Residents of Medina County are encouraged to register to receive alerts of emergency situations by mass notification (Wireless Emergency Notification System-WENS). This is a free service provided by Medina County Emergency Management Agency. In the event of a local emergency, an alert will be sent via phone call, text message, and/or email. The messages will inform residents of weather or other situations. The service will be used only for emergency notification when rapid and accurate information is essential for your immediate safety.

Visit https://entry.inspirentelogistics.com/medina_oh/wens.cfm to sign up.
As the coronavirus continues to impact our communities, we need your help in ensuring we maintain a strong blood supply to support hospital patient care in Ohio. Without groups continuing to host blood drives and blood donors continuing to give blood, we could see a severe blood shortage which could impact hospital patient care. Many organizations are heeding the advice from leadership to cancel public events, and this has led to a staggering number of scheduled Red Cross blood drives being canceled as well. To date, more than 1500 blood drives representing 46,000 blood donations have been canceled in the U.S. due to coronavirus concerns. In Northern Ohio alone, we have canceled 135 blood drives resulting in over 4000 fewer blood donations. In the face of coronavirus fears, we need your help to communicate two vital messages to the public:

Groups that have an upcoming scheduled blood drive should keep their blood drive on their schedule and not cancel it, which will allow donors to give blood.

More healthy donors are needed to give now to prevent a blood shortage. Donating blood is a safe process and people should not be concerned about giving or receiving blood during this challenging time. As an emergency preparedness organization, the Red Cross has also taken additional steps to ensure the safety of staff and donors at each Red Cross blood drive.

At each blood drive and donation center, Red Cross employees follow through additional protocols including:

- Wearing gloves, routinely wiping down donor-touched areas, using sterile collection sets for every donation, and preparing the arm for donation with an aseptic scrub.
- Additional spacing has been implemented within each blood drive set up to incorporate social distancing measures between donation beds and stations within the blood drive.
- These mitigation measures will help ensure blood recipient safety, as well as staff and donor safety in reducing contact with those who may potentially have this respiratory infection. Those who are not feeling well should wait for 28 days before attempting to give blood. Additional donor eligibility travel restrictions have been implemented as well. We’re asking the American people to help keep the blood supply stable during this challenging time, and we are asking you as Mayor to help communicate this critical need. Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROS$ (1-800-733-2767). We are now pre-screening all individuals by checking their temperature before they enter any Red Cross blood drive or donation center, including our own staff and volunteers.

If you or someone you know of donations - and who meet other eligibility requirements, available at RedCrossBlood.org.

When was your last blood donation?
Healthy, eligible individuals are strongly urged to donate to help avoid potential shortages due to coronavirus.

The Red Cross only collects blood from individuals who are healthy and feeling well at the time of donation - and who meet other eligibility requirements, available at RedCrossBlood.org.

We are now pre-screening all individuals by checking their temperature before they enter any Red Cross blood drive or donation center, including our own staff and volunteers.

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The Auditor’s Ledger
April 2020

DAY TO REMEMBER FOR LOCAL GYMNASTS AT STATE MEET

The top two gymnasts in Ohio reside in neighboring Medina County school districts.

Highland freshman Paige Yu finished second in the all-around Saturday at the state meet with a score of 37.8, joining champion Jordyn Thomas of Brunswick in earning medals in the maximum five events.

Yu also was the runner-up to Thomas on the balance beam (9.525), finished fourth on the uneven parallel bars (9.275) and floor exercise (9.475) and was fifth on the vault (9.525). She is the first member of the Hornets to reach the podium in every event.

“As a freshman, this is a dream come true,” she said. “I’ve put so much work into this sport. For it to pay off at state means the world to me. It really was amazing.”

Hornets senior Mackenzie Yu — Paige’s older sister — joined her and Thomas on the podium for the bars with a 9.05, finishing sixth. She also was 11th on the floor with a 9.375.

“The vibe on the floor with Paige right there and the teams cheering for me was really cool. I’ll never forget that.”

Yu also was the runner-up to Thomas on the balance beam (9.525), finished fourth on the uneven parallel bars (9.275) and floor exercise (9.475) and was fifth on the vault (9.525). She is the first member of the Hornets to reach the podium in every event.

“A senior on the floor is really amazing.”

Mackenzie Yu revealed the opportunity to finish on the floor with all of the Medina and Highland qualifiers standing alongside the mat. The teams essentially practice together at Medina Gymnastics Academy and their athletes are extremely close.

Bees coach Darcy Ranallo and Hornets co-coaches Jocelyne Textoris and Jennifer Lewis clapped along with her routine, causing Yu to smile even broader as she reached their corner.

“Last week, I told (Lewis) it was my last floor routine because I didn’t expect to make it here in the all-around,” Yu said.

This week, it really was my last floor routine and it was a super good way to end the meet.

“The vibe on the floor with Paige right there and the teams cheering for me was really cool. I’ll never forget that.”

Article courtesy of Brian Dutil at the Medina Gazette.

What should you do if you’re feeling sick and you’re not sure if it’s the cold, influenza or coronavirus?

Health care officials are urging people to refrain from going to the emergency room, unless it’s truly an emergency and they can’t breathe or are having other non-coronavirus-type emergencies, like a heart attack.

So what should you do?

Virtual visits

Call your primary care physician first or use one of the many virtual health lines that area health systems are offering to help screen your illness. Cleveland Clinic is offering the broadest virtual visits for free. It is waiving fees for its on-demand and scheduled virtual visits for the public, regardless of health coverage.

The online portal is at www.clevelandclinic.org/ecco. The around-the-clock system can help screen patients for concerns about COVID-19 and other illnesses.

Summa Health is offering free virtual visits for COVID-19 screenings and e-visits for flu, sinus infections, hay fever and allergies. Those services are normally $29, but are being offered for free.

All other conditions, including more than 30 diagnoses, are $29 for an e-visit. Audio/video visits also are still available for $49. This service is available in all 50 states.

Patients can visit www.summahealth.org/virtualvisit and choose the e-visit service. Akron Children’s Hospital is offering free COVID-19 screening through its virtual care portal for patients of its pediatric locations. There is a fee of $49 for other services or diagnoses.

The service at www.akronchildrens.org/pages/Quick-Care-Online-Virtual-Visits.html is available daily from 6 a.m. to midnight in addition to COVID-19.

Other flu-like symptoms of COVID-19 include aches, sore throat, headache, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and runny nose. Head and chest congestion seem to be symptoms of an upper-respiratory illness, or a cold. The Ohio Department of Health says ‘emergency warning signs’ for COVID-19 in adults include difficulty breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion or an inability to wake up or bluish lips or face.

Testing

Currently no Akron-area hospital has the ability to do on-site testing or drive-up testing, but officials said they are working on it. Health officials have said with the lack of testing kits available, they are testing the most vulnerable or serious patients who exhibit symptoms. The Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals are offering drive-thru testing in Cleveland, but a patient must have a doctor’s order.

Symptoms

Key signs for COVID-19 are a fever above 100 degrees and a dry cough or difficulty breathing, which is something they’ve never had before and not typical allergy symptoms, said Nemer. He emphasized that patients who are having a very difficult time breathing should go immediately to the emergency room since it could be many other emergencies.
Ohio voters will have until May 26 to request an absentee ballot. The extension was announced on the Ohio Secretary of State’s website following an order to cancel the Tuesday, March 17, primary.

Gov. Mike DeWine initially recommended the primary be canceled, and said his administration would not oppose lawsuits filed to make it happen. When a Franklin County Judge rejected the lawsuit, Ohio Health Department Director Dr. Amy Acton closed the polls by declaring a public health emergency.

In-person voting will take place on June 2.

Voters who registered by the Feb. 18 deadline can request an absentee ballot up until May 26. Returned ballots must be postmarked no later than June 1. All votes already submitted by mail or in person will count.

Count.

Returned ballots must be postmarked no later than June 1. All votes already submitted by mail or in person will count.

In-person voting will take place on June 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Things You Can Do to Help Someone Who Is Isolated or Quarantined due to COVID-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Drop off food or drinks at a door, if possible, and try to do it at a time when the home is empty, or try to do it during a time when someone will be home.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet or 2 meters).</td>
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<td>4. Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and send your children to public school.</td>
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<td>5. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet or 2 meters).</td>
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Local Food Pantries & Support Services in Medina County

Brunswick Food Pantry, 1255 N. Carpenter Road, Brunswick. Every Tuesday from 6:00 to 7:00 pm and second Tuesday 1:00 to 3:00 pm. For more information, call (330)220-8299. Must be Brunswick. Brunswick Hills Township, Valley City 5 or Hinckley residents.

Buckeye Christian Assembly, 3159 Columbus Road, Medina. Second Saturday of each month there is a food pantry and hot meals from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. For more information, call (330)764-4699.

Helping Hands at Northside Christian Church, 7615 Ridge Road, Wadsworth. Third Thursday 5:00 to 7:00 pm. For more information, (330)368-4622.

Lafayette United Methodist Church, 6201 Lafayette Road, Lafayette Township. Fourth Saturday from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm or by appointment. For more information, call (330)725-6176. Living Hope Church, 6288 Wooster Pike, Medina. Third Saturday from 9:30 to 11:00 am. For more information, (330)725-7730.

Lodi Family Center, 301 Mill St., Lodi. Monday and Wednesday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Tuesday from 6:00 to 7:00 pm and other times by appointment. Serving Lodi, Chatham, Spencer, Homerville, Westfield, Seville, Chippewa, Lafayette, Polk, Sullivan areas. For more information, call (330)302-4182.

Our Lady Help of Christians, 9608 Norwalk Road, Litchfield. Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm and Wednesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Both by appointment only. A photo ID and proof of residence is required. For more information, call the church office at (330)722-1180.

Salvation Army, 425 W. Liberty St., Medina. Meals are served every Wednesday and last week of the month on Monday. Wednesday and Friday the pantry is open from 4:00 to 6:00 pm the pantry is open. Doors open at 2:00 pm. Serving Medina, Litchfield, Chippewa Lake, Spencer and York areas only. A photo ID and proof of residence is required. For more information, call (330)722-6488.

Cups Café, 126 N. Court St, Medina. is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and Saturday 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for adults to eat. Guests are asked to be mindful of teens and youth as Cups is primarily a place for them. Special dinners are held the second Monday each month from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, second Thursday of each month from 5:00 to 6:00 pm and three Tuesdays a month from 5:00 to 6:00 pm except the last full week of the month due to Munch week at the Salvation Army. For more information, call (330)241-5990.

Feeding Medina County, 650 W. Smith Road, Suite C-8, Medina. Walk-ins Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Please call before coming at (330)421-4816.

• Thursday, March 19th, starting at 7:30 am at the Medina County Fairgrounds there will be a free food distribution for Medina County residents. Please bring your picture ID, PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAF. We will come to you to get your information and provide you with food. We are avoiding the usual crowd in the community building to be in compliance with Governor DeWine’s directives. We are working on trying to get other distributions but have not been able to finalize anything more at this time.

• Friday the 20th and Monday the 23rd FMC will pack food for 400 seniors who live in 12 facilities across the county. Presently FMC is in need of drivers with big SUV’s or trucks who can pick up food here at our 650W Smith location and then deliver to the appropriate facility. If you have an interest in helping please contact Dan Meagher on Tuesday, March 17th @ (330) 421-3051. He will have more information on facilities that need help with the food delivery at that time.

Medina County Veterans Services Office will have adjusted office hours. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of our staff and the general public we have implemented the following practices and adjusted hours: Monday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Tuesday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Closed 12:00 to 1:00 pm for Lunch). Best times to call in for an appointment or TeleCall about your claim: Monday through Friday 2:30 to 3:00 pm. Medina: 330-722-9368 | Toll Free: 844-722-3800 | Fax: 330-722-9378 All services will be rendered by appointment only at this time.

Medina County Jobs and Family Services (JFS) is providing assistance for those whose job(s) have been impacted by COVID 19. Visit http://jfs.ohio.gov for new information and visit unemployment.ohio.gov to apply for benefits.