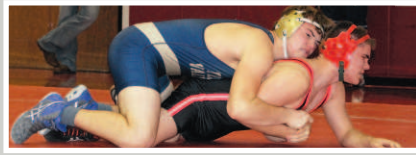




Pin it to win it

Vikings roll past Braves, Lions with 11 pins in tri-meet | **SPORTS B1**



INSIDE
FIND THE NEW YEAR BABIES
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See rules on **PAGE B2**

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HOOKED AGAIN

Restaurant owner hopes to reopen by weekend

BY TRISH BENNETT
EDITOR

CIRCLEVILLE — A popular local restaurant is expected to reopen in the next few days after being shut down by the state tax commissioner on Wednesday.

J.R. Hooks Cafe on Watt Street was unexpectedly closed for business after the state suspended the vendor's license registered to local businessman

John Rankin under the company name of Rankin Enterprises.

Jack Hooks, founder of the local restaurant, said he has since reclaimed ownership of the business and hopes to reopen its doors by Saturday or Monday at the latest.

"I've got the financing together, and as soon as I can get the licenses sorted out, we're ready to go," Hooks said.

Hooks said the J.R. Hooks



NANCY RADCLIFF/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A locksmith changes the locks on J.R. Hooks Cafe after its founder, Jack Hooks, reclaimed ownership of the business on Thursday.

vendor's license was attached to the same account as two other Rankin-owned businesses — Tootle's Pumpkin Inn on East Main Street and The Movie

House and Screening Club on Pinckney Street.

Hooks said those businesses also were closed Wednesday by the state tax commissioner, but

the Tuscan Table restaurant on North Court Street remained open for business.

Rankin could not be reached **SEE HOOKS ON PAGE A6**

SPORTS

Wrestling
Aces breeze past Tigers, Falcons

Page B1

WEATHER

TODAY'S FORECAST
Snow
29/18

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OBITUARIES

Savannah Brantley, 27, Circleville

Frederick Fleck Jr., 69, Circleville

Scott Moore, 46, Circleville

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Traffic flows through the intersection of state Route 752 and Circleville Ave. Thursday afternoon.

NANCY RADCLIFF

ODOT to study signal needs at Ashville intersection

BY STEVEN COLLINS
STAFF REPORTER

ASHVILLE — The Ohio Department of Transportation is planning a traffic study at the intersection of state Route 752 and Viking Way (Circleville Avenue) to determine if a traffic light will be replaced at the location.

During the study, temporary stop signs and appropriate signs warning of the intersection will be put in place.

"Everyone at the meeting from Pickaway County indicated the desire for a traffic light," said Franklin Christman, Ashville administrator. "I'm interested to see the results of the traffic study to see what's warranted at the intersection."

Because the intersection is outside Ashville village limits, Christman said ODOT would more than likely be responsible for most if not all of the funding.

"In the past, traditionally ODOT takes on

the responsibility," Christman said. "However, now there's more collaboration because ODOT doesn't have the funding that they once had."

The traffic study will begin sometime this week and will take about six months to complete. After that, the funding will need to be raised to pay for the warranted option at the intersection, possibly costing hundreds of

SEE INTERSECTION ON PAGE A6

Lifetree Cafe examines faith in a new way

BY KRISTEN HAINKEL
STAFF REPORTER

CIRCLEVILLE — Want to have a cup of coffee and talk about life's pressing issues? A local church has a new ministry that challenges conventional views about faith.

Community United Methodist Church on North Pickaway Street hosts Lifetree Café, a public forum developed by

Group Publishing in Colorado. Meeting topics vary from racism to mental illness to forgiveness.

"There's something different every week for everyone," said Rev. Jon Osmundson, Pastor for Equipping & Young Adults. "There's about 40 different stories per year."

At each meeting, Osmundson introduces a topic and summarizes why that topic is important. **SEE LIFETREE ON PAGE A6**

Former local pastor found safe

BY TRISH BENNETT
EDITOR

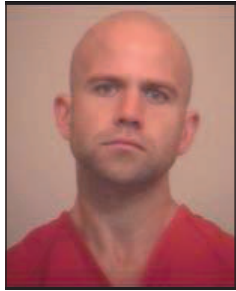
CIRCLEVILLE — The former pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Circleville was found safe Thursday afternoon after going missing Wednesday morning in New York State.

Bill Campbell, 73, now of Queensbury, N.Y., was reported missing by his wife about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday when he drove away from a dental office in the New York town. Police issued a news alert for help locating Campbell, who reportedly suffers from dementia.

Facebook lit up Thursday morning with local residents sharing information about the missing person report and posting support and encouragement to his family.

The Wayne County (New York) Sheriff's Office reportedly tracked Campbell through his credit card and safely located him near Syracuse around 4 p.m. Thursday.

New York officials believed he may have been heading back to Ohio when he went missing.



Brian Fout

Man sentenced to 8 years on drug charges

BY TRISH BENNETT
EDITOR

CIRCLEVILLE — A local man who kept law enforcement officers busy last summer will spend the next eight years behind bars after being sentenced Wednesday in Pickaway County Common Pleas Court.

Brian C. Fout, 32, of 1005 S. Washington St., pleaded guilty to breaking and entering, theft and illegal assembly of chemicals for the manufacture of drugs. He was sentenced to eight years in state prison and a six-month suspension of his driver's license by Judge P. Randall Knece.

In June of 2013, Fout was charged with having physical control of a motor vehicle while intoxicated, according to court documents. In early July, he was arrested for breaking and entering and theft.

In late July, Deputy Shad Wright, Pickaway County Sheriff's Office, spotted Fout behind the wheel of a vehicle on U.S. Route 23. Knowing his license was suspended, Wright initiated a traffic stop at Zig Zag and Little Walnut, where his canine unit alerted to the presence of drugs in the vehicle.

At that time, he was arrested for possession of methamphetamine, possession of chemicals used to manufacture meth and about \$3,400 in cash. **SEE FOUT ON PAGE A6**



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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 1/17	Sat 1/18	Sun 1/19	Mon 1/20	Tue 1/21
29/18 Occasional snow showers. High 29F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	26/23 Snow showers possible. Highs in the mid 20s and lows in the low 20s.	32/29 Morning clouds followed by afternoon sun.	38/22 Considerable cloudiness. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 20s.	24/10 A few snow showers. Highs in the mid 20s and lows in the low teens.
Sunrise: 7:50 AM Sunset: 5:34 PM	Sunrise: 7:49 AM Sunset: 5:35 PM	Sunrise: 7:49 AM Sunset: 5:37 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:38 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:39 PM

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Ohio At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Akron	31	20	sn shower	Gallipolis	37	21	sn shower
Alliance	31	18	sn shower	Lancaster	31	18	sn shower
Ashtabula	31	19	sn shower	Lima	22	14	sn shower
Athens	34	18	sn shower	Mansfield	26	16	sn shower
Bellefontaine	22	13	sn shower	Marietta	37	21	sn shower
Bowling Green	19	14	sn shower	Marion	24	16	sn shower
Cambridge	34	18	sn shower	Mt. Vernon	27	15	sn shower
Chillicothe	31	19	sn shower	New Philadelphia	33	19	sn shower
Cincinnati	27	16	sn shower	Newark	31	19	sn shower
Cleveland	29	18	sn shower	Portsmouth	34	20	sn shower
Columbus	29	19	sn shower	Sandusky	25	18	sn shower
Coshocton	32	17	sn shower	Toledo	21	15	sn shower
Defiance	19	13	sn shower	Troy	24	15	sn shower
Findlay	23	14	sn shower	Xenia	26	16	sn shower
Fostoria	21	15	sn shower	Youngstown	32	18	sn shower

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	48	24	pt sunny	Minneapolis	10	3	mst sunny
Boston	45	34	mst sunny	New York	45	36	pt sunny
Chicago	21	8	sn shower	Phoenix	74	43	sunny
Dallas	59	36	sunny	San Francisco	72	45	sunny
Denver	51	32	sunny	Seattle	53	35	pt sunny
Houston	63	36	sunny	St. Louis	29	21	pt sunny
Los Angeles	83	50	sunny	Washington, DC	51	30	pt sunny
Miami	68	50	mst sunny				

INTERSECTION

Continued from page A1

thousands of dollars. Jeff Sheets, superintendent at Teays Valley Local Schools, said he was open minded to what ODOT would suggest. "We've traditionally had the light at the intersection, and ODOT feels it might be safer with a stop sign," he said. "They feel that it will be safer if cars have to stop instead of going through the intersection at 50 miles per hour with a green light. They've got a good plan, and I feel it will be safer once the stop signs are put up and people get use to them."

In an email to Christman, David Carlin of ODOT said an estimate on the cost of the light, as long as no road improvements such as turn lanes needed to be made, would be about \$120,000.

FOUT

Continued from page A1

While those cases were still pending in Pickaway County Common Pleas Court, Fout was arrested again Sept. 2 when officers from the Circleville SWAT team served a search warrant on his residence at 1005 S. Washington St. Though Fout was not home at the time, he was located by Sheriff's deputies in a traffic stop on his way back into town, along with Kellie W. Wampler, 35, of Circleville.

According to Chief Wayne Gray, the chemicals found inside the home were active and had to be neutralized by members of the Circleville Fire Department.

He said the search warrant and ultimate arrests were the result of months of undercover work that included information about an active meth lab in the home and drug purchases by undercover agents.

Members of the U.S. 23 Major Crimes Task Force also were involved in the investigation leading to the September arrest, he said.

HOOKS

Continued from page A1

for comment on Thursday. Hooks said his immediate goal is to reopen his restaurant's doors, but he also hopes to renovate and restore J.R. Hooks Cafe in the coming months. "We're going to get Hooks back up and running like it used to be," he said.

Senate, a step behind House, ready to send government-wide \$1.1T spending bill to Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Drained of much of its vitriol over the budget, Congress is poised to adopt a \$1.1 trillion package financing federal agencies this year, a bipartisan compromise that all but banishes the specter of an election-year government shutdown.

The Democratic-controlled Senate planned to give final congressional approval to the immense spending measure, possibly as early as Thursday. The Republican-run House passed the package Wednesday in a lopsided 359-67 vote that underscored how both parties could claim wins in the measure — and how both saw deep perils in fighting over it.

"Not everyone will like everything in this bill," said Rep. Hal Rogers, R-Ky., the House Appropriations Committee chairman. Rogers and his Senate counterpart, Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., were the chief authors. "That's the nature of compromise."

The legislation is a line-by-line follow-up to the budget compromise the two parties pushed through Congress in December that set overall spending limits for the next two years.

The bill lawmakers were considering this week finances federal agencies through September. With the November congressional elections coming just weeks later, Congress is all but sure to provide more money later to avoid an election-eve budget clash.

HHS cybersecurity chief says health care website tests didn't follow security 'best practices'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The top cybersecurity officer for the Health and Human Services Department said he was concerned about potential vulnerabilities ahead of the launch of the Obama administration's health care website.

But Kevin Charest told congressional investigators he was unable to get answers to his questions from others inside the department. He concluded that the testing of the site was substandard. "I would say that it didn't follow best practices," Charest testified a Jan. 8 deposition. Excerpts

of his testimony were provided to The Associated Press by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

Charest and Teresa Fryer — another government cybersecurity professional who also had qualms — were to testify before the panel Thursday.

Chairman Darrell Issa, R-Calif., investigating the chaotic rollout of the HealthCare.gov website, contends the administration risked the personal information of millions of Americans in its zeal to meet a self-imposed Oct. 1 deadline. The online federal insurance market is the main portal to coverage under President Barack Obama's signature program.

Indian police: Suspects in rape of Danish tourist are unemployed youth; attack lasted hours

NEW DELHI (AP) — Two suspects arrested in the gang rape of a 51-year-old Danish tourist in New Delhi are unemployed young men who allegedly attacked the woman for nearly three hours before fleeing with her belongings, police said Thursday.

The two were picked up late Wednesday from a park near the scene of the crime, police spokesman Rajan Bhagat said. Investigators were closing in on other suspects after the two provided details during questioning, he said.

Police said the tourist was raped at knifepoint Tuesday near Connaught Place, a popular shopping area in the heart of New Delhi. The woman got lost and approached a group of men for directions back to her hotel. But instead of helping her, the men lured her to a secluded spot and raped her repeatedly, according to police.

One of the suspects was found with the victim's glasses case and 1,000 rupees (\$16) in cash, a police statement said. The other suspect had an iPod and a pair of earphones. He also had a mobile phone that police said was purchased with money stolen from the victim.

The problem of sexual violence in India has gained widespread attention since the horrific gang rape and murder of a 23-year-old woman on a moving bus in December 2012. Public fury over the case has led to more stringent laws that doubled prison terms for rape to 20 years and criminalized voyeurism and stalking.

LIFETREE

Continued from page A1

Attendees then watch a video and have conversation both at their tables and as a whole group.

"It's relaxing," Osmundson said. "It's conversational. (People) get a spiritual component from this."

"Lifetree has hospitality and genuine conversations," said Dan Johnson, Lifetree Café outreach coordinator.

Osmundson first found out about Lifetree Café while in Colorado for a conference in 2012. He attended a 'test kitchen' or screening of a new topic at Group Publishing.

The atmosphere impressed him, he said. However, the idea went to the backburner until summer 2013, when he said he put a lot of thought and prayer into bringing the ministry to Circleville.

As a result, Community UMC started the cafes unofficially in September. The official launch was the week of Halloween, Osmundson said.

The reaction has been positive and compelled patrons to come back, Osmundson said. He also credits word of mouth for the movement's growth.

"Everyone who has come to Lifetree has come back at least once," he said. "Mysteries of Mental Ill-

ness", the topic for Jan. 12 and 16, has received 'amazing' feedback at the national level, according to Johnson.

"Folks have opened up and shared struggles that not even their family knows about," he said.

Johnson said around 200 Lifetree Cafés are active nationwide and another 100 are in launch phase, or training.

The group meets Sundays at 11 a.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. at 120 N. Pickaway St. Interested parties can contact Jon Osmundson for more information at 740-474-4796. The group also has a Facebook page, "Lifetree Café Circleville."



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