman, email@good-works.net, 7405943339.4:30-7:30 p.m., Good Works Property, 7857 Luhrig Rd, Athens. <https://good-works.net>.
- **Appalachian Summer Solstice.** Attend a celebration of community, eco-spirituality, Appalachian traditions old and new, and the longest day of the year. This will be the seventh Appalachian Summer Solstice, which will focus on regional and cultural folk traditions. Through Saturday. 10-12 a.m., Wisteria Campground, Meigs County. <http://wisteria.org/summer-solstice>.
- **Volunteer opportunity — help build an inclusive playground!** We are looking for volunteers with some basic building and construction skills to help us assemble a new inclusive playground at Alexander Elementary School in Albany. This is a playground for the entire community



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Friday – Saturday — 12pm–10pm

Sunday — 12pm–8pm

BREW PUB / 24 W UNION ST.

Monday — Closed

Tuesday – Thursday — 4pm–11pm

Friday — 3pm–2am

Saturday — 4pm–2am

Sunday — Closed

Visit jackieos.com for more info!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

outside of school hours, so we invite you to be a part of it! The Alexander Inclusive Playground Project has worked hard to fundraise more than \$350,000 to pay for the equipment for children of all abilities and the accessible rubber surfacing. Now we need people to install it! Supervisors from Little Tikes will be facilitating the build. Sign up using the link givepul.se/nf5cv2 or send an email or text to alexanderinclusiveplayground@gmail.com or (740)591-9387. Annah Korpi, AlexanderInclusive-Playground@gmail.com, 740-591-9387.8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Alexander Elementary School, 6105 Ayers Road, Albany. <https://givepul.se/nf5cv2>.

- **Summer Session is open for Registration!** The Dairy Barn has opened registration for summer session classes and workshops in pottery, glass, fiber arts, painting and drawing .. just to name a few. Classes/Workshops have different start and end dates, so head over to our webpage and search under the Education tab for an up-to-date list of our current offerings or call (740) 592-4981 ext. 1. The Dairy Barn Arts Center, education@dairybarn.org, (740)592-4981. Varies by Class/Workshop. 12 a.m., The Dairy Barn Arts Center, 8000 Dairy Lane, Athens. <https://dairybarn.coursestorm.com/>.

MUSIC

- **Breaking Free at Uncle Buck's.** Breaking Free is a classic rock cover band. Members are Brandon Wolf, mentor/ vocals; Landon Fuller, guitarist; Jack Hipple, guitarist; Abbie Short, drummer; and Kate Hipple, bass. Landon, Jack, Abbie and Kate are all members of the Logan-Hocking School district. Their musical talent and dedication will surely impress rockers in all age groups. David B McPherson, info@unclebucksstable.com, 740 677 9032. \$10. 7-10 p.m., Uncle Bucks Riding Stable, 73930 Buck Lane, Barn, NEW MARSHFIELD. <http://www.unclebucksstable.com>.
- **Boogie & BBQ at Eclipse Company Store.** Boogie and BBQ supporting The Kathryn McCoy Resource Project. Live music from Seth Hart, Brandon Jackson and Emaline Duquette. Come have fun and support a great cause. 6-9 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.

SATURDAY, JUN 22

ARTS

- **Paper Circle's Book Binding Summer Workshop.** Paper Circle is proud to present its second workshop this summer: Book Binding. This workshop will bring your love of books to a whole new level. Teaching each participant the art of book binding, making you wonder why you never materialized your own short stories. Like all our other offered workshops, we provide all materials and our talented and qualified teachers guide participants through the process: Scout Ery and Michael Miller. Scout Ery, shop.papercircle@gmail.com. \$25. 12-2 p.m., Paper Circle, 35 W Columbus St, Nelsonville. <http://www.papercircle.org>.
- **Summer Workshops at Paper Circle.** Paper Circle has FIVE summer workshops to offer as well as FREE Origami Meetups. These events are held three Saturdays a month starting in June. These workshops and meetups come with all the materials needed and are guided by our talented and qualified Paper Circle teachers: Michael Miller and Scout Ery. Walk ins are welcome but pre-registered guests have priority. Come on down to Paper Circle to register or pay

online through our website. Scout Ery, shop.papercircle@gmail.com. \$25. 12-2 p.m., Paper Circle, 35 W Columbus St, Nelsonville. <http://www.papercircle.org>.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Foster Equine's Casino Night Fundraiser.** The Foster Equine Casino Night fundraiser includes \$200 worth of chips to use on multiple casino games such as Blackjack, Texas Hold 'em, Craps, and Roulette. More chips are available for purchase. We will have concessions available. Proceeds support Foster Equine's mission of rescuing and rehabilitating horses in need. Tracy Orr, torr@fosterequine.com. \$60 Single, \$100 Couple. 6 p.m., Stonegate Farm, 26236 Smith Road, Coolville.
- **Athens County League of Women Voters New & Prospective Member Social.** Attendees will learn about the local, state, and national league and how to get involved in protecting Democracy by putting their skills and interests to work locally. League membership is open to anyone at least 16 years old. The formal program will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 11:20, but those interested are encouraged to stop by at any point that is convenient. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Athens West State Street Shelter House, Athens.
- **Appalachian Summer Solstice.** Attend a celebration of community, eco-spirituality, Appalachian traditions old and new, and the longest day of the year. This will be the seventh Appalachian Summer Solstice, which will focus on regional and cultural folk traditions. Through Sunday. 10-1 a.m., Wisteria Campground, Meigs County. <http://wisteria.org/summer-solstice>.
- **Athens Farmers Market.** The place to shop for locally grown and raised meats, cheeses, vegetables, fruits, prepared foods, pastries, traditional and specialty bread, coffee, wine and cider, jams, jellies and preserves, pickled and fermented vegetables, honey and maple syrup, fudge and candies, plants and seeds. Also find items hand-crafted by members of the Athens Art Guild. Consider purchasing an AFM gift certificate for this holiday season! The market is located under the solar panels at the Athens Community Center. 9-noon. SNAP/EBT accepted. Sean Pierce, afm-keepintouch@gmail.com. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Athens Community Center, 701 E. State St., Athens. <https://www.athensfarmersmarket.org/>.

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MUSIC

- **Say Gay LGBTQA+ Dance Night.** Featuring DJ Mooseknuckle. \$5. Through Sunday. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Casa Cantina.
- **Wild Honeybees 10 year anniversary show at Eclipse.** Do not miss this event as the Wild Honeybees celebrate 10 years of great music for our community on the outdoor stage. 7-10 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.

- **GrainFed at Uncle Buck's.** GrainFed, a Logan-based band that describes itself as "Unapologetically Appalachian" will perform. David B McPherson, info@unclebucksstable.com, 7406779032. \$10. 7-10 p.m., Uncle Bucks Riding Stable, 73930 Buck Lane, Barn, NEW MARSHFIELD. <http://www.unclebucksstable.com>.

SUNDAY, JUN 23

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Chess night.** Games will be played upstairs. 6-8 p.m., Donkey Coffee.
- **Family Night.** Family night features card and board games, pool and foosball. Kids ages 12 and under eat free with every purchase of an adult entree. Limit two kids meals per one adult entree. 4-8 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains.
- **Improv Comedy Workshop.** A weekly drop-in comedy workshop. Positive, supportive and lots of fun. Join us for any class for laughs and friends. Yang Miller, yangcmiller@gmail.com, 917 783 5904. Donation. 2-4:05 p.m., AthensWorks / Central Venue, 29 E Carpenter Street, Athens. <http://facebook.com/athenscomedycollective/>.
- **Kitten Adoption Event.** Join us to meet available kittens to add to your family. Kittens will be fully vetted prior to adoption. Adoption applications are required and you can be pre-approved by submitting your application here: athenshumane.org/adopt. Adoption fee is \$150. Kittens do better in pairs so please consider this when meeting them. Shelley Lieberman, shelleylieberman@hotmail.com, 740 593 5125. 1-3 p.m., Friendly Paws Pet Supplies & Grooming, 940 E State St, Athens. <http://Athenshumane.org>.
- **Athens Revolutionary Study Series.** Revolutionary strategy, tactics and organization. Sponsored by Workers' Voice. 12-2 p.m., United Campus Ministry, 18 N. College St., Athens.
- **Appalachian Summer Solstice.** Attend a celebration of community, eco-spirituality, Appalachian traditions old and new, and the longest day of the year. This will be the seventh Appalachian Summer Solstice, which will focus on regional and cultural folk traditions. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Wisteria Campground, Meigs County. <http://wisteria.org/summer-solstice>.
- **Summer Session is open for Registration!** The Dairy Barn has opened registration for summer session classes and workshops in pottery, glass, fiber arts, painting and drawing .. just to name a few. Classes/Workshops have different start and end dates, so head over to our webpage and search under the Education tab for an up-to-date list of our current offerings or call (740) 592-4981 ext. 1. The Dairy Barn Arts Center, education@dairybarn.org, (740)592-4981. Varies by Class/Workshop. 12 a.m., The Dairy Barn Arts Center, 8000 Dairy Lane, Athens. <https://dairybarn.coursestorm.com/>.

MUSIC

- **Dixie Stompers.** Come join us for this unique band. 5-8 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.
- **Steve Zarate.** Come for our brunch buffet and enjoy the music from Steve Zarate. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Eclipse Company Store & Craft Beer Hall, The Plains. <http://eclipsecompanystore.com>.

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Athens County
Children's Services

Protecting Children, Strengthening Families, Securing Futures

Position Announcement

POSITION: Case Review Coordinator (posting #141854)
SALARY: \$21.00-\$24.68/hr., commensurate with experience
The Case Review Coordinator manages and facilitates a variety of agency case reviews which promote quality services, adheres to state and federal rules and promotes best practice standards for services to children and families. The Case Review Coordinator participates in the monitoring of agency practice and outcomes.
• FULL-TIME positions, 40-hours per work week
• Regularly scheduled within the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Some weekend work may be required.
• The supervisor may require the worker to utilize an Alternative Work Site.


Excellent Benefits Included:
• Medical, dental, and vision insurances
• Paid \$30,000 life insurance policy
• OPERS (Ohio Public Employees Retirement System)
• 12 paid holidays
• 15 days paid sick leave
• 4 personal days
• Possibility of vacation cash out
• Possibility of hybrid work environment
• Monthly phone stipend reimbursement
• Tuition reimbursement program
• Achieve Civil Servant status after 180-day probationary period

Required Qualifications:
• Bachelor's degree in social work or related degree
• 3 years of ongoing court involved casework experience
• Valid driver's license and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) compliant auto insurance
• Candidate must pass a comprehensive background assessment.

Preferred Qualifications:
• Licensed Social Worker

Applications accepted until ALL positions filled.
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APPLY on our website:



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1		2					5	
	7	8	6	3	5		4	
6	5		1		4		7	8
	3			7		5		4
	6		2	1		8	9	
8		7	5		6	2		
7	8			6				5
		5		9	8			6
4		6		5	1	7	8	9

JONESIN'
CROSSWORD

Last Weeks Puzzle Solution

S	P	C	A		M	A	V		D	U	E	T	O
C	H	I	L	L		A	V	E		E	N	V	O
L	O	G	I	A		R	E	T	A	L	I	A	T
O	P	E	N	M	I	C	R	O	P	H	O	N	E
S	P	O	T	O	N				T	I	N		
E	E	N			A	N	I	S	E		C	B	C
			T	W	I	N	S	B	U	R	G	O	H
B	R	O	A	D		A	I	R		E	V	E	N
T	H	E	G	I	V	I	N	G	T	R	E	E	
S	O	D			O	D	D	E	R		S	H	A
			B	E	N			E	A	S	E	U	P
	F	O	U	N	D	I	N	G	F	A	T	H	E
C	O	C	R	E	A	T	O	R		M	A	E	V
T	O	T	E	M		E	R	A		C	H	A	O
S	T	O	N	Y		M	A	D		O	L	D	S

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Last Week's
Puzzle Solution

5	3	6	7	8	9	4	2	1
4	2	1	5	3	6	7	8	9
7	8	9	4	2	1	5	3	6
6	4	5	9	7	8	3	1	2
3	1	2	6	4	5	9	7	8
9	7	8	3	1	2	6	4	5
2	6	4	8	9	7	1	5	3
1	5	3	2	6	4	8	9	7
8	9	7	1	5	3	2	6	4

YOUR
AD
HERE

Contact
Markita Russell,
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1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13				14						15				16
17				18						19				
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52					53	54	55				56	57	58	59
60					61					62	63			
64						65						66		
	67						68					69		

Solution will appear in next week's edition of the Athens NEWS

©2024 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesincrosswords@gmail.com)

JONESIN' CROSSWORD

"Square Knots" - and
there's a twist.
by Matt Jones ©2024 Matt Jones

ACROSS
1. ___ school (doc's training ground)
4. "___ and the Pussycats"
9. Short story writer H.H. Munro's pen
name
13. Guac source, casually
14. Make changes to
15. "___ say a word"
17. Square
20. Quality of sound
21. Show lots of love
22. Automotive pioneer Benz
23. Online bidding site
26. Tommy Lee Jones, in "Men in
Black"
28. Menlo Park surname
31. "Inception" director Christopher
33. Square
35. Caustic cleaning solution
38. Get ready
39. Jr.'s son, sometimes
40. "I'm in the ___ for love"
41. "Delta of Venus" author Anais
42. Square
46. Selected
47. Aisle guides
48. Denver-based "Baby Bell"
telephone company until 2000
51. Word before bar or after swan
52. What the world will do on its axis
53. Tail end

56. Certain loaves or whiskeys
60. Square
64. Style where what's old is new again
65. SAG-AFTRA, for example
66. Lucy of "Elementary"
67. Recolors
68. Element number 54
69. Former "Tonight Show" announcer
Hall

DOWN
1. "Will & Grace" guest star Bomer
2. Cooking acronym popularized by
Rachael Ray
3. Like this clue (and many others)
4. "You Are" band Pearl ___
5. Cockney residence for 'Enry, maybe
6. In poor shape
7. Enthralled with
8. Update a LinkedIn profile, perhaps
9. "Marry the Girl" (1937) screenwriter
Herzig, or "Deadliest Catch"
captain Hansen
10. Greet the day
11. 114-chapter holy book
12. Like 68-Across, chemically
16. "Me ___ Pretty One Day" (2000
David Sedaris essay collection)
18. Liam with a particular set of acting
skills
19. "Seraph on the Suwanee" novelist
Zora ___ Hurston
24. "___ voyage!"
25. Lauren Bacall's first movie, "To
Have ___ Have Not"
27. Long-jawed freshwater fish
28. Home of "SportsCenter"
29. Place to order a sandwich and a
huge pickle
30. "___ See Clearly Now"
31. The color of coffee from a French
press?
32. Hurty boo-boo
34. Cherry leftovers
35. Opera house seating section
36. "Habibi (I Need ___ Love)" (2014
single by Shaggy)
37. Dreyer's ice cream, east of the
Rockies
40. "Thanks for coming to the rescue"
42. Nervous speaker's pause sounds
43. "The Hunchback of ___ Dame"
44. Rapa ___ (Easter Island, to locals)
45. "seaQuest ___" (1990s sci-fi TV
series)
46. Middle, in Manitoba
48. "Back in the ___" (Beatles hit)
49. June 1994 release starring Keanu
Reeves (yes, it's 30!)
50. Clever and funny
51. Sap of energy
54. Parisian waters
55. "SNL" guest host Hathaway
57. Christmas season
58. "National Velvet" novelist Bagnold
59. Poker variant
61. ___ Angeles Kings
62. Dove noise
63. Anderson Cooper's network

The Athens NEWS

Food, festivals & fun “We have it covered!”

ATHENS

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McCracken Hall
Walter Hall
OUCU Financial
OU Facilities Managment
Life Sciences Facility
Central Class Building 2
Union Street Cafe
Smiling Skull
Athens News Box
Star Of India
American Red Cross
Miller's Chicken
Sheltering Arms
Athens Public Library
University Commons
UMA Express Care
Seaman's Grocery
Papa John's
Speed Queen
Tri County Mental Health
Avalanche Pizza
Mental Health Center
Speedway - Richland Ave.
Holiday Inn Express
CVS Pharmacy
Rec Center
O'Bleness Emergency
O'Bleness Hospital
Larry's Dawg House
Peoples Bank
Kroger Save On
Athens Eye Care
Kroger Gas
VA Clinic
China Panda
Athens Real Estate Co.
Gran Ranchero
Mountain River Physical Therapy
Arby's

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Casa Lopez
Diagnostic Hybrids
CGI
Go Mart
Bedrock Tool Rental
Holzer Clinic
Super 8 Motel
Auto Tech
Beaumont Greene
First National Bank
Goody's
Shade On State
Lasher Hall
Hampton Inn
OU Credit Union
Mac's Thrifty
Bromley Hall
Hocking Valley Bank
Lam's
Aldi's
Wendy's
Go Mart - State St.
Fairfield Inn
McDonald's
Big Lots
Subway - East State St.
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Little Caesar
Don Wood Toyota
Century National Bank
Don Wood Ford
Don Wood Hyundai
Mark Porter Autoplex
New Market
Chubb Hall
Athens County Children Services
Schoonover Center
Radio TV Building #31
Hudson Health Center
Baker Center

Voinovich School
The OU Inn
Speed Queen
Summit
Stop N Cop
Hocking Valley Bank
Wendy's
Taco John's
Detangles
Sole and Bloom Reality
Speedway - State St.
Chase
Carriage Hill Apts
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C And E Hardware
Huddle Tire
Athens Orthodontics
Karr Audiology
Old Morrison School
Classic Carwash
Pete's BP
Fruth Pharmacy
Pa Snack And Lube
Bulk Food Depot
Warehouse Tire
Hometown Inn
The Pigskin Bar And Grill
The Pub
Subway-Court Street
Laundromat
Attractions
Athens County Courthouse
(3 locations)
Dale's BP
Carpenter Hall
Senior Center
Ambassador Laundry
The Farmacy
Hocking Valley Bank
Athens Post Office
Good Laundry
BP Gas-Shop Mart

KFC
Mill St. Apartments
Larry Conrath Realty
In-Town Body Shop
Taylor Nissan
Valero
Muffler Man
Walker & Walker
Reistenberg & Lavelle
Carquest Auto Parts
Chiro & Phy Associates
Robertson Heating
Devil's Kettle Brewery
Acenet
New To You
86 Office Building
Thomas Parfitt
Athens Mirror Image
Athens Dental Depot
The Laurels Of Athens
Dairy Queen
Union Bar & Grill
Jackie O's
Court St. Coffee
Little Professor
Follett's Bookstore
College Bookstore
College Bookstore Box
Brenen's
CVS Pharmacy
Raphael's Aveda
Mike's Dog Shack
Court House Annex
City Hall
Chase Bank Box
Donkey Coffee
Athens Middle School
Mathew Insurance
Kindred Market
Athens Community Center
Athens Messenger
OU Innovation Center

The Athens NEWS

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Hooper - Best News Coverage 2020

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WEEKLY EDITION - FREE

No Contest, No Badge

Nelsonville police officer pleads no contest, permanently surrenders badge

See page 3

Helping Those In Need

Learn more about the Athens County Food Pantry

See page 2

It's Not Too Late!

Best of Athens voting ends this Friday

What's happening

Athens Beautification Month

events set

See page 13

Athens in Bloom

Rows of trees in bloom along the bike path near Peden Stadium makes a jog even more enjoyable.

Photo by John Kelly

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