



Attica
Autumn Day
B1

Kiwanis Meeting:
Fire Safety
B8



Attica-Bellevue-Bloomville-Republic Local News



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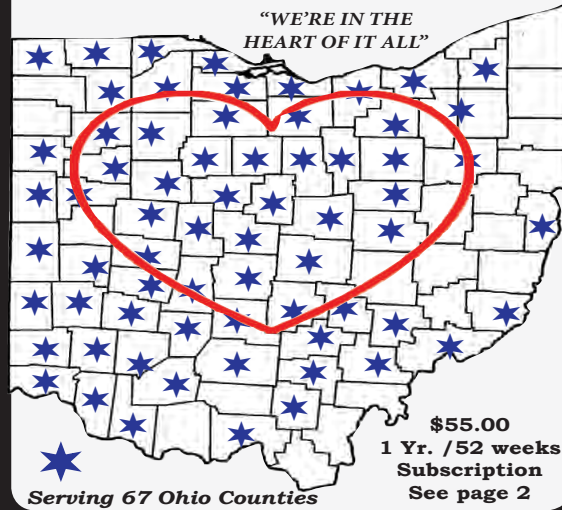
Vol. 128 - No. 36
(USPS 036-600)

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Single Copy Price \$1.25



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Auctions & Sales

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BSA Presents “Once Upon a Mattress”

By Phil Wheeler, Staff Reporter

Once Upon a Mattress, playing at the Bellevue Society for the Arts September 28-29, is a good-humored fairy tale Disney remake and a 1950’s Broadway musical with some cheeky jokes and a “wicked” queen. It pokes fun at the traditional roles of fairy tale characters, with a down-trodden king and the self-satisfied knight, and a queen who is controlling and condescending, babying her 40-year-old son, but it is all played for laughs. The sets are lavish, the costumes are beautiful, the songs are bright and breezy, and the cast is first-rate. Overall, a strong cast, plenty of humor, and a good heart make this solid family entertainment.

There is also a love story within a love story. The king is played by Jimmy Foreman, who met his wife during the first production of the play at BSA in 1991. Jimmy was the “Jester” and the choreographer. Ann Musser was cast as “Lady Larkin.” Jimmy was choreographing the song ‘Normandy’ and was on his hands and knees with Ann sitting on his back. “When he started to crawl across the stage, I laughed hysterically,” said Musser, “That was the moment I started to fall for him.” Twenty-five years later, they are back.

The story unfolds in a fictional medieval kingdom in 15th-century Europe ruled by the devious Queen Aggravain and the mute King Sextimus the Silent. King Sextimus suffers from a curse cast by a witch that can only be reversed “when the mouse devours the hawk.” (More on that later) The queen has decreed that no couples can marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, finds a bride. The Princesses come from far and wide to win the hand of the prince, but none pass the impossible tests. Until, that is, the swamp princess Winnifred the

Woebegone shows up, and passes a sensitivity test.

Queen Aggravain (Heidi Sarvis) is bombastic, dominating her husband and her son, ruling the roost. She has a fine voice and belts out her songs with gusto. King Sextimus (James Harrison Foreman III as he introduced himself) is a lecherous old man who spends his days chasing chambermaids and Ladies in Waiting and avoiding his wife, the Queen. In lesser hands, the King would have come off as – well, not a very nice man – but Jimmy plays him with a mischievous grin that brings humor to each and every pantomime performed. He manages to speak volumes without uttering a word. Prince Dauntless the Drab (Nathan Shanaman) is a mommy’s boy who wishes to be his own man and find his true love. He brings a perfect balance to the character, imbuing the prince with just the right blend of naivety, geekiness,

and hidden strength.

The star of this production is Shayleigh Foreman as Princess Winnifred, or “Fred” as she likes to be called. In 1972, Carol Burnett made the TV version hers with her portrayal of Winnifred the Woebegone. Foreman brings her own humor and quirkiness to the role, channeling Carol Burnett but bringing her own take on the part. She has a superlative voice, capable of easily handling the range of songs she sings.

See BSA on B6



Sir Harry (Gavin Horn), Princess Winnifred the Woebegone (Shayleigh Foreman), and Prince Dauntless the Drab (Nathan Shanaman) kick up their heels in a dance of celebration.

Experts Warn of Increased Combine Fire Risk Amid Record Drought

Submitted by College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Columbus - As Ohio grapples with its most extreme drought in years, farmers are facing an alarming rise in the risk of combine fires, experts from The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) warn. The record drought, which has left 95% of the state experiencing abnormal dryness or worse, is exacerbating conditions that can easily ignite fires in dry fields.

The issue is especially significant this year as

harvest activities are starting two to three weeks early this year due to record dry conditions, said Aaron Wilson, state climatologist and field specialist with Ohio State University Extension. OSU Extension is the outreach arm of CFAES.

Wilson said this year’s drought is longer than recent ones. Southeast Ohio faced precipitation deficits before summer, which have worsened. Meanwhile, areas such as Union County, Delaware County, the eastern Miami Valley, and northwest

Ohio have seen rapid drought development in the last 30 to 60 days, he said, noting that Ohio’s drought is now being classified in several levels of severity.

See Fire on B2



Obituaries

Brian Eisenhauer, 66, Bellevue
David Wayne Cooper, 61, Willard

With Deepest
Sympathy

Area Football Roundup

Seneca East – 34
Carey - 31

Bellevue - 0
Perkins - 43

Monroeville – 41
South Central - 0

Huron - 38
Columbian - 20

Buckeye Central - 0
Colonel Crawford - 62

Vermilion - 20
Sandusky - 36

Clyde - 56
Port Clinton - 21

Norwalk - 0
Edison - 35

Margaretta - 26
Woodmore - 7