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TIMES RECORDER

MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025 | ZANESVILLE, OHIO | ZANESVILLETIMESRECORDER.COM

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Historical home catches the eyes of 2 HGTV stars

The historic home on Putnam Avenue features original hardwood floors and stunning trim work. It was recently listed on the Cheap Old Houses website. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KIMBERLY FOSTER

Shawn Digity
Zanesville Times Recorder | USA TODAY NETWORK

ZANESVILLE – It might not have any secret passageways, but an old Zanesville home is up for sale for \$135,000, and it recently caught the eyes of two housing experts and HGTV stars.

The Victorian-style brick house at 424 Putnam Ave. was built in 1895. It’s one of the latest listings on Cheap Old Houses, a website, book, and former TV series on HGTV led by husband-and-wife Elizabeth and Ethan Finkelstein. They scour new real estate listings daily, coast to coast, searching for homes for sale for under \$150k.

The house, located in the Putnam Historic District, has five bedrooms, one and a half bathrooms and more than 3,100 square feet.

The three-story home has 10 rooms and numerous time-appropriate features, like built-in bookshelves, seven fireplaces, a butler’s pantry, cedar closets, intricate trim and board and batten molding, hardwood floors, floral designs on the ceiling, and servant stairs.

See HGTV STARS, Page 2A

The brick Victorian-style house located at 424 Putnam Ave. is listed for sale at \$135,000. It has five bedrooms and 1.5 bathrooms and more than 3,100 square feet.

Familiar face returns to city council

Ralph Hennessey is appointed to fill vacant Fifth Ward spot

Shawn Digity
Zanesville Times Recorder | USA TODAY NETWORK

ZANESVILLE – Zanesville’s second interim council seat was filled mere days after its vacancy.

Former Fifth Ward councilman Steven Foreman resigned June 30. Ralph Hennessey was appointed to fill the position on July 5 by the Muskingum County Republican Central Committee, Dan Vincent, Zanesville’s council president, confirmed.

Hennessey returns to the council with many years of experience. He served as an at-large representative for 10 years, and six years as president. His interim term will be his first representing a ward.

“I’m actually excited to represent a ward this time,” he told the Times Recorder. “It’ll give me more of a focus on the ward that I actually live in, and that, to me, should be a more personal touch to our local government.”

Hennessey will be sworn in at 6:45 p.m. July 14, before Zanesville’s regular meeting. He will join fellow interim councilman Mike King, who was appointed May 12, taking over for former councilman Andy Roberts of the Sixth Ward.

“I’m not coming back onto council because I’m disgruntled,” Hennessey stated. “I see a lot of good things going on in the city, and, obviously, I’d like to be a part of that as we go forward.”

For example, he continued, the recent infrastructure projects, like Dug Road’s reopening, and emphasis on blighted home redevelopment were noteworthy.

“A lot of homes that need to be removed have been taken down, and it’s given us a better look at our city,” he said. “Definitely want to continue those efforts.”

Hennessey is the president of Putnam Truckload Direct, located on Moxahala Avenue. He’s worked there in various capacities since 1987.

“I believe my experience will allow me to contribute in many areas,” he added.

He previously served on the ways and means and violence and crime committees. His role on current committees is to be determined.

Hennessey is a Republican candidate in the 2025 general election Nov. 4. He is running against Democrat candidate Brandon Heddleson. Hennessey’s interim term will end Dec. 31, 2025. A new term for the representative will run from Jan. 1, 2026 to Dec. 31, 2027.

Shawn Digity is a reporter for the Zanesville Times Recorder. He can be emailed at sdigity@gannett.com or found on X at @ShawnDigityZTR.

Homes in Muskingum County sold for lower prices recently

Zanesville Times Recorder | USA TODAY Network

Newly released data from Realtor.com for April shows that potential buyers and sellers in Muskingum County saw lower home sale prices than the previous month’s median of \$256,600.

The median home sold for \$232,000, an analysis of data from Realtor.com shows. That means April, the most recent month for which figures are available, was down 9.6% from March.

Compared to April 2024, the median home sales

price was up 2.2% compared to \$227,000.

Realtor.com sources sales data from real estate deeds, resulting in a few months’ delay in the data. The statistics don’t include homes currently listed for sale and aren’t directly comparable to listings data.

Information on your local housing market, along with other useful community data, is available at data.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com.

Here is a breakdown on median sale prices:

See HOME PRICES, Page 2A

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Volume 161 | No. 164
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