

HAVING SOME FUN

Guardians get big walk-off win in 10th, SPORTS, C1



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District names school resource officer, LOCAL, B1



THE CHRONICLE TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, August 28, 2025

\$2.50

MINNEAPOLIS

2 children killed in church shooting



ALEX KORMANN / STAR TRIBUNE VIA AP

Parents comfort their children after a shooting at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis on Wednesday.

Attack that wounded 17 being investigated as hate crime

Steve Karnowski, Mark Vancleave and Giovanna Dell'Orto The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — A shooter opened fire with a rifle Wednesday through the windows of a Catholic church in Minneapolis and struck children celebrating Mass during the first week of school, killing two and wounding 17 people in an act of violence the police chief called “absolutely incomprehensible.” Armed with a rifle, shotgun and pistol, 23-year-old Robin Westman approached the side of the church and shot dozens of rounds through the windows toward the children sitting in the pews during Mass at the Annunciation Catholic School just before 8:30 a.m., Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O’Hara said at news conferences. He said the shooter then died by suicide. The children who died were 8 and 10. Fourteen other kids and three octogenarian parishioners were wounded but expected to survive, the chief said. Fifth grader Weston Halsne told reporters he ducked for the pews, covering his head, shielded by a friend who was lying on top of him. His friend was hit, he said. “I was super scared for him, but I



AP

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey sits on steps of the Annunciation Church’s school as police respond to a reported mass shooting.

think now he’s OK,” the 10-year-old said, adding that he was praying for the other hospitalized children and adults. Halsne’s grandfather, Michael Simpson, said the violence during Mass on the third day of school left him wondering whether God was watching over. “I don’t know where he is,” Simpson said. Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine ordered flags flown at half-staff in remembrance of the victims of the shooting in Minneapolis until sunset on Sunday. See SHOOTING, A2

Lorain man faces string of charges

Including chase on state Route 2

Dave O’Brien The Chronicle-Telegram

A Lorain man with four open felony cases in Lorain County Common Pleas Court is now facing a fifth for a wrong-way chase on state Route 2 in June in which he allegedly fled police, collided head-on with another car and injured



Jackson

and one count each of failure to comply, vehicular assault and improper handling of firearms in a motor vehicle, all

another felonies, and a misdemeanor charge of driving under suspension. The felony charges all carry firearms specifications because Jackson allegedly was armed with a Glock handgun at the time of the alleged crimes, according to the Lorain County Prosecutor’s Office. Attorney Mike Stepanik confirmed Wednesday he is representing Jackson on the new charges, but didn’t comment

further by deadline. The case, like multiple others Jackson is facing, is assigned to Judge Raymond Ewers. Jackson was being held in the Lorain County Jail on \$630,000 bond total in the new case plus three others, according to jail records. He also was being held without bond in a 2024 criminal case in which he is accused of stabbing another man in Lorain, according to court records. See CHARGES, A2

No injuries as car ignites

But ’05 Avenger is a total loss

Owen MacMillan The Chronicle-Telegram

AMHERST TWP. — No one was injured after a car was engulfed in flames along state Route 2 just before rush hour began on Wednesday. Amherst Fire Chief Brandon Dimmachia said that a man drove his blue 2005 Dodge Avenger onto Route 2 headed westbound off Middle Ridge Road at around 3:30 p.m., but quickly found that he had no throttle. Dimmachia said the man pulled over to the berm and got out of his car. He saw smoke coming from under the hood. The driver opened the hood and found fire inside. An off-duty park ranger

stopped to help, and Amherst fire was dispatched to the scene, arriving to find the front of the car engulfed in flames. Dimacchia said it took Assistant Chief Brian Irvan and his crew less than 10 minutes to extinguish the blaze, but once the fire was put out it was clear the car was a total loss. Dimacchia said Amherst police and the State Highway Patrol blocked traffic so his firefighters could tackled the fire safely. “(Irvan) said that everyone did a great, everyone was safe, no one was hurt and he commended law enforcement for their assistance,” Dimacchia said. “As far as our guys, he was very pleased with their performance.” See IGNITES, A2

Fair attendance nears 2024 mark

Garrett Looker The Chronicle-Telegram

Following a concert by rock band Cheap Trick and servings of deep fried vegetables, the Lorain County Fair’s total paid attendance shook out to be 101,039. The 2025 fair’s paid attendance total did not reach last year’s mark, which had about 1,700 more attendees, according to data provided by Charisse Nikel, office manager and secretary of the Lorain County Fair. According to a Sept. 10, 2024, fair board meeting, the paid attendance for last year’s Lorain County Fair was 102,752. Data from previous years show this year’s fair — similar to last year — saw attendance numbers higher than 2023, according to Nikel. In 2023, which was a year

marred by flooding at the fairgrounds, only 86,628 individuals paid to attend the fair. This year, Saturday, which is the second-to-last day of the fair, saw 22,093 individuals pay to attend events such as the junior fair livestock auction and combine demolition derby and other competitions. The next two highest-attended days of the 2025 Lorain County Fair were Friday and Monday, respectively. Friday’s attendance total was 17,738. Monday — the first day of paid attendance to the fair — registered a total of 14,042. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, which were affected by lower temperatures and bouts of rain, registered the lowest attendance totals, all lower than 11,600, Nikel said. Contact Garrett Looker at glooker@chroniclet.com.

No new pertussis cases reported

Owen MacMillan The Chronicle-Telegram

Lorain County Public Health has not received any reports of new cases of pertussis, better known as whooping cough, since the agency announced an outbreak of the disease in southern Lorain County last week. Director Mark Adams said that 10 children who attended The Child Care Garden day care center in LaGrange were confirmed to have tested positive for the respiratory disease since early August. No new cases have been found since Saturday. “Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory illness that will often evade early detection (because it mimics the common cold the first week or so after infection) and has been known to infect fully vaccinated individuals,” a release from Lorain County Public Health said. Adams said that he did not have a final number on how many of the children were vaccinated against pertussis, but that the majority of those infected had received the DTaP, or diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, vaccine. See PERTUSSIS, A2



SOME STORMS

High of 68. Low of 54. Forecast on A6

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