

Relay for Life goes strong despite weather

By Allison Roorda
Community Post

MINSTER – Despite heavy rains and thunderstorms, the 2010 Southwestern Auglaize County Relay For Life drew in huge success over a wet and humid weekend.

The event started off with a survivors' luncheon, held at Minster Middle School. The commons was decorated with balloons and confetti in keeping with the year's theme of "Celebrating Birthdays."

"We are celebrating survivorship," said Michelle Heckman, survivor chairman for the Relay For Life. "We're celebrating the hope that you bring us that we can beat this disease."

Survivors saw a taping of an interview with Ron Schulze of Fort Loramie, who survived a bout with prostate cancer.

"I learned that you can't take life for granted," said Schulze. "A lot of things can be thrown at you, and this is one of them."



Photo by Allison Roorda

Participants in the Relay for Life of Southwestern Auglaize County walk during the survivor's lap on Friday. Rain interrupted the walking Friday night, forcing the luminaria service to be held inside.

Heckman has been a part of the Relay For Life for eight years. For the past

six years, she has worked with cancer survivors as the survivor chairman.

"Survivors are the reason we relay," Heckman said. "It gives us hope for

that cure." Others at the luncheon

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This week in the Community Post



Lockkeeper's House to host grand opening. See story and pictures pages 8A-9A.



Foreign agriculture delegation visits area. For more agriculture related news see pages 11A-14A.



Lake businesses ready for summer. For "Around the Lake" see the special tab section.



Buckeye Boys State participants

Minster American Legion Post 387 is proud to announce six young men from Minster High School's junior class attended the 2010 Buckeye Boys State Program the week of June 12 at Bowling Green State University. Post 387, Buschur Electric, Inc., Bernhold Insurance Agency, The Minster Machine Co., and The Dannon Co., co-sponsored the boys.

Pictured from left to right: Jared Sekas, son of Timothy and Diane; Ryan Bernhold, son of Mark and Susan; Ian Huber, son of Dick and Elaine; Graham Goebel, son of Ed and Lisa; and Jack Olding, son of Kurt and Jacqueline. Non pictured, Oliver Barga, son of Alan and Polly. Barga is sponsored by the New Bremen Post 241.

Relay for Life earns more than last year

By Katie Yantis
Staff Writer

MINSTER — Local residents, friends and family gathered in Minster to help support the efforts to find a cure for cancer.

The annual Southwestern Auglaize County Relay for Life kicked off Saturday with more teams than last year and more events for participants to enjoy. Relay coordinator Matt Dwenger said the fundraising efforts also went well this year.

"Right now it looks like we actually already met last year's total and that is before all the teams have turned in all of their money and all the money from other events throughout the weekend," Dwenger said.

While the sun was shining Saturday afternoon, Dwenger said the weather is one of the major influences on the success of the weekend.

"There are some people who are not staying as long because of the heat, but we have a lot more things going on this year than last year and the activity level will hopefully increase later," Dwenger said.

Dwenger said despite the heat level, he was pleased with the support the event received Saturday. New Bremen resident and team member of "Tina's Trotters," Stephanie Dicke said she was glad she was able to

See FUNDRAISER, Page 2A

Lake Loramie State Park hosts Family Fun Fling

By Jessica Honigford
Community Post

FORT LORAMIE – Nearly 60 campers participated in Lake Loramie's annual Family Fun Fling sportsmanship contest.

According to Stephanie Moorman, Lake Loramie special event coordinator the contest consisted of tug of war, basketball, a scavenger hunt, volleyball, family bingo, and hat stacking. Tether ball was added as a new sport this year.

"We had a great turn out with over 60 participating," Moorman said. "The kids had lots of fun."

The winner of this year's contest was the Annette Bollheimer family. Each winner received a metal ribbon and a prize.

The event also featured ac-

tivities for the kids such as face painting

Lake Loramie State Park hosts many family-oriented events throughout the summer including camp-out weekends and Christmas in July on July 23-25.

The state park will also host the boat parade on July 18 with the theme "Rock and Roll 50s," the youth catfish derby on Sept. 4 and the Halloween Campout on Oct. 8-10.

For more information on Lake Loramie State Park events visit the park office at 4401 Ft. Loramie Swanders Road, Minster or call 937-295-2011. Information is also listed on the state park's website through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.



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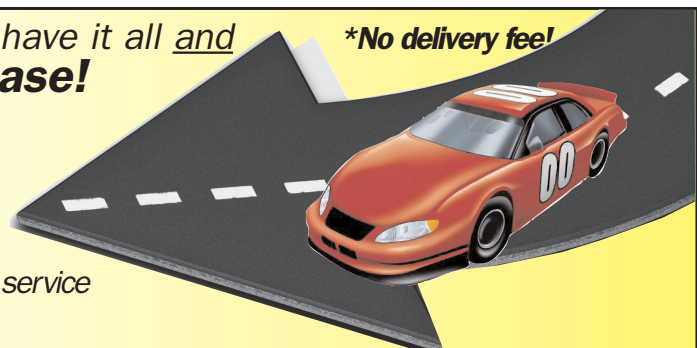
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Relay

From Page 1A

found opportunity to participate in the Relay For Life's efforts.

"I think it's a good cause," said Luanne Kuck. "These people here do all this work, and I think we should support them."

Kuck has been involved in the Relay For Life for the past 11 years, since its first year in Wapakoneta. On the 10th anniversary of her remission, Kuck and her team for Relay For Life raised \$5,000.

Kendra Deubler and her team, Deubler's Dom-

inators, walked the relay in memory of her husband, Rob Deubler, who died January 2010 of skin cancer.

"We have friends, family, coworkers, football players," said Kendra Deubler.

Rob was a teacher and a coach at both Spencerville High School and St. Marys Memorial High School. When asked why she decided to participate in Relay For Life, Kendra answered, "I promised him I would continue to

try to find a cure."

Deubler's Dominators had a total of around 100 people participating in the Relay For Life, including the St. Marys Roughrider football team who came out to walk for their coach.

"I couldn't have gone through this without the support," Kendra said of the people around her. "These are people who helped out when he was sick, helped drive him to Michigan and back and were just there for us."



The Relay for Life luminaria service was moved inside the Minster Middle School gym due to the weather Friday night.

Photo by Allison Roorda

Auglaize County Mooney Museum to host Galen Cisco exhibit

The Auglaize County Historical Society's Daniel J. Mooney Museum, 223 S. Main St., St. Marys, will host an exhibit about local professional baseball player and coach Galen Cisco during the month of June. The special exhibit will include such items as team pictures, signed baseballs, gloves, uniforms, his World Series and All Star rings, bats and his Baseball Hall of Fame plaque, as well as his '57 football championship ring.

The museum, one of four properties owned by the Auglaize County Historical Society, will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on June 20 and June 27 for those who would like to visit Cisco's display as well as the rest of the museum, which focuses on St. Marys and Auglaize County history.

Galen Cisco was born three

and a half miles north of St. Marys, the third child of Veryl and Esther Cisco. He attended Noble Township School and Memorial High School, graduating in 1954.

"Tom Vincent was my first coach (at Memorial High School)," said Cisco of his early baseball years.

Cisco said he did not begin playing organized baseball until he was a junior in high school because there was no organized Little League or other sports programs for youth at that time.

He headed to Ohio State University to obtain a degree in physical education and played there on the football and the baseball teams of 1955, 1956 and 1957, playing football for OSU's Woody Hayes and baseball for Marty Karow.

"We played in the Rose Bowl

1957 against Oregon" explained Cisco. "The score was 10 to 7. We were then National Champions."

After graduation, Cisco was the freshman backfield coach for Coach Hayes during the fall quarters for the next four years. Also in 1958 Cisco started his pro baseball career with the Boston Red Sox. During his 130-year playing career, Cisco played 6 1/2 years in the minors and 6 1/2 years in the majors for the Red Sox, the Mets, and for Kansas City.

"I began coaching in 1970 at Kansas City," he explained. "I was pitching coach for 30 years at the major league level."

Cisco coached for Bob Lemon, Jack McKeon and Whitey Herzog at Kansas City; Dick Williams at Montreal and San Diego; Cito Gaston at Toronto, including two World Series; and Terry Francona at Philadel-

phia.

When Galen was a player some of the pitching coaches were Mel Harder, Sal Magley, Warren Spahn and Bob Lemon.

Stengal, Williams and Lemon are already in the Baseball Hall of Fame and Herzog will be inducted this summer.

"I learned a lot from each pitching coach and manager that I worked for," said Cisco. "I learned the finer points of the game."

When he retired in 2000, Cisco spent two years scouting for Toronto before he finally hung up his baseball hat.

"I was lucky in my career," he said. "Until last year, I had the longest time as a pitching coach in the major league."

The Cardinals' Dave Duncan broke his record last year. Duncan's career was mostly under

one manager. Cisco served under several.

"You take a little bit from every one along the way," he said. "I tried to take each pitcher and try to get the most out of his ability. Never try to copy another pitcher's delivery."

Cisco is taking a trip down memory lane as he prepares the exhibit and invites anyone interested in baseball to come and take a look.

"I have quite a few pictures of teams that I can share," he added. He will display those along with other items of interest from his 45-year career.

Founded in 1963, the Auglaize County Historical Society collects, preserves, interprets, and shares the history of Auglaize County and its people through exhibits, programs, and publications.

Fundraiser

From Page 1A

show her support in a tangible way.

"Tina was diagnosed with breast cancer and we are trying to help find a cure," Dicke said of being at the relay. "A lot of times you feel helpless, but this is our way of helping — it's family and friends uniting for a cure."

Tina Dicke, of New Bremen, said she was diagnosed with breast cancer Aug. 31, 2009, and said the support she has received has been helpful along her battle.

She said the initial shock of receiving the news surprised her but said she felt better along the way.

"After I went to James Cancer Center, I felt much better, knowing I had good doctors and good support," Dicke said.

St. Marys resident Kendra Deubler was also at the Relay for Life in memory of her husband, Rob Deubler. She said the support she has received has also been helpful.

"Unbelievable, I

couldn't have gotten through the last 18 months without them," Deubler said.

She said co-workers, fraternity brothers, family and friends all joined together for the relay over the weekend as part of the "Deubler's Dominators." The team raised more than \$3,000 for their first time in the relay.

"Their support is unbelievable," Deubler said. "It means a lot to know that many people cared about him. If love could have saved him, he would have lived forever. There have been so many stories I have heard that show how much of an impact he had on people that I would have never heard before."

One of the team members, Missy Little, said she was just glad to show support to the Deublers.

"To support Rob Deubler," Little said. "It's a great effort and it's great that everyone is here doing it, I think it's great."

Fellow teammate Lisa



Angstmann said she also thought the support at the relay was good for all those honoring family and friends who have lost their battle with cancer and honoring those who are survivors.

"To support Kendra and the family, I think it's awesome for everyone to come together and support each other," Angstmann said.

New Bremen resident Dana Bergman said she was at the relay for her friend Shelli Westerheide who is battling breast cancer right now.

"This is our first year

and it's for our friend who was diagnosed with breast cancer a year ago," Bergman said.

The group "Team Shell" consisted of natives of New Bremen who traveled from Colorado, Georgia and Indiana to be part of the weekend.

"I think it's good because we are here for her mother and it will be interesting tonight when the rest of her team show up," Colorado resident Karen Gurs said.

The relay raised more than \$30,000 and still had funds coming in to contribute to the total.

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Obituaries

Robert E. Fleck

Robert E. Fleck, age 78, of formerly of Chickasaw, died on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at Briarwood Village in Coldwater.



He was born June 23, 1931 in St. Sebastian to George and Salome (Rose) Fleck. On May 30, 1953 he married Esther M. (Severt) Fleck in Coldwater, and she died April 28, 1993.

Robert is survived by a son Dale (Linda) Fleck of New Bremen, two daughters, Pam (Nick) Evers of Chickasaw and Julie (Tom) Kremer of Chickasaw, a daughter-in-law Patricia Fleck of Chickasaw, 15 grandchildren: Amy (Adam) Wilson, Brent, Michelle and Robbie Fleck, Andrea, Amanda, Amber and Abigail Fleck, Ryan (Sarah) Evers, Jenna (Ryan) Olberding and Matthew Evers, Brad (Tessa) Kremer, Karla (Josh) Unrast, Jason and Kim Kremer; and 10 great grandchildren: Landyn Wilson, Larissa, Jordan, Leanne Evers, Ryan James (RJ) and Hunter Olberding, Reagan and Grant Kremer and Avae and Jace Unrast. He also leaves behind two sisters Jean Wynk of St. Sebastian and Shirley (Elmer) Quinter of Wisconsin, and sisters-in-law: Marjorie Fleck of St. Sebastian, Mildred Griesdorn of Coldwater, Mary Ann Severt of Coldwater and Josie Severt of Rockford. He is preceded in death by sons Michael Fleck and Douglas Fleck, a daughter Cindy Fleck, a grandson Aaron Fleck, three brothers: Earl Fleck, John Fleck and Lester Fleck; a sister Janice Rindler, sisters-in-law: Lillian Fleck, Mary Ann Seitz, Esther Severt and Anna Severt; brothers-in-law: Elmer Wynk, Tom Rindler, Wilfred Severt, Victor Severt, Ralph Severt, Alvin Severt, Arthur Severt, Ed Severt, Daniel Seitz and Ralph Griesdorn.

He was a member of Celina Moose, Chickasaw V.F.W., New Bremen American Legion and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was a farmer and worked for Chickasaw Landmark.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Precious Blood Catholic Church in Chickasaw, with Rev. Gene Schnipke officiating. Burial followed in Precious Blood Cemetery in Chickasaw. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Coldwater handled the arrangements.

Elmer J. Klosterman

Elmer J. Klosterman, age 93, of Vero Beach, Fla., died on Sunday, June 6, 2010 in Vero Beach, Fla.

He was born Feb. 19, 1917 in Montezuma to the late Frank and Adelaide (Borgert) Klosterman. On Aug. 30, 1940 he married Irene R. (Backs) Klosterman in Montezuma, and she survives in Vero Beach, Fla.

He is survived by two daughters, Nancy (Thomas) Norman of Vero Beach, Fla., and Donna (Kevin) Eisenman of Stratford, Conn., as well as seven grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. He also leaves behind a brother Lester (Leatrice) Klosterman of Greenville, a sister Eileen Herman of St. Marys and a brother-in-law Dr. George Lucas of Oglesby, Ill. He is preceded in death by a brother Eugene Klosterman and a sister Rita Lucas.

He was a member of St. Bernard Catholic Church in Burkettsville where he was a eucharistic minister. He graduated from the University of Dayton, he attended Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI and he owned and operated Burkettsville Grain for many years.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., on July 9, 2010 at St. Bernard Church. Burial will follow in St. Bernard Cemetery in Burkettsville. Friends may call at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home in St. Henry on Thursday, July 8, 2010, from 4 to 8 p.m. Memorial may be directed to VNA Hospice, 1110 35th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 3296. Information is on the web at hogenkampfh.com.

Mildred J. Selhorst

Mildred J. Selhorst, age 86, of Coldwater, died on Sunday, June 13, 2010 at Briarwood Village in Coldwater.

She was born Oct. 30, 1923 in Burkettsville, to the late Richard and Mathilda (Will) Wolters. On April 21, 1945 she married Jerome A. Selhorst in Holy Trinity Coldwater, and he died Oct. 19, 1996.

She is survived by three children: Charles (Lois) Selhorst of Coldwater, Norman (Dolores) Selhorst of Celina and Mary Lou Selhorst of Coldwater; as well as 11 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and two step great grandchildren. She also leaves behind a sister Dolores (Ludwig) Wuebker of St. Henry, and a brother Lavern Wolters of Coldwater. She is preceded in death by a great grandchild, a sister Lucille Link, a brother-in-law Rudy Link and two sisters-in-law Alfrieda Wolters and Mary Link.

She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, St. Ann's Rosary altar sodality of the church, American Legion #470 Auxiliary and the former Respiratory Association in Coldwater.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Coldwater, with Rev. Richard Walling officiating. Burial followed in St. Elizabeth Cemetery in Coldwater. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Coldwater handled the arrangements. Memorial may be directed to Kidney Service of Western Ohio. Information is available on the web at hogenkampfh.com.

Scott J. Albers

Scott J. Albers, age 36 of New Bremen, died Tuesday, June 8, 2010 following a traffic accident.



He was born March 18, 1974 to Frank and Trish (Gast) Albers in Alamogordo, N.M. His parents survive in St. Henry. He married Wendy Loschen on Oct. 19, 1995 in Fort Carson, Col. She survives in New Bremen.

He is also survived by his children, Christopher and Cassandra at home, and brothers and sisters:

Doug (Amy) Albers of St. Henry, Leslie (Jim) Heitbrink of St. Henry, Lauren (Greg) Romer of Coldwater and Jenni Albers (and fiancé Robert Brunswick) of St. Henry. He also leaves behind grandparents Angela Albers of Ft. Loramie and Mark and Joan (Gast) Wenning of St. Henry, in-laws: Ken (Juanita) Loschen of Champaign, Ill., Mikki Loschen of Knoxville, Tenn., brother-in-law Rae (Diane) Loschen of Colorado Springs, Colo., step brother-in-law Bobby (Shawndela) Roedel of Urbana, Ill., and Jay (Tracy) Loschen of Tolono, Ill. He was preceded in death by grandfathers Bernard Albers and Robert Gast.

He was a member of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church of New Bremen, Boy Scout Troop 95, New Bremen, a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was employed at World Class Plastics of Russells Point.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church of New Bremen with Rev. Tom Mannebach officiating. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Minster handled the arrangements. Burial was at German Protestant Cemetery in New Bremen. Full Military Honors were held at the cemetery. Memorial donations will be made to the New Bremen Boy Scouts or the wishes of the family. Online condolences may be made at www.hogenkampfh.com.

Carol A. Berning

Carol A. (Vogelsang) Berning, age 73, of Ft. Loramie, died at her residence Wednesday, June 9, 2010, of natural causes after being seriously ill for six months.



She was born on Dec. 21, 1936, at Fort Loramie to the late Ralph and Irene (Walkup) Vogelsang.

On Sept. 26, 1959, at St. Michael Church in Fort Loramie, Carol married James R. Berning who survives along with four sons and their spouses: John

(Karen) Berning of Fort Loramie, Tom (Elizabeth) Berning of Fenton, Mo., Phil (Diane) Berning of Fort Loramie and Matt (Leah) Berning of Cincinnati; as well as 10 grandchildren: Megan, Kevin, Ryan, Ashley, Sam, Kellen, Evan, Nolan, Aiden, and Amelie Berning. She also leaves behind siblings: Treva Westerheide of Minster and Dick (Mary Jane) Gusching of Fort Loramie; step father-in-law Harry Ingram of St. Marys; sisters and brothers-in-law: Lois (Don) Dicke of New Bremen, Norma (Jerry) Lunney of Delaware, Arlene (Ron) Hittelpe of New Bremen, Barb (Kermit) Freewalt of Minster, Jo (Ray) Meckstroh

of Anchorage, Ark., and Stan Vogelsang of Prescott, Ariz. She was preceded in death by one brother Bob Vogelsang, mother-in-law Dorothy Ingram and father-in-law Herbert Berning.

She attended St. Michael Catholic Church and was a member of the St. Ann's Ladies Sodality. She had also been a past member of the National Child Birth Association. Carol graduated with the Fort Loramie High School class of 1954. She then continued her studies at the Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Dayton. Carol had been a registered nurse and was retired from the Wilson Memorial Hospital. She primarily worked in OB and had also been a lamaze instructor. Carol enjoyed cooking, baking, walking and entertaining her grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, June 14, 2010, at St. Michael Church in Fort Loramie with Rev. Steven Shoup officiating. Burial followed at St. Michael Cemetery. Gehert Funeral Home in Fort Loramie handled the arrangements. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital or charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be expressed at www.gehertfuneralhome.com.

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MINSTER

"Family Caring for Family"

Opinion

This week in Minster's history

By Bob Lammers
Minster Historical Society

This column is gleaned from the archives of the Minster (Community) Post. A special thanks goes to Larry Prenger who translates the German language newspaper for the 100 Years Ago section.

100 years ago

To the Newlyweds— This store will be a Mecca to which all wise people who are thinking of setting up housekeeping will flock. DANIAL RITTER, FURNITURE STORE Undertaker Embalmer Phone No. 73

Lost: Gold cuff button between Luckman's shoe store and Zweibruecken St. Finder will please leave same at this office.

On Tuesday of next week, Prof. F. J. Boerger will celebrate his 25 year jubilee as organist and teacher.

B. Bornhorst has built a new veranda on his house and laid a cement sidewalk to it.

75 years ago

A gasoline truck caught fire at the Cities Service filling station on Wednesday afternoon and the blaze and smoke combined to make a rather frightful scene... The

Reflections

BY BOB LAMMERS



driver gave a heroic performance when he got into the cab and drove the truck away from the station thus preventing the fire from communicating to the building.

At the Crescent Theatre Shirley Temple and Lionel Barrymore are starring in "The Little Colonel."

The New Custer "C" Cycle was advertised by Filburn's Island as providing a new water sport that can be enjoyed by old and young alike. It will never upset. It is equipped with Airplane Design Pontoons and can be ridden without danger of being splashed by water or having clothes otherwise soiled.

50 years ago

Two Minster young men—Larry Joseph Wyen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Wyen, and John Wolf, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wolf—were graduated recently from the Brunnerdale Preparatory Seminary of the Soci-

ety of the Precious Blood near Canton.

James Winner received the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine Friday, June 10 at the Ohio State University. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Winner of Yorkshire.

Mrs. Thomas Kuehner underwent major surgery Tuesday morning at Joint Township Memorial Hospital in St. Marys. Her post operative condition is reported as satisfactory.

Current news:

We are in the process of laying out the historical society's cookbook for publication later this year. Stop by or call us to reserve your copy. And, when you do stop by, take the time to enjoy our current exhibit on the 1950s and the Korean War. You'll be glad you did. We are closed this Sunday for Fathers Day but will be open Tuesday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Ask the Professional

Wet & Wilted

Recent, regular, heavy rain has saturated soils in many areas locally. You may notice that some plants, particularly newly planted trees and shrubs look wilted in spite of ample rain. In this case, the rain has been too much of a good thing.

Plants use oxygen during the process of respiration when energy is used to do work within the plant. And, just like the rest of the plant, the roots need oxygen as well. Water saturated soil contains little to no usable oxygen. Without the needed oxygen, the roots cannot function. They fail to pick up water and the

upper portion of the plant responds by wilting.

The roots may recover from short term flooding but a long term wilt may signal a loss of viable roots. The plants may show signs of leaf scorch later in the season or the entire plant may fail in the summer heat. Root damage may invite pathogens to invade the plant that otherwise wouldn't be a problem.



STEVE STONE

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Don't forget the life jackets

Small boats are sure to become even more popular as gasoline prices hit an all-time high, because of their affordability and ease of use. Many owners of small crafts have a false sense of security, believing there is little trouble they can get into because of the simplicity of their boat. However, the U.S. Coast Guard reports that of the 474 drowning deaths in 2006, 42 percent involved boats smaller than 16 feet in length.

The U.S. Foundation for Boating Safety has these tips to encourage boaters and anglers to be more proactive in their use of life jackets:

- Stow life jackets so they are easily accessible
- Make sure children are properly fitted and know how to put on their life jacket
- Maintain life jackets in good condition

Many boaters have argued they would wear life jackets if they were more comfortable. New comfortable

vest designs have become available and affordable. These life vests afford complete freedom of movement. You can even get a life preserver that is a fanny pack style. Some of these flotation devices will inflate automatically

when they hit the water while others require a cord to be pulled manually. Neither of these styles restrict an individual's ability to fish or operate a boat. The Coast Guard reports that while most of us are aware of the importance of suiting up with our life jackets when we are facing inclement weather, most accidents occurred when conditions were calm. Citing the trend of wearing seatbelts and the resulting safer automobile operation, officials hope that wearing a life jacket routinely will decrease waterway drownings dramatically.



TED BERTKE

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Alaska - From Calm Waters

There are certain images of Alaska that are embedded deeply within the American consciousness—images of sentinel pine trees frozen in time; of glaciers blanketing the peripherals with giant walls of white; of huskies hopping through a snow drift, the tips of their fur crystallized and glistening. But when it comes to the authentic Alaska, these icons are merely the proverbial tip of the iceberg.

Bald eagles don't just flirt with the treetops—they swoop through the air on crisp cushions of frost, their eyes afire with life. Glaciers don't just protect the shorelines—they reach out and embrace the waters, merging with the sea in a million different angles, each one ablaze with the sun's shimmering touch. Around every bend, Alaska unleashes the kind of beauty that will remain as vivid in your memories as your grandchild's first step.

Immense in size and landscape, Alaska is best experienced from the calm waters that hug its striking coastline. Cruise ships provide the vacation essentials—luxurious rooms, scrumptious dining, relaxing spas, first-class entertainment for adults and children alike—and Alaska provides the scenery—picturesque villages bursting with culture, humpback whales swim-

ming alongside, dense forestland engulfing the distance.

All you need to provide is the entire family. Cruise lines host a bevy of entertaining activities to keep all generations smiling wide and laughing loud during the voyage. And with Alaska and its coastal towns as the backdrop, the trip will provide ample time and opportunity to bring your children and grandchildren closer to your heart.

From May to September, premier cruise lines set sail from Seattle or Vancouver with their compasses pinned on North.

Most ocean liners voyage along the great Alaskan shores by one of two routes: the Inside Passage or the Glacier Route. Vessels traveling the Inside Passage meander through the channels and fjords of Alaska's panhandle to hidden villages only gold miners know. The Glacier Route bypasses the inner channels and follows the coastline further north, visiting unsurpassed glaciers and seaports en route to Seward, a stepping-stone to Anchorage and the interior.



Barbara Frilling

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What are some smart ways to pay for a college education?

With the rise in college costs easily outpacing inflation every year, even affluent families benefit from developing a smart college-financing strategy. Fortunately, careful planning and strategic use of certain savings vehicles can help you fund your child's education without draining your portfolio — or saddling your child with debt.

What it costs to attend college today

According to the College Board, tuition, fees, and room and board averaged \$13,589 for in-state students at four-year public institutions in 2007.¹ Those same expenses soared to \$32,307 for students at private nonprofit colleges and universities. Assuming a 6 percent rate of inflation, a child matriculating in eight years will face an average tab of nearly a quarter million dollars for a four-year private-school education.² And since college costs have risen faster than overall inflation for most of the last 30 years, even a 6 percent yearly increase in educational expenses may not be enough.

College Savings 101

To avoid surprises when that first tuition bill arrives, consider these smart planning tools:

A 529 plan lets families save for college by investing in tax-free, state-sponsored funds. "A 529 plan can be a terrific way to save," says Cindy Bailey, executive director of education finance services for the College Board. "They are especially popular with grandparents who like to enroll the child as soon as they are born." Not all 529 plans offer the same investment options and benefits — so ask your Financial Advisor to find the plan that works best for your family. You can invest in 529 programs offered in any state, but if the money isn't used for college, the earnings are subject to federal income tax, and a 10 percent penalty is imposed. Before investing in a 529 plan, please consider its investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully.



ERIC HAUBERT

Brought to you by: Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network 518 W. Main St., Troy, OH 45373 * 937-335-6646

Letters to the Editor

A big thank you for your support

Dear editor,

The 2010 Relay For Life of Southwest Auglaize County survivor luncheon was well attended by local cancer survivors and guests. The luncheon is held to celebrate survivorship and honor those that have successfully battled this disease. We would like to extend a heart felt thank you to the businesses and organizations that sponsored this event: Minster Journeymans Club, Minster Civic Association, Minster Service Club, New Bremen/New Knoxville Rotary Club, American Legion Post 387, American Legion Auxiliary, Minster FOE Auxiliary and SecurCom, Inc. The survivors are very appreciative and we could not have planned this event without your generous support.

We would also like to thank Kendra Moorman for providing and catering a fantastic meal and to the Minster High School SOS group and Minster Girl Scouts for volunteering their time to help put things together the day of. These students and scouts performed an outstanding job, and thank you to Brenda Boeke and Jill Baumer for your assistance with scheduling these students to help out. Thank you to Tim Jay and the Minster Middle School for accommodating us and also help with technical support. Thank you to Minster Flowers and Gifts and Howell's IGA for your contribution of helium and balloon weights to complete our party atmosphere. Thank you to Ron Schulze of Ft. Loramie who donated his time to share his survivorship story with us and to Deacon Roger Klosterman for taking the time to open our celebration with prayer. Thank you to Chalk Landscaping of New Knoxville for arranging a water feature display in our Remembrance Tent and to Joyce Roetgerman and Jodi Dues for your help with set up. Thanks to Rolly Hausfeld for providing a golf cart to assist survivors around the track.

I would like to recognize my Survivorship Committee for their dedication and time committed to Relay: Marlene Hoying, Mag Dues and Jamie Mummy.

Thank you all for your support!

Michelle Heckman
Survivorship Chairman

Submit letters to the editor by noon
Monday to be published in
The Community Post

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Calendar of Events

NEW BREMEN – The Lockkeeper's House opens June 19.

MARIA STEIN – The 23rd annual Country Fest will be held on the Maria Stein Shine grounds on June 25-27. This year "The High Flying Pages" will be the main entertainment. As always, the famous Tractor Square Dancers will be featured all weekend. New this year will be lawn mower races and a Dodgeball Tournament. Also, the petting zoo, Belgium horses and wagon rides, chainsaw woodcarving, sand sculptor, craft show, Otterbacher rides, Greg Farmer's magic and Craig Muhlenkamp will be entertaining all weekend. Featured bands: Friday 8 p.m. - 12 a.m., Free Rider; Saturday 5-8 p.m., Pac-Man, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m., The Wunnabies; Sunday 2-5 p.m., Robbie and Heidi, 4 p.m., Free Lance and Sunday 7-11 p.m., Mustang Sally. Diaper derby, volleyball tournament, Punt, Pass and Kick contest, Bean Bag Tournament, 3-on-3 Basketball, 5-K Run, weight lifting (Marion High School boys) with Andy Lynch announcing and more.

GREAT FOOD--Knight's Fried Chicken, Legion's Turtle Soup, Pizza, Loaded Fries, Cabbage Rolls, Hamburgers, Mets, and much, much more!!!

NEW BREMEN – There will be a Doubles Horseshoe Tournament played at the Lion's Club Park behind downtown New Bremen on Sunday June 27. The tournament begins at 2 p.m. Arrive early to register and play.

WAPAKONETA – On Saturday June 19 there will be racecars, trucks and go-carts in front of many Wapakoneta businesses for the Wapakoneta Antique and Specialty Shop's Race Into Wapak. WASS will be wrapping up a week-long event by giving away three tailgate parties, including a night's stay at the Holiday Inn Express, a charcoal grill with charcoal, a cooler donated by TSC, meat from Kah Meats and race tickets to area race tracks. People may register for the tailgate parties at any WASS shop: Village Green Garden Center, The Herb Ladies, Casa Chic, Mike's Appliance Repair, The Bookmark Riverside Art Center and The Cheese Cottage from June 12 to June 19. No purchase necessary. The drawing will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday June 19. For more information contact Laura Clementz or Landa Tomlinson at Casa Chic 419-738-2298.

MINSTER – Arrowhead Golf Club will be hosting its junior golf program again this year. On June 21-25 and June 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. golfers ages 11-18 can participate. From 2 to 4 p.m. golfers age 6-10 can participate. There will be 48 golfers per session permitted. On Sunday June 27 ages 11-18 will have a 4 p.m. tee time. Ages 6-10 will participate in skills events at 5:30 p.m. and an awards dinner will be held at 7 p.m. For more information contact 419-628-3111. There is a \$50 per stu-

SWAC holds first annual putt-putt tournament

Twenty-one putt-putt golfers gathered at Putter's Lane in Minster on Sunday afternoon to test their putting skills in the first annual Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce Putt-Putt Tourney. Five teams participated, with several local organizations either sponsoring teams or sponsoring holes.

"The golfers had fun and we provided some good exposure for our sponsors today with the news media stopping by to cover our event," Frey said. "I wanted to do something to not only support local business but give our kids and families something fun to do."

Frey thanked Auglaize Industries in New Bremen for sponsoring the event and Putter's Lane in Minster for hosting the event. The Community Insur-

ance Group team won top honors, the New Bremen Community Improvement Corporation team took second place and the Steve Smith Family team claimed third place. Chamber gift certificates were awarded to the winners and the low round winner Freddie Purdy won a super soaker. Golfers on the Chamber of Commerce Team and the Falcon Financial Team won tickets for a free round of putt-putt golf from Putter's Lane.

Our Old Bookcase

By **Joyce L. Alig**
President Mercer County Historical Society

The oldest known New Idea Co. Manure Spreader, Model C, (75-85 Bushel type), in its original condition (with no refinishing touches), made at Coldwater, Ohio, between 1915 and 1917, will be on exhibit at Van Wert County Fairgrounds during the Old Fashioned Farmers Days, Thursday through Sunday, July 1-4.

The 34th Annual Old Fashioned Farmers Days will be held at the Van Wert County Fairgrounds over the Fourth of July weekend, hosted by the Old Fashioned Farmers Association, with Members from Northwest Ohio and Eastern Indiana Counties and the Van Wert County Agricultural Society. This year, the Association is featuring Allis Chalmers Tractors and Equipment and welcoming the Buckeye Allis Club. The Association is also featuring New Idea Company Equipment & Gas Engines and welcoming the New Idea Historic Preservation Committee of the Mercer County Historical Society, Inc.

Activities for the entire

family will be available for the entire family. The admission is \$3 per person at the Gate, or \$7 for a 3 day pass. Children under 12 are free. Camping is available. Golf carts are for rent. For information, www.vanwert.com/offa. Contacts are Bill Gamble, president, 419-495-2600; Ron Gruss, vice president, 419-363-3259.

The New Idea Historic Preservation Committee was created by the Mercer County Historical Society in 2000. Agco closed the Coldwater New Idea Facility on December 8, 1999, just a century after the New Idea Company began Oct. 18, 1899 at Maria Stein, Ohio. When Agco announced they were closing the New Idea Facility at Coldwater, Joyce Alig, president of the Mercer County Historical Society asked Agco for its records, as well as the old New Idea Spreader, which had been on exhibit at the former New Idea building. (That spreader was the one which was painted gold for one of their previous anniversary celebrations.)

In 2000, under the Mercer County Historical Society, the New Idea Historic Preservation Com-

mittee was planned and implemented with members of former New Idea Employees, and/or people interested in the preservation of New Idea's history. This committee meets monthly, January through October, for making plans for preserving New Idea Company's history. The committee has hosted New Idea Equipment Exhibits every other year at the Coldwater Community Picnic at the Community Park. The committee had extra copies of New Idea Manuals and therefore, has held manual and poster sales at Coldwater. The committee hosted a New Idea Equipment Exhibit at Greenville at their Power of the Past exhibit at the Dark County Fairgrounds.

The New Idea Historic Preservation Committee welcomes new members. The committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month, January through October, at 7 p.m. at the public meeting room above the Coldwater Public Library. For those interested in the goal of preserving the history of New Idea Company, you are most welcome to attend the meetings.



The oldest known New Idea Co. Manure Spreader, in its original condition, made at Coldwater.



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Celebrations

Marion Local High School names honor roll students

Marion Local High School has announced the honor roll for the final nine-week period of 2009-2010.

First Honors

Seniors: Rachael Puthoff, Megan Schaefer, Katrina Brand, Lindsay Moorman, Shelby Moeller, Allison Bruns and Chessey Brodbeck.

Juniors: Jodi Otte, Gina Heitkamp, Andrew Bernard and Lauren Brunswick.

Sophomores: Darian Bergman, Margaret Wuebker, Isaac Wilker and Jamie Wynk.

Freshmen: Malorie Bergman, Alyssa Homan, Casey Schmitmeyer, Claire Heitkamp, Carmen Meyer and Kristen Kemper.

Second Honors

Seniors: Kayla Schwieterman, John Will, Tori Puthoff, Garret Homan, Jessica Huelsman, Jordan Bertke, Abby Heitkamp, Jared Prenger, Michelle Thobe, Abby Schmitmeyer, John Minton, Mara

Puthoff, Ashley Lochtefeld, Megan Hardesty, Amber Fleck, Nicole Otte, Stephen Huelsman, Chelsie Pleiman, Brian Heitkamp, Heather Obringer, Rachel Platfoot, Todd Heitkamp, Eric Schwieterman, Travis Winner, Gabe Stucke, Kayla Kremer, Derek Hess, Andrew Kremer, Ben Fortkamp, Andrea Mescher and Stephanie Lochtefeld.

Juniors: Darion Ziegler, Ellis Pohlman, Janel Schulte, Brie Jutte, Heather Brunswick, Kayla Hemmelgarn, Ashley Homan, Tom Lange, Rachel Hess, Casey Heitkamp, Alex Obringer, Natalie Bruns, Jason Reichert, Nicole Schwieterman, Stephanie Mescher, Kari Koesters, Greg Wolters, Holly Ronnebaum, A.J. Homan, Kelly Schlarman, Christine Wuebker, Nicole Bertke, Aaron Rengers, Jessica Homan, Lauren Subler, Adam Muhlenkamp, Ashley Roeckner, Josh Berning and Kelly Garman.

Sophomores: Kristen Subler, Taylor Fortman, Amanda Lochtefeld, Mindy Hartings, Laura Schwieterman, Jacob Tangeman, Kristen Bertke, Trevor Homan, Shawn Beyke, Logan Albers, Molly Hardesty, Dylan Thobe, Craig Niekamp, Leah Puthoff, Katie Schemmel, Danielle Bomholt, Kelsey Ahrens, Nicole Heitkamp, Abby Schlarman, Megan Seitz, Scott Schoenlein, Marcus Prenger, Jacob Heitkamp, Kristin Schwieterman, Jeff Knapschaefer, Robert Fleck, Claire Hemmelgarn, Ashley Wilker, Greg Hartke and Christopher Heitkamp.

Freshmen: Jacob L. Tangeman, Clint Knapke, Dea Stucke, Brianna Hess, Kelsey Smith, Mark Thobe, Kristen Hemmelgarn, Megan Kuether, Sarah Otte, Riley Homan, Nicole Moorman, Keith Bohman, Chelsea Kemper, David Tangeman, Chelsea Winner, Cheyla Heckman, Jennifer Lange and

Laura Dirksen.

Third Honors

Seniors: Jake Hein, Kylee Berman, Travis Bruns, Kevin Homan, Leah Rosenback, Aaron Schwieterman, Megan Rutschilling, Adam Schulze, Ryan Bower, Anthony Oury, Tyler Bruggeman, Jacob Giere, Austin Berning, Jarren Griesdorn, Ashley Dirksen, Adam Broering, Joe Lange, Taylor Stucke, Isaiah Hein, Greg Evers, Jay Homan, Kurt Schwieterman, Jacqueline Jones, Melissa Kramer, Lydia Schwieterman, Kendra Brunswick and Holly Bruns.

Juniors: Vivian Seger, Mitch Eilerman, Alyssa Winner, Grant Lochtefeld, Renee Dirksen, Kendra Kremer, Samantha Leugers, Brandon Arling, Ellen Mescher, Craig Grieshop, Nicole Kleinhenz, Zach Heckman, Jennifer Fortman, Jesse Winner, Marlene Hein, Claire Schwieterman, Emily Zizelman, Jason Zumwald, Mar-

garet Schwieterman, Kaylee Schaefer, Ryan Mescher, Dylan Moeder, Tucker Smith, Alyse Bergman, John Elking, Dustin Schemmel, Lauren Bruns, Niles Keller, Kristina Jones, Hilary Adkins, Chelsea Basista and Greg Schwieterman.

Sophomores: Josie Prueter, Nathan Wendel, Reggie Wendel, Justin Rutschilling, Lee Pierron, Daniel Liette, Mark Wuebker, Dylan Platfoot, John Schemmel, Jack Homan, Kellen Goettemoeller, Justin Hilgendorf, Amanda Arling, Mitchell Kremer, Brooke Smith, Kevin Miller and Alex Rosenbeck.

Freshmen: Brandi Rethman, Paige Pohlmann, Kyle Mescher, Jordan Rethman, Spencer Kramer, Hannah Arling, Josie Winner, Cory Homan, Brooke Mescher, Nick Schmitz, Alaric Keller, Grant Garmann, Conner Unrast, Tyler Fleck, Sean Grieshop, Jacob Schaefer, Tiffany Bruggeman and Kyle Kramer.

New Bremen High School students make honor roll

New Bremen has released its honor roll for the final nine-week period of 2009-2010.

High Honor Roll (4.0)

Grade 12: Teri Ewing, Andrea Flaute, Aaron Freeman and Jackie Niekamp.

Grade 11: Shelby Hagan, Jeffrey Smart, Emily Topp and Suzanna Wint.

Grade 10: Jenna Ahlers, Neven Frazee, Amy Knapke, Doug Kremer, Lindsey Pape, Alexis Richter, Jessica Rindler, Taylor Schemmel, Elayne Speckman and Matthew Travis.

Grade 9: Lauren Bertke, Mathew Dawson, Jacob

Gusching, Patrick Keyes, Haley Moeller and Amber Paul.

Honor Roll (3.5 - 3.99)

Grade 12: Marcus Bergman, Brianna Bertke, Caitlin Chaney, Renee Dicke, Justin Eilerman, Amy Elking, Jessica Feltz, Mark Freije, Beth Grevenkamp, Tayla Haynes, Martin Holdren, Kim Homan, Brice Imwalle, Steph Kemper, Spencer Rohr, Morgan Russell, Marissa Sharp, Michael Travis, Ashley Wentz, Caleb Williams and Rob Young.

Grade 11: Rachel Ad-

ams, Megan Broerman, Tony Brown, Kyle Evers, Katie Goettemoeller, Katie Heitkamp, Joel Hemmelgarn, Lauren Hohler, Seonwoo Kim, Lisa McGregor, Brent Paulus, Taylor Schmit, Nathan Smith, Tom Staton, Cod Topp and Hadley Williams.

Grade 10: Sarah Barhorst, Brent Bertke, Allison Bowers, Taylor Carter, Holly Champagne, Aaron Clune, Kelsey Davidson, Ethan Elshoff, Matthew Flaute, Liz Fleck, Ashley Frey, Alec Frideger, Jared Gilberg, Sydney Goens, Gina Griesdorn, Steve

Homan, Kassie Krauss, Samantha Kremer, Rylie McKinney, Brandon Meyer, Tara Nosek, Tyler Nosek, Jill Rhoades, Marc Rochotte, Shannon Roediger, Timri Sadler, Chynna Shurelds, Troy Williams, Chrissi Wisvari and Simon Yang.

Grade 9: Nick Ahlers, Caleb Ball, Adam Balster, Meagan Brandt, Marissa Clint, Alissa Corwin, Alex Feltz, Tyler Hagan, Emma Hall, Aaron Hegemier, Natalie Heitkamp, Hannah Holdren, Alec Huecker, Emily Kaiser, Laura Koenig, Samantha Luedeke, Kim Maurer, Paige Miller, Emily Niekamp, Kyla Otting, Caitlin Pence, Chelsea Russell, Jacob Rutschilling, Hanna

Schmit, Audrey Selby, Alex Speelman, Jacob Swiger, David Thieman, Marlene Travis and David Zirkle.

Merit Roll (3.0 - 3.49)

Grade 12: Sarah Bam-bauer, Logan Bronkema, Derek Brussell, Allison Buschur, Adam Bushman, Amanda Frey, Sallie Harrell, Clay Heitkamp, Leann Heitkamp, Andrew Homan, Sam Larger, Sarah Niekamp, Kelli Nosek, Paul Rauh, Jennifer Scheer, Rita Schulze, Alexis Schwartz, Kaleb Swiger, Andy Timmerman and Bethany Webster.

Grade 11: A.J. Anderson, Jordan Barlage, Alyssa Berard, Brittani Blaine, Cody Bruggeman, Kaylyn Clint, Calib Cox, Kristen Dahlinghaus, Jordan

Gilberg, Jodi Heitkamp, Nick Homan, Claire Jarvis, Tyler Millhouse, Ashley Mullins, Alexis Niekamp, Hannah Overman, Hollie Parsons, Jordan Schott, Betsy Wendel and Trevor Wynk.

Grade 10: Ruben Ayala Jr., Derek Bornhorst, Ben Chaney, Rob Clark, Zak Kemper, Jacob Kosch, Nick Kramer, Jeff Kuenning, Andrea McGregor, Brittany Sayre, Kyle Shell, Kyleigh Suchland and Molly Verhoff.

Grade 9: Christina Adams, Darin Bergman, Clay Bertke, Nicholas Duncan, Amelia Fox, Kayla Lear, Madeline Paul, Miranda Paulus, Luke Schwieterman, Morgen Sindelar and Kristin Sprague.



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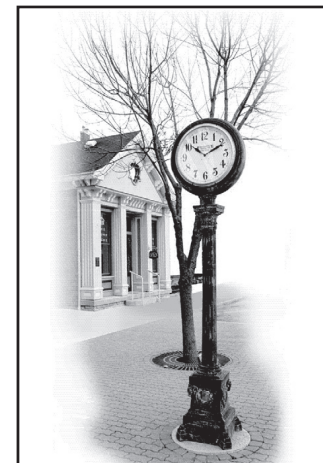


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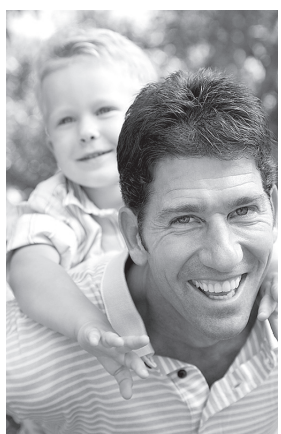


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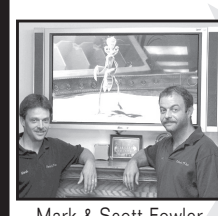
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Celebrations

Heckman graduates from OSU/AFROTC

Second Lieutenant Casey C. Heckman of Minster recently graduated from the Ohio State University and commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Global Security and Intelligence with a minor in Air Science. Heckman was also named Distinguished Graduate.

Lieutenant Heckman will be entering active duty in October and begin pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas. He is the son of Clark and Michelle Heckman of Minster.

Etzler family welcomes home baby boy

Nikolas Robert Stiles-Etzler was born Tuesday, June 8, 2010, to Chad and Sara Etzler of Celina, at Joint Township District Memorial Hospital in St. Marys.

Nikolas was born at 3:31 p.m. He weighed 4 pounds, 14.2 ounces and

was 18 inches long. He was welcomed home by 5-year-old Samuel, 7-year-old Gaberiel and 9-year-old Victoria.

The maternal grandparents are Samuel R. Stiles of Celina and the late Marian Elaine Stiles. The paternal grandparents are Jerry and Marcia Etzler of

Convoy.

The maternal great-grandparents are the late Kirby and Janette McAfee and Dorothy Semen. The paternal great-grandparents are the late Victor and Pauline Etzler and Robert and Marian Miller.

Dietrich family brings home first child

Matt and Katie Dietrich have welcomed home their first child, a son, Leif Matthew Dietrich.

Lief was born June 6, 2010 at 2:45 a.m., weighing in at 8 pounds, 10

ounces and 21 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Hans and Joyce Steinke of St. Marys and Bob and Betty Dietrich of New Bremen.

Maternal great-grandparents are Rob

and Donna Magel and Don and Ann Marie Steinke. Paternal great grandparents are Margaret Meckstroh and Louise Dietrich.

Couple to celebrate 60 years of marriage

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Woehrmyer, of Minster, will celebrate 60 years of marriage on June 21, 2010. Irene Luebke, daughter of the late Frederick and Helena Luebke of Maria Stein, and Thomas Woehrmyer, son of Willard and Appolonia Woehrmyer of Minster, were united in marriage on June 21, 1950, by the Rev. E. Olberding at St. John Catholic Church, Maria Stein.

Irene has three sisters: Luetta Schemmel (deceased), Marie Wente of New Bremen and Jeannette Moeder of Maria Stein; and four brothers: Lawrence Luebke of Minster, Alvin Luebke (deceased), Gregory Luebke (deceased) and Paul Luebke (deceased).

Tom has one sister, Marjorie Large of Minster, and a brother Melvin Woehrmyer (deceased).

The couple are the parents of six daughters and three sons: Shirley and Mike Olding, Ron and Barb Woehrmyer, Steve and



Tonia Woehrmyer, Linda and Mark Gusching, Gayle and Brian Huelsman, all of Minster; Peg and Tom Meisberger of Fishers, Ind., Carol and Dane Strausbaugh of Versailles, Barb and Jeff Ranly of Kettering and Mark and Lisa Woehrmyer of Ft. Loramie. They also have 23 grandchildren,



two step-grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and one step-great grandchild.

The couple will celebrate their anniversary with their children and siblings on June 26 at their home where they have farmed and resided during their entire marriage.

Baumer, Timmerman to wed



Donald and Lois Baumer of Minster have announced the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Cynthia Baumer to Matthew Timmerman, son of Raymond and Karen Timmerman of New Bremen.

The bride-elect is a 2005 graduate of Minster High School. She graduated from Ohio Northern University in 2009 with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in middle childhood education. She is employed as a fifth grade math and language arts teacher at Taft Elementary in Marion.

The prospective groom is a 2005 graduate of New Bremen High School. He is currently employed at Roman & Stucke Construction in New Bremen.

The couple is planning a July 24, 2010 wedding at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Minster.

Minster Middle School names spring honor roll

Minster Middle School has released the final honor roll for 2009-2010.

Seventh Grade

High Honors: Alicia Arling, Logan Arnold, Elizabeth Baker, Gabrielle Barga, Nicole Borgerding, Sam Bornhorst, Austin Brackman, Caleb Broering, Mara Cull, Sam Dues, Andrew Fausey, Jonathan Fausey, Gabe Goodwin, Abbey Goubeaux, Regan Hahn, Maria Heckman, Megan Hilgefert, Cassie Jutte, Seth Koenig, Blake Mallory, Bridget McGowan, Mariah McKenzie, Taylor Meiring, Danielle Monnin, Rebekah Monnin, James Nevels, J.R. Nixon, Erica Oldiges, Logan Pack, Chip Perryman, Alana Poeppelman, Nathan Riethman, Drew Ripplloh, Lauren Roet-

german, Loren Schmidt, Jenna Sekas, Kayla Thien, Taylor Trego, Matthew Trushaw, Joe Trzaska, Rachel Wehrman, Nicole Will, Eli Wolf and Alexis Wuebker.

Honors: Blake Ahrns, Holly Barhorst, Lukas Barhorst, Anna Barlage, Matthew Biederman, Gunner Blanke, Tyler Cummins, Brad Davidson, Michaela Goettemoeller, Abby Hausfeld, RaeAnne Heitkamp, Marissa Luthman, Brad Osterloh, Sam Schutte, Goldiea Shaw, Abbie Snyder, Jon Tipton, Jake Winner and Taylor Wissman.

Eighth Grade

High Honors: Andy Albers, Stephanie Albers, Hannah Barga, Alex Barhorst, John Baumer, Christian Boehnlein,

Nicole Brandewie, Clay Brown, John Burke, Zachary Buschur, Tate Carlon, Trey Conkle, Paul Dues, Olivia Enneking, Macy Eshleman, Claire Fischer, Joshua Grieshop, Mark Hackemoeller, Wes Hegemann, Jon Heuker, Kristin Hilgefert, Garrett Hogenkamp, Sara Hosey, Brandon Hoying, Max Huber, A.J. Huelsman, Dana Jutte, Megan Kaiser, Kara Kitzmiller, Aubrey Klosterman, Colleen Klosterman, Courtney Kuether, Alexis Kyburz, Mitchell Meyer, Brittany Morrow, Leah Niekamp, Whitney Oakley, Samantha Osterfeld, Jessica Otting, Kathy Prenger, Freddie Purdy, Alissa Puthoff, Brittany Reeves, Kayla

Richard, Theo Schlater, Casey Schmidt, Sydney Schmidt, Jarod Schmitmeyer, Adam Schulze, Ryan Schulze, Kaitlin Schutte, Scott Sekas, Alexis Sharp, Hannah Sherman, Maggie Shultz, Alyssa Skikus, Dominic Slonkosky, Chelsea Stewart, Joel Tebbe, Katie Thiemann, Brad Walterbusch, Cierra Webb, Shelby Wente, Alex Winner, Olivia Winner, Ethan Wolf and Jacob Wuebker.

Honors: Kenneth Cockerham, Marissa Conrad, Brittany Cummins, Emily Ernst, Peter Morsey, Prater Otting, Harley Schwabenland, Amelia Slonkosky and Wesley Steinemann.



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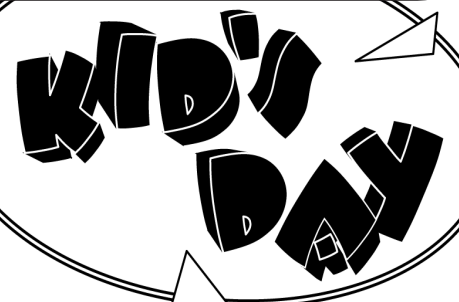
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Lockkeeper's House

Miami and Erie Canal Visitors Center set to open

By Jessica Honigford
Community Post

NEW BREMEN – This weekend will mark a historic moment for New Bremen, southwestern Auglaize County and the Miami-Erie Canal. On Saturday, June 19 the Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce, along with the Miami Erie Canal Corridor Association, the New Bremen Historic Society and the Village of New Bremen, will host the grand opening of the Miami and Erie Canal Visitors Center. The center, known locally as the Lockkeeper's House will serve as the new home of the SWAC Chamber of Commerce.

Executive director Scott Frey is excited about the chamber's move to the new location.

"We're going to get a lot more exposure from folks we wouldn't otherwise see such as tourists and people interested in the canal," Frey said. "We'll benefit from the exposure to the business community and being an actual visitor's center."

The Lockkeeper's House sits in the same spot the original Lockkeeper's House once stood, just off Ohio 66. It is almost an exact replica of the original building on the outside, down to the structure's dimensions and window placement.

The center will not only serve as the chamber's new office but

also as a place for the canal's history to be told.

"It's fun being in a new building and learning about the canal and how it relates to the three communities," Frey said. "It's a gateway to the whole area and we can use it to promote the three communities."

The center will hold historic canal artifacts as well as maps and displays relating to Ohio's canal history. The New Bremen Historic Association and MECCA will use New Bremen's canal history to tell the story of other similar communities located along the canal.

Frey feels it is important for the community to recognize the important role the canal played in the area's history.

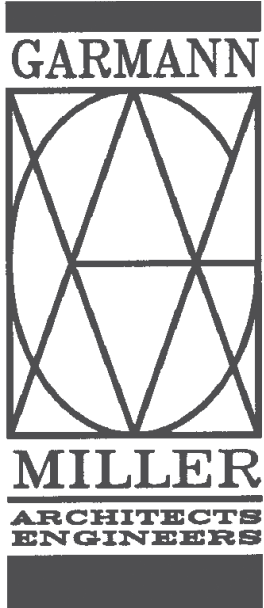
"This is a village that spawned because the canal was going to come here," he said. "We are charged with telling the entire story of the canal itself."

Frey said the visitor's center hopes to acquire traveling exhibits from other canal museums and canal communities through MECCA, which spans from Piqua to Delphos.

"We're excited to be here," Frey said. "It's a privilege to sit in a historic building like this. Without the canal who knows what society we would have here."

Photo by Jessica Honigford

Local officials participate in the ground breaking for the Lockkeeper's House last August.



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Lockkeeper's House

Dedication planned for visitor's center

The dedication ceremony for the Miami and Erie Canal Visitor's Center (known locally as "The Lockkeeper's House") will be held on Saturday June 19th at 10 am in front of the basin at Lock One North in New Bremen. The ceremony will include music, a proclamation given by New Bremen Mayor Jeff Pape and brief comments from officials with the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the New Bremen Historic Association, the Miami and Erie Canal Corridor Association (MECCA) and the Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce. Following the ceremony,

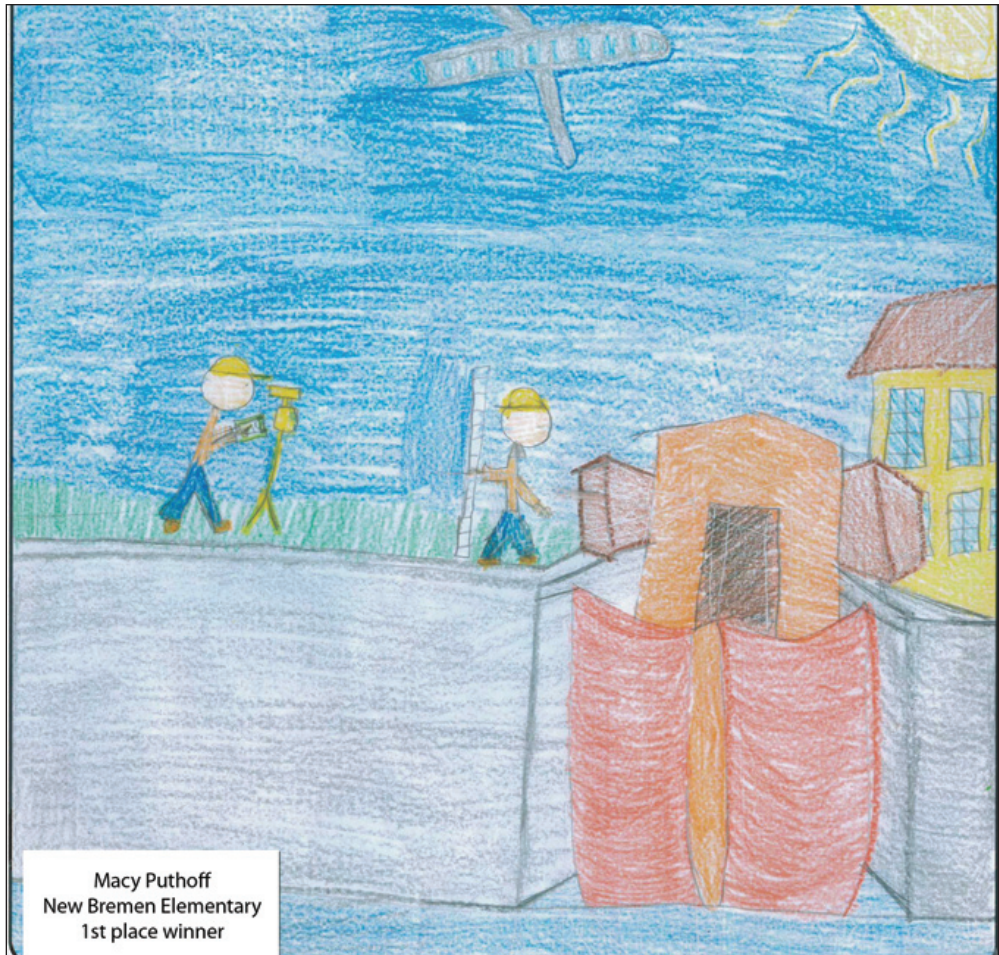
individuals who've purchased keys to the Lockkeeper's House will be able to try their key in the front door. The person with the key that opens the door will win \$1,000, and other prizes. The keys and the prize money were donated by Scott and Linda Kuenning of Western Ohio True Value Hardware in Minster. Non-winning keys will be entered in a drawing for consolation prizes. Snacks and refreshments will be available, and people will be able to tour the building.

Call the Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce for more information at 419-629-0313 or visit www.auglaize.org.



Photo by Jessica Honigford

The Lockkeeper's House will be open to the public this weekend during its dedication ceremony. Pictured above is construction on the facility last fall.



Second grader wins coloring contest with drawing of canal

The 12th annual Image Engineering coloring Contest attracted an estimated 7,500 second graders. Through the program the OSPE members teach young students what engineering is.

Over the winter, OSPE members visited classrooms and engaged in discussions about Ohio's engineers. Afterward, the second graders were

asked to draw pictures of PEs at work. Drawings were evaluated first at the chapter level and next at the state level for prizes.

Macy Puthoff, a second grader at New Bremen Elementary School, placed first in the state coloring contest. For her efforts Puthoff received a telescope. Puthoff won the contest by drawing and coloring a picture of two professional engi-



neers doing a site visit at the New Bremen Canal.

Fun facts about the Miami-Erie Canal's history

Miami-Erie Canal facts from the Miami-Erie Canal Corridor Association:

- In 1825, the Ohio Legislature approved funding to construct an Ohio Canal system.
- It took 20 years, from 1825 to 1845, to complete the Miami-Erie Canal.
- The primary work force consisted of Irish, German and French immigrants who labored on the canal for 30 cents a day, food, whiskey and shelter.

- The world's first offshore oil well was drilled in the man-made canal reservoir of Grand Lake St. Marys.
- Increased competition from railroad companies doomed the Ohio canals, and the last section of the Miami-Erie Canal was abandoned in 1929.

Engineering:

- The Miami-Erie Canal utilized 105 locks to raise and lower the canal boats along the 250-mile waterway.

- Loramie Summit, 21 miles in length, was the highest point of the canal -- 521 feet above the Ohio River and 395 feet above Lake Erie.

- The average canal boat was 78 feet long, 14 feet-10 inches wide, and cost approximately \$2,100.

- The Ohio canals were dug by hand, with picks and shovels. Occasionally, teams of horses and oxen were used to power slip scoops and pull wagons.
- The Deep Cut, 6,600

feet in length, was the deepest excavation made along the Miami-Erie Canal, and ranged from five to 52 feet deep.

- Threeman-madelakes, Grand Lake St. Marys, Lake Loramie, and Indian Lake along with the Miami, Mad, St. Marys and Auglaize Rivers served as the primary sources of water for the canal.

Recreation:

- The canals not only carried people and freight, but served as swimming

and fishing holes and ice rinks in the winter months.

- Today, there are three state parks, numerous local parks, state historical markers and community trails along the Miami-Erie Canal.
- Portions of the Miami-Erie Canal towpath are currently part of the Buckeye Trail and the North Country Trail.

Current canal status:

- Ohio Department of Natural Resources

(ODNR) assumed responsibility for all state-owned canal lands in 1989, and the Division of Water operates all hydraulically active sections.

- In conjunction with ODNR, cities, villages, townships, park districts, and other political subdivisions are rejuvenating the canal and enhancing sections for economic, educational and recreational purposes. The historic Miami-Erie Canal is coming alive again.

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Minster ACME falls to St. Marys

By **BRIAN SMITH**
Sports Editor

Unlike most of its recent blowout wins, the St. Marys ACME baseball team's fifth straight win of the early season came drip-by-drip in the steady sprinkle on Tuesday.

St. Marys scored single runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings and won a rain-shortened game over Minster on Tuesday night 4-3 at K.C. Geiger Park.

"You're not going to go to the park and always get 12 or 13 hits," St. Marys coach Dave Huber said. "You have to learn to win games like this."

The win wasn't without controversy, however. The umpires stopped the game after St. Marys took a 4-3 lead on a wild pitch in the bottom of the sixth inning.

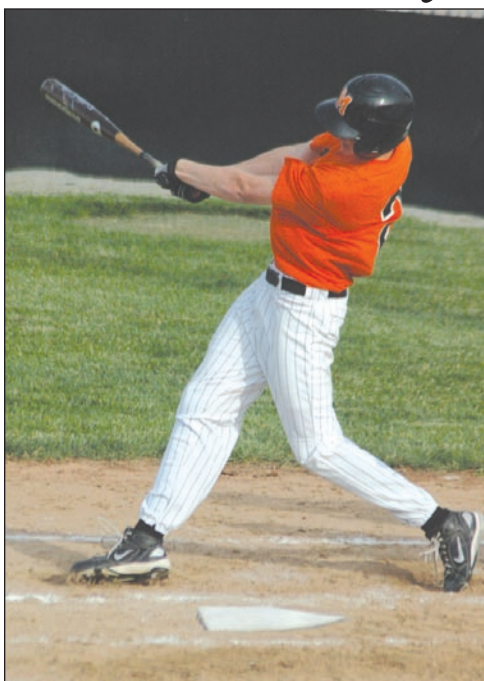
Minster coach Scott Sherman and his players argued vehemently to keep playing.

"It was unfortunate that it had to end in the sixth," Huber said. "We would have liked to play a seven inning game, a full game. But the umpires did tell us before the sixth that it was the final inning."

Rain fell throughout the game, starting with a light sprinkle and picking up to a steady but still light rain.

Sawmiller gave the Roughriders a good start, going five and one-third innings and giving up three runs. After Minster put two runs up on the board in the top of the first inning, Sawmiller held the Wildcats scoreless for four and two-thirds innings while his teammates on offense figured out Wildcat starter Doug Huber.

Huber's three-quarter arm delivery held down the recently-hot Rider of-



fense, which had outscored opponents 40-4 in the last four games.

St. Marys picked up a run in the bottom of the first inning on an RBI groundout by Nick Vogel to score lead-off hitter Kalobb Dodson, who had walked, stolen second and advanced on groundouts.

The score stayed that way until the fifth, when Michael Huber brought home Dodson on a ground out to make it 3-2. Dodson went to third when Minster gunned down a would-be double steal at the plate. 3-2 in favor of the Riders through four innings.

Chase Paxson scored the tying run in the top of the sixth on a wild pitch by Sawmiller. It was his final pitch before Greg Kuffner came on to get out of a jam with a pair of runners in scoring position by striking out a batter and coaxing a pop up to end the threat and set up the sixth inning walk-off win.

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Eldora

Fans come out to see favorite drivers race at Eldora

By **Brian Smith**
Sports Correspondent

ROSSBURG — While fans love to see their favorite Sprint Cup drivers parade around Eldora's half-mile track at the Prelude to the Dream event each year, a lot of the fun of the event is seeing how drivers from other motorsports discipline handle the enigmatic properties of dirt.

While the dirt part of the race didn't freak out Travis Pastrana, the notion of steering 2300-pound cars did.

The famous motorcycle racer and stuntman suited up in a late model car for the first time in his life on Wednesday.

Pastrana took a light-hearted attitude into the event, chock full of self-deprecation even after a long flight from Australia to compete at Eldora.

"I heard guys saying how I've done flips and 360s on my motorcycle," Pastrana said. "I want to do none of those things in one of these cars."

The man who once jumped a motorcycle over a hovering helicopter and jumped a rally car a world's record 270 feet admitted he had no idea what he was getting himself into when he accepted Tony Stewart's invitation to race at Eldora.

"I've raced once in Silver Cup really low horsepower cars and I got beat by a 17-year old girl," he said. "Everyone's pulling me aside, Tony (Stewart) is pulling me aside, just saying 'Don't kill me.'"

Pastrana said the only things he's now not raced are a dragster and a NASCAR. He tried rallycar racing in 2003 and eventually won the XGames gold medal in the event twice. He also has six golds at the

XGames in freestyle motox, and owns and races a monster truck.

"Drag racing and NASCAR racing are the only two left on the list," Pastrana said, laughing.

Not that Pastrana has much left to fear. He has already dislocated his spine, torn every ligament in his knees and dozens of broken bones.

Tony Kanaan made his dirt-track debut on Wednesday. In fact, it was even more than that.

"Tony Kanaan told me this is the first time he's ever been at a dirt track," Tony Stewart said.

Still, when Stewart asked Kanaan, who finished second at the Indy 500 last month, he jumped at the chance.

"You give me the chance to race a car sideways, I'm going to do it," Kanaan said.

Kanaan invited Jeff Gordon to race go-karts several years ago, an eye opening-experience for Gordon. On Wednesday, Kanaan's whole new experience on Eldora's dirt track was just as new to him.

"Jeff told me tonight was payback for the go-kart race," Kanaan said.

Cruz Pedregon, a two-time funny car world champion, raced in his fourth Prelude.

"I'm on the best team," Pedregon said. "I just don't want to be the one that brings the team down. I don't want to be holding us back."

Pedregon was running well before mechanical problems forced him out after 21 laps and gave him a 25th-place finish a year after taking sixth. Pedregon bought his own late model car last fall and prepped for the event by racing at Eldora last weekend and at Oakshade in his car.

Ron Capps, another funny car driver, has raced in all six Preludes and finished 20th on Wednesday night.

"There's not much that transfers over from my funny car driving," Capps said. "There, I'm in the center of the lane going 300 miles per hour. I'm basically a fighter pilot. The only thing that helps me is that I'm used to going full on the throttle like you have to here on the first two turns at Eldora."

Former rally car champion and NASCAR driver Marcose Ambrose thinks every experience in a car helps, though.

"Any time you can race at an historic track like Eldora it's exciting," Ambrose said. "I like jumping in any car because every time out you learn something, no matter what kind of car it is."

Ambrose took 15th.

It's There, But Barely: While everyone wanted to win, for drivers like Carl Edwards the race is a relaxing oasis in the middle of a grinding season. Many said after the demise of the IROC series, the Prelude event is the replacement where drivers of many different series can compete against each other.

Edwards even thinks where Eldora is located helps him appreciate the event more.

"I feel like everybody can breathe here," Edwards said. "I like that everyone knows it's for fun. And you come to this area and you see the houses and farms and everything is perfect. The yards are perfect, the fields are plowed perfect. It's beautiful here."

Asked about Rossburg, he admitted his route took him out and around the tiny town. "Or maybe we drove through it and missed it," Edwards said, laughing.

Buckeye Leaf Love: Kasey Kahne is already one of the most popular drivers on the Sprint Cup circuit, and he didn't do anything to hurt his popularity with Eldora fans. Kahne, a Washington native, wore a red Ohio State Buckeye t-shirt to the pre-race festivities and interviews despite

his west coast background.

No magic bicycle needed for Elliotts: Bill Elliott has had a long and fruitful NASCAR career, but now it's his son Chase who is drawing most of the Elliott-related headlines. Elliott gushed about his 14-year old son's career in late model asphalt racing.

He has four wins this year in 14 starts.

"He has just surprised everyone with how well he has done at such a young age," Elliott, 54, said. "He has done such a good job. Eventually we'll get him on dirt, too. But right now he's having so much success."

Elliott himself didn't put too many expectations on himself going into the event. "I haven't been in a dirt car in a year and a half," Elliott said. "My son has been racing and I've been running other stuff, and it's hurt me. But I just look at this as a fun deal, raise some money and go out here with good racers."

The former Dayton 500 and Winston Cup champion did well despite the long layoff, finishing 10th.

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Agriculture Today

VALU class allows members to visit dairy farm



Staff photo

Members of the Auglaize County VALU class visited Henschen's Al Mar Farm in New Knoxville for its agricultural day a few weeks ago. The class learned about daily operations on the dairy farm.

By Jessica Honigford
Community Post

The VALU Class, put on by the Wapakoneta Chamber of Commerce, the St. Marys Chamber of Commerce and Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce, visited Henschen's Al Mar Farm in New Knoxville for its agricultural day last month.

For some, it was the first time on a dairy farm. For others it was a chance to re-connect with memories from their childhood.

Lorita Ward grew up next door to a dairy farm as a child in the late 1950s. Her neighbors were one of the first people where she lived to buy an automatic milker.

When asked what she learned that was unexpected from her visit to Henschen's was the new forms of technologies dairy farms use today.

"Ankle bracelets for cows," she said. "Who would think it matters how much cows walk a day."

Ward feels it's important for people in Auglaize County to learn about the work that goes into dairy farms because the need the world has for its products.

"It gives us a better understanding how we all need each other to survive," she said. "Whether it is in farming, manufacturing, health care, etc."

Amy Bowersock also has watched as her family and friends have worked on dairy farms.

"I always knew that working on a dairy farm was a lot of hard work and early mornings, but it is vital to all of us without us really even knowing it," Bowersock said.

See FARM, Page 2A

Tajikistan agricultural delegation visits Fort Loramie

Fort Loramie hosted a delegation of 10 professionals from the country of Tajikistan on June 10. The delegation consisted of 10 professionals selected from many applicants to train on Agriculture Extension services in the United States. The program was administered locally by The Columbus International Program. Fort Loramie was selected as a way to highlight what small town America is like and to demonstrate how a community can work together for the common good of the people. Programs like these

are offered by The Community Connections Program, managed by the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered by World Learning. The program is designed to promote public diplomacy through the exchange of cultural ideas and values among participants, U.S. families and local community host organizations. It seeks to establish and strengthen links between U.S. communities and communities in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia,

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Programs like these are sponsored as a way to help democracy survive in parts of the world where there is no history or infrastructure in place to make a democracy work. The delegation is comprised of the following professionals:

Ikromjon Bobojonov is from the Gafurov district and holds a position as a veterinary consultant, working on counseling and practical help for farmers and veterinary



doctors through advanced methods of livestock management as well as working to control the spread of livestock disease. From this program, he hopes to gain a sense of the best methods of livestock management and effective methods of veterinarian activities.

Akmaljon Mirzaev is from the village of Kurkat in the Spitamen district of Tajikistan. Currently, he works for a public organization whose goal is to increase the economic

and social status of his local population through avenues of enhancing self governance, fair economic development for communities through the provision of agricultural counseling, and the implementation of projects on clean water, sanitation and ecology.

Sabohatilo Muzafarov is from Navobad, Tajikistan. Currently, he is Chairman of the dehqan farm Ahmadshah and is involved in the production of agricultural prod-

ucts, storage, processing, and the sale of products. In the next five years, Sabohatilo wants to organize a fixed system of growing, processing, packing, storage, and agri business of vegetables and fruits with minimal use of mineral fertilizers and chemical elements.

Hon Kholov is from the Khatlon region of Tajikistan. Mr. Kholov works as a master trainer at the Agricultural Training Advisory Centre, which unites

See DELEGATION, Page 12A



National Dairy Month

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Agriculture Today

Farm

From Page 11A



Bowersock said the most important thing she learned is the difficulty family farms have keeping up with costs.

"The most important thing I learned is that dairy farming, as well as all other farming, is becoming harder and harder to maintain and operate," Bowersock said. "The costs of operations are increasing while the farmers are not seeing as much profit."

Bowersock feels it is important for residents of Auglaize County to learn about dairy farm operations because of the changes the farms have seen over the years.

"I think it is important because a lot of people don't really understand what goes in to producing and manufacturing the milk we drink every day," she said. "It's not just a stool and bucket operation anymore. It requires a large amount of technology."

Both Bowersock and Ward commented on the cleanliness of the farm.

"I would say I didn't expect it to be so clean," Bowersock said. "It is a cow farm after all. The Henschen's maintain a very clean facility and the cows are well taken care of."

Delegation

From Page 11A

highly qualified specialists and works to increase the quality of life of the farming population by provision of quality services, theoretical and practical training, and the introduction of new innovations, among other services.

Mirzosholimov is from Dushanbe, Tajikistan, the capital city. He currently works as manager of the training program and as an information consultant at Dastgiri Sohimbkori Va Maorit, a public organization which supports entrepreneurial efforts by rural businessmen and farmers and gives assistance to local governments in order to promote new agricultural technologies and knowledge.

Ulugbek Khotamov is from Dushanbe, Tajikistan and works as the Deputy Chairman of the State Commis-

sion on Seed Testing and Protection under the Ministry of Agriculture, which conducts tests on new sorts of agricultural crops grown by local and foreign selectionists.

Firuz Karimov is from the J. Rasulov district of the Sughd region of Tajikistan. He works as an Agronomist-Agrochemist at the District Agriculture Administration, which participates in the implementation of agricultural policy of the government, analysis of agricultural activities, and the development of current, annual, and prospective plans.

Anvar Jalilov is from Dushanbe, Tajikistan. He is currently head of the Plant Protection Department at the Farming Institute of Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences, which is involved in the development, introduction, and production of high-quality sorts

of crops and seeds as well as developing methods for the integrated protection of wheat and cotton from pests and diseases.

Juraboi Yangiboev is from the city of Gafurov in the Soghd region of Tajikistan. He works as the Head of the Department of Nursery at the Institute of Gardening and Vegetable Growing in Soghd, which is involved in scientific and research activities on improving technologies of fruit and vegetable growing, introducing new sorts of seed cultures, and development of technology in growing fruit, berry, and watermelon saplings and their distribution to specialized farms.

Aslidin Hamdamov is from the Shahrinav district of Tajikistan and works as the Chairman of the Association of Veterinarians of Shahrinav district, which works to improve the qualification

of veterinarians through distribution of agricultural knowledge, counseling services, and assistance in business management.

While in Shelby County, the group was directed by Roger Bender, extension agent. After reviewing the extension operations, the group had lunch at the Meyer Dairy farm located west of Fort Loramie. On Friday June 11 the delegation visited Bob and Michelle Dirksen of the Woodview Alpaca Farm near Willowdell and on Friday evening Bill and Madonna Poepelman of Yorkshire served as hosts. While at the Poepelman residence an informational session was held with Roger Bender of the Shelby County Extension, Dr. Brad Bruns of Versailles, Jake Buschur of the Buschur Dairy Farms and Dena Wueber from the Versailles FFA. Shelby and



Darke County represent the eighth and ninth day of a 22 day schedule that will expose the group to all facets of Agriculture Extension Services in Ohio. Other stops during the groups tour include the Ohio State Extension offices in Columbus, the Ohio Association for Research and Development

(OARDC) in Wooster, the Ohio Farm Bureau and Ohio Department of Agriculture in Columbus, the Ohio Cooperative Development Center in Piketon and two days in near Vanceburg, Kentucky hosted by the Lewis County Extension visiting various farms in Northern Kentucky.



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Wood lots and knolls are the remnants of a forest and glacial past. The St. Marys and Auglaize rivers and all the tributary streams are easy to spot in the open landscape. These are only some of the areas

of interest to the Heritage Trails Park District. Created to provide park lands in Auglaize County, the Park District's mission is to conserve lands and provide outdoor activities, and educational programming for all to enjoy and appreciate.

Imagine a day when woodland preserves will be open to the public for enjoyment of spring wildflowers or for bird watching. Where rivers can be waded, fished or paddled by canoe. Where school children can explore glacial lands for lessons in local geology. Historic lands of the Shawnee and pioneer farmers are outdoor learning sites that could one day be public parks.

The history of our area also lends itself to trails.

Auglaize County has been a place of travel for American Indians by boat and on foot over the summit of the continental divide. The Miami and Erie Canal opened the region for commerce. This old transportation route is being revitalized for today's hiker, cyclist and paddler traveling along the Towpath Trail.

The Heritage Trails Park District is taking time this year to look at the outdoor resources all around Auglaize County: park, recreation and historical areas. An inventory of outdoor resources has been taken. The information is mapped out, printed and ready to distribute. Now park district representatives are meeting with interested groups, elected officials,

and citizens to review the findings.

The Heritage Trails Park District is seeking ideas to help plan for future park development, district management, services and activities. Your opinion is important to us and will help determine the future direction of the Park District. Please take a few minutes to share information about yourself and your views about parks and natural areas in Auglaize County by going to the web and completing a survey: www.htparks.org, clicking on the survey to start.

No computer? No problem. Call 419.202.6053 and a survey will be mailed to you. It only will take a few minutes to help direct the future of the Heritage Trails Park District, your



Auglaize Outdoors

BY ALLISON BRADY

Auglaize County Parks. Now let's explore the outdoors together. Join us for a leisurely canoe float on the Miami & Erie Canal south of St. Marys or the Auglaize River in Wapakoneta. If you are new to canoeing, ODNR Watercraft Officer Martin will show you some basic strokes to get started. Children must be accompanied by an adult in the canoe.

This free program is sponsored by the Heritage Trails Park District and the ODNR Division

of Watercraft. Dates for the Canoe Float are July 10 at St. Marys, Aqueduct Road (south of K. C. Geiger Park) and July 17 at Wapakoneta, Belcher Park, 10 a.m. to noon.

Canoes, paddles, PDF will be provided. Space is limited and registration required, call 419.202.6053.

Allison Brady
Executive Director
Heritage Trails Park District
Your partner for parks in Auglaize County

Bird watching celebrations a huge success

Bird watchers were out in force during the recent International Migratory Bird Day and Biggest Week In American Birding Celebrations at the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. More than 50,000 birders from across the United States and from around the world, visited northwest Ohio May 1 - 16 to view migrating song birds.

Magee Marsh Wildlife Area naturalist Mary Warren said, "International Migratory Bird Day and The Biggest Week In American Birding brought many new people to Magee Marsh and it definitely was the busiest spring that I remember in my 16 springs that I have been here! It is rewarding to see someone get excited about the bright orange throat of a Blackburnian warbler for the first time, or to see someone see a rare bird, like the Kirtland's warbler that was on our wildlife beach. Many of the visitors were here for the first time and experiencing the joys of birding for the first time. I think they will be back."

Larry Fletcher, executive director of the Lake Erie Shores and Islands Welcome Center West states, "If not for the birding activity many tourism related businesses may not have had any guest during this time of year. Birders are coming from around the world because of the quality of spring migration birding in northwest Ohio."

Owned and managed by the Ohio Division of Wildlife, Magee Marsh Wildlife Area is situated on the southern shore of Lake Erie. Before crossing the lake or following along the shoreline to more northerly breeding grounds, millions of song birds travel through the area. A 7-acre woodlot situated directly on the lake shore is the epi-

center of the birding. Because of the popularity of the area, a boardwalk was constructed over a decade ago to facilitate birders. What makes the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area unique is that birds can often be observed at arms length rather than at tree top level. Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge borders Magee Marsh and visitors had the opportunity to venture into normally closed portions of the refuge to view birds. An auto tour was available to drive through the many different habitats found on the refuge. Rebecca Hinkle, Visitor Services Manager for the refuge says, "The Biggest Week In American Birding has been a great

addition to the area and we are thrilled to have been a partner in such a wonderful event. Many people picked up binoculars and identified birds for the first time. Many more visited the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge for the first time and had the opportunity to learn about refuges and the opportunities they provide. We were pleased with the event and with the wonderful comments we heard from those who attended and from the community."

The Biggest Week In American Birding is a new celebration just initiated this year. Sponsored by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Tropical Birding Tours, Kaufman Field Guides, Ottawa

National Wildlife Refuge and Magee Marsh Wildlife Refuge, The Biggest Week sought to highlight the many outstanding birding opportunities in northwest Ohio. Black Swamp Bird Observatory Executive Director had this to say about the event, "By all estimations the inaugural Biggest Week In American birding festival was a smashing success. A personal highlight for me was the number of local people who got caught up in all the excitement we generated through the local news media and came out to try birding for the very first time. Getting people excited about birds and birding is the first step in building support for bird conservation, and that's

what this festival is really all about!" Ian Campbell owner of Tropical Birding summed up the feelings of many participants, "The Lake Erie Marsh Region has become THE place to witness spring songbird migration in the Western Hemisphere. There's no other place on the planet I want to be than northwest Ohio in May!"

The global appeal of birding is highlighted by the fact that 44 states were represented in the event registration with people visiting from around the globe, including: Spain, Kenya, Guam, Japan, Ecuador, England, Canada, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, and Mexico.

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UniPrint, Ohio State will introduce soy-based toner

WORTHINGTON, Ohio – President E. Gordon Gee will help kick off [The Ohio State University's](#) new "Soy Toner Alliance," in which laser printers on campus will begin using a new soy-based toner originally developed in a collaboration between the [Ohio Soybean Council](#) and Battelle.

The toner, produced by [Mitsubishi](#) and available in [AgriTone](#) replacement cartridges produced by [West Point Products](#), is 35 percent or more bio-based. The development of the toner began over a decade ago and was funded by soybean checkoff dollars provided to Battelle from the Ohio Soybean Council.

Ohio State's adoption of soy-based toner makes it one of the largest users of soy-based toner in the nation. The kick off will take place at [Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center](#), 2201 Fred Taylor

[Drive, Columbus, OH](#) on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at 9 a.m. Speakers for the event will include Gordon Gee, president, The Ohio State University; Bobby Moser, vice president and dean, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences; Keith Kemp, chairman, Ohio Soybean Council; and Debby Parks, director, UniPrint Representatives of Battelle.

Ohio State's new "Soy Toner Alliance" is led by UniPrint, which maintains about half of the estimated 7,000 printers on campus. UniPrint will be using soy-based toner in any printer in its program for which cartridges are available, currently totaling about 700. Those printers print about 800,000 pages per month.

Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences helped pilot use of the new toner when UniPrint began using it

on June 1. The benefits of soy-based toner are multiple. Soybean oil, a renewable resource, is a key ingredient in the new toner and replaces petroleum, which is used in traditional toner. Soy-based toner is easier to remove from paper during recycling than traditional toner, streamlining the recycling process. Use of soy-based toner provides a new market for Ohio farmers, who grow soybeans on over 4 million acres each year.

Soy-based toner falls right in line with the spirit of Ohio's new BioPreferred Purchasing program, passed with strong bipartisan support in the Ohio legislature and signed by Gov. Ted Strickland in February. The program calls for state agencies, departments and state-supported colleges and universities to purchase bio-based alternatives as often as possible.

USDA CCC announces lending rates for June 2010

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) recently announced interest rates for June 2010. The CCC borrowing rate-based charge for June 2010 is 0.375 percent, down from 0.500 percent in May 2010. For 1996 and subsequent crop year commodity and marketing assistance loans, the interest rate for loans disbursed during June 2010 is 1.375 percent, down from 1.500 percent in May 2010.

In accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill, interest rates for Farm Storage Facility Loans approved for June 2010 are as follows: 3.000 percent with seven-year loan terms, down from 3.250 percent in May 2010, 3.625 percent with 10-year loan terms, down from 3.875 in May 2010, and 3.875 percent with 12-year loan terms, down from 4.125 percent in May 2010.

Past monthly releases announcing interest rates charged by CCC on commodity and marketing assistance loans disbursed for that particular month reflected the interest rate the U.S. Treasury charged CCC for that month. This was the interest rate specified by the CCC since Jan. 1, 1982, but the process of establishing the interest rate was changed by a provision of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, enacted on April 4, 1996.

Section 163 of the Act requires that monthly interest rates applicable to commodity loans are to be 100 basis points – or one percent – greater than the rate determined under the applicable interest rate formula in effect on Oct. 1, 1995. This formula resulted in a rate equivalent to the amount the U.S. Treasury charged the CCC for borrowing for the month.

Further program information is available from USDA Farm Service Agency's Financial Management Division at 703-305-1386.

ODA launches annual photography contest

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (June 8, 2010) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture today announced its third annual photo contest. Participants will have until Dec. 31, 2010, to capture their personal interpretation of this year's theme "Life of a Farmer."

"Life of a Farmer" can be interpreted in many ways. Entrants are asked to show the department their unique definition of the life of an everyday farmer, which could include photos of farmers at work, with their animals or enjoying life on the farm.

Following the Dec. 31 deadline, an independent judging panel will rank

the photo submissions. The winning photographers will be invited to join Director Boggs and other invited guests for a reception and unveiling of the top photos. The top photos will be placed on display at the Ohio Statehouse. All photos may be used by the department for educational or promotional incentives.

General photography contest rules:

Entrants must be at least 16-years-old and the original photographer.

Contest is open to amateur photographers only.

Photos must be taken in 2010.

Entries must be post-marked by Dec. 31.

No more than five pho-

tos may be submitted per household.

Photos must be submitted as digital images burned to a CD and must be at least 300 dpi and in jpg or tif format.

No computer-aided adjustments to photos.

Each photo must be accompanied by an entry form, complete with signature.

Photographer must obtain written parental/guardian permission for photographed children younger than the age of 18.

Those interested in entering the contest should send their photo CD along with a signed entry form to the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Office of Communication, 8995 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg,

Ohio, 43068. Entry forms may be downloaded from the department's website.

For additional information about the contest, a complete copy of the rules and entry forms visit [www.agri.ohio.gov](#) or call 614-752-9817.



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The Community Post welcomes letters to the editor and submissions on relevant topics that concern our communities.

All submissions must be submitted no later than noon on Monday the week of publication. Any submissions received after that deadline will not be printed until the subsequent issue. Submissions may be edited for content, grammar and length.

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New Bremen holds Redskins scoreless in ACME win

By Chris Voloschuk
Sports Writer

WAPAKONETA — Through five ACME baseball games this month, the Wapakoneta Redskins are 1-4, the latest blemish being a 2-0 loss to New Bremen Tuesday night.

But the loss to the Cardinals was different than Monday's 10-0 run-rule defeat against Lima Central Catholic.

While still unable to plate a single run, the Redskins got better in every phase of the game within 24 hours and threatened to change the outcome on several occasions.

Wapak had runners in scoring position in four of seven innings played, but due to some outstanding work from New Bremen pitchers and a few bad breaks, it couldn't break through on the scoreboard.

"It was a very good ballgame," Wapak ACME coach Willie Sammetinger said. "We had our chances, but give New Bremen credit. They made plays when they had to."

The teams combined for five hits, but the Cardinals were the ones who made them count in the end.

In the top of the third inning Wapak starting pitcher Cale

Tabler, playing in his first ACME game of the summer, walked Aaron McCollum and Alex Feltz to start things off. After A.J. Anderson's sacrifice bunt moved both to second and third base, Morgen Sindelar came up with the game's deciding blow, a two-run double to right-center field for a 2-0 lead.

"Great hits come at good times," New Bremen ACME coach Logan O'Neill said. "I can't ask for more than what these kids have done. They've been great."

Combined with a solid defense that turned three double plays and even better pitching from Cody Bruggeman, Sindelar and Brent Bertke, it was all the visitors needed to up their record to 3-3.

"One thing I've been stressing this summer is defense," New Bremen ACME coach Logan O'Neill said. "I think we played strong defense and our pitching got us out of it."

Bruggeman (2-0) got the win on the mound with four innings of scoreless baseball. He gave up three hits, walked two and struck out three in 43 pitches. Sindelar and Bertke combined for three scoreless innings, no hits, four walks and two hit batters.

"They threw a lot of strikes," Sammetinger said.

There were also occasions where the Redskins either hurt

themselves with a mental lapse or suffered a stroke of bad luck.

With one out and runners on first and second in the bottom of the sixth, Johnny Crawford ripped a line drive down the first base line that New Bremen's Zach Siegal snared for the second out. With A.J. Etzkorn frozen just three steps off the bag, Siegal put his foot down for the third out, ending the threat.

In the home half of the seventh, Alex Koch and Mickie Grothause drew consecutive one-out walks. At the plate, Dylan Knoch appeared to hit a foul tip, but the umpire didn't make the call as the ball hit the dirt and both runners started to advance.

Amid the confusion, Grothause and Koch stopped running and awaited a confirmation of the foul ball. Grothause eventually walked into second base safely for a steal, but Bremen catcher McCollum fired the ball to third base, catching Koch two steps off the bag for a crucial second out.

Knoch wound up grounding out to end the game.

"We put the ball in play, had a lot of balls hit hard," Sammetinger said. "The shot (Crawford) hit in the sixth could've easily gone down the line for a double and scored two runs. But such is



baseball." Offensively, Wapak was led by Chace Culver's double and a single from Marshall Gerlach. Tabler was walked once and hit by a pitch. Grothause, Koch, Brandon Miller and Chris Schwartz all drew a walk. The Cardinals were led by Sindelar's double and two RBI, but also got a single from Tyler Noseck. Anderson, Siegal, Bruggeman, McCollum and Feltz all drew walks.

Recognize your area's top athletes and coaches

Think back over the past 10 years – what local coach has stood out as a testament to what coaching is all about? What team achieved a "winning season" regardless of its record? Who – both male and female – excelled at his or her sport?

The Community Post is inviting its readers to nominate the coach, team and athletes you feel are worthy of the title. Think back over the last decade and send us your nominations, for these four awards. Nominations may include a brief explanation for each of the entries; nominations should be limited to those teams and individuals that were active in the years 2000-2009.

Entry forms are included in today's edition and also online at www.minstercommunitypost.com. The form will also run in the Community Post next week and will be online through June 23. Garmann/Miller and Associates, SecurCom, Minster Service Club and Buschur Electric are sponsors of this promotion; entry forms are available at their locations as well. Nomination forms may be returned to the newspaper or any sponsor location; forms may also be completed online and returned electronically.

Nominations will be accepted through June 23. Once collected, the nominations will be compiled into a ballot for voting. The ballot will be published in the newspaper on July 1 and 8 and will also be available online through July 14. Ballots will be available at sponsor locations through July 14 as well. Deadline to return ballots will be July 14.

Winners will be announced in a special publication that will be part of the July 29 edition of the Community Post.

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We want you to nominate the coach, team, and athletes you feel are worthy of the title. Think back over the last decade and send us your nominations for these four awards. You may include a brief explanation for your nomination:

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Nomination form also found at minstercommunitypost.com and at our sponsor locations. Nominations close on June 23; ballot voting for those nominated begins July 1 through July 14. Winners announced July 29 in the Community Post.





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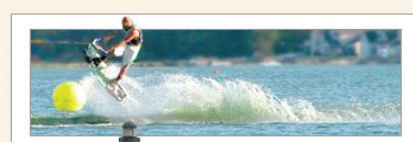
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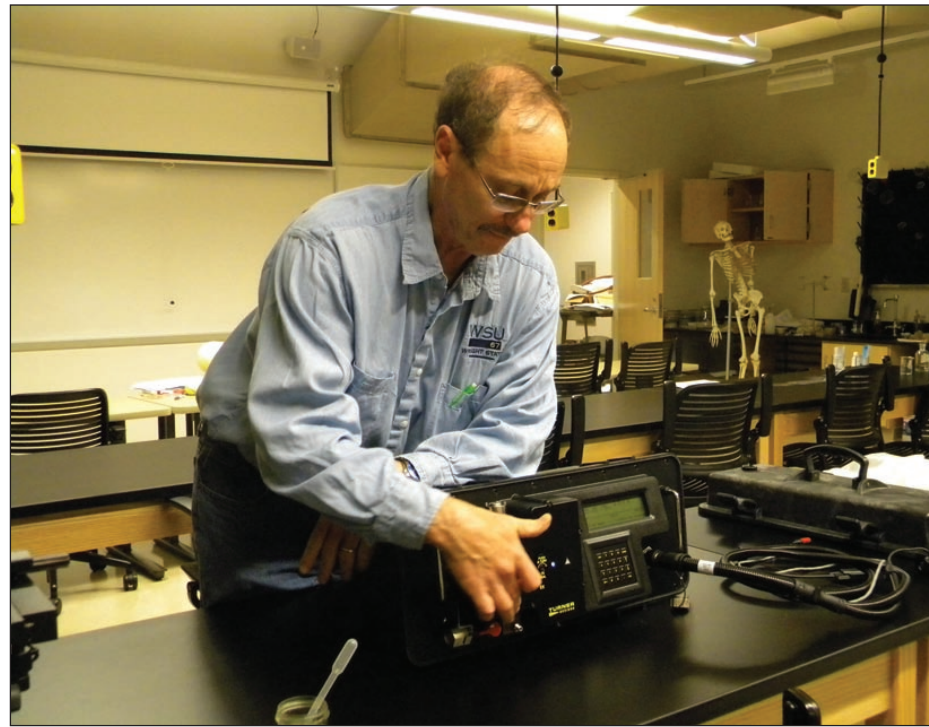


Photo provided
Dr. Robert Hiskey, Associate Professor Biological Sciences, is shown in his lab demonstrating how the Fluorometer will measure the level of chlorophyll in fresh water.

Professor studies lake nutrients

By Allison Roorda
Community Post

Get the lake clean! That has become the goal of community-led Grand Lake Restoration Commission: to improve the quality of water in Grand Lake St. Marys.

As a part of the Grand Lake St. Marys Restoration Initiative, workers at St. Marys State Park installed Airy-Gators on the south side of the lake last spring. This system is meant to increase the dissolved oxygen in the lake and the circulation of oxygenated water in the lake. Dr. Robert Hiskey, associate professor of biological sciences at Wright State University - Lake Campus, is monitoring these effects to clean up the lake.

"What they're looking at is increasing the oxygen levels in the water, especially at the part near the bottom," Hiskey explained. "Why that can be important is that when you mix the sentiments in the water right near the bottom with oxygen, the organics will be digested more rapidly so that might get rid of the material more quickly. So there's less muck."

Hiskey, as an independent scientist working with the Grand Lake Restoration Commission, measures the levels of phosphorus, nitrogen and chlorophyll in the lake. High levels of chlorophyll are desirable because it increases the amount of oxygen in the lake.

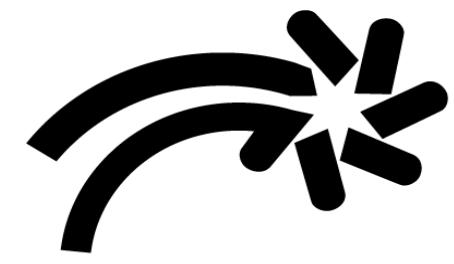
"I'm looking at chlorophyll contents and I'm doing algae counts, looking at counting numbers of viable cells or colonies in there," Hiskey said.

The presence of phosphorus and nitrogen is important because the two components can combine to cause blue-green algae to be present in fresh water. Blue-green algae are a type of algae classified as cyanobacteria.

"They're more related to bacteria than they are to plants," Hiskey said. "You want to keep the blue-greens at a minimum."

Last summer Grand Lake St. Marys users were notified by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and Ohio EPA that blue-green algae was present and that the algae can cause health complications to humans, plants and animals. This

See NUTRIENTS, Page 3



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Photo by Allison Roorda

A flock of geese and their goslings paddle through the water on the west back of Grand Lake St. Marys.



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THE PREFERRED CHOICE FOR HEALTHCARE IN THE GRAND LAKE REGION

Nutrients

From Page 2



Photo by Allison Roorda

Blue-green algae are among the pollutants the Grand Lake Restoration Commission is looking to rid the lake of.

problem sparked the initiative to improve the quality of water in Grand Lake St. Marys.

Hiskey said the changing weather will also have an effect on the level of nutrients in the lake.

“As we go into now the waters warming up this is the more critical time,” he said. “We’ve had an unusual spring where there was a lot more diversity of algae and the blue-green were quite low, so the water was clearer. We’ll see if that trend is going to continue or if we’ll see the reversal of back to heavier amounts of blue-greens. When you’re looking at the pollutants of the lake, that’s one that you want to keep down.”

While the study continues, Hiskey emphasized the re-

search is still in its beginning phases.

“It’s really too early to tell,” he said. “It’s one of those things you’re not going to get instant results.”

Photo provided

Right: Dr. Robert Hiskey, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, preps his boat and equipment at the Lake Campus marina before he collects samples on the south side of Grand Lake St. Marys.



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June 26 - Model 12

June 27 - Happy Daz

July 2 - Spoon Called Head

July 3 - Night Crawlers

July 4 - Someones Kids

Every Wed Night 7-10

That Lousy Band

July 9 - Cotton

July 10 - DNA

July 11 - Bubba & Hoss

July 14 - That Lousy Band

July 16 - Boom Swung

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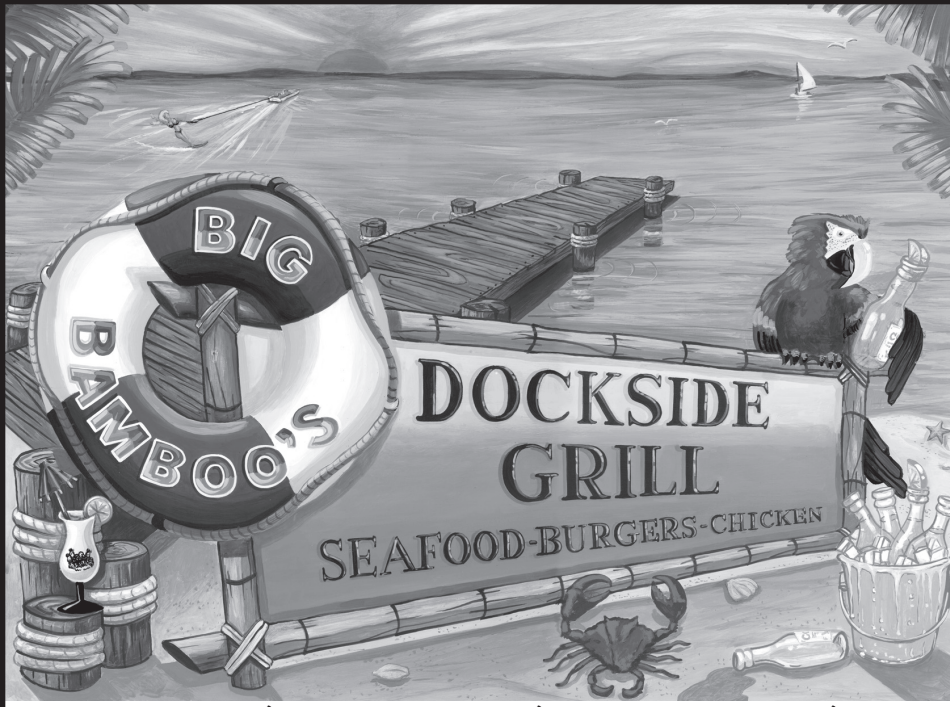
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Preview of coming attractions

By Allison Roorda
Community Post

CELINA – With warmer weather approaching, people flock to the lake for cooler water and temperatures. As always Grand Lake St. Marys is prepared for the influx.

Not everyone who visits the lake will be partaking of the waters.

"One of the major things that people ask about are hiking and biking," said Executive Director of the Auglaize and Mercer Counties Convention and Visitors Bureau Donna Grube. "Bird watching is becoming a popular activity, too."

There is also a dog park on the west bank of the lake for local visitors and

campers to bring their pets. Grube reported boating and fishing remain the most popular forms of entertainment around the lake.

All the publicity about the attempts to clean up Grand Lake St. Marys has had a positive affect on the lake's public image as well as visitors to the lake.

"They know that an effort is going on and that bring back people to the lake," Grube said.

The clean up effort also proves how important the lake is to local people and economy, according to Grube.

"The fact that so much money was raised in such a short amount of time shows that people do care about this lake," Grube said.



Make your boat green-friendly

For much of the last decade, the emphasis on living a more environmentally friendly lifestyle has grown and grown. Many of the changes individuals can make are small and easy but have a very big and positive impact if practiced by enough people.

One place people can also practice a more environmentally friendly lifestyle is on the water. Be it on the local lake or out on the ocean, the sea needs protecting as well, and boaters can do a number of things to make their boat more environmentally friendly.

* Clean the boat thoroughly, particularly the bottom. A thorough cleaning of your boat, including inspecting the hull to

make sure it's clear of marine growth, grass and barnacles, will help reduce fuel consumption. This poses the double benefit of being good for the environment while also saving you money at the fuel dock.

* Keep the engine in tip-top shape. The more an engine is taken care of, the better it's going to perform. A boat engine operating at optimal performance will burn fuel more efficiently, resulting in fewer emissions into the air and water.

* Practice careful fueling. The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water notes the importance of carefully refueling your boat to avoid harmful spillage, and teaches how easy it is to spill

fuel when refueling. Unlike automobiles, fuel tanks in boats are not pressurized. Inboard boat tanks do have air vents to relieve the pressure that builds while filling a tank, but this makes it easy to spill fuel while refilling. To combat spillage, there are a host of things boaters can do. To learn more, visit www.boatus.com.

* Take trash seriously. Lots of people love to take guests out on their boat to have a good time. Without proper trash containers, however, such get-togethers can prove harmful to the ocean should trash drift into the waters. If you keep a trash receptacle on deck, be sure it has a lid that locks and make sure all guests take dis-

carding trash seriously.

* Wash your boat more responsibly. When washing your boat, use fresh water and a scrub brush in lieu of chemical cleaners that can prove harmful to the ocean and the animals that call the ocean home. Try using cleaners such as vinegar or baking soda in an effort to

reduce the potential for chemicals ending up in the water.

* Fix your boat in the offseason. If possible, refrain from repairing your boat while it is docked. Instead, if you haul your boat during the colder months, do the repairs then to reduce the likelihood that pollutants will end up in the water.



Boating and fishing remain two of the popular pastimes on the lake. Photo by Allison Roorda

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Drunk boaters target of waterways safety enforcement

COLUMBUS – As many as 70 State Watercraft officers, joined by U.S. Coast Guard and local marine patrol officers, will participate in Operation Dry Water June 25-27 to remove boaters impaired by alcohol and drugs from state waterways, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Watercraft.

Division of Watercraft officers and marine patrol units will focus much of their attention during this year's Operation Dry Water on inland waterways that attract the largest numbers of recreational boaters. Shared multi-jurisdictional waterways enforcement efforts also will occur on the Ohio River and Lake Erie.

This is the second year of the special nationwide marine enforcement effort initiated by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. Last year, during Operation Dry Water, the Division of Watercraft made 12 ar-

rests of intoxicated boaters, two drug-related arrests and issued more than 100 citations for additional alcohol and boating-related violations statewide (<http://www.operationdrywater.org/>). Overall, State Watercraft officers made contact with more than 1,500 boaters statewide during that special enforcement effort.

U.S. Coast Guard statistics reveal that 17 percent of the nation's boating-related deaths in 2008 resulted from boaters impaired by alcohol or drugs. Operating a boat with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher is against most federal and state laws, including Ohio.

It's not just drunk boaters who are being targeted. Drug-impaired boating and drug-related arrests are more prevalent today on the nation's waterways, which increases the risk to boating safety for all boaters. Operation Dry Water (www.operationdrywater.org/) also seeks to remove boat opera-



Photo by Allison Roorda

Remember to be safe and sober when boating on the lake.

tors who may be under the influence of drugs while boating.

While state watercraft officers and local marine patrols are always on the lookout for impaired boat operators, Operation Dry Water is an organized national effort that focuses greater awareness of the need for boat opera-

tors to boat smart, boat sober and make a commitment to staying safe on the water.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR Web site at www.ohiodnr.com.

Exciting things are happening at Grand Lake St. Marys

Airy Gators, Floating Wetlands, Collectors. No, Grand Lake has not turned into the Everglades.

In a sign of solidarity, community members signed a resolution on Feb. 19, 2010 supporting technology to clean up Grand Lake and lower the toxin level. Officials from Mercer and Auglaize counties had already formed the Grand Lake St. Marys Restoration Initiative following a presentation by Findlay-based Streamside Systems. The company sells the sedimentation removal technology the group wants to test in the lake.

In February the group had already raised \$80,000 toward the roughly \$600,000 they need to pay for the pilot test

of the technology. To date, the Grand Lake St. Marys Restoration Initiative has raised over \$500,000, installed two Airy Gators in the water on the south side of the lake and is planning to install three streamside collectors units within the next few weeks.

An Airy Gator is a large, floating electric-powered aerator with a series of rotating discs. The unit infuses oxygen into the water, allowing beneficial micro-organisms to grow and consume nutrient-rich organic material in the sediment.

The muck in the bottom of Grand Lake does not have enough oxygen to allow beneficial microorganism to survive and break down organic mat-

ter. Therefore the sludge layer gets thicker as the lake gets shallower. The lake's excessive amount of blue-green algae thrives off this organic matter, thus increasing the likelihood of toxin levels rising. By naturally reducing the amount of organic material at the bottom of the lake, a reduction in both algae and toxin is expected.

Three steel devices called Sediment Collectors will also be placed in the Big Chickasaw Creek, Beaver Creek (in Montezuma) and in Barnes Creek. These steel devices are placed on the bottom of a stream and use the energy of the water to move sediment up the collector's ramp and into a hopper.

See GATORS, Page 6



Photo provided

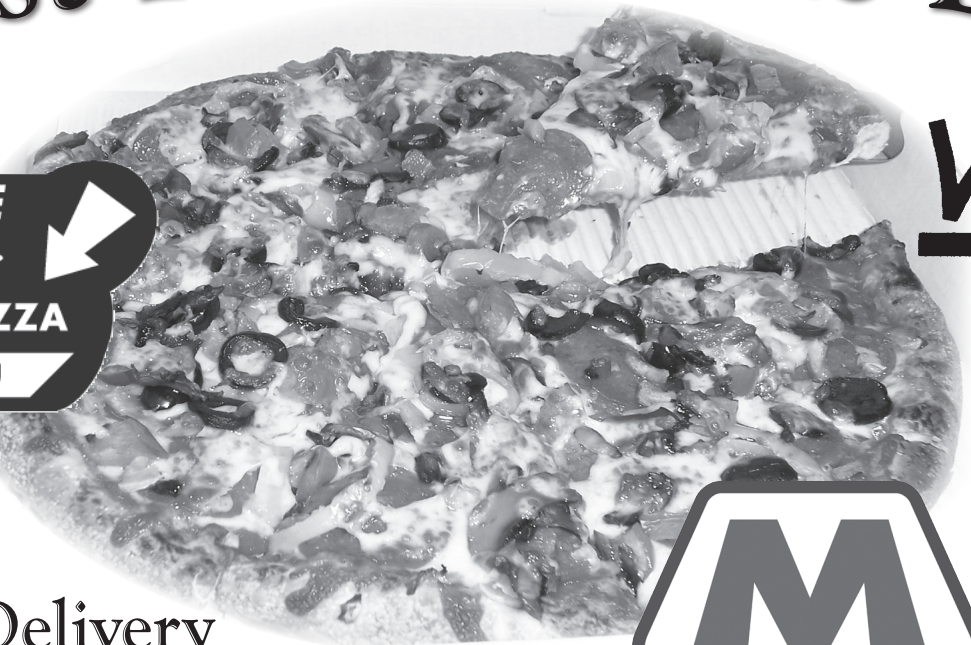
Sediment Collectors will be placed in the various creeks flowing into Grand Lake St. Marys to move stop excess sediment from flowing into the lake.

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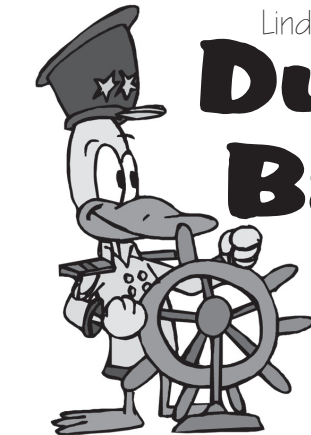
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Gators

From Page 5

Once the hopper is full the sediment is pumped to a dewatering or disposal site.

The plan is to perform a small pilot test of the sediment removal technology in the lake and then, if it works, use the test results to leverage state and federal grants to install more of the technology. Providing monitoring and data collection at the sites are Wright State University Lake Campus, Streamside Systems and the city of Celina.

Jared Ebbing, Mercer County Community Development Director, said “The Airy Gators and Collectors are not a silver bullet to fix the lake’s water quality problems, but said, “Nothing will be gained

if nothing is tried. Waiting for the state to fund something isn’t getting us anywhere. I’m hopeful this technology and other technologies can begin to help.”

To date the algae toxin levels in Grand Lake remain safe and a state water quality advisory placed on the lake last year remains lifted. “Everything is good right now,” said Brian Miller, Assistant Manager of Grand Lake St. Marys State Park. “The lake is clear and fishing is good.”

If you have an interest in helping to revitalize Grand Lake St. Marys, contact Milt Miller at (419) 733-3004. For more information visit www.lakeimprovement.com.



Photo provided

A total of two Airy-Gators were installed in Grand Lake St. Marys to help mix more oxygen into the lake water.

Visit our website at
www.minstercommunitypost.com.

Photo by Allison Roorda
A heron perches on a dock in the boating area at Grand Lake St. Marys.



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Celina Eagles on the lake

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