

Blackout fears? Prepare, don't panic

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The Times-Reporter

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Christmas in Zoar offers tours, concerts, and more

Jane Imbody
The Times-Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

Historic Zoar Village will celebrate the holiday season with Christmas tours, Christmas in Zoar and other events beginning Nov. 28.

Christmas tours are scheduled for Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., according to a community announcement. Christmas in Zoar will take place Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

During the Christmas tours, visitors can explore decorated historic buildings while learning about German Christmas traditions and the origins of holiday customs. Tours require reservations and depart every 30 minutes.

The holiday activities also include the Merry Miles 5K race, live music, an annual pickle hunt and hot chocolate. Visitors can shop for seasonal gifts and decor at the Zoar Store and Zoar Bakery and from vendors and crafters throughout the village.

Christmas in Zoar will feature 19th-century demonstrations of American and German holiday traditions.

Santa, Kristkind, Father Christmas, the German Belsnickel and Krampus will greet visitors during both the Christmas Tours and Christmas in Zoar.

The holiday activities also include the Merry Miles 5K race, live music, an annual pickle hunt and hot chocolate. Visitors can shop for seasonal gifts and decor at the Zoar Store and Zoar Bakery and from vendors and crafters throughout the village.

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Holiday characters will greet guests throughout the village during both Christmas in Zoar and the Christmas tours. PROVIDED BY CRITCHFIELD COMMUNICATIONS

Lawmakers pass bill allowing 18-year-olds to carry guns

Haley BeMiller
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Eighteen-year-olds could be allowed to carry weapons under a sweeping bill that would expand gun access in Ohio.

The Ohio House and Senate passed legislation on Nov. 18 that would lower the minimum age for carrying a concealed handgun without a license or training from 21 to 18. Republicans added a slew of last-minute changes to Senate Bill 278, which aims to increase financial penalties for cities that enact local gun laws.

The bill also would:

- Allow people to drive with a loaded

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A person holds a handgun during the National Rifle Association's (NRA) annual meetings and exhibits in Houston, Texas, U.S. April 19. CALLAGHAN O'HARE/REUTERS

A night at the races, a boost for kindness

Jane Imbody
The Times-Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

Grant Kindness Night at the Races will return to New Philadelphia on Jan. 30 with horse racing, dinner, raffles and other activities benefiting the Grant Kindness Foundation.

The event begins at 5 p.m. at The Marilyn at the Monroe, 1260 Monroe St. NW, according to a community announcement. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. before the first of 10 races begins at 7 p.m.

Guests can place $2 bets before each race by choosing the horse they think will win. After betting closes, odds will be calculated and the race will begin.

An 11th auction race will allow individuals or groups to bid on horses. The owner of the winning horse will receive 50% of the auction pot.

The event also will include

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