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LORAIN COUNTY

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COMMUNITY GUIDE

BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, May 9

- OBERLIN: The Oberlin Public Library will hold its 2020 budget hearing followed by a records commission meeting and regular meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at the library. Meetings are open to the public.
- OBERLIN: "Discovering Dave" will be presented at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at the Oberlin Public Library.
- This Oberlin Heritage Center event with feature Geroge Wingard, program coordinator at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program. Wingard co-produced the documentary "Discovering Dave: Spirit Captured in Clay," which pieces together the life and artistry of an early-19th century South Carolina enslaved potter who acquired the rare skills of reading and writing. Following the 49-minute film, there will be an opportunity for questions and to examine one of Dave's original pots.
- The program is free and open to the public.
- For more information, call 440-774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.
- PITTSFIELD TWP.: Learn about the history of the Lorain County Fair at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at Pittsfield town hall, routes 58 and 303.
- The free Pittsfield Historical Society program will examine the 173-year history of the fair, including its first 95 years in Elyria. Janet Bird, education coordinator of the Lorain County Historical Society, will present information, stories, and photos. Stories and questions from the audience will be welcome.
- OBERLIN: The Low-Vision Support Group will meet at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at Kendal at Oberlin's Green Room for the audio presentation "The TASK (Tenacity, Adaptability, Support, and Knowledge) of Living with Central Vision Loss." All are welcome.
- OBERLIN: Oberlin Sinfonietta will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at Warner Concert Hall, 77 West College St.
- The concert will feature Gabriella Smith's "Brandenburg Interstices" with faculty flutist Alexa Still, Messiaen's "Couleurs de la city celeste" with student pianist Liam Kaplan, Shulamit Ran's "Fault Line," and the premiere of Oliver Kvapis' "Concerto for Two Violas and Large Ensemble" with student viola soloists Josephine Stockwell and Nicholas Gallitano.
- OBERLIN: The Woodwind Quintet and Brass Trio will perform at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.
- The concert is free and open to the public.
- OBERLIN: Branch 3196 of the NAACP will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 9 at the Oberlin

BULLETIN BOARD PAGE A3



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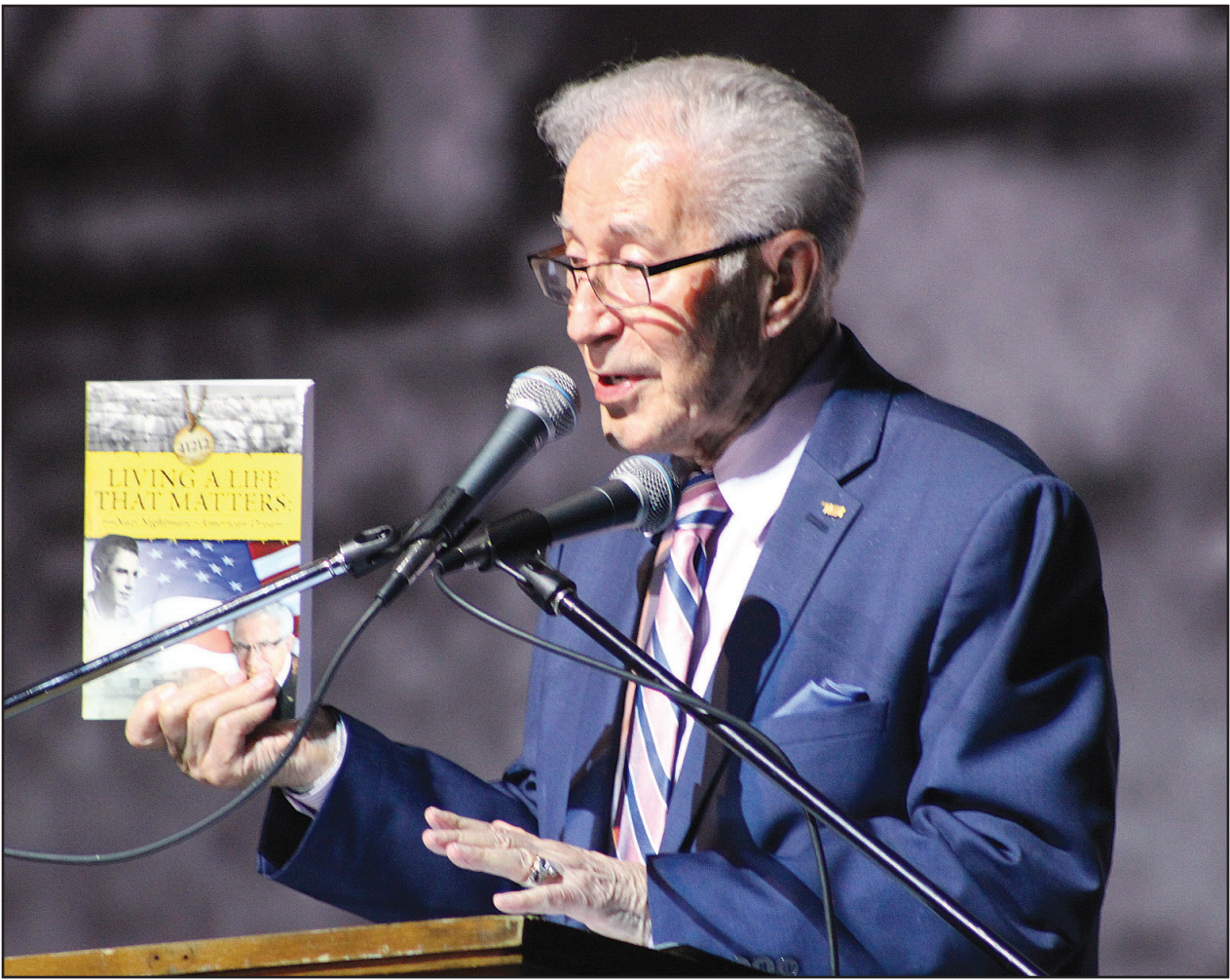
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HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL



Jonathan Delozier | Lorain County Community Guide
Ben Lesser, a Holocaust survivor from Poland, speaks May 1 during the Yom Hashoah Holocaust Memorial Program.

HAUNTED BY HORRORS

JONATHAN DELOZIER REPORTER

There were three types of people in the world during the Holocaust, said survivor Ben Lesser: "The killers, the victims, and the bystanders."

Now 91, Lesser was the keynote speaker May 1 at the Yom Hashoah Holocaust Memorial Program at the filled-to-capacity Lorain Palace Theatre.

Born in Krawaw, Poland, Lesser was 11 when Nazis invaded his home. He said the arrival of tanks in the middle of the night shook entire buildings.

He, his sister Lola, and his brother-in-law Michael were the only members of his family to survive what followed.

"I certainly had no idea what to expect," Lesser said. "If my parents knew something, they

certainly didn't tell us kids — but I'm sure they knew a lot. A year earlier in 1938 was Kristallnacht."

"Many of the Jews from Germany and Austria had been deported back to Poland," he said. "I'm sure my father knew something but no one really knew to what extent the Nazis would take this."

Kristallnacht, occurring in November 1938 shortly after Germany's annexation of Austria, is viewed by many historians as "the start of the Holocaust."

It was a two-day Nazi operation in which countless Jews were murdered. Another 30,000 Jewish men were imprisoned in concentration camps and 267 synagogues were destroyed.

Kristallnacht translates to "The Crystal Night" and refers to the sea of broken glass lining streets after the raids had ended.

"Around 1:30 in the morning, a truck pulls up to our building and soldiers started banging at the gate," Lesser said. "All they wanted to know is where the Jewish people lived. The building super was quick to oblige. They came running in and breaking down the doors. We were still in bed and they were pistol whipping us. They yelled at us to throw them all our valuables. They pulled them off of my mother."

In the midst of the chaos, Lesser heard terrible screaming coming from a neighboring apartment and ran to see what was happening.

"This monster was holding an infant child by its legs and swinging it," he said. "He yelled to the parents, 'Make him shut up.' You could see it on his face

HOLOCAUST PAGE A2

INSIDE

Amherst

Hundreds of beds made for needy kids


Oberlin

College commencement speaker is Apple VP


Wellington

Council talks about need for boat storage rules

ELECTION RESULTS A2 • OBITUARIES A2 • CROSSWORD B3 • CLASSIFIEDS C4




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OBITUARIES

Dorothy E. Jameyson

Dorothy Elizabeth Jameyson, 87, of Wellington, died Friday, May 3, 2019, at New Life Hospice in Lorain.

Born on Sept. 2, 1931, in Wellington, she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Lillian (nee Dague) McQuate. Dorothy was a lifelong resident of Wellington and a graduate of Wellington High School.

Dorothy worked for many years at Forest City Foam. She enjoyed dancing, especially the polka. Dorothy also enjoyed going on trips with the Wellington Seniors. She was a dedicated mother, wife, and grandmother and was faithful about attending events and ball games. She was also devoted to caring for her husband throughout the years.

Survivors include her children, Kathy Jameyson, Linda (Robert) Barber, Gary (Mary) Jameyson, and Lary (Cyd) Jameyson; grandchildren Joshua (Lindsey), Katie (Ben), Megan, Marissa (Mark), and Rachel (Trent); great-grandchildren Teague, Tenley, Cecelia, Tristan, Kennedy, Sylvia, and Georgia; and sister, Elaine Leiby. Dorothy was preceded in death by her loving husband of 66 years, Howard Jameyson; and siblings Robert McQuate and Jaunita Leiby.

The family will have a graveside service at Greenwood Cemetery, Wellington. Donations may be directed to the Wellington Senior Bus Fund, 115 Memorial Square, Wellington, OH 44090. Condolences and fond memories may be shared online at www.norton-eastmanfuneralhome.com.

Arthur D. Lewis

Arthur Dean Lewis, 64, of Wellington, died unexpectedly Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at his residence. Visitation was held on Monday, May 6 at Penfield Community Church where services were held Tuesday, May 7. Expressions of sympathy and online condolences may be expressed at www.norton-eastmanfuneralhome.com.

Chris B. Manofski

Chris B. Manofski, 84, of Amherst, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at New Life Hospice Center in Lorain. Services were held Monday, May 6 at Hempel Funeral Home, Amherst, followed by procession and Mass at St. Clemen of Ohrid Macedonian Orthodox Church, Avon. Burial was at Elmwood Cemetery, Lorain.

Clyde K. Nary

Clyde K. Nary, 77, of Oberlin, passed away May 2, 2019.

He was born Aug. 6, 1941, in Elyria. In 1959, he joined the 809th Army Corp of Engineers, serving in Korea, Japan, and Guam and was honorably discharged in 1962. Clyde worked as a steam engineer at U.S. Steel for 30 years and was a member of the United Steelworkers 1104. He was also a lifetime member of the VFW 6273 of Oberlin.

He is survived by his, children Michelle Nary of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Kevin (Jean) Nary of Berlin Heights, Ohio, Valerie (Tony) Lewis of Soddy Daisey, Tenn.; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and his best friend, Merce Nary. Clyde was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd K. and Edith Nary (McPherson); wife of 41 years, Barbara J. Bovee Corrai Nary (2004); son, Michael L. Nary (1988); brother and sister, Dave and Eleanor Ford; and five other sisters, Zelma, Bertha, Edith, Charleene, and Carol Ann Nary.

There will be a graveside service at Westwood Cemetery, 455 Morgan St., Oberlin, on Friday, May 10 at 11 a.m. with full military honors. A celebration of life and benefit will follow at Oberlin VFW 6273, 42369 Oberlin-Elyria Rd.

Online condolences may be made at www.cowlingfuneralhomeoh.com.

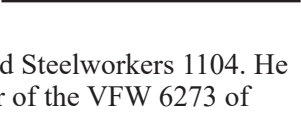


Charles Morrow

Charles "Chuck" Morrow, 66, of Amherst, passed away Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at Amherst Manor Nursing Home. The family planned private funeral services. Arrangements were entrusted to Hempel Funeral Home, Amherst.

Delores A. Cole

Delores Ann Cole, 71, of Amherst passed away May 5, 2019. No formal services are planned. A celebration of her life will be held this summer. Arrangements were entrusted to Hempel Funeral Home, Amherst.



Mail carriers collect food for the hungry

With the help of sponsors, volunteer organizations, and U.S. Postal Service employees in 10,000 communities nationwide, the National Association of Letter Carriers will conduct its 27th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 11.

Making a donation is easy — just leave your nonperishable food donations in a bag near your mailbox on Saturday before your letter carrier arrives.

In the days leading up to the food drive, letter carriers will be delivering special bags along with your mail that may be used to make donations. Food collected during Saturday’s drive will be delivered to local community churches, food banks, and food pantries for distribution.

While all non-perishable donations are welcome, foods that are high in protein such as canned tuna, salmon, beans, and peanut butter are most needed.

Canned fruits and vegetables, whole grain, low sugar cereals, macaroni and cheese dinners, and 100 percent fruit juice also top the list of needed items.

Last year’s drive resulted in carriers collecting 71.6 million pounds of food from local communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since the drive began in 1993, total donations have surpassed 1.6 billion pounds of food. The food drive has become the nation’s largest one-day campaign to collect food for distribution to needy families.

ELECTION

Low primary turnout, good results for those seeking issue approval

STAFF REPORT

The 2019 primary election proved a low-flow day at the polls in Lorain County.

There were just 13,246 ballots cast here Tuesday — that's only about 12.15 percent of the 109,055 registered voters.

Consider the vote in Amherst's fourth ward, where Democrats Andrew Flynn and David Kovacs competed for a city council nomination.

Kovacs won by a bare 12 votes but the split was 53 to 47 percent (110 ballots for Kovacs and 98 for Flynn). Kovacs will now contest Republican incumbent Matt Nahorn in the November general election.

But if you were a government entity seeking approval of a tax measure, it was a good day indeed. Every single issue countywide passed:

- Issue 2, Brownhelm Township fire and ambulance levy renewal — 88.19 percent for, 11.81 percent against.
- Issue 3, Lorain Port Authority levy renewal — 65.3 percent for, 34.7 percent against.
- Issue 4, North Ridgeville Library levy renewal — 75.06 percent for, 24.94 percent against.
- Issue 5, Oberlin Public Library levy renewal — 89.86 percent for, 10.14 percent against.
- Issue 6, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Schools levy substitution — 53.11 percent for, 46.89 percent against.
- Issue 7, Strongsville Schools additional levy — 60 percent for, 40 percent against (in Lorain County; it also passed in Cuyahoga County).
- Issue 8, Amherst income tax renewal — 72.21 percent for, 27.79 percent against.
- Issue 9, LaGrange replacement levy — 51.64 percent for, 48.36 percent against.
- Issue 10, Lorain income tax renewal — 60.04 percent for, 39.96 percent against.
- Issue 11, North Ridgeville ambulance and EMS levy renewal and increase — 69.73 percent for, 30.27 percent against.
- Issue 14, Oberlin income tax renewal — 85.28 percent for, 14.72 percent against.
- Issue 15, Rochester Village replacement levy — 75 percent for, 25 percent against.

The figures reflect unofficial election night totals.

HOLOCAUST FROM A1

that he was enjoying what he was doing. He had a smirk. He smashed the baby's head into the doorpost, killing it instantly.”

Lesser spent time in two of the Holocaust's most infamous locations: the Bochnia Ghetto and Auschwitz concentration camp.

He described dump trucks traveling into neighborhoods to rip children away from their families while they slept, and parents gunned down by rifle fire as they pursued the kidnappers.

A train trip to Auschwitz meant lying in human waste with the car's other 80-plus inhabitants. Those horrors, though, paled in comparison to what came next.

“I was pulled apart from my little brother, never to see each other again,” Lesser said. “You could see the flames and ashes pouring out of these stacks. Ashes would be all over the ground like snow. You left footprints as you walked. There was always that funny smell. Many men thought they were smelting factories. Who knew what it really was?”

Lesser was liberated in April 1945 while part of a 3,000-person death march to Buchenwald.

He has penned a book on his ordeal, titled “Living a Life That Matters: From Nazi Nightmare to American Dream.” Proceeds go to his nonprofit, The Zachor Foundation.

Also speaking in Lorain was

pastor Chris Edmonds of Tennessee, son of Master Sgt. Roddie Edmonds.

The elder Edmonds, by denying a Nazi order to point out more than 200 Jewish soldiers under his command, is credited with saving the life of roughly 1,300 POWs.

Chris said his father never spoke about the war before passing away in 1985 but the discovery of his diary finally painted a picture of heroic acts committed at gunpoint.

After being captured during 1944's Battle of the Bulge, Edmonds and other noncommissioned officers were taken to the Stalag IX-A camp in Germany. Nazi commanders told Edmonds to point out Jewish soldiers among the large crowd of POWs.

Edmonds refused the order and led all 1,300 soldiers to roll call the next morning with a collective message of, “We're all Jewish.”

As Nazis held a gun to Edmonds' head and threatened to shoot, he told them they would have to kill every Allied soldier in the camp.

The war was almost over, he reasoned, and witnesses would be able to point out war criminals.

Edmonds also refused to send American soldiers on death marches leading up to the Nazis'

eventual abandonment of the camp as the war neared its conclusion.

“I always asked, 'Dad, just tell me what happened over there,’” Chris said. “He'd just say, 'Son, we were humiliated.' That's all he'd say. He stared down the barrel of a Nazi gun not long after watching the savage execution of a Russian soldier who was mauled by dogs. They were threatening the same thing for my father and his men if they disobeyed Nazi orders.”

Allied troops liberated the camp on March 30, 1945.

On Feb. 10, 2015, Edmonds was recognized by the nation of Israel as “Righteous Among the Nations,” the country's highest honor for a non-Jew.

The award was handed to Chris in a ceremony attended by President Barack Obama, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and director Steven Spielberg.

Chris was able to learn many parts of the story through Sgt. Lester Tanner, a Jewish soldier who stood near his father as Nazis threatened his life.

“He has always been on my mind,” Tanner said in a video documenting the POWs experience as well as Chris's trip to Europe to retrace his father's footsteps. “Serving with Roddie was the defining experience of my life.”

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY GUIDE

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Can my event be listed in the paper for several weeks?

Once submitted, nonprofit event listings stay in our bulletin board as long as we have space available, up to four weeks prior to the event. You don't have to submit it again unless there are changes.

Will you guarantee that an item will print on a certain date?

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