# A feature publication of The Courier & REVIEW TIMES **Discover**<sup>2</sup> March 2023 flight. "It's

Flag City Honor flights back in full swing

By Angela LaRosa The Courier



As part of the National Honor **Flight** Network, Flag City Honor Flight provides local veterans

from Hancock County and the surrounding region with a flight to Washington, D.C., for a visit to the nation's war memorials.

The Findlay-based hub services not only Hancock County but all of Northwestern Ohio, in fact, as well as veterans in southeastern Michigan. During flight days, deputies from

Hancock, Wood and Lucas County Sheriff's offices and Legion Riders escort these veterans to the Toledo Express Airport.

Four flights are scheduled for 2023, on April 18, June 13, Sept. 12 and Nov. 7.

After a break in flights due to COVID, Flag City Honor Flight was excited to come back in 2022.

Last July, President Bob Weinberg announced a first-time third flight to be added in November. While the first two flights, in June and September, were standard flights, the November flight was an all Vietnam-era veteran

an honor to be considered for

this flight," one veteran attendee, Bill Johns, said.

The 100% volunteer-based nonprofit was founded in 2010. The organization relies on volunteers to plan, develop, orchestrate and implement each flight,



A U.S. military service member speaks with a WWII Veteran during a Flag City Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

Continued on Page 3



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Left - Honor Flight Nov. 2022 Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Chuck & Dee Dee Bills along with Veterans . Right - U.S. Rep. Bob Latta, R-Bowling Green, talks with Veterans who traveled with quardians and each other on a Flaq City Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

Continued from page 1

which is funded independently on donations from the community. Community members also volunteer to become "guardians" and accompany veterans on these trips to the nation's capital.

Each flight is costly for the organization, but charitable funds from sponsorships and donations from corporations, area businesses, schools, military groups, churches and individuals support the logistics and expenses. It costs nothing for the veterans on the flights.

In 2022, the Gilmore Jasion Mahler Wanderlust: A Stroll Through Paris fundraiser raised over \$200,000 for Flag City Honor Flight to continue the flights. The organization also received various amounts in donations from the Defiance VFW Post #3360, Toledo Emblem Club #500, and the Bluffton

American Legion Post 382, as well as other organizations, schools, events and fundraisers.

The Findlay-based company, Ohio Logistics, has been a long-time supporter of Flag City Honor Flight and sponsored the entire third flight. Company president Chuck Bills committed to paying it forward to others — he said he is passionate about the organization's work and showing appreciation toward veterans.

"We need to do all we can to make sure these veterans have a true welcome home," Bills said in July.

On board the final flight of 2022 was Findlay resident LeRoy Rupright, 81, and his granddaughter, Erika.

Rupright, who shared his experience from the Mission #21 flight with The Courier, said it was a sobering experience and a "truly emotional welcome back." While in D.C., the group visited war memorials, Arlington Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He loved being able to get to experience the welcome home with his granddaughter, especially recounting how their bus was able to run red lights with Bowling Green firetrucks spraying water at them.

Mayor Christina Muryn, who also went on the flight as a guardian, said it was wonderful.

Over 400 names are on a waiting list to be on a flight to Washington D.C., some waiting over six years. About 250 veterans were on board the three flights in 2022, an average of about 80 veterans per flight.

Lou Wilin contributed to this article.
Photos: Kevin Bean and some photos provided.

Below Left: Veterans and their guardians take in the sights during a recent Flag City Honor Flight trip to the nation's capital. Below Right: Kris Matre, guardian and the late Jim May, Veteran board plane for the 2014 Honor Flight trip.





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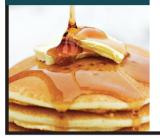
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MARCH

#### March 2



Fostoria Kiwanis Club Pancake Day 11 am - 7 pm St. Wendelin Church's Parish Life Center, Fostoria

Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes and raffles.

Tickets at the door Adults \$7; Golden Buckeye \$6; Children (age 5-11) \$3. Age 4 & under Free.

#### March 10



## Hope House Benefit Auction 6-9 pm Hancock Hotel, Findlay

Let Hope Grow benefit auction at Hancock Hotel. Enjoy live and silent auction, raffles, food and more!

Advance tickets are required.

#### March 11



Kiwanis Club of Findlay Pancake Day 7 am - 1 pm Findlay High School cafeteria, Findlay

All-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage, raffles and the return of the Kids Zone!

Tickets at the door Adults \$8, Children \$7.

#### March 17



## St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl 5-10 pm Carey

Dress in green and explore the pubs and stores. Must be 21 or older. Contact Carey Chamber for details. (419) 396 - 7856.

Tickets are \$30. Registration required.

#### March 18/19



#### **Wyandot County Gun Show**

Wyandot County Fairgrounds, Upper Sandusky

Gun show and raffle at the Wyandot County Fairgrounds, 10171 State Hwy 53N. Upper Sandusky. March 18: 9 am - 4 pm and March 19: 9 am - 3 pm.

Tickets at the door Adults \$5

#### March 24



#### Findlay Trojan Club Reverse Raffle 7 pm Hancock Hotel, Findlay

Annual fundraiser held this year at Hancock Hotel. Enjoy live and silent auctions, as well as many other games to win cash prizes.

Advance tickets are required.

#### March 26



#### Flag City Model Train Show 10 am - 3 pm Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation and Riverside Train, Findlay

Find model train displays, toy trains and railroad memorabilia at the Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation and Riverside Train, 12505 County Road 99, Findlay.

Admission \$5.00 (children under 12, Free with paying adult) Quarter scale train rides will be available for additional cost.

#### March 28



#### Celebrity Basketball Game 7 pm Findlay High School gymnasium, Findlay

Watch local celebrities and Special Olympics athletes team up to play a basketball game to celebrate National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, Findlay High School Gymnasium. 1200 Broad Ave., Findlay. Doors open at 6:30p.m. Event is Free and open to the public.

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 this edition was printed.

419Discover.com March 2023



36th Annual Armed Forces Day Celebration Hancock County Fairgrounds Findlay, Ohio\_\_\_\_\_

#### May 18-21, 2023

Saturday Opening Ceremonies • Historical Displays

Re-enactor Encampments and Battles
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Fri., 7am - 9pm

Sat., 7am - 9pm

Sun., 7am - 12pm

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Adults \$10 • Ages 6 - 17, \$5
6 And Under Free



#### **Budget-friendly ways to freshen up your home's exterior**

As any homeowner knows, renovation projects tend to cost a lot of money. Navigating such an expense at a time when inflation remains high might be difficult for some homeowners looking to maintain the appearance of their home exteriors. However, there are many budget-friendly ways homeowners can tend to the exterior of their properties.

- · Power washing: Power washing won't break the bank but it can revive the look of a home. It removes dirt and grime from the siding of a home and can be used to clean porches, walkways and patios as well. Power washing after winter can be a good idea, as the elements can take a toll on a home's exterior. A good power washing before spring and summer entertaining season can thus give a home a fresh, clean look.
- · Furnished front porch: A furnished front porch can serve as a welcome

sign to neighbors and provide a great place to relax. Some chairs with bright cushions, a small table and a rug underfoot can revamp an entryway at low cost.

- · Window box installation: Installing window box planters filled with brightly colored flowers adds an inviting pop of color to home exteriors. Remember to take weight into consideration before buying window planters. Keep in mind that soil and developed plants can be heavy, so look for a sturdy box as well as one that has drainage holes.
- · Replace hardware: Another simple way to freshen up a stale exterior is to replace hardware. Door knobs, knockers, house numbers, and even the mailbox can appear dated after a while. Replacing these items is inexpensive and quick but can have a profound impact on how the exterior of a home appears.



Exterior renovations need not break the bank. Various simple and inexpensive tweaks can quickly revitalize the exterior of a home.



### IN THE GALLERY March 7 thru 28

# Tom Emerine ART EXHIBIT

A special one-man exhibit of art by Tom Emerine, a multi-talented painter and ceramicist from Middle Point, OH



#### **OPENING RECEPTION**

Friday, March 10th 6:00-8:00 pm FREE! Open to the Public



#### MARCH CLASSES — Register at www.FindlayArtLeague.org

**Self Portrait in Charcoal-** Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm, March 1, 8, 15, 22; Tuition: \$50, all materials provided, all skill levels (14 and above) welcome. Instructor: Janealla Killebrew

**"Full Moon" Candle Pour Workshop-** Tuesday, 5:00-7:00 pm, March 7; Tuition: \$41, all materials provided for two candles, beginner skill level welcome. Instructor: Amber Kear

#### Want to Teach?

#### We are looking for new teachers!

Those with expertise in an area of the visual arts may apply to teach youth or adult classes. Applications are reviewed and approved based on:

- a. you are a licensed and/or degreed art educator or you have equivalent professional experience
- b. you can articulate clear and defined goals for the class
- c. you can evaluate whether your students have achieved those goals
- d. you have a plan to ensure that the students will achieve those goals

 $If interested, and for more info, contact Janealla Killebrew \ via email\ at education@FindlayArtLeague.org$ 

#### Celebrate with us!

Birthday Parties (Kids ages 6-14). Focus activities on a favorite artist or ceramics project. Traditional birthday party celebration included. Maximum 10 celebrants. Get more info. at contact@FindlayArtLeague.org Join the **Findlay Art League**, the only visual arts organization in the region (est. 1947) Network with other artists and become actively involved in our community. Class discounts. Leadership/volunteer opportunities. We encourage active participation for the common good and well being of our community. As a volunteer-driven organization, your action makes our existence possible. Memberships starting at \$40/yr. Visit findlayartleague.org to register.

#### 2023 Upcoming Exhibitions

April

**Animal Art** 

May

Annual Member May Show and ArtWalk

June

Pride Exhibit

July

Veteran's Art Exhibit

August

Fiber Show

September

**Pottery Show** 

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November

Annual Juried Fall Show

December

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#### 5 signs it's time to renovate

Homeowners renovate their homes for a variety of reasons. Renovations can increase the value of a property and make homes safer and more comfortable for their occupants. Improvements also can be made to stay current with the times or to give a home a new vibe.

Statista projects \$510 billion will be spent on home improvements in 2024. The home improvement market is generating significant revenue. In fact, nearly a quarter of Americans opting to renovate their homes will spend an average of \$10,000 on their projects.

Kitchens and bathrooms often get the most attention when it comes to home improvement. However, every room and space in a home may need a renovation at some point, and the following are five signs it's time to renovate.

**Age** The National Association of Home Builders states that 50 percent of U.S. homes are over the age of 40. That means that age alone could dictate a

need to renovate, particularly if some materials are original to the home. For example, asphalt roofs typically last 25 to 30 years, while window frames can last 20 to 50 years depending on how well they have been maintained.

Inconvenient layout Some homeowners scratch their heads when faced with awkward floor plan layouts. While one may live with the inconvenience for some time, typically a floor plan that isn't working for the homeowner is a major driver of renovations.

Outdated looks A home can look dated even if it is a relatively recent build. That's because trends change quickly. For example, dark, cherry cabinets that were popular just a little while ago have now been replaced by lighter color palettes. Honey oak cabinets and woodwork which were a staple in the '80s and '90s also being replaced. Homeowners whose homes do not match the looks

emulated in design magazines may consider a change, particularly if they're planning to sell soon.

**Deterioration** Signs of water, storm or structural damage should be addressed as soon as possible. Any deterioration should be a strong indicator that it's time to renovate.

Efficiency Escalating utility bills could be indicative of an inefficient home. Homeowners can conduct energy audits and then improve the areas where energy loss may be occurring, such as windows, doors, siding, and insulation.

Homeowners can renovate their homes when they see fit, but various signs may warn that it's time consider updating or remodeling a home. Don't wait until you are ready to put your home on the market for resale...allow time for your own family to enjoy the benefits of the updates.



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LITTLE CAESARS

# St. Patrick's Day Recipes

#### Potatoes are the star of this Irish dish

to pay homage to Ireland's Patrick's table if a person patron saint and celebrate Irish culture and cuisine.

and cabbage is ubiquitous on variation this holiday, that meal really pancake, isn't the most authentic Irish are no different. Boxty is

St. Patrick's Day is a time other foods to dress the St. wants to dabble in Irish cooking.

Even though corned beef Many cultures have on the potato and the Irish cuisine. There are plenty of a traditional Irish potato

pancake. Individuals who want to include boxty in their celebrations can try this recipe, courtesy of Chef Pádraic Óg Gallagher of Gallagher's Boxty House in Dublin.



#### **Irish Boxty**

Makes about 10

10 ½ oz. raw potatoes, peeled

10 ½ oz. cooked potatoes, mashed

10 ½ oz. flour

Grate the raw potatoes into a muslin cloth and squeeze as much liquid as possible into a bowl. Let liquid stand for 20 minutes. Gently pour off the liquid and keep the starch that settled in the bottom of the bowl.

3 1/2 cups milk

2 ½ tsp. salt

Add grated potatoes to mashed potatoes and flour. Add starch and salt to mix. Slowly add 3/4 of the milk to form a batter of pouring consistency. Depending on the potato, you may not need to use all the milk. If the batter is too heavy, add more milk. Leave batter resting for 30 minutes.

Drop a ladle full onto an oiled nonstick pan over medium heat and cook on the first side for 2 minutes (this depends on how heavy the batter is and how much you use). Check color (it should be a nice golden color) on the bottom. Adjust heat if necessary. Turn and cook on the other side for 2 to 3 minutes more.

A nontraditional way to enjoy corned beef and cabbage on St. Paddy's Day

#### **Crockpot Reuben Dip**

*Ingredients* 

1/4 cup Thousand Island dressing 8 oz. plain cream cheese, cubed

1 cup thinly sliced corned beef, chopped 1 cup Sour Cream

1 cup Swiss Cheese, grated 8 oz. Sauerkraut, drained

Serve with: Rye crackers, toasted rye party bread or veggies

Add all ingredients to crock pot and stir. Cover and cook on high 45 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes, until all the cheese has melted. Serve hot with your favorite bread, crackers or veggies.

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