



Afternoon action

Hens host weekend finale

SPORTS B1



MONDAY MEMORIES

Father figures

Number of stay-at-home dads grows

PEACH PLUS B7

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“I’d like to invite people of all faiths, all nationalities [and] all religions to share spiritual activities with each other.”

— Bhante Thalangama Devananda

Revered church in Bryan gets repurposed

Buddhist center is opening soon

By KELLY KONG

BRYAN — In a former Methodist church that later served a Baptist congregation and was, for a time, a restaurant and brewery, a new Buddhist chapter is beginning.

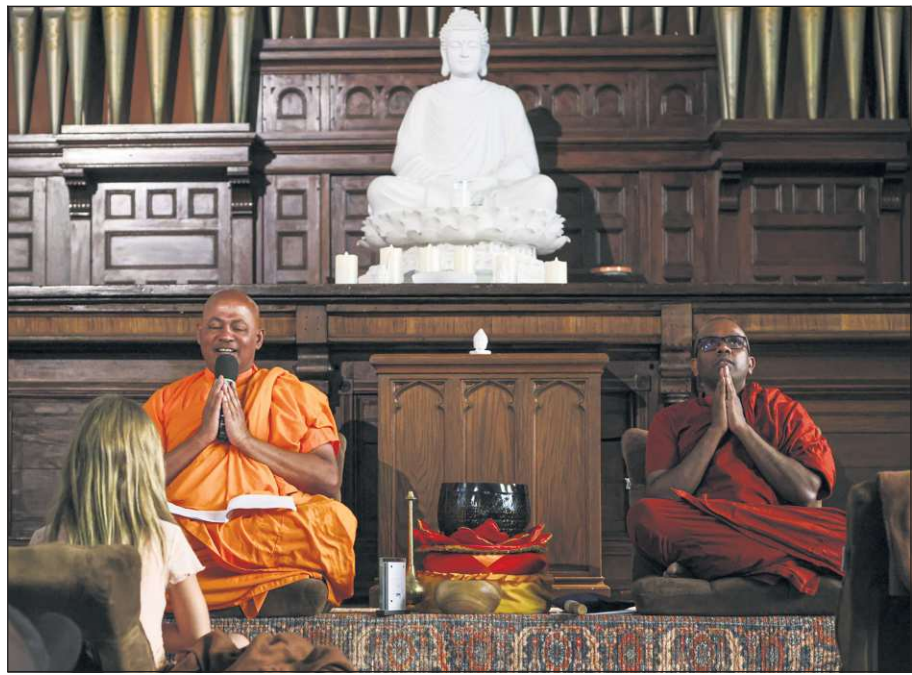
Loving Kindness Meditation Society, a Buddhist interfaith center dedicated to meditation, compassion, and peace-seeking, will formally open its doors Friday in downtown Bryan, bringing a centuries-old spiritual tradition to Williams County.

For Bhante Thalangama Devananda, a Sri Lankan



THE BLADE/ADDISON ANNIS

John Trippy said he always hoped the former Methodist church would be a spiritual place. He tried to make it an eatery, but it closed earlier this year.



THE BLADE/ADDISON ANNIS

Bhante Thalangama Devananda and Bhante Mananahene Pannasara say a prayer chant during a mediation session inside Loving Kindness in Bryan.

Buddhist monk who came to the United States more than two decades ago, the center’s mission is simple.

“I’d like to invite people of all faiths, all nationalities, [and] all religions to share spiritual activities with each other,” he said.

The center is an offshoot of Indiana Buddhist Temple in Hoagland, Ind.

Housed in a former church built in 1895 at 301 W. Butler St., the center will host meditation sessions, teachings, commu-

nity gatherings, and interfaith events. Organizers emphasize that people of all faiths — or none at all — are welcome to join and learn about Buddhist teachings.

“Buddhism is not only for the Buddhist follower,” Bhante Devananda said. “It is for all human beings.”

The weekend festivities will feature visiting monks, an overnight chanting service, a community peace walk, meditation programs, and cultural perfor-

mances. The opening chants start at 5 p.m. Friday. Other highlights include the grand opening ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, a pet blessing at 4 p.m. Saturday, and dharma talks at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday.

A full schedule of events is available at facebook.com/OhioMeditation. All are welcome to attend.

Set in a predominantly Christian community, the

See BUDDHIST, Page A4

Deal to end war in Iran announced

President orders stop to U.S. naval blockade

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The United States and Iran have reached an agreement to end the war and open the Strait of Hormuz, offering global economic relief more than three months since fighting began.

Details of the deal were not immediately available and Iran signaled implementation would not start until the signing, which mediator Pakistan said would be Friday in Switzerland.

Iran said the text would be published after that. Key issues like Iran’s nuclear program are expected to be addressed later.

But even as it became clear the parties still have days to influence what lies

ahead, the announcements had an air of relief.

“Congratulations to all!” President Trump wrote on social media, adding: “I hereby fully authorize the toll free opening of the Strait of Hormuz, and, simultaneously herewith, authorize the immediate removal of the United States Naval blockade,” imposed in retaliation for Iran’s grip on the crucial waterway.

He soon hedged, however, saying the strait wouldn’t open until Friday’s signing. The United States previously said it would ease its blockade of Iranian ports as the strait reopens, and would agree

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CALLS COME BEFORE G7 SUMMIT

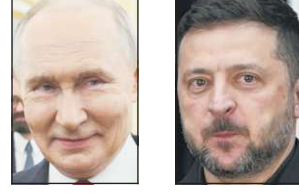
Putin, Zelensky talk with Trump

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky each spoke by phone with President Trump on Sunday, as Trump marked his 80th birthday and the war in Ukraine remained a flashpoint ahead of this week’s G7 summit.

Mr. Putin’s call with Trump lasted just under an hour, according to Russian presidential aide Yuri Ushakov, who briefed reporters afterward.

On Ukraine, Mr. Ushakov said Trump emphasized the need to end hostilities and stated his readiness to influence European allies and



Putin

Zelensky

Kyiv toward that goal, including at the upcoming G7 summit.

Trump also said that recent strikes on civilian targets in Russia complicate a settlement — though the White House has not confirmed that, nor commented on the call — and said that ending the war quickly could open the door

See UKRAINE, Page A5

Mission Project will receive \$1.2M

By DANNY ELDRIDGE

BLADE COLUMBUS BUREAU CHIEF

COLUMBUS — Construction on a 65-unit permanent housing development to support Toledo’s chronically homeless population is likely to begin this sum-

Capital budget OKs funds

mer after the Ohio General Assembly approved nearly \$1.2 million for the Mission Point project in the capital budget.

Rachel Gagnon, president of Cherry Street Mission, said she expects the financial closing to occur in July and for construc-

tion to begin in August. The total cost of the project is approximately \$20.8 million.

“The capital dollars that are coming in are going to

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INSIDE



Grand old Claw

Trump marks his 80th birthday with a UFC event on the White House’s South Lawn.

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Weather

HI 72° LO 52°



Garden tour

The Old Orchard Garden Tour in West Toledo delights visitors for a seventh year.

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Grande mistake

ICE’s use of Ariana Grande’s music on social media didn’t sit well with the singer.

Peach Plus | Page B7

Golden win

More than 50 years since their last NBA Championship, the New York Knicks did it again.

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Area distillery pouring it out for vets

Adventure Spirits all in on ‘buy local’

By TOM HENRY

BLADE STAFF WRITER

Call it a distillery with a dual mission.

Located in the middle of Whitehouse, along Waterville Road, Adventure Spirits Distilling is relatively unknown to many Tole-

doans. That could change soon, and not just because it stands across the street from one of northwest Ohio’s most popular restaurants, the Whitehouse Inn.

As Adventure Spirits owner Joe Carter explains, his business isn’t about making just any ol’ bourbon to sell. He has fully embraced the “Buy Local” movement and, as a 20-year military veteran himself, he wants



THE BLADE / TOM HENRY

Owner Joe Carter showcases a bottle of Task Force 20 in the gift shop of Adventure Spirits Distilling, located in Whitehouse, Ohio.

to do his part to support America’s military veterans.

“We just want to do everything as local as we

can,” Mr. Carter said during a recent tour of the distillery, which was carved out of a former bank branch that had stood

empty for a couple of years.

The building itself dates

See DISTILLERY, Page A6

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