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fill gap
left by
Graham?

SPORTS, 1B

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Do ghosts roam
Historic Zoar Village?



Tammi Shrum, site director at Historic Zoar Village in Tuscarawas County, heads to the Zoar Hotel from her office at the Zoar Visitors Center on Sept. 22. KEVIN WHITLOCK/MASSILLON INDEPENDENT

Charita M. Goshay
Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

ZOAR – In the late summer of 1817, a group of deeply religious German immigrants built a self-sustaining village in Lawrence Township that stands to this day.

The original inhabitants of Historic Zoar Village, one of America’s most successful communal settlements are gone, of course, but some people suspect a few may still be around — in the form of ghosts.

“I was like very skeptical until I started working here, but there’s just been way too much stuff,” Village Site Director Tammi Shrum said, citing pacing footsteps in the hallways when no one is

there.

Historic Zoar Village will again host its popular “Ghost Tours” on Oct. 9-10, Oct. 16-17, Oct. 23-24 and Oct. 30-31.

Walking tours run every 15 minutes starting at 6:30 p.m., with the last at 8:45 p.m. Guests depart from the Zoar Store, and travel through the 209-year-old town as historical interpreters in period dress, village residents, staff and paranormal investigators tell haunted tales.

About 900 people took the tour last year.

“Ghost Tours are one of our favorite ways to share Zoar’s history,” she said. “It’s a fun, spooky way to experience the village after dark.”

Ghost stories were part of Historic Zoar Village from its beginnings.

“All of the stories we tell are rooted in history,” she said. “During the time of the separatists, they had ghost stories, so I guess that would be the first reported ghosts in Zoar. While some of the young men were away at the Battle of Gettysburg, a ghost came to Simon Beuter and told him that all of the soldiers were going to be OK, at least the ones from Zoar. When the news came that they were all fine, I guess that was the very first.”

Shrum, who previously worked at the Fort Laurens Museum in Bolivar, which is Historic Zoar Village’s sister site, and the Reeves Victorian Home & Museum in Dover, said she’s become a believer.

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Alliance
exploring
possible
e-bike
regulations

Benjamin Duer
Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

ALLIANCE – The city might consider rules and restrictions on electric bicycles.

E-bikes have become a popular mode of transportation, especially for youths. It is a bike with an integrated electric motor and rechargeable battery.

Councilwoman Cindy King brought up the matter during the Oct. 5 City Council meeting, claiming some riders are aggressive.

According to the League of American Bicyclists, e-bikes are regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission as bicycles under a 2002 law.

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Why Ohioans will see a voter ID
amendment on their November ballot

Haley BeMiller
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio voters will soon decide whether they support requiring a photo ID at the polls.

If that idea sounds familiar, it’s because it’s already state law.

Ohio’s GOP-controlled Legislature voted in June to place the proposed constitutional amendment, known as Issue 3, on the Nov. 3 ballot. It’s the only state-

wide issue before Ohioans in the upcoming election, along with key races for governor and U.S. Senate.

Here’s what you need to know about Issue 3.

What is Ohio Issue 3?

Simply put, Issue 3 would enshrine the state’s voter ID policy in the Ohio Constitution.

Ohio requires voters who cast in-person ballots to present a photo ID, with

exceptions for people who have a religious objection to being photographed. It can be an unexpired Ohio driver’s license or state ID, U.S. passport, U.S. military ID, Ohio National Guard ID or an ID issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

University IDs and out-of-state driver’s licenses aren’t accepted.

The ballot measure reinforces all of those rules. It also allows lawmakers to

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