



Local Girls
Buckeye State
B1

Bellevue Board
of Education
B5



Attica-Bellevue-Bloomville-Republic Local News



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See Page A2 for the Auction Guide Calendar

Top Stories

Village of Attica Council Meeting - B1
Local Churches Present Revive 25 - B3
City of Bellevue Council Meeting - B5

Seneca County Park District July Event - B2
Hunter Education Instructor Classes - B4
Sandusky County Board of Health Meeting - B6

Auction Newspaper

- Auctions: A2 - A5
- Church Page: B3
- Republic News: B1
- Amish Cook: B2
- Obituaries: B4
- Bloomville Gazette: B2
- Classified: A6
- Attica Hub: B1
- Bellevue Weekly: B5 & B6

4 Unique Moments in American History

Americans celebrate the founding of their country every July 4. School children learn that the Second Continental Congress ratified the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, forever changing the world with the establishment of the United States of America.

Since that fateful day in July 1776, many a unique and notable event has occurred in the United States. Some of those events are lesser known than others, and the following are four unique moments in American history.

1. George Washington's troops are saved from starvation at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-78. According to the George Washington Presidential Library at Mount Vernon, the Oneida, one of six nations that were part of the Iroquois Confederacy, brought much-needed food and supplies to Americans at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-78. One Oneida, Polly Cooper, even remained at Valley Forge throughout the winter, when she served as Washington's cook and taught troops how to prepare white corn and make it edible. Though they were offered payment for their life-saving services during this pivotal winter, the Oneidas declined to accept it.

See History on B2

Obituaries

Hubert Ray Willis, 95, Bellevue
Allen G. Stuckey, 83, Sycamore

Death Notices

Betty (Biller) Humbarger, 86, Bellevue
Susan (White) Nichols, 79, of Bellevue

Bellevue Back to School Applications

Submitted by Dena Butz, Coordinator
Back to School Program

The Bellevue Ministerial Association and Bellevue Salvation Army Unit are once again organizing the Back-to-School campaign in the Bellevue community. Over 123 families were given a helping hand by area businesses, churches and civic organizations who contributed to this year's "Back to School" Program. With community donations the Bellevue Ministerial Association and local Salvation Army were able to provide 237 children with gift cards to Kohl's and Staples (totaling \$100 for each eligible child). Besides financial support, some community members donated actual school supplies and backpacks.

As in past years, the gift cards were purchased through the SCRIP program. While 100% of the contributions went toward purchasing the gift cards, 4% was given back to the participating Bellevue agencies: First United Methodist Daycare, St. John's Christian Preschool, and St. Paul's United Church in Christ Daycare. It is a way to benefit the community of Bellevue, while also helping those in need.

There will be one in-person Application Day. It will be held July 9, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church,

209 Southwest St. Bellevue. Parents/Guardians also have the option to request an online Application Link at www.backtoschoolbellevue@gmail.com.

Online applications must be submitted by 7 p.m. on July 9 and in person applications must be submitted by 7 p.m. on July 9 in order to qualify for assistance.

To qualify, students must reside in and be enrolled in the Bellevue City School District, grades K-12 and they must meet the same federal requirements as used by Fish and Loaves Food Pantry. The following information will be needed to fill out application: Address, phone number, Total household income and this year once again parents will not need a confirmation slip from Board of Education as proof of child's 2025-26 enrollment in Bellevue City Schools. With parents' consent on the application the Board of Education will confirm each child's enrollment.

If anyone would like to make a donation to the Back to School Project, send your donations to: The Bellevue Ministerial Association, Attn: Treasurer P.O. 182 Bellevue, OH 44811. Be sure to write "Back to School" on the memo line. For more information contact Dena Butz 419-217-5986.



Stay Safe When Around Fireworks

Local Communities Celebrate

Fireworks have been integral components of celebrations for centuries. These pyrotechnics originated in ancient China, with their earliest forms thought to be made from bamboo stalks thrown into a fire. Fireworks ultimately evolved into gunpowder-filled paper tubes. Modern fireworks still largely use traditional gunpowder as well as additional ingredients like aluminum and iron to create flashes, bangs and sparks. Additional elements are blended to create the colors that make for vivid fireworks displays.

Fireworks can be a wonder to behold, but there is no denying that shooting them off can be dangerous business. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that eight deaths and an estimated 9,700 injuries involving fireworks occurred in 2023. Of the eight

deaths, five were associated with misuse of fireworks and two with a device malfunction. Fireworks injuries increased between 2008 and 2023, which underscores the importance of fireworks safety.

To celebrate safely, the CPSC urges consumers to follow these tips:

- Make sure fireworks are legal where you live and only purchase and set off those that are labeled for consumer use.
- Never purchase fireworks that are designed for professionals.
- Children should not be allowed to play with or ignite fireworks. This includes sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures that can reach or exceed 2,000 F, which is hot enough to melt some metals.
- Stay sober when using fireworks. Alcohol or drug impairment can cause people to

- act recklessly and make mistakes when handling fireworks.
 - Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby in case of fire or another mishap.
 - Only light one firework at a time, then move away from it quickly.
 - Soak malfunctioning fireworks in water. Do not try to relight them.
 - Never place any part of your body directly over a firework when lighting the fuse.
- See Fireworks on B6**

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