



OSU could expand WR rotation in '26

SPORTS, 1B

Covering Ravenna, Kent & Portage County

Record-Courier

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Family fun



Members of Ravenna VFW Post 1055 raise the flag Aug. 25, during the opening day for the Portage County Randolph Fair's opening ceremony event. PHOTOS BY LISA SCALFARO, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Portage County Randolph Fair showcases animals

Diane Smith Ravenna Record-Courier | USA TODAY NETWORK

The 168th Portage County Randolph Fair was a showcase of animals and many other elements of farm life while also celebrating other important activities.

Olivia Dix, 17, and Reese Edwards, 19, were crowned Junior Fair king and queen during an opening ceremony that featured the Rootstown High School Marching Band and Ravenna VFW performed a flag-raising.

The fair's theme for 2026 was "Barnyard Mix and Harvest Picks in 2026."

Activities included carnival rides, animal shows and competitions, and a Demolition Derby.

Livestock auctions on Aug. 26 and Aug. 29 provided more highlights, especially for 4-H members who earned big money after spending months raising the animals.

Attendees enjoyed a variety of fair food favorites while also taking in displays of county residents' sewing projects, and fruits, vegetables, and flowers they grew this season.



Teeira Sellers is all smiles as she awaits a customer at Twaddle Concessions' corn dog stand on Aug. 25 which was opening day at the Portage County Randolph Fair.



Megan Cunningham, a volunteer in the floral department for the Portage County Randolph Fair, fixes the identifying tags on some displays after judging was held Aug. 25 on the opening day.

War takes toll on Iranian diaspora

Marc Ramirez and Paris Barraza
USA TODAY

LOS ANGELES – When the war with Iran began, Freddy Kashani would set his alarm for 6 a.m., wake up and turn on the news, monitoring reports all day until bedtime.

Kashani co-owns Saffron & Rose, a Persian ice cream shop in Los Angeles. His family is from Iran, and some of his employees have family members there.

A part of him was excited to see potential change in Iranian leadership. But as a war originally touted to last just weeks reaches its six-month mark, he has only questions – and a feeling like nothing is happening.

"What are we doing?" Kashani said. "Is there a plan?"

With no end in sight to a conflict that has seen neither side willing to concede much ground, Iranian American sentiments range from frustration and disillusionment to defiance and flickering hope – and, for many like Kashani, concern for loved ones still there.

See IRAN, Page 2A

State senator challenges Ohio State University's chalking ban

Nora Igelnik
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

The start of a new semester at Ohio State University brings the opportunity for fresh thinking.

On Aug. 26, a state senator decided to publicly show what he thinks about a controversial university policy.

Ohio Sen. Bill DeMora, D-Columbus, stopped by the Ohio Union on the second day of classes to test Ohio State officials on the subject of chalking, the now-banned practice in which students formerly wrote announcements, political statements and more in chalk on sidewalks around Ohio State's campus. Ohio State banned chalking in 2025.

See BAN, Page 2A

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