

A feature publication of The Courier & REVIEW TIMES

# Discover

## February 2024



### Pickleball

*The Fastest Growing Sport*

By: Leah Alsept  
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Pickleball has been taking the nation by storm, and the recreation-minded right here in Northwest Ohio have taken up the popular new sport in droves. Every summer, dozens of people play the sport every day at the Riverside Park pickleball courts in Findlay, and the YMCA has added it to its available recreation activities playable on its indoor courts at its East Branch location year-round.

### PICKLEBALL



But what is pickleball, exactly? Pickleball is played with a small paddle and a perforated ball. It can be played casually or competitively. USA Pickleball, the national governing body of the sport in the United States, describes it as a mix of “tennis, badminton, and ping pong.”

“Pickleball is generally played two

against two,” longtime pickleballer Richard Schrock said. “You serve across the court similar to tennis. But it’s slightly different. (The ball) has to bounce once and then come back and bounce the second time on the other side.”

Schrock picked up pickleball about 12 years ago when he happened upon a few of his coworkers playing the game at the McComb Cookie Festival in 2009.

“The nice part about this sport is

Continued on page 3



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# LITTLE CAESARS®



FAR LEFT: A group of players during the 2023 summer season training session at Riverside Park in Findlay.

LEFT: Players at the Allen County Pickleball Tournament in Lima, in September 2023.

(Photos are from the Flag City Pickleball Club Facebook page.)

Continued from page 1

it's very social," he said. "It's way more social than most sports. People are out there laughing and giggling."

Finding the sport to be something they wanted to continue into retirement, Richard and his wife, Greta, have been playing pickleball ever since.

"About 10 years ago, we took over the Flag City Pickleball club, and I use that term very loosely," Richard explained. "There are no dues, there's no president -- it's an email list. That's what I tell people."

Now there's almost 300 members on the email list, his wife Greta said.

"During the summer we teach about 40 people a year. (On

Tuesday mornings we have an open time from 10:30 to noon and we have six to eight people every week show up at least," Richard said. "Sometimes we have three courts full."

The best part about pickleball, the Schrocks say, is the camaraderie around the sport.

"We have picnics and we have Christmas parties and we have lots of fun activities outside of the sport," Richard said.

As a testament to the friendships made over the sport, 70 people showed up for the 2023 Flag City Pickleball Club Christmas party.

"I would've known maybe four or five of them had I not had pickleball. Now I've gained a hundred and some people that I call friends that I wouldn't otherwise," Richard said.

Anyone can join in on the fun. The Schrocks suggest visiting the Flag City Pickleball Club Facebook page for more information on upcoming events and activities in the club.

"(It's) a really good physical sport that's not hard on your knees or your elbows or anything," Greta said. "We taught grandmas and grandkids this summer."

The city of Findlay is taking notice of pickleball's popularity, too. In 2017, Richard suggested to the Hancock Park District they renovate the old Riverside Park tennis courts into pickleball courts. Those pickleball courts are now regularly used by the hundreds of Flag City Pickleball Club members.

"One night we had a neighborhood night and the police officers came and played with the kids," Greta said. "It's just such a wide range of people that can play. We just think this is a great thing for the community."

In the meantime, check out the YMCA's indoor courts and other indoor pickleball options that become available in the area, but when it warms up consider going out to the pickleball courts. There might just be someone willing to show you the ropes.





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*Due to the holiday, there will be no newspaper published on Monday, February 19th*

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## Tasty Tidbits About Pizza

The calendar is dotted with various holidays that celebrate pizza. From National Pizza Pie Day in February to National Deep Dish Pizza Day in April to National Cheese Pizza Day in September, not to mention National Pizza Month in October, any time of year is the perfect opportunity to bite into a slice.

For most people, the best part of pizza is eating it, but that doesn't mean you can't still learn something about this all-time favorite food as well. The following are some tasty tidbits about pizza, courtesy of Fact City, Pizza Need and Facts Legend.

- Pizza is tied to Greece. Greeks are credited with creating the first pizza-like food. The Greeks used to bake flat, round large breads that were then topped with vegetables, potatoes, spices, and olive oil. However, the first commercial pizza and pizzeria has been traced to the 19th century and the Italian city of Naples.

- Not all pizza is flat. While crispy, low-profile pies may be classic, other varieties of pizza have their fans. "Deep dish" pizza originated in 1943 in the Chicago eatery Pizzeria Uno. Sfincione, or focaccia pizza, a type of pizza made in a sheet pan with thicker

slices, was created in the mid-19th century in Sicily. It is popularly called Sicilian pizza.

- Pizza is even more popular on certain days of the year. Pizza can be enjoyed any day of the year, but Super Bowl Sunday, New Year's Eve, Halloween, Thanksgiving Eve, and New Year's Day are the top five days for pizza sales. In addition, pizza accounts for more than 10 percent of all food service sales.

- Pizza is booming. In the United States, the pizza industry makes up 17 percent of all restaurants and grosses more than \$30 billion every year. The highest-grossing single-unit independent pizzeria in the United States is Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzeria in Anchorage, Alaska. Its annual sales are approximately \$6 million. The pizzeria is known for its Apricot pie which consists of apricot sauce, carrots, cream cheese and chicken.

- Pizza is popular everywhere. Around the world, about three billion pizzas are sold each year.

- Pizza is a weekend favorite. While Friday may be pizza night for many people, sales figures indicate that Saturday night is the most popular night to eat pizza.

- Pizza has a symbiotic relationship with certain foods. The pizza industry has helped propel both the cheese and pepperoni industry. Around 251 million pounds of pepperoni are consumed each year in the United States.

- Hawaiian pizza is popular, though not accurately named. Ham and pineapple are popular pizza toppings on the West coast of the United States, and this pizza is dubbed the Hawaiian pizza. However, it doesn't have any connection to Hawaii. This pizza actually was invented in Canada.

Pizza is a perennial favorite and one of the most popular foods of all time. There are so many local pizza spots to choose from...try them all and then you decide...which one you think is the best!

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY

**FEB. 3**

## Cosmic Cinema: Jupiter

Findlay-Hancock County Public Library **10 - 11 am**



Movie showing about the solar system as the region counts down to the solar eclipse on April 8. From the rocky inner worlds to the gas giants, every planet of our solar system has a fascinating story. Their extreme features give us clues to how the solar system formed and what hope there may be for life on other worlds. Bring a drink to the event, popcorn will be provided. **This film is rated TV-PG.**

**FEB. 4**

## ROAR: Dino Dig

Mazza Museum, 201 College St, Findlay **1 - 3 pm**



Kids and their families can enjoy art activities, games, hands-on educational stations, interactive STEAM activities, planetarium shows and more. This month, kids will be performing a "dino dig" to learn about fossils and prehistoric creatures.

Free; registration required at  
<https://oilers.findlay.edu/pages/events/mazza-funday-sunday>

**FEB. 7**

## Craft Beer Bingo

False Chord Brewing, 326 S. Main St, Findlay **6:30 - 8:30 pm**



Join the crew at False Chord Brewing for a fun twist on the old-school social game. Bingo is free-to-play. The crowd will be playing in sets, so latecomers can still join in.

*Winners receive a free pint.*

**FEB. 10**

## Mallin' in Love: Valentine's-Themed Crafter and Vendor Marketplace

Findlay Village Mall **11 am - 4 pm**



The mall will be brought to life with a host of vendors and crafters. Stores will be open and the corridors will be filled with handmade items, creators, bakers and more.



**FEB. 10**

## **Wine & Dine Valentine's Dinner**



**The Toledo Zoo, 6:30 - 9:30 pm**

The Zoo will host a Valentine's Day Wine and Dine event in the elegant Malawi Event Center. Guests will enjoy an intimate, multi-course gourmet meal, complete with professionally paired wines, prepared by Toledo Zoo's award-winning catering staff. In addition, there will be live entertainment and an animal encounter. Parking available in the Anthony Wayne Trail parking lot - use Main entrance.

**Members \$85; nonmembers \$90.**

**FEB. 17**

## **The Ladies Night Live**



**Alexandria's, 132 Crawford St, Findlay 9 pm - 1 am**

The Ladies Night is the ultimate rocking tribute to pop divas from the 90's and 00's. These five dudes aren't afraid to wear their love for Britney Spears, Katy Perry, Kesha, Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga and Miley Cyrus on their pink glittery sleeves as they rock their way through some guilty pleasure singalongs.

**FEB. 21**

## **Book Discussion Group**



**Kaubisch Memorial Public Library, Fostoria 4:30 - 5:30 pm**

Join this opportunity for adults to get together to discuss a book, which is usually a contemporary fiction or non-fiction title. Copies of the book to be discussed are available at the Main Desk one month before the scheduled group meeting. The program is open to all. The Book Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (except July and December).

**FEB. 24**

## **Battle of I-75**



**The Stroh Center, Bowling Green State University 2 pm**


Watch the excitement as the Toledo Rockets men's basketball team travels to Bowling Green to take on the BG Falcons.

**This information was pulled from community websites and was considered current at press time.**

**We apologize for any information that may have been changed/updated after this edition was printed.**

# Discover419

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# Did You Know?

Individuals who are born on February 29th are known as leaplings or leapers. Leap Day is not considered a legal day. Those who are leaplings have to choose February 28 or March 1 for their official and legal birthdays.



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# 100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

## 100 Years Ago This Month: Historical events from February 1924

The month of February has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in February 1924.

- Honduran President Rafael López-Gutiérrez refuses to leave office on February 1. López-Gutiérrez cites uncertainty regarding a successor as his reason for remaining in office after initially beginning a four-year term on February 1, 1920.
- Former United States President Woodrow Wilson falls into a coma at 10:30 p.m. on February 2. The 67-year-old former president dies less than 24 hours later.
- Thanks in part to the recommendation of British physicians, Indian freedom fighter Mohandas Gandhi is released from incarceration in Ahmedabad on February 4. Gandhi served less than one-third of his six-year prison sentence for sedition.
- Forty-one miners drown in a flash flood inside an underground iron mine near Crosby, Minnesota on February 5. The flood is caused when the crew blasts too close to the bottom of a nearby lake.
- President Wilson is buried in a vault beneath the center aisle of the chapel of the Washington National Cathedral on February 6. He remains the only president to be buried in the District of Columbia.
- In response to the German Embassy's refusal to offer condolences or lower flags in honor of President Wilson, roughly 200 taxi drivers plant an American flag

on the embassy lawn on February 6.

- The Fascist government of Italy formally recognizes the Communist Soviet Union on February 7.
- On February 8, Chinese national Gee Jon becomes the first person in American history to be executed with lethal gas. Jon was convicted in a gangland slaying and was put to death in an airtight chamber at the Nevada State Prison in Carson City. Elsewhere in the United States, five inmates, each convicted murderers, were put to death in Texas, marking the state's first use of the electric chair.
- Two-hundred fifty delegates representing 61 trade unions, civic groups and fraternal organizations attend the opening day of the Negro Sanhedrin on February 11. The conference was an attempt to establish a national program protecting the legal rights of African American tenant farmers and wage workers.
- On February 13, one day after testifying in the trial of "Shoeless Joe" Jackson, Chicago White Sox outfielder Oscar "Happy" Felsch is arrested for perjury. Lawyers for the White Sox produced documents contradicting Felsch's testimony, resulting in his arrest.
- On February 14, the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Company renames itself the International Business Machines Corporation, which would ultimately be shortened to IBM.
- U.S. Senator Frank L. Greene of Vermont is shot in the head and seriously wounded by a stray bullet during a

shootout on February 15. The shootout involved bootleggers and Prohibition enforcement agents, and Senator Green was struck while walking with his wife along Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C.

- German artist George Grosz is fined 500 gold marks on February 16. The court determined a collection of Grosz's drawings depicting the decadence of Berlin society was obscene.
- Greek Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos resigns on February 19. Venizelos had been in office less than four weeks.
- U.S. President Calvin Coolidge becomes the first President to make a radio broadcast from the White House on February 22.
- Prime Minister Ahmet Zogu of Albania is shot twice by anarchist Beqir Valteri on February 23. Often referred to as Zog I of Albania, the prime minister reportedly survived more than 50 assassination attempts over the course of his life. Though Valteri's efforts were unsuccessful, Zogu's injuries forced him to step away from office for a short period following the shooting.
- On February 24, the Beverly Hills Speedway hosts its final race. The speedway is torn down as property values in Beverly Hills skyrocket.
- Trials related to the Beer Hall Putsch that occurred on November 9, 1923, begin in Munich on February 26. Adolf Hitler and Erich Ludendorff are among those put on trial.



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## ArtWalk

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**FEBRUARY/MARCH CLASSES** Register for classes online at [www.FindlayArtLeague.org](http://www.FindlayArtLeague.org)

**Watercolor Painting: Claude Monet-Friday**, 5:00-7:00 pm, Feb. 2; Tuition: \$50, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Young Adult Pottery, Ages 9-17-Saturdays**, 9:00-11:00 am, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Tuition: \$150, all materials provided. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Young Adult Pottery, Ages 9-17-Tuesdays**, 3:30-5:30 pm, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27; Tuition: \$150, all materials provided. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Homeschool Winter Class, Grades 1-4 -Tuesdays**, 1:00-2:15 pm, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 5, 12, 26, April 2; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Homeschool Winter Class, Grades 5-12-Tuesdays**, 1:00-3:15 pm, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 5, 12, 26, April 2; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Homeschool Winter Class Grades 1-4-Fridays**, 1:00-2:15 pm, Feb. 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Homeschool Winter Class Grades 5-12-Fridays**, 1:00-3:15 pm, Feb. 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Valentine Candle Pour-Friday**, 6:00-8:00 pm, February 9; Tuition: \$41, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Amber Kear

**Beginning Woodworking-Saturdays**, 9:00-11:30 am, Feb. 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23; Tuition: \$120, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (18+). Instructor: Emil Ziegler. Classes will be held at the Millstream Wood Carvers Club House, 2230 Blanchard Avenue.

**Hand Building: Berry Bowl** – Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 am, Feb. 20, 27, March 5, 19; Tuition: \$120, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (18+). Instructor: Marcie Allen

**Beginning Pottery: Wheel Throwing** – Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 pm, Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27; Tuition: \$180, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (18+). Instructor: Marcie Allen

**Intermediate Pottery: Wheel Throwing** – Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 pm, Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27; Tuition: \$180, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (must have taken Beginning Pottery or equivalent). Instructor: Marcie Allen

**Hand Building: Ceramic Jewelry** – Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 am, Feb. 22, 29, March 7, 21; Tuition: \$120, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (18+). Instructor: Marcie Allen

**Beginning Pottery: Wheel Throwing** – Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 pm, Feb. 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28; Tuition: \$180, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome (18+). Instructor: Marcie Allen

**Young Adult Pottery, Ages 9-17-Saturdays**, 9:00-10:30 am, March 2, 9, 16, 23; Tuition: \$150, all materials provided. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Intro to Photography-Saturdays**, 4:00-5:00 pm, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13; Tuition: \$350, all materials provided (but student must provide their own DSLR camera), all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Sarah Hartman

**Young Adult Pottery, Ages 9-17-Tuesdays**, March 5, 12, 26, April 2; Tuition: \$150, all materials provided. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Spring Equinox Candle Pour-Monday**, 6:00-8:00 pm, March 18; Tuition: \$41, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Amber Kear

117 W. Crawford St., Findlay | 419-422-7847 | [FindlayArtLeague.org](http://FindlayArtLeague.org) | [contact@FindlayArtLeague.org](mailto:contact@FindlayArtLeague.org)



Looking for a fun event with friends, family, or coworkers?

### Plan a Pottery Party!

2 hours of clay time, projects picked up 2-3 weeks after the party. \$150 for up to six people (minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian). Contact the Findlay Art League at [findlayartleague.org](http://findlayartleague.org) for details and to schedule a day and time.

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TUES - FRI 12:30-5PM  
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## Interesting facts about U.S. Presidents

- Americans celebrate Presidents' Day each year on the third Monday in February. The holiday is known as Washington's Birthday within the federal government. While it has honored George Washington since it was first established as a holiday in 1879, the day now honors all who served as United States presidents.
- The widened scope of Presidents' Day affords a great opportunity for Americans to learn some interesting facts about the individuals who have taken office since George Washington first did so in 1789.
- Anecdotes abound in regard to George Washington, and his famed wooden teeth is among them. However, that story is an enduring myth and not reflective of reality. Various historians and groups, including the National Constitution Center, note that George Washington's dentures were not made of wood, but rather a combination of ivory, gold and human and animal teeth, among other materials.
- Two former presidents and founding fathers passed away within hours of each other. John Adams, who succeeded Washington as the nation's second president in 1797, and Thomas Jefferson, who served as the third president of the United States between 1801 and 1809, each died on July 4, 1826. The two one-time friends and then foes ultimately reconciled prior to their deaths.
- John Adams and his son, John Quincy Adams, who served as the sixth president of the United States from 1825 to 1829, are the only presidents among the first twelve to have never owned slaves.
- Though outdoor inaugurations are now the standard, they were not always. The nation's fifth president, James Monroe, was the first to be inaugurated in the elements.
- So long as they're eligible to run for reelection, sitting presidents typically seek a second term. But that's not always the case. James K. Polk, who served as the nation's eleventh president, was the first to retire after one term. Though Polk did not necessarily set a trend, subsequent presidents James Buchanan, Rutherford B. Hayes, Calvin Coolidge, and Harry S. Truman also did not seek a second term. And while Teddy Roosevelt did not seek a term in 1908, he did in 1912.
- Many U.S. presidents came from humble beginnings. Millard Fillmore, who served as the thirteenth president between 1850 and 1853, was born into poverty in upstate New York. Fillmore became president upon the sudden death of President Zachary Taylor, who died suddenly on July 9. Perhaps his humble origins and unexpected ascendancy to the presidency is why Fillmore memorably refused an honorary degree from Oxford University.
- One of the more notably named U.S. presidents was not actually given his memorable moniker at birth. According to the National Constitution Center, President Ulysses S. Grant, who was the eighteenth individual to take the office of the president, was actually named Hiram Ulysses Grant. He only became Ulysses S. Grant, a name that clearly stuck, after Congressman Thomas Hamer mistakenly listed his name as "Ulysses S. Grant" upon nominating the young man to attend West Point.
- President John F. Kennedy, who served as the thirty-fifth U.S. president until his assassination in November 1963, was the first American president born in the twentieth century. It will likely be awhile before the first U.S. president born in the twenty-first century takes office, as the nation's current president, Joe Biden, was born just 25 years after JFK.

# April 8, 2024



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