



## Football rewind: Look back at HS Week 2

SPORTS, 1B

# Massillon-based MCTV expanding fiber in Wayne

**Miranda McGrath**  
Wooster Daily Record  
USA TODAY NETWORK

As Wayne County adds housing, attracts advanced manufacturing and builds out its workforce, one of its long-time service providers is laying the digital foundation to keep pace.

MCTV, founded in Massillon in 1965 and serving Wooster since the 1970s, is in the middle of a nearly decade-long

project to replace its coaxial cable system with fiber lines that run directly to the home. The investment, branded Ex-cellerate Fiber, is expected to cost more than \$100 million. By 2027, MCTV plans to have all 95,000 homes it serves in Wayne and Stark counties connected.

“This is about making sure our communities are ready for the future,” said Katherine Gessner, president of MCTV. “Wayne County has done a good job of keeping its agricultural base while also

attracting advanced manufacturing. Those companies, and the families moving here, need robust internet. Fiber makes that possible.”

**Increased power: From 500 to 32 homes on a fiber optic line**

The shift represents a dramatic change in how data moves through

**See MCTV, Page 4A**



Denisse Paez, owner of MEX-USA Latin store in Massillon, talks about a dress for sale that honors the Our Lady of Guadalupe holiday. The business is located at 167 Lincoln Way, which is the former Howard’s Tiger Rags building. KEVIN WHITLOCK/MASSILLON INDEPENDENT

## ‘Spanish community is growing’ Mexican-themed boutique, grocery store opens downtown

**Steven M. Grazier**  
Massillon Independent | USA TODAY NETWORK

MASSILLON – A new Mexican-themed boutique and grocery store has popped up downtown.

MEX-USA Latin store is a family-operated business that has been open on-and-off over the past few weeks at 167 Lincoln Way E, which is the former home of Howard’s Tiger Rags.

The main business sign was hung on the storefront in late August, allowing MEX-USA to have more visibility and schedule specific hours and days of operation.

Co-owner Denisse Paez said providing a steady income for her three children and having a store tailored toward local Latinos were main reasons for opening the shop. There are more than 10,500 Hispanic or Latino residents in Stark County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

“The Spanish community is growing,” said Paez, who runs MEX-USA with her son, Felipe Garcia-Paez. “I think people will be glad we’re here, when they see we’re open and know more (about the store.)”

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### JUVENILE SEX ED

## Feds warn Ohio about funding cuts over pronouns

**Jessie Balmert**  
State Bureau  
USA TODAY NETWORK

President Donald Trump’s administration is threatening to cut federal funding if Ohio’s youth prisons don’t remove references to transgender people from sexual education materials.

Trump’s Department of Health and Human Services warned Ohio and 39 other states that they had 60 days to remove any references to gender ideology from their Personal Responsibility Education Program materials.

The program, created by former President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act, aims to educate young people on abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually

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