



**Cross country**  
**SPORTS • 1C**



**Legal Ease column**  
**BUSINESS • 1D**  
**Photo contest winners**  
**LIFESTYLE • 1E**

**TODAY**



A shower in spots

78°/58°

**MON**



Mostly sunny

79°/56°

**TUE**



A p.m. t-storm

82°/59°

**BUCKEYES: OHIO STATE GRADE CARD • 6C**

# The Lima News

Issue 248, Volume 137

Breaking news at [limaohio.com](http://limaohio.com)

Sunday, September 5, 2021 • \$2.50

## Energy company: Hurricane Ida's impact 'staggering'

Restoration of electricity could take weeks

By **Matt Sedensky** and **Chevel Johnson**  
The Associated Press

HOUMA, La. — Full restoration of electricity to some of the hardest-hit areas of Louisiana battered to an unprecedented degree by Hurricane Ida could take until the end of the month, the head of Entergy Louisiana warned Saturday.

Ida damaged or destroyed more than 22,000 power poles, more than hurricanes Katrina, Zeta and Delta combined, an impact Entergy President and CEO Phillip May called "staggering." More than 5,200 transformers failed and nearly 26,000 spans of wire — the stretch of transmission wires between poles — were down.

"The level of devastation makes it quite difficult or near impossible to get in and fully assess some places," said May of five southeastern Louisiana parishes facing the longest delays. The company is estimating full power restoration by Sept. 29 or even longer for some customers, although May said that was a "no later than" date with the hope of earlier restoration.

One of those parishes is Terrebonne, where volunteers in the parish seat of Houma handed out ice, water and meals to shell-shocked storm survivors on Saturday. Houma is roughly 55 miles southwest of New Orleans.

Among those in need was 26-year-old Kendall Duthu of Dulac, who collected a container of red beans and rice, pulling over an Infiniti with a shattered windshield to eat.

Duthu has been living in his car, with his girlfriend, since the storm hit. He was once a cook at a jambalaya restaurant, but the pandemic claimed

See IMPACT | 2A



AP Photo/John Locher  
A man looks at a partially collapsed building Saturday in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in Houma, La. Full restoration of electricity to some of the hardest-hit areas of Louisiana battered by Hurricane Ida could take until the end of the month, the head of Entergy Louisiana warned Saturday.

## Generations share views



Chao Soi Cheong | AP file

Smoke billows from one of the towers of the World Trade Center and flames as debris explodes from the second tower in New York on Sept. 11, 2001. Nearly 3,000 people were killed when Islamist extremists with al Qaeda hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.

### Older Americans lived the attacks, and the war, while young look back

**9/11**  
**20 YEARS LATER**

**ONLY ON LIMA OHIO.COM**  
Read more about the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks at [LimaOhio.com/tag/911](http://LimaOhio.com/tag/911).

By **Mackenzi Klemann** | [mcklemann@limanews.com](mailto:mcklemann@limanews.com)

ADA  
The horrors of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center permeated Carson Babbitt's childhood like a haze: The day become something of a taboo subject among his father and the survivors who populated Babbitt's home state of New Jersey.

Nobody wanted to relive that day, said Babbitt, who at 19 years old has no memories of his own to draw from.

Babbitt's father was so

close to the attack that his entire office building shook and was later demolished, Babbitt said. But even his father was reluctant to talk about the experience until more recently.

The legacy was so close and yet distant for Babbitt, now a sophomore at Ohio Northern University, who is part of a generation of Americans born and raised in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed when Islamist

extremists with al Qaeda hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania. It was the largest terrorist attack on U.S. soil, which provoked the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, the longest war in the nation's history.

The war has killed at least 47,000 Afghan civilians and 6,200 American service members and contractors through April, according to the Associated Press.

John Wysocki enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 2000, unwittingly registering to partake in a global War on Terror that would consume the next decade of his life.

Wysocki, 48, saw from his first deployment to Afghanistan that the democratic project was bound to fail. What worried him most was the possibility that he would die "for no particular reason" in a war that had come to feel

See VIEWS | 2A

## Where in west central Ohio are vaccinations lowest?

Few counties have reached 40%

By **Mackenzi Klemann**  
[mcklemann@limanews.com](mailto:mcklemann@limanews.com)

CELINA — Some of the lowest coronavirus vaccination rates are concentrated in west central Ohio, where interest in vaccines remains low despite ongoing public health campaigns to reach holdouts.

Only 34% of Mercer County residents have started their vaccines as of Friday, Ohio Department of Health data show.

In Hardin County, 33.75% of residents are partially or fully vaccinated, while Auglaize County has

seen 35% of its population receive at least one dose of vaccine.

Vaccine coverage in Allen and Van Wert counties isn't much better, each claiming 35% of residents fully vaccinated as of Friday.

"There are still a lot of people who have made up their mind that they're not going to get vaccinated," said Jason Menchhofer, an administrator with the Mercer County Health District.

Mercer County saw 642 vaccines started in August, an improvement over previous months, and many seniors have already been inoculated. But that still leaves many people potentially vulnerable should

they encounter the virus, assuming there is no overlap between the county's 5,200 confirmed infections and the 14,000 who chose vaccines.

### Natural immunity versus vaccine-induced immunity

People who have recovered from a coronavirus infection are afforded some level of natural immunity that could protect them from developing serious illness amid the delta surge. But there is some inconsistency with natural immunity, Menchhofer said.

"I don't take it for granted that natural immunity is going to be the same as vaccine-induced immunity, where people are injected

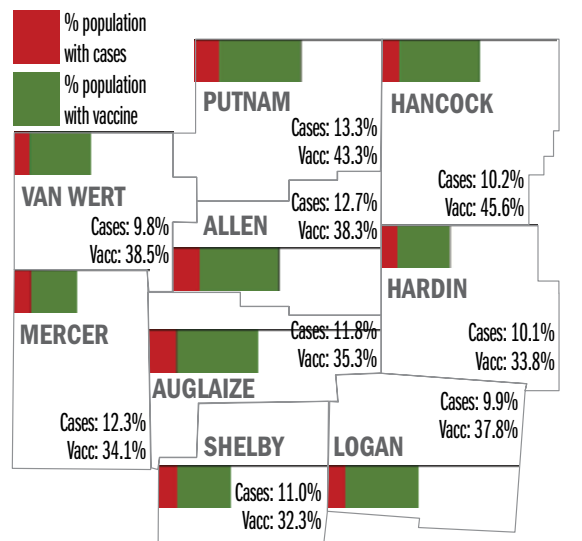
with a specific dose of something that's going to stimulate an immune response," he said.

If immunization rates don't change, Menchhofer said he hopes future variants at least don't cause serious illness in younger folks, who are the least likely to be vaccinated.

When a person is infected with coronavirus, their body produces antibodies that act as the "first line of defense" should the person be exposed to the virus again, said Steven Martin, dean and professor of the Raabe College of Pharmacy at Ohio Northern University.

See VACCINATION | 2A

### COVID-19 cases and vaccinations in region



Source: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

David Trinko • The Lima News

**OHIO LOTTERY**  
**DAILY (Saturday)**  
Pick 3: 6-2-1 day, 1-7-8 night  
Pick 4: 8-1-6-1 day, 4-7-2 night  
Pick 5: 4-8-7-5-8 day, 4-9-5-2-6 night  
Rolling Cash 5: 10-19-32-35-36

**CLASSIC (Saturday):** 13-15-17-32-40-45  
KICKER: 105515  
Jackpot: \$13.2 million  
**POWERBALL (Wednesday):** 10-20-29-48-51  
Powerball: 17

Power Play: 2  
Jackpot: \$367 million  
**MEGA MILLIONS (Friday):** 7-10-12-61-65  
Mega Ball: 3  
Megaplier: 2  
Jackpot: \$345 million

**A NEWS**  
**B REGION & OHIO**  
Region News: 1B  
Obituaries: 2B  
Weather: 6B  
**C SPORTS**

**D BUSINESS**  
Business: 1D  
Opinion: 3D  
**E LIFESTYLE**  
Books: 2E  
Parenting: 3E

Trends & Shopping: 6E  
**F REAL ESTATE / CLASSIFIEDS**  
**Z COMICS**

© 2021 AIM Media Midwest  
Published at Lima, Ohio

36 pages  
7 sections  
**AIM MEDIA MIDWEST**



6 31592 77777 5