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Ukraine’s front-line cities filled with dread, defiance

Russia controls most of Donetsk and nearly all of Luhansk

Mike Collett-White, Thomas Peter and Vitalii Hnidy
REUTERS

KRAMATORSK, Ukraine – In his new clothes store in the heart of Ukraine’s front-line city of Kramatorsk, Maksym Lysenko suddenly stops talking and lis-

tens. “There,” he said, leaning toward the window looking onto the street. “It’s going to dive. It’s going to drop.” Lysenko had heard the high-pitched whine of a Russian suicide drone. Moments later there is a loud explosion. “Boom! This is Kramatorsk!” he said with a smile. “This is Kramatorsk.” It’s the third attack witnessed by Reuters in less than an hour by Russian kamikaze drones terrorizing the skies over one of Ukraine’s final bastions in the fiercely contested region of Donetsk.

Thousands of unmanned aerial vehicles hover above more than 620 miles of front lines in Ukraine’s east and south at any one time, making even small infantry advances dangerous and costly. The airborne threat extends to villages, towns and cities sucked into the strike zone, a belt of land 12 to 15 miles either side of the front line where fast and nimble remote-controlled first-person-view drones and other models

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The casket of Morrow County Deputy Daniel “Weston” Sherrer is taken to the hearse following his funeral at Northmor High School in Galion on June 4. Sherrer was killed while responding to a domestic dispute.

ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

‘DISARMING THE MOST DANGEROUS’

Ohio domestic violence deaths at 10-year high, report says

Laura A. Bischoff
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

The number of Ohioans killed in domestic violence cases increased by 38% to 157 for the 12 months that ended June 30 – the highest documented number in a decade, according to a new statewide report. The Ohio Domestic Violence Network’s annual fatality report collects news stories, police reports and public records on fatalities involving intimate partners. It’s an inexact process but the network’s staff believe the increase in numbers can be attributed to more news

“Disarming the most dangerous defendants is what it would take to change these numbers.”

Lisa DeGeeter
ODVN senior director of policy and prevention

reports, police marking cases as domestic violence and an increase in violence and access to guns. While lawmakers support efforts to curb domestic violence and human trafficking, “the sticking point is gun issues. If we had disarmed everyone with a domestic violence conviction or a protection order we could’ve saved 100 lives,” said Lisa DeGeeter, ODVN senior director of policy and prevention. DeGeeter said 84% of the fatalities

involved firearms. “Disarming the most dangerous defendants is what it would take to change these numbers,” she said. Here are some key data points from the Ohio Domestic Violence Network report:

- 36 children were present when a killing took place; three of the women died while pregnant; the deaths left 92 kids without one or both parents.
- Forty cases involved murder-suicides. Another four cases of attempted murder-suicide were documented. In 43 of those 44 instances, guns were involved.
- 144 people were shot in 108 cases and only 12 survived.
- In at least 35% of the cases, the relationship had ended or was ending.
- 56% of the primary victims were

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BALTIC STATE BANK

New branch office opens in West Lafayette

Leonard L. Hayhurst
Coshocton Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

WEST LAFAYETTE – A bank that was founded in 1902 in Baltic opened a branch in West Lafayette on Oct. 6. Baltic State Bank’s newest branch location officially opened on Oct. 6. The bank has two offices in Baltic and other branches in Sugarcreek and New Bedford. It has more than \$100 million in total assets. The contractor for the nearly \$1 million project was Hostetler Builders of Dover and several local subcontractors were used during the building.

What West Lafayette customers can expect

The branch offers an ATM, three drive-thru lanes, night drop, notary services, a lending officer and can print debit cards on-site, said Jason Starcher, senior vice president. The branch will have four to six employees, based on need. Starcher said they already had a lot of customers in West Lafayette along with some current employees living there, including himself. “(Customers) are pleased with the improvement of the lot, the design of the building and a lot of the feedback we’ve received has just been positive about the services we offer,” Starcher added. “We were already servicing a lot of

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