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A FINAL CONCERT FOR ALL











The Lancaster Festival Orchestra, directed by Maestro John Devlin, plays for the crowd during the final concert of the Lancaster Festival at the Fairfield Christian Church on Aug. 2, in Lancaster. For more photos, go to LancasterEagleGazette.com PHOTOS BY TY WRIGHT/EAGLE-GAZETTE

State begins work on Pickerington Road/U.S. 33 interchange

Jeff Barron

Lancaster Eagle-Gazette USA TODAY NETWORK

PICKERINGTON - The Ohio Department of Transportation has started the first steps in alleviating the sometimes long traffic backup at Pickerington Road and U.S. 33 by beginning minor preliminary work for the new interchange.

"If someone is looking, they might see some minor stuff," Fairfield County Engineer Jeremiah Upp said of drivers near the intersection. "But I don't know how much they're really going to see right now. I wouldn't anticipate anything affecting traffic until next year."

Upp said that doesn't mean their definitely won't be traffic interruptions before then, but that interruptions are

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Heat, mental illness a bad combination

Natalie Eilbert

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK

One of Annie Carrell's patients often sits in extremely hot rooms with the lone fan he owns humming at the other end of his apartment.

He has schizophrenia, which makes him less able to register when he becomes overheated. That's one of the reasons people with schizophrenia are at higher risk for heat-related death.

Summer can be an especially harsh time for patients with severe mental illness, said Carrell, a psychiatric nurse practitioner and director of behavioral health services at Outreach Community Health Centers in Milwaukee.

Many have trouble regulating their body temperature or, like Carrell's patient, even realizing something bad is taking place. Psychotropic medicines, essential to manage symptoms, can contribute. The heat can create new mental health problems due to a confluence of factors, from disrupting sleep to overtaxing the body, Carrell said. And staying cool amid record-high temperatures can be a challenge for patients who are low-income, older, live in old housing or have physical disabilities.

Carrell works with patients to ensure they have a heat plan in place. But the issue has become a global concern. And a recent study in Current Environmental Health Reports found that the world is not prepared to respond to the mental health consequences of extreme heat brought on by climate change.

Heat health action plans, according to the World Health Organization, consider climate adaptation strategies like meteorological early warning systems, improvements to housing and urban planning and, crucially, the ability of health care and social

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