



Will someone besides Watson give the Browns running help?

SPORTS, 1B

Covering Ravenna, Kent & Portage County

Record-Courier

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 | RECORD-COURIER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Big Flag Dave and Chris from Austintown engage in a heated conversation before President Donald Trump's arrival. PHOTOS BY MIKE CARDEW/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Name calling takes center stage at rally

Bryce Buyakie

Akron Beacon Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

In a bid to boost Ohio GOP candidates ahead of the midterm election, President Donald Trump and Ohio Republicans used the Youngstown stage for invective interlaced with broad policies, decrying “communist” Democrats and immigration, while reminding the crowd that it was Columbus Day, not Indigenous Peoples Day.

“Outside, someone asked me, ‘Isn’t it racist that we don’t call it Indigenous Peoples Day?’ No. It’s just stupid,” U.S. Sen. Bernie Moreno said to the crowd.

Speakers at the Oct. 12 Covelli Centre rally urged voters to the polls and discussed Republican policies, describing Ohio’s governor and Senate races as a vote on transgender health care, immigration, inflation, bringing jobs back to Ohio and the “radical left.”



Trump gestures while speaking at an Oct. 12 rally in support of Ohio’s Republican candidates for the midterm election. The event was held at the Covelli Centre in Youngstown.

Rallygoers filled just over half of the event center, with at least a third of the seats blocked off and many seated on the floor in rows of chairs. Speakers included incumbent Sen. Jon Husted and gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy, a prerecorded video appearance of Lt. Gov. Jim Tressel and social media influencer Jake Paul.

The event is one in a string of rallies held by Trump to bolster Republican candidates facing an uphill midterm election amid high inflation, steep gas prices and continued questions over Trump’s immigration policy.

As part of this effort, Trump endorsed Ohio Republican candidates while also promoting Ohio proposals to institute stricter voter ID requirements and eliminate the property tax. He also announced that Cleveland will be home to a submarine repair facility.

See RALLY, Page 5A

Advocates push for renewal of levy

Diane Smith

Ravenna Record-Courier
USA TODAY NETWORK

If Ravenna voters approve Issue 5, a levy renewal on the Nov. 3 ballot in the Ravenna School District that would fund construction of a new elementary school building, they’ll be paying less than they did when the levy was first approved in 2015, Friends of Ravenna schools said in an Oct. 8 forum.

The advocacy group hosted one of four gatherings to provide information about the renewal issue on the Nov. 3 ballot.

A final information meeting will take place 12:30 p.m. Oct. 21 in the Jenkins room at the Reed Memorial Library.

What is Issue 5?

The Ravenna School District is asking voters to approve a 2.9-mill permanent improvement levy. Approval of the levy, which now expires every five years, would make it a continuing levy, which means it would not expire.

The school district said it needs the funds to pay the district’s share of a new elementary school without asking taxpayers for additional money.

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission has offered to pay 76% of the cost of the new school in Ravenna. The new building would be constructed on the campus of Ravenna Jr./Sr. High School, the newest building in the district, which opened in 2010 using Ohio Facilities Construction Commission money.

Willyard Elementary School and Brown Intermediate School, buildings that are both more than 50 years old, would be closed, and students from kindergarten through grade 12 would attend school on one campus.

The district hopes to pay its share of the project using a combination of money generated through the sale of district property and a loan, which would be repaid using funds from the levy that now are used to maintain the existing, old buildings.

In a recorded message, Superintendent Bruce Ribelin said some of the district’s buildings are as old as 70 years old, and cost more to maintain than newer structures.

See LEVY, Page 5A

Ravenna chamber plans tour of holiday lighting displays in area

Diane Smith

Ravenna Record-Courier
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Ravenna Area Chamber of Commerce is looking for “over-the-top” holiday lighting displays in the Ravenna area to put themselves on the map.

Ryann Cline, executive director of the Ravenna Area Chamber of Commerce, said the Light Up Ravenna Tour expanding beyond storefronts to include homes in the community.

“Do you have an over-the-top, beautiful, or festive holiday light display at your home or business? Now is your time to show it off,” states a post on the

chamber’s Facebook page.

Entry is free and can be done on the Chamber of Commerce website through Nov. 20. People can vote on their favorite display between Nov. 27 and Dec. 20.

Properties in Ravenna city and township can participate, and the chamber will create a map of all participating locations.

Cline said the lighting tour is meant to increase traffic in Ravenna business and spread “holiday fun and cheer.”

“When you’re out looking at Christmas lights, who doesn’t want to get hot coffee or hot cocoa, or maybe get dinner or stop for a movie?” Cline asked on a video on the Chamber’s Facebook page.



Santa and Mrs. Claus greet spectators during the 2023 Ravenna Holiday Celebration in the city’s downtown. NICHOLAS MCLAUGHLIN/SPECIAL FOR THE RECORD-COURIER

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to record-courier.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 197 | No. 242
Subscribe 800-560-9657
©2026 \$2.00

