



**EDDIE'S GRILL**  
**DAIRY QUEEN**  
**PIZZA & ARCADE**  
 OPEN DAILY 11a.m.  
 FOR THE SEASON

# STAR BEACON



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN DENNIS | STAR BEACON

Maryella Polasko, 3, left, and her father Allan, center, of Rock Creek, get up close and personal with one of the many macroinvertebrates on display during the Ashtabula County Metroparks' Scenic Rivers celebration Sunday at Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark in Harpersfield Township. Matthew Smith, ODNR's northeast region scenic river manager, right, is seen giving a quick lesson on the critter's features.

## 'Faster than the Grim Reaper'

EMS, doctors clock 'incredible' time

BY JUSTIN DENNIS  
jdennis@starbeacon.com

JEFFERSON — The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District ambulance moved "faster than the Grim Reaper" through a March snowstorm. In its bay, 74-year-old Rollin Spellman's heart attack worsened.

The Andover man's emergency call put the district's new heart attack protocol to the test that day. Rather than stopping at UH Geneva for transfer to a Cleveland hospital — and risk traffic delays and massive cardiac damage — they were instead headed straight to University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center, which had gained special privilege to treat heart attack patients.

The UH doctors knew Spellman was coming, but they didn't know one of his arteries was entirely blocked until he arrived at the ER about 35 minutes later. Dr. Gregory Stefano catheterized the artery, inflated it with a balloon and placed a stent to keep it open — all within 11 minutes of Spellman's arrival.

That's remarkably fast, said Geoffrey Patty, UH Geauga's chest pain coordinator. The total time, just under 70 minutes from the onset of symptoms to the arterial stent, was "incredible," said one of the Jefferson paramedics, Jake Rice.

On a national scale, doctors expect to receive and treat a heart attack within 90 minutes, and 60 minutes is within the 50th percentile of cases

SEE FASTER, A6

# 'The fabric of Ashtabula County'

### Metroparks celebrates county's pristine, 'scenic' rivers

BY JUSTIN DENNIS  
jdennis@starbeacon.com

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP — The natural, pristine oeuvre of Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark was the "picturesque" backdrop for a Sunday afternoon celebration 50 years in the making.

The Ashtabula County Metroparks on Sunday invited county and regional leaders, partners and all nature lovers to commemorate Ohio's Scenic Rivers Act, established in

1968 to help the state Department of Natural Resources protect Ohio's "high quality" stream systems. It was the first program of its kind in the country.

Since its inception, 14 Ohio rivers spanning 800 miles have been dubbed "scenic." Three of those are in Ashtabula County: the Ashtabula and Grand rivers and Conneaut Creek — the latter two of which are also designated as more natural, "wild" rivers.

SEE ASHTABULA, A2



Dozens came Sunday to explore the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark's natural splendor, as the metroparks celebrated 50 years since the passage of Ohio's Scenic Rivers Act.

## Salmonella linked to pre-cut melon sickens 60 in Midwest

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Health officials say a salmonella outbreak linked to pre-cut melon has sickened 60 people in five Midwestern states.

The Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention says Caito Foods LLC on Friday recalled pre-cut watermelon, honeydew melon, cantaloupe and fruit medleys containing at least one of those melons that were produced at its

facility in Indianapolis. It says the five states where people were sickened are Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri and Ohio.

The CDC says the fruit was also distributed to stores in Georgia, Kentucky and North Carolina.

It was sold in clear plastic clamshell containers at Costco, Jay C, Kroger, Payless, Owen's, Sprouts, Trader Joe's, Walgreens, Walmart and Whole

Foods/Amazon. Officials say people should throw away or return recalled products.

The CDC says 31 of the people sickened have been hospitalized, but there have been no

deaths reported. Those sickened often develop diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after eating the contaminated food.

The illness often lasts 4 to 7 days.

**GOT A NEWS TIP?**  
**CALL US!**  
 440-994-3243

**PAGE A5**

**Records: Ohio should require anti-overdose prescription**

**PAGE B6**

**TASTEFOOD Father's Day ribs: The secret is in the rub**

**DEATHS**

**HIAM, Weston E. NEFF, Edgar E., Jr. SUROVIC, Denise L.**

For obituaries call (440) 998-0727

For home delivery call 994-3242

**OUTSIDE**

**Cloudy**  
 High 71 | Low 62

**A2**  
 Sunrise 5:48 a.m. Sunset 8:58 p.m.

**INSIDE**

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| AROUND HERE | B6     |
| CLASSIFIEDS | C7     |
| COMICS      | B4, B5 |
| HOROSCOPES  | B2     |
| OBITUARIES  | A5     |
| OPINION     | A4     |
| SPORTS      | B1     |

**HAVE**  
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING  
VENTILATION • ENGINEERING

Carrier  
turn to the experts

**440-998-7252**

HVAC EXPERTS SINCE 1975

**FREE SECOND OPINION**

NEED A FREE SECOND OPINION TO VERIFY THE REPAIR, RECOMMENDATION OR THE DIAGNOSIS OF YOUR COMFORT SYSTEM?

CALL FOR DETAILS! EXP. 7-15-18

Residential. Commercial. Industrial.

**NO COOL SERVICE CALL**

**\$49**

SAVE \$40

CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS EXP. 6-30-18

**CARRIER COOL CASH**

Up to **\$1650** rebate or 60 months equal payments on qualifying Carrier systems.

EXP. 6-30-18

**www.have-inc.com** 2101 Aetna Rd., Ashtabula, OH 44004



# FASTER: EMS, doctors clock 'incredible' time for heart attack victim

FROM PAGE ONE

Patty said. He called the decision to take Spellman to Geauga "progressive thinking" on the first responders' behalf.

Rice, who advocated for the new heart attack transport route that Spellman took, said though Ashtabula County Medical Center has a catheterization lab, Geauga's is interventional.

"For us to be able to go to a hospital with (coronary intervention), which is basic, a hospital that can do interventional cardiology around the clock — (Gauga is) right in our back yard. That's why the decision was made to take him there," he said. "Time is muscle and the less time this blockage is occurring, the better outcome this patient would have."

Earlier that day, Spellman had just wrapped a routine appointment with his physical therapist Andrew Brown



From left: Jefferson Rehabilitation and Wellness LLC therapist Andrew Brown, UH Geauga's chest pain coordinator Geoffrey Patty and Dr. Gregory Stefano, Rollin Spellman of Andover and Jefferson Emergency Rescue District paramedic Jake Rice.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

at Jefferson Rehabilitation and Wellness along South Chestnut Street in Jefferson when

the symptoms showed.

"He was pale and his face looked pasty," Brown said. "Rollin told

me he was feeling very uncomfortable."

Spellman's vitals showed a heart attack, though he wasn't

feeling any chest pain, he said. It took Rice and his driver, Antonio Ferraro, mere minutes to first meet Spellman.

They gave him an IV and an electrocardiogram to confirm irregularities in Spellman's heart.

"He was having an active heart attack and all the cards played out perfectly for him," Rice said. "(Brown) recognized that something wasn't right and gave him aspirin. ... I'm just grateful that everything worked in his favor. I'm just glad we provided the best care for him."

"It's just a great example of how advanced EMS has become as far as treatment in the field."

Spellman returned a month later to Stefano for three more stents, after other, lesser blockages were found, and for an angioplasty procedure.

"I heard Dr. Stefano played basketball in school," he's quoted in a release from the hospital.

"I'm glad to have him and God on my team."

**Need A Vacuum?**  
Come see our large selection.

Support Your Local Merchants

**ACE PARTS**  
"Since 1934"

355 Center St. Ashtabula  
**992-6301**  
Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30  
Saturday 8:30-3:30

**VETERANS BENEFITS FAIR**

Friday, June 15, 2018  
12-6pm  
1212 Lake Ave., Ashtabula

Dear Veteran:  
Please mark your calendar for this date and come see what is available to you. Don't miss out on this event! There will be refreshments, music and door prizes. Hope to see you!

**VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION**  
1212 LAKE AVENUE, ASHTABULA :: 440-964-8324



BY JUSTIN DENNIS | STAR BEACON

## 68th Annual CommUnity Blessing of the Fleet

Several Sea Scouts from Troop 9622 tossed a ceremonial wreath into the Ashtabula Harbor during the 68th Annual CommUnity Blessing of the Fleet Sunday afternoon. The yearly ritual didn't require holy water, as "God brought his own" in the form of a perpetual drizzle, mused Rev. Michael Meranda of Messiah Lutheran Church. Meranda also read the blessing for the water craft sailing in and around the harbor: "Bless these boats and all who will use them for pleasure or labor. Protect these craft from the dangers of wind and rain, and from the perils of the deep," it reads. "May Christ, who calmed the storm and filled the nets of his disciples, bring us all to the harbor of light and peace."

**FREEDOM TO HEAR Event**  
June 11-15, 2018

**AS OUR GUEST, YOU WILL RECEIVE...**

- FREE** Hearing Examination
- FREE** Cleaning & Evaluation of Current Devices (if you already wear hearing aids)
- FREE** Demonstration of New Technology

**Same-Day Fittings**  
**Hear better in less than 2 hours.**

**OUR GIFT TO YOU \$500 OFF**

By appointment only. No cash value. Not valid on other previous purchases. Some exclusions may apply. Expires June 15, 2018.

Do you have a news tip or an event you would like us to check out?

Contact us at [community@starbeacon.com](mailto:community@starbeacon.com)

**Providing quality healthcare in the comfort of your home since 1974.**

Most insurances accepted  
For more information, call: 440-994-7652 or 440-992-4663

**Ashtabula Regional Home Health**  
ACMC Healthcare System

An affiliate of **Cleveland Clinic**  
2131 Lake Ave. (Suite 2), Ashtabula

**Hotdogs. Hamburgers. Pool. Barefeet. Warm Weather.**

**IS YOUR AIR CONDITIONER WORKING THE WAY YOU WANT IT TO?**

CALL US TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

**Holly's Hearing Aid Center**  
ASHTABULA  
2845 N. Ridge Rd. East • 440-536-9177  
(next to AAA/Plaza East Shopping Center)  
[www.HollysHearing.com](http://www.HollysHearing.com)

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!  
ALL INSURANCES ACCEPTED!

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ JOIN US ON facebook

**J&S HEATING & COOLING**  
Rock Creek (440) 563-3985 OH LIC. #12168  
Prompt Professional Service Since 1976