

2026 NFL season preview

Rams look built to win it all in their own stadium

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At the Ross County Fair, there is no shortage of food options. SHELBY REEVES/CHILLICOTHE GAZETTE

Ross County has ties to the royal family

Shelby Reeves
Chillicothe Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

CHILLICOTHE— When you think about famous people associated with Ross County, you might think back to Tecumseh and Thomas Worthington, or if you think of those from a more recent time, you might think of people like Clyde Beatty or Donald Ray Pollock.

Over the years, Ross County has been home to many influential people in government, entertainment, sports and more. When you start looking at the families of those from Ross County, you can even find ties to the British royal family.

Diana Spencer is best known for being the Princess of Wales. In 1981, she married the then-Prince of Wales, Charles III, making her the Princess of Wales. The pair had two children and divorced in 1996. Diana died in 1997 in a car crash. Charles III would go on to become King of England in 2022.

While she was a member of the Spencer family in England, Diana's multi-time great-grandparents were actually from Ross County, Ohio. According to a Ross County Historical Society newsletter from 1981, Frank Work was from Ross County before leaving at the age of 15 to seek fortune in New York. He would marry Ellen Wood, who also had ties to the Chillicothe area.

Work was a salesman who made

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Tons of trash hauled away from fairgrounds

Shelby Reeves
Chillicothe Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

CHILLICOTHE— When at the Ross County Fair, you eat a funnel cake and then throw the plate in the trash. Order some fries and throw away the container. Cool off with some water and throw away the bottle.

Day in and day out, trash cans are filled and emptied at the fairgrounds, but how much trash do you think fair-

goers actually generate in a week?

The answer: over 60 tons.

Scioto Valley Dumpsters has been in charge of waste removal at the fair for several years. In 2024, they picked up 64.33 tons of trash and in 2025 they picked up 62.74 tons of trash. During the 2026 fair, Scioto Valley Dumpsters hauled away over 79 tons of trash from the fairgrounds.

Karl Gearhart with Scioto Valley Dumpsters said a large part of this in-

crease can be attributed to water weight, since wet trash weighs more. Typically, hot fair days see less trash since fewer people go out to the fairgrounds and fair days with nice weather see more.

To put these in perspective, a full-sized Clydesdale horse weighs around 1 ton, so the fair generated around 79 horses' worth of trash this year. This weighs more than five school buses or around 15 elephants.

Ohio lawmakers seek foster care cost caps after Vinton County abuse case

Laura A. Bischoff
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

When rural Vinton County took custody of 16 high-needs children, the cost of specialized foster care could have bankrupted the county.

Two bipartisan state representatives are now calling for a new system to cap how much foster care homes can charge for standard care as well as therapeutic care.

"It's amazing how this adds up," said State Rep. Justin Pizzulli, R-Franklin Furnace, who is co-sponsoring House Bill 984. "I'd like to see a standard set across the board evenly."

Pizzulli said Scioto County pays about \$120 to \$150 a day for standard care and \$800 to \$1,000 a day for specialized care. For one child with complex needs, the county has been paying \$1,500 a day for years, he said. In some cases, Pizzulli said, counties face price gouging.

"Every county either has or will have a similar situation with a high-needs child that could bankrupt their county in the blink of an eye. Unfortunately, Scioto County is already there," said Tammy Moore Morton, director of the county's job and family services department.

If the bill becomes law, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth would consult with foster care providers and county officials and establish rate caps.

The case in Vinton County may help

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Tammy Moore Morton
Scioto County Job and Family Services Director

draw attention to the need for foster care caps as well as price transparency, he said.

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