

A feature publication of The Courier and Review Times

### Let the games begin at Cedar Point Sports Center

SANDUSKY REGISTER SANDUSKY — The U.S. Olympic "Dream Team" featured phenomenal basketball talents like Michael Jordan, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson. Similarly, over the past decade, many local officials and area executives came together to assemble their own superstar squad, which involved recruiting

marquee players of varying talents

uniting for one common community goal. Without their teamwork, a state-of-the-art, gold-medalworthy indoor sports arena couldn't have opened. On January 10, 2020 about 300 people attended an unveiling and tip-off ceremony at the newly minted Cedar Point Sports Center on Cleveland Road (U.S. 6).



Breaking ground in July 2018, the \$42 million indoor complex sits beside its sister site Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center. From travel teams to community members, with a heavy focus on

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youth participation, people can compete in several sports inside a 145,000-squarefoot playing area. The zone can cater to basketball, volleyball, wrestling, soccer, gymnastics, dancing, cheerleading and pickle ball.

Guests can also partake in many other on-site activities, ranging from climbing obstacle courses to exercising on a oneeighth-mile-long track.

The center aims to provide a gamechanging experience for athletes, young and old, near and far, said Duff Milkie, Cedar Fair's general counsel and executive vice president. Cedar Fair is Cedar Point's parent company.

"This project, and so many others, are occurring in our community to raise the bar and fortify our foundation for growth and development," Milkie said. "This is a shared success," said Milkie. "It took everyone to go in the same direction. We raised our expectations, and then we met those expectations. Through collaboration, the community came together and, for that, we all owe ourselves a round of applause." When dignitaries spoke during the ceremony, no one person representing a single employer fully took credit. Rather everyone shared in the recognition.



**Erie County** commissioner Pat Shenigo, left, and Cedar Fair CEO **Richard Zimmerman** iump for the ceremonial first tip at Cedar Point Sports Center in Sandusky on Friday, Jan. 10, 2020. The two. along with about 300 others. attended the center's grand opening.



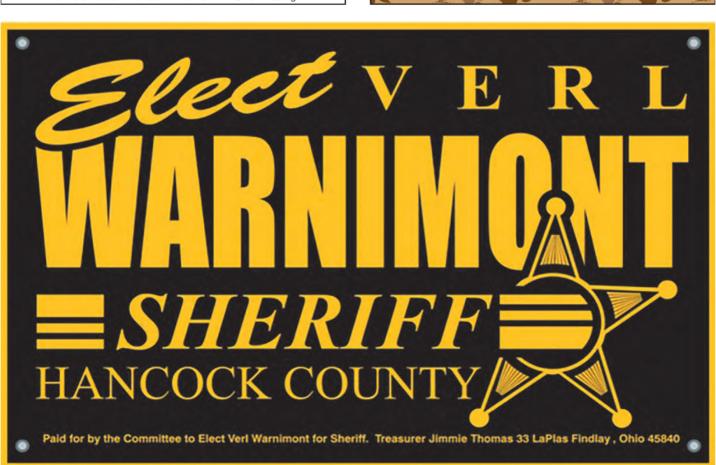








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Humans of Findlay is a documentary project based on the blog "Humans of New York." The project was created to introduce many of the unique people of Findlay, Ohio. The man behind the lens and the project is Dave Morrow. Morrow has interviewed over 700 people of Findlay, ranging from age 5 to 102 years old, with a wide range of diversity and backgrounds. Jenna Wilkins has joined Dave in continuing the Humans of Findlay project.

On April 4, 2018, a proclamation was signed by Mayor Lydia Mihalik designating the day as "Humans of Findlay Day." Each of the stories have been read up to 30,000 times, and can be located on humansoffindlay.com, Humans of Findlay Facebook page, as well as in this monthly magazine. Know someone that you feel should be featured? Send a nomination on the Facebook page.

### **STEFAN ADAMS**



Every one of us has had that special teacher, coach or counselor that made a huge difference in our life, that helped us to survive growing up. Mine was Mrs. Becky Flinn, in the 10th grade.

A couple of weeks ago I had a chance meeting with Stefan Adams, the current school counselor at Glenwood Middle School. After just a few minutes talking with him, I was greatly impressed with his infectious sense of humor, his boundless energy, and his obvious love for his career of choice and the young men and women he interacts with every day. Here is the rest of the story ...

A native of Westchester, Pennsylvania, Stefan was born in 1987 to John and Roxanne Adams. He has a brother, Maurice and a sister, Richelle.

As a student in middle school Stefan loved playing drums and the saxophone and dreamed of being a professional musician. He was also blessed with genetics of size and speed that made him a gifted and dominant running back in football. Starting as varsity fullback as a freshman at Westchester Henderson High School, Stefan played all four years on varsity and received a scholarship to play for Bloomburg University.

While at Bloomburg Stefan completed his Bachelor's degree in Communications Studies, with an emphasis on Interpersonal Relationship Management in 2010. While in his junior year at Bloomburg Stefan's father passed away from cancer at the age of 49. He returned home, thinking of leaving college behind, in order to care for his mother. After much discussion she encouraged him to return and finish his studies. Stefan also went on to earn his Master's of Education degree at Bloomburg, with the certification as a K-12 school counselor.

A random road trip with friends started a chain of events that landed Stefan here in Findlay. He was looking for opportunities to coach football and seeing the University of Findlay campus, he checked out their website. As fate would have it two of the coaches of the Oilers football team were coaches he had known back in Pennsylvania and who also were very familiar with Stefan and his abilities. A visit to the campus and a great conversation with the coaches led to an offer to have him help coach the running backs at UF which he did on a volunteer basis for the next three years. Stefan began substituting at the elementary schools in the Findlay City School system. It was here he would cross paths with Jefferson Primary's principal, Krista Miller. They formed a quick admiration of each other's, goals, energy and love for the students. When a counselor position opened Krista offered the job to Stefan in 2014. He worked with both Jefferson and Chamberlin

Hills students for the next two years, and then joined the staff at Jacobs when Principal Miller transferred there. Stefan, still having the dream to coach football, took a year sabbatical to return home to his alma mater when the football head coaching position was offered to him. It was a learning and eve-opening experience for him. When Krista Miller called him last year, announcing she was assuming the principal position at Glenwood and asking if he would join her staff as the counselor, he knew what was right in his heart and returned to Findlay. Each day Stefan's smile and energy can be found walking the halls at Glenwood, being a loving, positive, visible presence. "I use the time to read eyes, and body language, to see who is struggling, or alone. I like to sit and mingle with students at lunch. To engage them in conversation. My goal is to build trust so that if and when troubles arise in the individual students lives, they can feel comfortable reaching out to me." Each and every day, the Glenwood "triage team" of teachers, principal and Stefan check on absentee trends, any grade fluctuations, sudden mood or personality changes of the students, in order to try and catch early anything affecting a student's well-being.

Stefan also coaches the Glenwood girls' basketball team, mentors others to improve their basketball and football skills, and still keeps his dream alive to one day become a head coach at the high school level.

"I was raised by wonderful parents who taught me to always look for ways to serve, to give back to my community. I love the sense of calm I find in Findlay. I am engaged to Kresana Ward, a local Findlay girl and I plan to stay here."

Thank you, Stefan. I truly believe the students of Glenwood are blessed to have you watching over them.







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# Mark Your Calendars! MARCH

### MARCH 2-8 - FINDLAY FINDLAY AREA RESTAURANT WEEK PARTICIPATING FINDLAY RESTAURANTS

Try out something new or support your favorites during dinner hours. Participating restaurants will be offering three course meals at a set price throughout the week. Price points are \$10, \$20, \$30, and \$40 per diner, and vary per restaurant. No tickets necessary, but reservations suggested at many locations. Dine-in only. Questions? Call Visit Findlay 419-422-3315 or email info@visitfindlay.com.





### MARCH 7 - VANLUE ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST VANLUE COMMUNITY PARK

Did someone say PANCAKES??? Breakfast includes scrambled eggs, 1 sausage patty and 1 beverage along with all you can eat pancakes! All of this for only \$6.00! Breakfast proceeds benefit Vanlue Youth Sports.

Enjoy 50/50 raffles as well as a live auction beginning at 9AM benefiting the Goldwing Riders Association. Items for sale include handcrafted items and baked goods. Vanlue Community Park 8:00-11:00AM

### MARCH 8 - FINDLAY BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE AMF SPORTSMAN LANES

Don't miss the 37th Annual Fundraiser for Bowling For Kids benefiting Children's Mentoring Connection of Hancock County. Form a team of 4 or 5 team members to support CMC's youth mentoring programs. All proceeds will be for local programming in Hancock County. For more details visit https://www.bowlathon.net/event/cmc-bowling-for-kids-2020/ Event held at AMF Sportsman Lanes 616 Trenton Ave, Findlay. 12:00-4:30PM.





### MARCH 14 - FINDLAY KIWANIS PANCAKE DAY FINDLAY HIGH SCHOOL

Annual Kiwanis Pancake Day will be held at the Findlay High School with doors opening at 7:30AM. You won't go away hungry! For more details visit https://www.facebook. com/FindlayKiwanis/. Adults \$7.00. Seniors & Children \$6.00. Findlay High School 1200 Broad Ave, Findlay. 7:30AM-1:30PM.



### MARCH 15 - TIFFIN ST. PADDY'S 5K RUN/WALK DOWNTOWN TIFFIN

Join us as we chase the leprechaun during the 5th Annual St. Paddy's Day 5k Run/Walk. The race will start promptly at 10:00 am with registration opening at 8:30am at The Renaissance in downtown Tiffin, 129 S. Washington St. Children 10 & under are free and have the option of purchasing a shirt. (Costumes are encouraged!) Proceeds to benefit downtown revitalization in Tiffin.

Entry Cost: Pre-Registration \$20 with T-shirt, \$25 day of race. First 200 registrations guaranteed a shirt. For more information visit https://www.facebook.com/StPattys5kTiffin/

### MARCH 25 – BOWLING GREEN HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH , A WHISKEY TASTING EVENT WOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL CENTER & MUSEUM

Join local historian, Elliot MacFarlane, for a fascinating talk about Wood County's history and how whiskey, whisky, and other spirits hold a lot of details about the county's DNA. Program includes a tasting of five selected whiskeys (or whiskys), snacks, and a self-guided museum tour.

Must be age 21 or over to participate in the tasting. Tickets are \$40, available at woodcountyhistory.org or by calling 419-352-0967. Seating is limited. Event held at Wood County Museum 13660 County Home Rd., Bowling Green. 7:00-9:00PM





### **MARCH 29 - FINDLAY**

### **GLIDING STARS ANNUAL ICE SHOW**

#### THE CUBE

Join Gliding Stars of Findlay at their 19th Annual Ice Show, "Gliding Stars' Awesome Dance Party." This can't miss event is the end-of season choreographed performance that the Gliding Stars have been working towards all season. For more details visit www.glidingstars.org Admission \$10.

Event held at The Cube 3430 N. Main St., Findlay. 2:30-4:00PM.



\*At press time, the information was pulled from community websites and was considered current. We apologize for any information that may have been changed/updated after the Discover 419 edition was printed.









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### A1C RODESKY

Dave Morrow is a 60 year old peacetime veteran of the USAF and Utah Army National Guard. He was an educator and an EMT. Dave is currently a documentary photographer and writer. He created the website <a href="https://dogtagsandcombatboots.org/">https://dogtagsandcombatboots.org/</a> to share the stories of our Veterans. The site is dedicated to the stories of Vietnam Veterans and to the veteran Women Warriors of Ohio. It is hoped to be a place for healing.

Shaye Rodesky arrived in the world in 1995 in Findlay, just minutes ahead of her twin Danielle, born to parents Julie and Dan.

Shaye and Danielle attended Liberty-Benton High School where both played on the varsity softball team. Shaye also played the acoustic guitar which she had first picked up at the age of twelve.

When Shaye graduated in 2014, "My goals and thoughts were to find a way to serve my country and others. I believed in God and wanted to do something selfless."

Her military career didn't start off smoothly. Meeting with a Army National Guard recruiter, Shaye recalls, "I felt talking with the recruiter that I had little options of jobs. I felt pressured to sign up for the military police. Next thing I knew I was being driven to MEPS and within a few days was on my way to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for basic."

Shaye realized shortly after arriving that she had made a serious mistake, that she wasn't prepared for the "screaming, the intensity of basic" "I lasted seven weeks before the Army and I came to an agreement that this was not a good fit."

Shaye returned home, very confused, feeling defeated, having no clue what to do next. She worked for a local candy factory for a bit before moving over to work at a coffee house near a college campus. "As my thoughts and head cleared, I knew I still wanted to be involved in something "bigger than me."

Shaye visited with an Air Force recruiter after nearly a year back home. It was then she found out she currently was not eligible for enlistment because of her leaving basic early. "I was told it would take 5-6 months to apply for and hopefully receive a waiver to reenlist."

Shaye received her waiver and took the oath to enter the Air Force arriving at Lackland AFB on January 3rd, 2017. This time she was better prepared and successfully completed basic training. "I was the only female to qualify as Marksman with the new M-4."

Shaye had signed up to become a crew chief for F-16 aircraft and was sent to Sheppard AFB, just outside of Wichita Falls, Texas. After six-months Shaye completed her training and was transferred to Shaw AFB located near Sumter, South Carolina, joining the 20th Fighter Wing, nicknamed the "Shooters." She arrived in September of 2017 quickly realizing that female crew chiefs were a rarity as there were only three out of the fifteen crew chiefs in her squadron.

Over the next eighteen months Shaye, now an Airman First Class, became very skilled and respected as a crew chief. When an opening to join the Air Force Honor Guard was posted, Shaye applied and was accepted to the program. After three weeks of intensive training where she learned precision, ceremony, flag folding and preforming military honors burials, Shaye joined the Honor Guard that served a region covering North/South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

During her six month attachment her unit performed 103 details laying veterans to rest and celebrating retirements. "It was a special time for me. I felt like I took God everywhere with me during these ceremonies. There is a powerful, spiritual feeling when you "transfer" the folded flag to a family member. You can tell by looking in their eyes."

Visiting with Shaye while home on leave, she shared a desire to change direction in her service in the Air Force. "In three months, I can apply to cross train and I want to apply to become a Chaplain's Assistant."

With 15 months left on her initial contract, soon to be Senior Airman Rodesky has decisions to make. If the Chaplain Assistant slot opens, she will reup for at least two more years. If not, she will likely join Erik, a fellow airman who she has a serious relationship with, in Texas where he is currently building a house. She plans on using her GI Bill to complete a degree in Psychology. "I have lots of avenues and opportunities to explore."

Thank you, A1C Rodesky, for your service to God and Country! Good luck with all your future endeavors.



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