

# LOCAL/STATE

## Public Record

### Docket

From the public records of the Findlay Police Department and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office:

### Police Department

The following incidents were reported Thursday:

12:25 a.m. - Someone was taken into custody following a traffic stop on West Trenton Avenue.

4:39 a.m. - A window on a car was smashed on West Front Street.

7:49 a.m. - Roommates were fighting on South Blanchard Street.

8:35 a.m. - A person was assaulted on South Blanchard Street.

1:11 p.m. - Fraud was reported on Flag City Drive.

2:43 p.m. - Someone received a harassing text on

Larkins Street.

3:25 p.m. - Theft was reported on South Blanchard Street.

4:34 p.m. - A car was keyed on Tiffin Avenue.

6:21 p.m. - Theft was reported on North Blanchard Street.

### Sheriff's Office

The following incidents were reported on Thursday:

12:02 p.m. - Fraud was reported on County Road 172.

2:22 p.m. - A catalytic converter was stolen on East Helmdan Street, Jenera.

The following incidents were reported Friday:

8:06 a.m. - A truck flipped in an accident on U.S. 224 and County Road 23, Alvada.

8:30 a.m. - A vehicle slid off the roadway on State Route 15 and County Road 8.

## FPD, Sheriff's Office hosting 'Coffee with a Cop'

Findlay Police Department and Hancock County Sheriff's Office will be available for "Coffee with a Cop" today from 9 to 11 a.m. at Coffee Amici, 330 S. Main St.

Local law enforcement officers will be on hand for conversation and questions.

The event features "no agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your community," a flyer reads.

## Owens campuses get more than \$100K in robotics grant

Owens Community College has been awarded more than \$100,000 from the Ohio Department of Higher Education to benefit students in the advanced manufacturing and robotics programs at the Toledo-area and Findlay-area campuses.

The grant, totaling \$101,012, will be used to purchase three portable video-conference systems, a process control learning system, and Fuji Automatic Numerical Control iRVision hardware and software, a release from the college states.

"The local industry will benefit from the state-of-the-art equipment provided by the Ohio Department of Higher Education grant,"

said Dr. Daniel Kelley, Owens Dean in the School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, in the release. "Equipment will support experiential learning and hands-on experience to best prepare students to meet the needs of Industry 4.0 and the highly-technical advanced manufacturing jobs available today and in the future."

Owens offers FANUC certification at the Dana Center for Advanced Manufacturing Training at the Toledo-area campus. Students in the Regional Advanced Manufacturing Partnership also learn robotics as part of their apprenticeship on the Findlay-area campus.

## Forest library accepts donations for annual auction

FOREST — The Forest-Jackson Public Library is accepting donations for the annual auction to benefit the library.

Items should be dropped off at the library before Thanksgiving. The auction begins Nov. 28 and runs until noon on Dec. 10. Bids will be accepted online. Watch the website: [www.forestlibrary.org](http://www.forestlibrary.org), and the Facebook page for a link to the bidding site.

## Thanksgiving service scheduled in Fostoria

FOSTORIA — First Presbyterian Church of Fostoria and Trinity United Brethren Church will host a community Thanksgiving service at 6 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church, 201 W. Fremont St.

The public is welcome to attend the service, which will be led by the Rev. Robert Butcher of First Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Mark Self of Trinity United Brethren

Church. The Trinity United Brethren Trio of Self, Terry Baker and Jean Baker will perform three songs, with Karis Matz accompanying on piano.

Julie Harden will accompany hymns and readings by playing the piano.

Freewill offerings will be accepted, with the funds being donated to Caring Hands Pregnancy and Parenting in Fostoria.

## Woodland walk planned at Quarry Farm

PANDORA — The Quarry Farm Nature Preserve and Conservation Farm will host a "Give Thanks Woodland Walk" at 10 a.m. Nov. 26.

Participants should wear comfortable shoes and meet at the Seitz Family Pavilion, located just north of 14321 Road 7L, Pandora. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

## Fort Findlay Playhouse presents 'White Christmas'

The Fort Findlay Playhouse will present a holiday delight, "White Christmas: The Musical," starting Dec. 1-4, 8-11 and again Dec. 15-18.

In the musical, veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis put together a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former Army commander.

With a dazzling score featuring well-known standards including "Blue Skies," "I Love A Piano," "How Deep Is the Ocean" and the perennial title song, "White Christmas" is an uplifting musical worthy of year-round productions.

Music and lyrics are by Irving Berlin, and the book is written by David Ives and Paul Blake. The director is Aeryn Williams, the producer is Vickie Garner. Zach Thomas is the musical director and Ashley Carey provided choreography.

Show times are 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 5 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$15 and are available online anytime starting Monday at [tickets.fortfindlayplayhouse.org](http://tickets.fortfindlayplayhouse.org); by phone at 567-525-3636 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and in-person Monday only at the playhouse.



KEVIN BEAN / The Courier

ACTORS IN FORT FINDLAY PLAYHOUSE'S upcoming production of "White Christmas: A Musical" pose for a photo. From left to right, in the top row is Jill Coppus and Samantha Henry; and in the bottom row is Seth Carey and Brent Sleasman.



AREA OUTREACH WORKERS and volunteers walk down Main Street Friday night.

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OHIO

## EPA orders power plant to stop dumping toxic coal ash

### Major action to address toxic wastewater

By MATTHEW DALY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In a major action to address toxic wastewater from coal-fired power plants, the Environmental Protection Agency on Friday ordered an Ohio utility to stop dumping dangerous coal ash into unlined storage ponds and speed cleanup of the site.

The order to the Gen. James Gavin Power Plant in southern Ohio marks the first time the EPA has formally denied a utility's request to continue disposing toxic coal ash after a deadline to stop such disposal has passed. The Gavin plant, located along the Ohio River in Cheshire, Ohio, is one of the largest coal-fired electricity plants in the U.S.

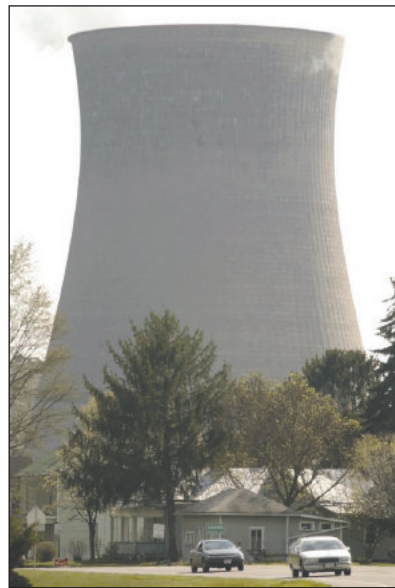
At least five other plants, most in the Midwest, face similar action by the EPA under a crackdown proposed in January.

"For too long, communities already disproportionately impacted by high levels of pollution have been burdened by improper coal ash disposal," EPA Administrator Michael Regan said Friday. "Today's action reaffirms that surface impoundments or landfills cannot be closed with coal ash in contact with groundwater."

The action is intended to ensure that local water resources are safe while protecting the public health and ensuring a reliable electricity supply, Regan said.

Coal ash, the substance that remains when coal is burned to generate electricity, contains a toxic mix of mercury, cadmium, arsenic and other heavy metals. It can pollute waterways, poison wildlife and cause respiratory illness among those living near massive ponds where the waste is stored.

The EPA order directs the power plant to stop placing coal ash and other



BILL GRAHAM / The Associated Press

A TOWER FOR the Gen. James Gavin power plant is seen in Cheshire, Ohio, on April 16, 2002.

waste streams into an on-site storage pond no later than 135 days after publication in the Federal Register, expected next week. As a practical matter, the plant may have to pause or even cease operations next year in order to comply with the order.

A spokesman for the plant's owner, Lightstone Generation LLC, could not be reached for comment. The company is a joint venture between private-equity firms ArcLight Capital Partners and Blackstone Group.

EPA said Friday that its decision recognizes the importance of maintaining grid reliability. The order establishes a process for Gavin to seek additional time, if needed, to address demonstrated grid reliability issues.

EPA said it is working with a regional grid operator to prevent unscheduled outages and protect reliability of the grid. Under rules established by the grid operator, PJM Interconnection, Gavin must request a planned outage at least 30 days in advance, EPA said.

The order finalized Friday follows through on a proposal issued in January

that implements a 2015 rule aimed at reducing groundwater pollution from coal-fired power plants. The Trump administration weakened the Obama-era rule in 2020, allowing utilities to use cheaper technologies and take longer to comply with guidelines that were less stringent than the initial rule.

The action on coal ash was among dozens of public health and environmental mandates that were weakened, rolled back or eliminated under former President Donald Trump.

U.S. coal plants produce about 100 million tons annually of ash and other waste.

The EPA has proposed denial of requests for extensions of coal ash permits by several other power plants, including the Clifty Creek power plant in Madison, Indiana and the Ottumwa Generating Station in Ottumwa, Iowa.

The H.L. Spurlock plant in Maysville, Kentucky, is required to fix groundwater monitoring as a condition for continued operation of its coal ash pond, the EPA said.

Lisa Evans, a senior attorney for the environmental group Earthjustice, called the Gavin plant "a super-polluter" and said EPA's action was overdue.

"In this case, the violations are very obvious and very severe," she said, adding that the plant's previous and current operators "have continued their reckless and illegal disposal of toxic ash and contaminated groundwater. Now they will be forced to clean it up."

A report issued this month by Earthjustice and the Environmental Protection Project said 91% of U.S. coal-fired plants have ash landfills or waste ponds that are leaking arsenic, lead, mercury and other metals into groundwater at dangerous levels, often threatening streams, rivers and drinking water aquifers.

Some power companies are illegally manipulating data and monitoring systems to avoid cleanup requirements and have proposed inadequate cleanup strategies that will not restore groundwater quality, the report said.