

Mayor's Report July 2026

New Village Welcome Signs. I hope everyone has noticed the Village welcome signs along southern street entrances to the village from Langdon farm. If you haven't, go take a look. They are a very nice upgrade to what we've had in the past. I want to thank the administrative staff for taking this on for me, and their ongoing efforts to replace our main entrance signs, which are a larger investment. I want to thank former Mayor Alan Ziffiro for his help looking at what other communities are doing for signage and sending pictures to me with pricing for multiple options. He continues to be such a great advocate for our community.

Search for long term village administrator position. I'm very pleased with the level of professionalism that our interim village administrator Nathan Cahall has demonstrated over the past two months. I believe his example of weekly communication with myself and council has been transformative for our municipal culture, along with a number of other things he has been doing behind the scenes. At the same time that I was advocating for him to come in as our interim administrator I was investigating a framework for selecting a candidate for the more permanent position. I've had a number of meetings with Michael T. Hinnenkamp Executive Director of the Ohio Plan, a non-profit member driven insurance and risk-management program that we have through our membership with the Center for Local Government. They put together executive search processes for municipalities, thoroughly vetting candidates based on best practices and our input into what kind of characteristics, skills and experience we're looking for. I've asked our interim administrator to help tweak the template of the job description, given his experience with what the daily operations of this position look like. And I've asked Michael to come in to speak to council and get input from you all about what it is you are looking for. Michael can answer the question about how long the search process can be reasonably expected to take, from start to finish, and we will need to consider the possibility of extending Mr Cahall's contract to afford that time.

Golf Manor WeThrive Team Little Pantry Project was featured in the Sunday Enquirer. The Cincinnati Enquirer posted a story about our Little Pantry Project in the Sunday edition this past week. Council Member Gwen Chesser was interviewed in her capacity as the WeThrive Navigator who led the project. I've included a copy of the Enquirer post in my report, and want to thank Council woman Chesser for the time she dedicates to the community both as a council person, but also in her as our WeThrive Navigator, making projects like this possible. Also want to thank all the volunteers that we've previously thanked for making this project a success, and of course our Hamilton County Public Health WeThrive Liaison for helping get the post in the paper.

INSPIRATION: YOUR NEWS

GOLF MANOR

Neighbors help neighbors with installation of 2 Little Free Pantries

The Golf Manor WeTHRIVE! team recently installed its second Little Free Pantry, a small, publicly accessible cabinet stocked with non-perishable food and other items.

Little Free Pantries are guided by a simple philosophy: Take what you need, leave what you can.

Golf Manor does not have a grocery store.

"You have to go maybe 10 or 15 minutes away, and that's a lot for older people and those that don't have a car," explained Gwen Chesser, WeTHRIVE! neighborhood navigator and Golf Manor or council member.

Chesser and the rest of the Golf Manor or WeTHRIVE! team wanted to make food available in their community. They liked the idea of a Little Free Pantry that would bridge the gap for residents in need.

The team applied for and received grant funding to purchase the building materials needed to construct the boxes. Golf Manor resident Dani Lape volunteered to build them.

One Little Free Pantry is located next to Tiffany's Beauty Studio on Losantville Avenue in Golf Manor.

Chesser said they chose this location because it's easy to access. Tiffany's parking lot is lighted and it's near a bus stop.

"You need to put it in a spot where it's easy for cars to pull over," Chesser advises. "And make sure it's visible, that people will see that it's there."

The second Little Free Pantry went up in April 2026 at a bus stop on Losantville Avenue.

"It's right at the edge of Golf Manor before you get to Roselawn," Chesser said. "So we have one at the beginning of Golf Manor and one at the end."

Chesser and fellow WeTHRIVE! neighborhood navigator Pat Lalesnel check on the Little Free Pantries at least weekly. "It mostly stays full," she said. "It's a mix of people using it. It's never gone empty and residents are putting stuff in it."

To encourage the donation of nutritious food items, the Golf Manor WeTHRIVE! team distributed a food pantry donation guide throughout the community. Copies of the guide are also placed at the Little Food Pantries.

"We're just letting people know what's appropriate to put in the boxes," Chesser explained. "Things like whole grains and no-sugar canned fruits...powdered milk and boxed milk, rice and dried or canned beans, tuna, cereal and hot cereal."

Chesser encourages other communities to install Little Free Pantries. "If they're thinking about it, I say go ahead and do it. It helps the community. There's people that don't want to ask for help, and they'll be able to go to the pantry and get what they need. No one's going hungry."

Learn more about WeTHRIVE! in Golf Manor at WatchUsThrive.org/GolfManor.

WeTHRIVE! is an initiative of Hamilton County Public Health.
— WeTHRIVE!, an initiative of Hamilton County Public Health

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UNION

Foursome aims to repeat its title at The Point/Arc's Mike Dyas Golf Classic

It took a playoff – but the foursome of Jordan Griffin, Mike Kessling, Matt Brady and Steve Lock shot 15 under par for the title of last year's Mike Dyas Golf Classic.

The big question – will they defend their title when Triple Crown Country Club in Union, Kentucky, hosts the third Mike Dyas Golf Classic on Monday, July 20?

The shotgun start is set for 11:45 a.m. A box lunch – in eat – and outside pavilion dinner is provided for the golfers at a \$400 donation. Dinner guests are a \$50 donation.

A total of 30 foursomes – 120 golfers – attended the event a year-ago, which marked the 35th golf event for The Point/Arc – all staged at Triple Crown Country Club.

Mike Dyas served as president and Chief Executive Officer for Sterling Cut Glass from 1976-2021. The Covington, Kentucky, native holds degrees from Xavier University and the University of Tennessee.

"He was a longtime supporter and former board member for us at The Point/Arc," said Judi Gerding, founder



Gwen Chesser, a WeTHRIVE! neighborhood navigator for Golf Manor, helped her team put up two Little Free Pantries in the community.
PROVIDED BY WETHRIVE!

and president of the 54-year-old non-profit organization. "And we decided to rename our golf classic The Mike Dyas Classic."

Dyas passed away at the age of 76 on Oct. 6, 2023.

"His favorite things included trophies, golf and The Point/Arc," Gerding added.

Under his guidance and leadership, golf became the fulcrum of Sterling's success. Sterling Cut Glass annually produces etched crystal trophies, awards and tournament gifts for thousands of prestigious club events across the country.

Sterling Cut Glass is a licensee of the PGA Tour, Ryder Cup, 125th U.S. Open and other events.

Dyas also chronicled the Sterling Cut Glass Memories: A Memoir (1970-2020). J. Brook, his son, is the current president.

The Point/Arc was founded in 1972 with a mission to serve everyone – and anyone – regardless of their intellectual and developmental (I/DD) disability – the ability to achieve their highest potential educationally, socially, residentially and vocationally.

— Andy Furman, The Point/Arc

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FLORENCE

Easterseals Redwood's Express raises nearly \$300K to support people with disabilities

Easterseals Redwood hosted its annual fundraising event, Express, in May at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming. Celebrating 44 years of community support and impact, this year's event featured a silent disco, live entertainment, food stations – including a build-your-own coney bar – an open bar, live and silent auctions, and raffles.

The event spotlighted Lauren, a young woman who has come full circle with the organization. After attending classes at Easterseals Redwood as a baby, she is now part of the nonprofit's Young Adult Transitions Program.

The event raises critical funds to support the more than 800 individuals with disabilities, including Lauren, who participate in Easterseals Redwood programs each year. This year, Express raised nearly \$300,000 to help empower children and adults with disabilities to thrive and live full, meaningful lives.

— Katie Forcade, on behalf of Easterseals Redwood

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WARREN COUNTY

Warren County athlete brings home silver from Special Olympics USA Games

The Special Olympics USA Games brought together exceptional athletes from across the country for a week of competition and celebration.

Among those shining in the national spotlight was Warren County native Kelly Crabtree, who represented Team Ohio.

The excitement kicked off on June 20 with an energetic opening ceremony. Athletes from all 50 states paraded into the arena to overwhelming cheers from the crowd. The celebration featured a star-studded lineup, including performances by singer-songwriter Demi Lovato and award-winning jazz musician Jon Batiste.

Competitions began the following day and concluded on June 26 with the closing ceremony.

Throughout the week, Crabtree competed in two swimming events: the 50-meter breaststroke and the 100-meter freestyle. After qualifying for the finals in both events during highly competi-



Athlete Kelly Crabtree competed in events at the Special Olympics USA Games where she won a silver medal.
PROVIDED BY CLAIRE BISHOP

tive preliminary heats, she secured a fourth-place finish in the 100-meter freestyle and a second-place finish in the 50-meter breaststroke, earning a silver medal for Team Ohio.

"It was the first time for me to represent Ohio for the games, which meant that I had proven myself to be the best," Crabtree said, reflecting on her achievement. "I knew when I went there that I had given it my best to earn that silver medal!"

Rhonda Schutte, the community integration coordinator for the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities, traveled to Minneapolis to cheer on Crabtree and Team Ohio coach Molly Tilly, a Springboro swim coach who was also selected to represent the state.

Schutte praised Crabtree's performance and confidence against elite national competition.

"She was in the top heat, so you swim with the best," Schutte said.

Beyond the competition, the games provided an opportunity for athletes to build lasting connections.

"My favorite part about the games was meeting other people from different states," Crabtree said.

To compete at the national level, athletes must first earn a gold medal at the state level and receive nominations from their local coaches and coordinators. Special Olympics Ohio then makes their final selections based on state quotas.

Looking ahead, the 2030 Special Olympics USA Games will be hosted closer to home in Cleveland.

To support local athletes, Special Olympics Ohio accepts donations year-round. Contributions can be made by visiting [Donate | Special Olympics](http://DonateSpecialOlympics.org).

Those interested in learning more about Warren County Special Olympics opportunities can contact Schutte at Rhonda.Schutte@warrencountydd.org.

For more information, contact Claire Bishop at claire.bishop@warrencountydd.org or (513) 335-1026.

— Claire Bishop, Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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CINCINNATI

Aromatherapy key chain workshop set for July 22

On July 22 from 4-6 p.m. onewerkaround is hosting a one-of-a-kind workshop partnered with Race Street Collective at 1800 Race Street in Cincinnati.

In this workshop clients will customize their own crochet aromatherapy key chain using 100% pure essential oils and thrifted or upcycled materials.

Tickets are \$17 plus tax. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

— M. Rain Taylor, onewerkaround

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CINCINNATI

1001 Colors and Pones launches call for young artists and dancers to perform at BLINK 2026

1001 Colors and Pones is seeking eight young performance artists, ages 14–21, to participate in a paid artistic collaboration that will bring visual art to life through dance during BLINK 2026, the nation's largest public art and light experience.

Selected participants will spend 10 weeks researching, experimenting and collaborating with professional dancers, activists and artists to create and perform an original dance piece inspired by "Commons," the celebrated 1001 Colors mural designed by internationally acclaimed artist Shahzia Sikander.



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Located at 109 W. Court Street in downtown Cincinnati, Commons explores themes of identity, power, autonomy and the right for women to be heard and seen. The mural features feminine figures, flowers and winged creatures set against a vibrant turquoise and royal blue backdrop. Through this innovative project, participants will interpret these themes through movement and performance.

The final work will be presented live at the mural site during BLINK weekend Oct. 8-11, giving young artists the opportunity to perform as part of one of the country's most celebrated public art events.

Details

- Apply at 1001colors.org/apply
- Application deadline: 11:59 p.m. July 19
- Program Dates: Aug. 11–Oct. 10

Who should apply: Dancers of all skill levels are encouraged to apply. Prior dance training or performance experience is not required. Organizers are seeking young people who are eager to:

- Explore their creativity
- Express their unique voice
- Gain professional experience
- Collaborate with fellow artists
- Contribute to Cincinnati's cultural landscape

● Be available for all rehearsals and the final performance

Applicants must be between the ages of 14 and 21 at the start of employment.

— James Marable

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FORT MITCHELL

Celebrate Christmas in July at book launching

Join us for a Christmas in July celebration to launch the newly published book – "The Jack Story" – on Thursday, July 30 from 6-9 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church Undercroft, 2409 Dixie Highway in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

The family of Dr. Tom Huller has created this children's Christmas book for the benefit of ALS United Ohio.

Light refreshments will be served, and the book will be available for purchase. All are welcome.

— Annie Pollock, The Jack Story

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HYDE PARK

Local boat dealership earns top award from Sea Ray Boats

Sea Ray of Cincinnati was recently honored with the Unrivaled Support Award at the 2026 Sea Ray Dealer Meeting.

The award recognizes dealerships that have demonstrated exceptional customer satisfaction, earning a Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 65 or higher. NPS scores are based solely on customer feedback and their willingness to recommend the company.

The award from Sea Ray highlights dealerships that delivered a premium experience at every stage of the customer's boating journey.

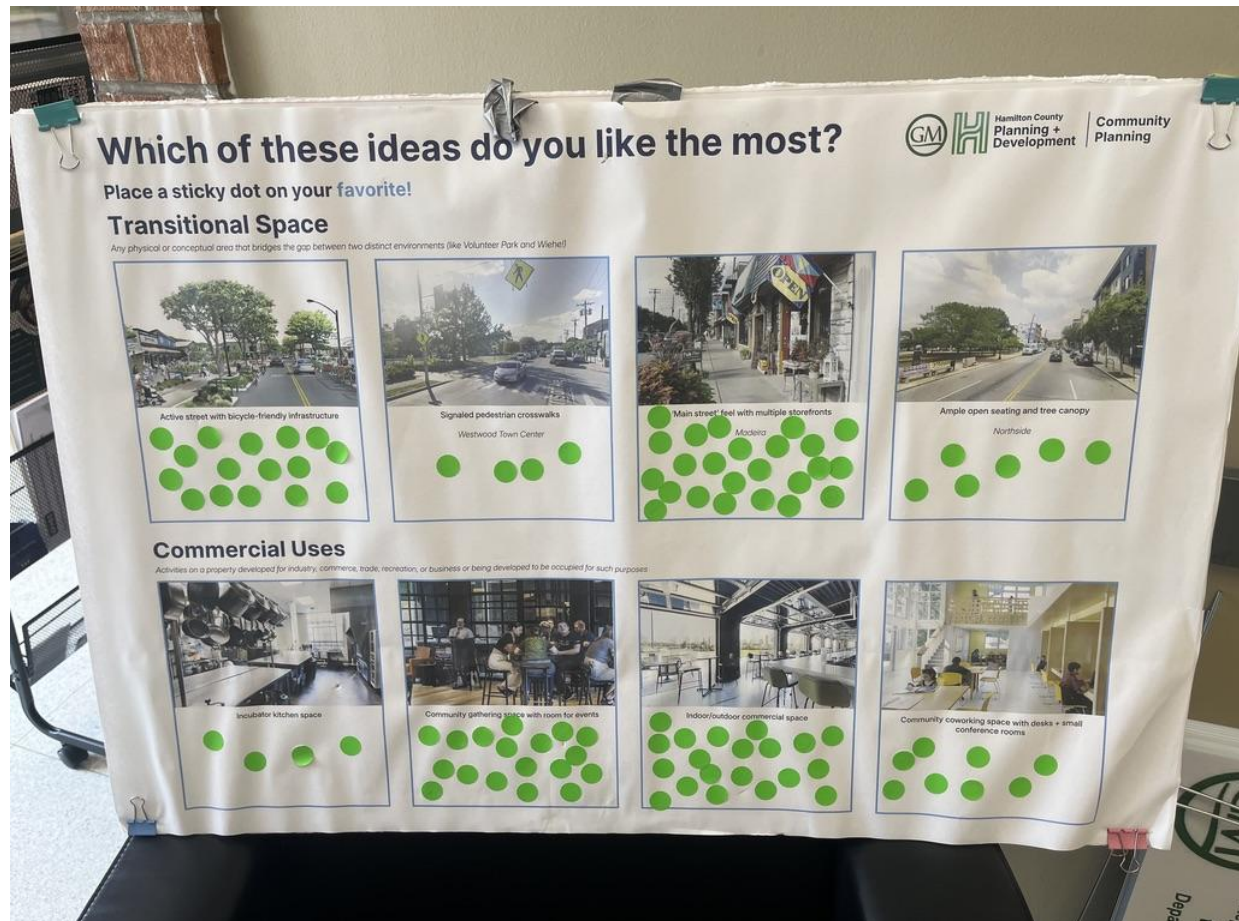
"It's a privilege to partner with a dealer network that consistently raises the bar for excellence," said Keith Yunger, Sea Ray president. "Their commitment to delivering outstanding experiences and driving growth is what brings our brand to life every day. We're proud to celebrate their accomplishments and the meaningful impact they have on our shared success."

"We're honored to have earned this award. Our sales and service teams work hard throughout the year to help every customer have the best boating experience on the water," Sea Ray of Cincinnati president Ed Alf III said.

The 2026 Sea Ray Dealer Meeting was held in April at Lanier Islands Resort in Lake Lanier, Georgia. The event brought together U.S. and international marine industry dealers for several days of learning, product demonstrations

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Update on Community Engagement Concerning North Wiehe Development Project. The Community Engagement team in partnership with the County Weihe Development Steering Committee has been getting input from residents about how they would like our mainstreet business district to look like. They have been active at each of our community events asking people for input. I have a copy of the results in this report, along with a summary:





Residents have been asked to pick their favorite type of transitional space. So far most favored is a “main street” feel with multiple storefronts, using a template like Madeira. Second favored is an active street with bicycle-friendly infrastructure.

As for commercial uses, residents have so far favored indoor/outdoor commercial space. Second favored is community gathering space with room for events.

In regard to building scale, residents have so far favored small residential style businesses. Second most favored has been mid-sized development, first floor retail with multifamily units above.

And for Streetscapes, residents have so far most favored diagonal street parking with opportunities for outdoor commercial use. Second most favored is landscaped bumpouts with pedestrian safety.

If you have not participated in the survey, please attend one of our upcoming community events in which we will have a booth and volunteers to take your input.

This Mayor's report is respectfully submitted to the residents of Golf Manor. Thank you for the honor of being your Mayor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S C Densmore', written in a cursive style.

Mayor Stefan C. Densmore
Village of Golf Manor