

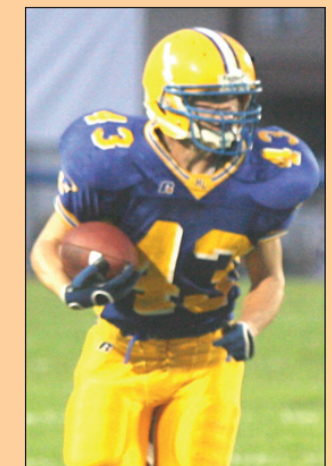
This week in pictures



The Community Post

Thursday, September 11, 2008 50 cents
Serving our communities since 1896

Inside:



High School
Football
Section B



Health and
Wellness
Section C



Local man's life story

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The Community Post

Thursday, September 11, 2008 Serving Our Communities Since 1896 50 Cents

Son of Minster marched to the beat of a different drummer

By Bob Lammers
Correspondent

Try to imagine what life might have been like in Minster back in the 1920s. Now imagine that you are the second youngest son in a family of 10 children. You are working in your father's business—the Kramer Dickman Creamery. Can you see that maybe life is not exactly a "bowl of cherries" for John Herman Joseph Dickman, age 30 something? Unlike many other young men in this small town, Joe decided to make a change in his life—a rather dramatic one.

He announced to his family that he was leaving home and heading for China! He packed

a few meager belongings and hopped on his motorcycle, heading for California where he had relatives. His immediate family and other relatives would not see or hear from him until over 45 years had passed and that was by accident.

It's not that his family didn't try to locate him either. Marj Freytag, Minster, a great niece of Uncle Joe was part of that attempt. As Marj tells it, "In 1931 my Grandma and Grandpa Dickman, his brother, Charles Henry Dickman III, my parents (Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. DeLaet) my sister and I drove to California in a model T Ford looking for Great Uncle Joe." Marj does not

remember much about the trip. She does remember crossing the desert at night with a water bag hung on the car. "There were no roads across the desert so we followed the telephone poles." She also remembers visiting with the California relatives. Marj adds, "We couldn't find any trace of Uncle Joe. Grandpa and Grandma Dickman and his siblings were devastated. It's sad that most of them died before we gained any knowledge of what happened to Uncle Joe."

Little did they know that Uncle Joe was a lot closer to Minster than California; he was in Florida, living on Kice Island from 1929 to 1960. Joe, in a newspaper in-



Photo provided

Joe Dickman, once called an "emeritus of a sea shell picker" by a college professor.

terview in 1967, says that he met a man M.S. Kice in Los Angeles in 1929. Kice was a land speculator and owned Kice Island (next to Marco Island) in Florida. He asked Joe to go to that island, settle in, promising him that he would come down and develop the island.

Dickman explained, "I made the trip on my motorcycle. Took 30 days to make 3,000 miles. When I got here there was no way to get to the island so I sold it for almost nothing. Wasn't worth much by then anyway."

"I never saw Kice again. The depression got our big project. Got a letter from him once in a while, kept sayin' he was comin'

and to hold on." Mr. Kice told me I'd get in on the ground floor," Joe chuckled as he related his tale to the interviewer, "and I really did. I'm still there."

While he was waiting for Kice, Joe went to work on the island. He put in pilings and built a two-story clapboard house on a knoll overlooking Caxambas Pass. The house had a free-flowing well.

He squatted there fishing, guiding other fishermen and hunters and selling seashells for over 30 years. He was very good at sea shelling, especially left-handed conch shells. Although he lived alone, he never considered himself to be a hermit.

See DICKMAN, Page 2A



Photo provided

Albert and Marge Freytag, Minster pouring over some of the information they have collected about Marge's great uncle, Joe Dickman.

Maria Stein Center hosts day for women

The Sisters of the Precious Blood are providing a day for women, at the Maria Stein Center, the Shrine of the Holy Relics, 2291 St. Johns Rd., Maria Stein, OH. It will be offered on two different days: namely, Saturday, Sept. 27 and again on Saturday, Oct. 18. The day begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. It includes several presentations, time for reflection, sharing with others, prayer and Mass at 11:30 a.m. Also, participants can enjoy a delicious boxed lunch.

This event is for women of all ages, and all walks of life. Last year's event was a huge success and it is anticipated that many will attend it this year. Come to be renewed in mind, body and spirit.

"Treasure the Gift" is the theme for this year's Day for Women. Life is a tremendous gift, and each day holds many moments of grace which we can choose to cherish and value. People, nature, events certainly are precious gifts from God. This is an opportunity to take time

from your busy life to ponder how God is blessing you and moving uniquely in your life. Women often come together to share meaningful moments in their lives, to hear from other women and to praise and thanks to God. Today will be such an event; together, we will consider what is right with our world.

Pre-registration is requested, as well as a donation of \$15.00. If you plan to attend the Sept. 27 day, you must register by Sept. 13. If you plan to attend the October 18 day, you must register by Oct. 4.

Registrations are limited to 45 participants for each day.

To register: send your name, address, phone number and donation to: PROGRAMS, Sr. Mary Ellen Andrisin, 2291 St. Johns Rd., P.O. Box 128, Maria Stein, OH 45860. Please make checks payable to: Maria Stein Center.

For more information, call Maria Stein Center, 419-925-4532.



Photo provided

Jeff Eschmeyer of New Knoxville (left) is welcomed as a new member of the New Bremen-New Knoxville Rotary Club by President Alex Rompilla (right).

NB-NK Rotary Club plans fall projects

The next few months will be busy ones for the New Bremen-New Knoxville Rotary Club. In keeping with the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self", a number of Community Service projects are scheduled.

The annual Benefit Auction will be held on Saturday, Sept. 20. This is a major fund-raiser for the club and enables many other projects to take place. The evening involves dinner and an auction of donated goods and services.

In October, the Rotary Club will assist with a Canal Walk in conjunction with the Kiwanis Club in St Marys and their annual Walk with Nature on Sunday, Oct. 19.

Each November, the Rotarians call on their professional relationships in the area to arrange a "Career Day" with the New Bremen and New Knoxville Schools. Rotarians provide transportation for students to learn first-hand about particular career opportunities.

Too early to think about Christmas? The Rotary Club will again host the annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting in downtown New Bremen.

Each Tuesday, the Rotary Club meets for breakfast at Speedway Lanes in New Bremen and enjoys a program of timely information and entertainment. Guests and visitors are welcome each week, and new members are encouraged.

Mission Commission breakfast to be held

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Mission Commission will be hosting a Mission Breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 28.

From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. the Mission Commission will be serving a variety of home-cooked food

in the Our Lady of Guadalupe church basement in Montezuma.

Proceeds from the free-will offering will benefit the parish mission projects.

For more information call 419-268-2008.



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Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed. 9-6, Thurs. 9-1, Fri. 9-8; Sat. 9-3:30

Dickman

From Page 1A

Joe once remarked, "Long time ago, some city folks came out and asked me if it was true there was a hermit on the island. I told them that I'd been here 20 years and never seen one!"

Joe lived in his little wooden house for 10 years after that.

It's now 1960 and Hurricane Donna blew ashore on Kice Island, destroying Joe's home so after 30 years, Joe moved into a 17-room abandoned boarding house, known as the Barfield home in Caxambas on Marco Island. It was located on what became known as Dickman's Point. Later the house burned and Joe moved into a small trailer at a fish camp. He was suffering from arthritis.

Joe said, "I was sorta' happy to be ashore and seeing people every now and then. I get along fine with my neighbors. I like people as long as they don't come in bunches. I just stay out of the current... is all."

While on Marco, Joe decided to register to vote but that did not go well. As Joe put it, "I registered to vote but I refused to pay the poll tax. Then they put an item in the paper that I was delinquent. I've never been interested in voting since then."

He made his living digging and selling sea shells. He once said, "The government owes me nothing. Since there's been Social Security I never made enough to come under it or pay an income tax. And I'm a veteran of nothing but life itself. I dig and sell a few shells, although it's pretty tough work out in the mud for the best of 'em. I have my boat and I know where the fish are. I get along just fine."

"Of course I could go offshore, grow a beard and drift in with a Cuban accent and get \$100 a month as a refugee from Castro, but being just a home-grown American I'm entitled to nothing and I want nothing."

Dickman told the reporter that he spoke seven languages, having learned both English and German at home. Friends believe he learned other foreign languages by listening to his short-wave radio. He had a Spanish English dictionary that he studied, but remarked, "There was nobody around here then to practice on."

The development of Marco Island bothered Dickman. He remembered a time where there were only three fish houses on the island. He remarked to a reporter, "They gave some guy a plaque for be-

ing a 'champion fisherman,' for taking out 20,000 pounds at a time. Champion robber is all he was."

Dickman noted that a wildcat used to sleep in the sun in his front yard, but said he is gone, too. "The bulldozers scared the wildcat away. Funny, I tramped around Wyoming and the California desert for years looking for a wildcat. Never saw one until I came here."

"I get along fine with my neighbors. I don't see why we got to go 10,000 miles to get in trouble."

Although the development of Marco Island irritated him more than anything else, he told of one joke at the expense of the developers. "Mackle (the developer) has to spray to keep the mosquitoes down so he can get customers. I get the benefit of that."

They're going to build... what do you call them, condominiums? Yeah, that's it. But I don't need them. They own the shore now and you can't get near the beach. They keep trying to buy this place and the saloon. Some day they will, I suppose. I don't know what I'll do then. Find some more paths, if there are any."

Back in 1967, there was a yellow building on Caxambas Channel you could get a fishing guide, live shrimps and other fishing necessities including a drink.

"I go down there for a little nip now and then," Dickman said. "I listen to the people. If they say anything interesting I stick around. Mostly they only talk about wine and women and how much whiskey they drank the night before. That isn't very interesting."

Dickman did not like being called a hermit. "Fella' named Tebeau from Miami (probably Dr. Charlton Tebeau, chairman of the history department at the University of Miami at that time) called me an 'emeritus of a sea shell picker.'"

He hit the nail on the head. Another fella' called me a plutocrat. Of all the damn things to call me!"

So how did Joe Dickman's family finally make contact with him?

In the winter of 1955-56, Casey Kohnen, a bachelor from Minster and went fishing in Florida near into Joe while he was still living on Kice Island. When he returned to Minster he told Marj and Albert Freytag about the incident.

Marj describes what happened next. "Since the early 1950s we had vacationed in Naples, Fl., for



Photo provided

Joe Dickman's home was built on Dickman Point, Kice Island, FL back in the 1930's.

two weeks every year. We decided we would visit him on Kice Island on our next trip. We told my aunts (Joe's nieces and a nephew about Joe and several of them came to visit him in 1960. We visited with Joe every year from 1960 until his death from cancer Jan. 12, 1971 at the ripe old age of 90."

"On our first visit to Uncle Joe at the old, abandoned Barfield house in Caxambas, Joe invited us to stay with him, but we declined," Marge said. Albert noted, "Uncle Joe's pants would have stood up all by themselves!"

On their numerous visits, Uncle Joe would relate some details of his life and activities on Kice and Marco Island.

"Joe told us about a power shovel digging 20 ft. deep at Caxambas and still finding oyster shells. The nearby town of Goodland has rows of oyster shells piled up 5 ft. high. He told us they had open sided sheds where Indian women shucked oysters and then threw the shells outside. When the pile got too high, they just moved the sheds."

Joe also told the Freytag's about some sailing ships that were loaded with heart of pine boards which had sunk after hitting a reef. Joe and a friend, Bud Kirk took their boats and salvaged all of the wood off of these ships and built 7 houses; one of which was for Bud.

Another great niece, Judy Parent, age 65, of Debuque, Iowa, made also made a trip to visit Joe Dickman in 1960. She related her experience to Marj Freytag in a letter dated June 2, 2008. It reads, in part:

"I was interested in reading that you were able to see Dickman Island

(Note: This would actually be Kice Island) on jet skies. I don't think I would have the nerve to get up on a jet ski. I saw Dickman Island when I was 16 and Uncle Joe took us out in a little boat with a makeshift motor. This was in August 1960. In the boat were Uncle Joe, my mom, dad, myself and aunts Dickey and Genie in the tiny little rowboat with the unreliable motor on it. My mother, who was always terrified of water since her cousin drowned at Lake Loramie when she was a young girl, thought for sure that all of us were going to drown on the way out or back, but I was fascinated by the entire experience. My father was an expert swimmer, I could float well, but my mom and aunts G. and B. couldn't swim at all.

Uncle Joe had met us in the Everglades at the bait shop and led us to a little dock in the swamp where he had the small boat waiting. The path we walked to the dock was made of broken clam shells. I could feel the sharp edges of the shells through the soles of my tennis shoes and was amazed that Uncle Joe was walking barefoot on the path without any apparent discomfort. He was wearing cut off slacks and was shirtless. His skin was a deep brown tone and looked like leather. He had a straw sunhat on his head. On the drive to the bait shop through the Everglades, my father had to stop the car at one point while we waited for a very large, and very slow alligator to cross the dirt road from one swampy side of the road to the other. Uncle Joe warned us not to

stray from the clam shell path as we followed him to the boat.

When we reached the island, we visited with Uncle Joe for several hours in his little cabin on stilts. I remember that there was a shelf under the ceiling around the shack and on that shelf was a collection of souvenirs from his life. He served us Nabisco ginger snaps cookies and a burgundy wine. There were boxes of sea shells piled outside at the entrance steps to the shack. It appeared that some he was sorting and some had already been boxed up to take to shore for a mailing to a seashell jewelry factory in Pennsylvania.

Uncle Joe took me for a walk along the beach to find shells that I could take home with me. He told us that the island, which was about one-half mile wide and one mile long, was building up slower on the one side than it was washing away on the other side. He predicted that the next hurricane to hit the island would wash it away. A little one month after our visit, a hurricane hit the island and proved him right."

While he was still living, Joe had the pleasure of having an island named after him—Dickman Island and Dickman Point. Although he never lived on Dickman Island, south of Marco, he likely visited there often in his shelling expeditions. Dickman Point is at the west side of Kice Island where his first house was located. Both can be found on nautical maps of the area.

Joe made a lot of friends on the islands. One couple was Ernest and Gladys

Otter. Joe and Ernie laid up a left hand conch shell sea wall which still stands today on Addison Court. He lived at a fish camp on Osceola Court in a trailer after the old home was no longer habitable, even by Joe's standards.

Marj recalls, "On our first visit to the fish camp Uncle Joe invited us to stay with him in one of the fishing cabins. In the cabins there were just boards for a bunk and the stench of rotting shells was overwhelming. We declined his gracious invitation."

When we would leave Joe each year we would stop by his favorite bar and grocery and leave some money as a credit for Uncle Joe. They told us he lived on sardines, crackers and beer."

We have made many friends in South Florida over the years. We hope to be able to write a book about them in the near future."

When Joe got cancer he lived with the Otters until he required full time care. He died in the Greater Naples Nursing home. He is buried on a knoll in Old Marco Island Cemetery.

Marj relates one final anecdote about Uncle Joe. "When Joe's family found out where he was living, they sent him a check for \$1,600, his share of the sale of some lots the Dickman family owned on the east end of Minster. Joe took the money and put it in the Marco Island Bank. He never touched it after that. When he died, that's the money they used to bury him."

Joe Dickman, an ordinary man, yet very uncommon.

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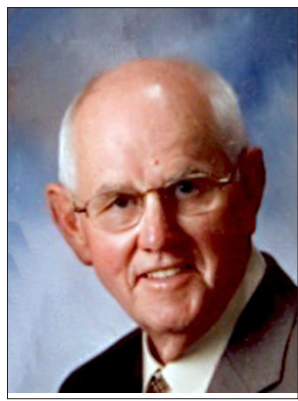
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Obituaries

Maurice R. Brunswick

Maurice R. Brunswick died Sunday Sept. 7, 2008 at his Osgood home at the age of 74.



He was born July 5, 1934 in Russia to the late Henry and Emma (Riethman) Brunswick. On Nov. 24, 1956 he married Marianne Langenkamp who survives him in Osgood.

He is also survived by his children Ronald (Jayne) Brunswick and David (Connie) Brunswick both of Osgood, Susan Brunswick of Napoleon, Ohio, James (Janice)

Brunswick of Grand Junction, Conn., 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Survivors also include his siblings Gerald (Joan) Brunswick of Anna, Mary Coverstone of Sidney, Treva

(Joe) Berger of New Weston, Ohio, Donna (Don) Merts of Celina, Alberta Behr of Fort Loramie and Sandra (Don) Otta of St. Henry.

H was preceded in death by his infant child Richard, daughter Teresa and son John, his brothers-in-law Marlin Coverstone and Norman Behr.

He was a member of the St. Nicholas Catholic Church, he served the community of Osgood for 38 years as a councilman and mayor. He was a former park board member, former fireman and he owned and operated Osgood Service & Body Shop.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday Sept. 10 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church with the Rev. David Zink presiding. Burial was held at St. Martins Cemetery in Osgood. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Minster handled the arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the State of the Heart Home Health & Hospice.

News briefs

Area 4 Toastmasters speech and table topics contests to be held locally

The Area 4 Toastmasters Humorous Speech and Table Topics contests are scheduled for Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Marys Community Library located at 140 S. Chestnut Street in St. Marys. Contestants representing Toastmasters clubs in Allen, Logan, Mercer, and Shelby Counties will be competing in the contests. The Area 4 winners will advance to the Northern District Contest which will be held on October 11 in Centerville, Ohio. The general public is invited to attend the local contest to listen to the contestants. Admission is free.

Toastmasters is dedicated to helping its members improve their speaking, listening, thinking and leadership skills. Toastmasters International has more than 11,300 clubs in the United States, Canada and 90 other countries. For more information about the Area 4 Contest or Toastmasters, contact Janet Bassitt, Area 4 Governor, at 419-738-7539.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission Breakfast

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Mission Commission will be hosting a Mission Breakfast on Sunday Sept. 28.

From 9 a.m. to noon the Mission Commission will be serving a variety of home-cooked food in the Our Lady of Guadalupe church basement in Montezuma.

Proceeds from the free-will offering will benefit the parish mission projects.

For more information call 419-268-2008.

Veterans Service Commission announce monthly meeting

The Auglaize County Veterans Service Commission will meet at their regular monthly meeting on Thursday Sept. 18, 2008 at 6 p.m. at the Veterans Service Commission Office at 209 S. Blackhoof St. Room 202 in the Auglaize County Administration building in Wapakoneta.

All future meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at the same time at the Veterans Service Commission. Any change in the schedule will be posted.

Harlem Globetrotters to perform at Marion Local High School

Get ready for some dazzling ball handling tricks, high-flying slam dunks and hilarious family fun. Join the Harlem Ambassadors Basketball Show on Thursday Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Marion Local High School gym as they take on the M.A.C. Attackers.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the following locations:

- Western Ohio True Value, Minster
- Western Ohio True Value, St. Henry
- Gagels Hardware Store, Maria Stein
- Students/seniors \$6, adults \$8 or at the door students/seniors \$8, adults \$10.

Seating is limited. All proceeds benefit the One Block at a Time Haiti Fund. For more information contact Ben at 419-953-7841.

Stateline Writers assign three-word sentences as September topic.

At the August meeting of the Stateline Writers Club members shared their writings about either a first day of school or of a school year. Types of writing ranged from poetry to the use of only three-letter words to make up a story.

There was discussion as to how to decide on topics for future assignments to perhaps offer some new material into the meetings. Each member will bring a list of suggestions to the next meeting which is Saturday, September 20 at 10 a.m.

The assignment will be to write about any topic, but the story must consist of three-word sentences, no more and no less. This is a method espoused by Abigail Thomas, author of *A Three Dog Life*, *Safekeeping* and *Thinking About Memoir*, who teaches memoir-writing seminars nationwide. Her articles have appeared in the *AARP Magazine* and *The Oprah Magazine*.

The meeting was adjourned; members continued to discuss other ideas and how to interest more people in joining the club.

The club meets at 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month at the Celina/Mercer County Library. Guests are always welcome.

Blue grass band to perform in Wapak



The Miami County-based blue grass band Sugar Grove will appear in concert on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Rotary Gazebo, Harmon Park, Wapakoneta. Sponsored by the Wapakoneta 175th Anniversary Committee, the performance is free and open to the public. Area residents are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy an afternoon of toe-tapping music. In the event of bad weather, the concert will be held at First English Lutheran Church, Mechanic and Blackhoof streets, Wapakoneta. Call 738-4924 for more information.

Open house planned

The Auglaize County Council on Aging will be holding an open house on Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in order for the public to tour our newly renovated multi-purpose senior center and to celebrate September as National Senior Center Month. We will be focusing on our new services, Wellness Center, Computer Lab and improved handicapped accessibility. We will also be holding Wii demonstrations.

A ribbon cutting cere-

mony will be held at 9 a.m. with State Representatives John Adams and Cliff Hite present, along with the Auglaize County Commissioners, County Chamber of Commerce's, Mayor of St. Marys, United Way Director and the PSA 3 Area Agency on Aging Executive Director.

The council is coordinating with the Auglaize County United Way "Day of Caring" annual campaign kickoff. There will be many county organizations participating. Transportation will be provided for area seniors. Refreshments will be served and hourly door prizes will be awarded. To be eligible for a door prize,

individuals will be given a card upon entrance to be punched by the individual agencies. You do not need to be present to win a door prize. We will also have raffle and 50/50 tickets available. The 50/50 winner will be drawn at 12:45 p.m. and you must be present to win.

We want to take this time to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during the long period of upheaval and disruption. We hope you will be pleased with the final result. Take a moment and stop in on Saturday morning and see the "new" facility. We are here to serve you.

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Opinion

Good education: key factor in economic development

Two weeks ago, I attended the Wright State University Regional Summit in Dayton. WSU President David Hopkins assembled educators, business people, and elected officials to discuss how higher education can work with business, government, and community leaders to grow the region and the state. It was an inspiring day with a lot of ideas flying among the more than 200 who attended.

Those of us representing Auglaize and Mercer Counties heard about business-education partnerships that are working well in the area of workforce development, job creation, and job retention. We heard Chancellor Eric Fingerhut say that "higher education is in the business of economic development" and that "we cannot allow the ups and downs of the economy to keep us from our goals."

A keynote address by Bruce Johnson, President of the Inter-University Council of Ohio (and former Lt. Governor) focused on the benefits of having a "strong local university" and the need to educate students in the areas of "problem-solving, communication skills, and showing up on time." (You'd be surprised at how often the matters of attendance, on-time arrival, and personal responsibility were mentioned during the 6-hour meeting!)

The Regional Summit also featured breakout sessions that allowed attendees to share thoughts on topics such as "Talent Relocating Out of the State," "Health Care Access and Delivery," "Business Development, Expansion, and Retention" and "K-12 Education."

As I've indicated many times, we are extremely fortunate to have the Lake Campus of Wright State University a short distance away from The Golden Tri-

Chamber Chatter

BY JIM COONS



angle of Auglaize County. Not only is the campus growing physically these days, there are new courses being added, new faculty on board, and new degree programs available to local residents.

Have you enjoyed reading in the local papers about the many scholarships and educational opportunities being offered to our recent graduates? My guess is that any high school graduates who really want to move ahead with further education would find themselves well-prepared by the training they've received in our local schools.

The State Report Card that was issued that week put the schools of southwestern Auglaize County in the "Excellent" category. Congratulations to the students, families, staff and administration of the Minster, New Bremen, and New Knoxville Local Schools and to the St. Marys City Schools as well.

Our three Golden Triangle programs also scored above 100 on the Performance Index. We're doing a good job here, especially in science, technology, engineering, and math.

There are several programs already in place in West Central Ohio that put business people together with educators to develop the coursework that is needed to prepare students for the jobs these companies have available today, and also look into the future. One such collaboration is The West Central Ohio Manufacturing Consortium that works through Rhodes State College in Lima and involves the major employers in

our area. They are helping to develop a population of workers that has the skills necessary for the manufacturing jobs of today and tomorrow.

Another resource for inspiration and vision is coming in a few days. Jack Schultz, author of "Boom Town USA: The 7½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns," will be speaking to business and community leaders on September 11 in Wapakoneta. The evening dinner meeting will encourage innovative thinking and action to promote economic growth here in what Schultz calls the "agurbs." Schultz says, "Vision is the difference between a ghost town and a Boom Town." Should be an interesting evening! I'm nearly finished reading the book, and can't wait to hear the author speak. Contact your local economic development director for more information on the event next week.

We have a relatively stable economy and business climate in southwestern Auglaize County. I believe a good deal of credit for that goes to our excellent educational resources and on-going programs of workforce development. Let's keep up the support of our local schools and continue to be on the lookout for ways to leverage our resources to benefit our communities.

The Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce is always looking for ways to strengthen and promote the growth of our local businesses.

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for Bremenfest success

To the editor:

On behalf of the 2008 Bremenfest Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers that helped out with this year's festival. Whether you donated your time working a stand, or donated materials such as cakes for the cake wheel we certainly appreciate all your help. We would also like to thank all those who came out for the weekend and enjoyed some food or beverages.

Without the patronage of the community we could not have had such a successful event. Thank you also to Doc Riebel for being such a gracious Grand Marshal. The fine people of New Bremen are what makes this a truly fine place to call "home". Thanks again. Hope to see you next year.

Kevin Bergman

2008 Bremenfest Committee President



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Poetry Corner

Today's Poet: Joann Maltinsky

Nursing Home Residents

Sitting rejected in empty rooms
Struggling for an answer to their seclusion
Wondering about their loneliness
Recalling memories, craving visitors
Swaying in their rocking chairs,
Gazing at wrinkled hands.

Life used to be easy, but it was taken for granted.
Retired, but still experienced
Replaced by children
Birds tapping on the window bring a smile
Straining to hear footsteps coming up the walk
But it's only the wind, echoing through empty hearts.

Quietly sitting in boredom
Expelling a soft sigh, as a single tear drops
What is it? The sound outside—a child's laughter?
No, just their imagination, wishful illusions
Neglected . . . feelings of forgotten elders
Night resumes before another day in solitude.

The Community Post invites all budding poets to submit their poems for publication in the Community Post. This new feature is designed to showcase the talents of local amateur poets of all ages. Poems may be sent via mail or email at publisher@nktelco.net.

Submit letters to the editor by noon on Monday for publication



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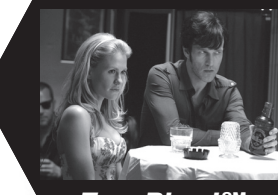
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Celebrations

Warner, Schmitmeyer engaged for October



Keith and Vickie Warner of Covington and Doug and Karen Schmitmeyer of Minster are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Cassandra Warner and Brian Schmitmeyer, both of Dublin.

The bride to be is a 2000 graduate of Covington High School and a 2004 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University with a major in Economic Management. She is currently employed at Robert Half International as a Staffing Manager.

The bridegroom is a 1999 graduate of Minster High School and a 2004 graduate of The Ohio State University with a major in Accounting. He is currently employed as an accountant with OhioHealth.

The couple plans to be married in October of 2008 at St. Augustine Church in Minster.

Huelskamp open house

Wilbert and Gilbert Huelskamp have graced the earth for 80 years!

Please join us in celebration.

What: Open House 80th Birthday Celebration

When: Saturday, Sept. 13

Time: 1:30-5:30 p.m.

Where: St. Henry Pool Shelter House

231 Parkview St., St. Henry, Ohio 45883

Refreshments & snacks provided.

Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the day with Wilbert (Bill) and Gilbert. No gifts please—your presence is enough.

Auglaize Junior Fair members awarded

The Eric Vogel Memorial was awarded after this year's Auglaize County Fair. The award is given annually to two outstanding junior fair board members. The memorial recognizes board members for their commitment to making the junior fair a success. The winners have also given leadership to the board through their hard work and exemplify the qualities of a junior fair board member. The memorial award is to be presented each year to the two Junior Fair Board members who contribute most to the current year's fair.

This year's recipients are Beth Doenges, daughter of Ed and Marge Doenges of New Bremen, and John Brown, son of Scott and Pam Brown of Spencerville. Doenges was a member of the Buckeye Beavers 4-H Club, and Brown was a member of the Kossuth Gleaners. Doenges serves as the board's president in 2008. Brown is currently serving as the treasurer.

This award serves as a memorial to Eric Vogel, son of Walter and Ann Vogel of St. Marys. He died on Nov. 17, 1981 in an auto accident. Eric was an outstanding 4-H member, having served as a Junior Leader, Junior Fair Board member and youth representative to the 4-H Advisory Committee. He was very active in the county 4-H program. His example has served as a role model for many junior fair board members who have followed.

Wacker, Wesbrook Goudelock to be married



Steven and Teresa Wacker of Minster and Rocky and Becky Ogle of Pigeon Forge, Tenn. are announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of their children, Amy Marie Wacker and Michael Wesbrook Goudelock.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Minster High School with a bachelor's degree from the Fort Lauderdale Art Institutional in graphic arts, graphic design. She presently is a photographer at the Ponderosa Horse Ranch in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

The groom-to-be is a 2002 graduate of Christ Covenant High School, Sevierville, Tenn. He has an associates degree from the American Motorcycle Institute of Daytona Fla. He is the manager of family-owned business Ponderosa Horse Ranch.

The couple is planning a Sept. 20, 2008 wedding at the Park Vista Resort in Gatlinburg, Tenn.

Hoehnes celebrate fifty years together



Paul and Connie Hoehne of Newport will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 27 with a 4 p.m. Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Newport. A dinner hosted by their children and grandchildren will follow at 6 p.m. An open house at the K of C Hall in Minster will be held that evening from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. for anyone who wishes to extend their congratulations. The couple requests that the only gift be your presence at their celebration.

The Hoehne's were married on Sept. 27, 1958, at 8 a.m. at St. Remy Catholic Church in Russia. Darlene (Monnier) Tebbe served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Janice (Hoehne) Stockman and Marilyn (Monnin) Kindell. Linda (Simon) Cordonnier was the flower girl. Performing the duties of best man was Larry Hoehne. Groomsman were Jim Hoehne, Carl Hoehne and Don Voisard. Delbert Monnier was the ring bearer.

The couple's family include three daughters and their spouses—Deb Holthaus, Brenda and Jeff Schemmel and Kathy and Derron Wilson. The couple have ten grandchildren—Amanda (Holthaus) Bar-

horst, Dean Holthaus, Lauren Holthaus, Ashley (Schemmel) Gehret, Ryan Schemmel, Dustin Schemmel and Nathan, Brandon, Kylie, and Cameo Wilson. They have a great-granddaughter, Rily Barhorst, and another great-grandchild is due to the Barhorsts in October.

Connie is the daughter of the late Floyd and Sylvia Monnier. She is the sister of Darlene and Jim Tebbe of Findlay and Delbert Monnier of Tipp City. Paul is the son of the late Lawrence and Eleanor Hoehne. He is the brother of Carl and the late Alberta Hoehne of New Bremen, Doris and the late Urban Hoehne, Frank and the late Marlene Hoehne, Larry and Ginny Hoehne, Janice and Leon Stockman, Jim and Mary Hoehne, all of Fort Loramie, Dorothy and Gene Richard of Versailles, Ed and Kathy Hoehne of Newport and Cyril and Marilyn Hoehne of Marietta, Georgia.

Paul is retired from Dayton Door Sales, and Connie retired from Wagner's IGA. They both are graduates of Russia High School and members of Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Newport. They enjoy spending time with family and relaxing at their Indian Lake home.



Photos provided
Paul and Connie Hoehne will celebrate their fiftieth anniversary on Sept. 27.

Wilker baby comes home

Tom and Amy Wilker of New Bremen are pleased to announce the birth of twins to their family: Alexa Rose and Olivia Sue, born on Monday, Aug. 25, 2008. Alexa weighed in at 6 lbs. 5.5 oz. and measured 19.5 inches long, and Olivia weighed 7 lbs. 1.5 oz. and measured 19.5 inches long. Both girls were welcomed home by their siblings: Allison, age seven;

Grace, age five; and Lillian, age two.

Maternal grandparents are Sue Ritter-Burnell and the late Joe Ritter, Sr., of New Bremen. Parental grandparents are Fred Wilker and the late Ruth Wilker of New Bremen. Great-grandmother is Ruth Ritter of New Bremen. Godparents are Karen Stammen and Mark Balster, both of Coldwater.

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Our Old Bookcase

Looking up Cranberry Prairie



Photo provided

Who's Station Wagon is parked in front of the Residence next to Cranberry Prairie's old Store?

By Joyce L. Alig
President, Mercer County Historical Society

John Kemper, Minster, wrote and asked me about the old store building at Cranberry Prairie. He also asked me about Kemper's Grove, a Dance Hall, that his grandfather opened, in 1929, between Minster and Egypt, and which closed in 1969. Was Kemper's Grove in Auglaize County? Call John Kemper, if you can help him.

Cranberry Prairie is located in Mercer County; therefore I can help with that history. As you know, the Cranberry Prairie community will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of St. Francis Parish on Sept. 28, and they will have a History Book available. A few years ago, Brian Siefring told me they were writing a book, about their Church building's Centennial, 1906-2006. Two history books preserve Cranberry's history!

Last year, I wrote the book, "Granville Township Bibliography of Historical Resources," to help people find resources about history of Cranberry Prairie, the School, the Church, the Businesses, the Barns, Wild Bill Simison, and the Prehistoric Elk excavated in the Prairie, carbon 14 dated over 9000 years ago. I wrote about Cranberry Prairie Store, School, and Post Office, in "Out of History," Feb. 10, 2000. I requested information and photographs about Cranberry's Ball Team, in "Our Old Bookcase," June 5, 2008. Who played on that Team?

The Post Office at Cranberry Prairie is of interest to me. No train went through Cranberry, so there was no depot for a Post Office. The Post Office was located in a home or a store. Government Records identify that Cranberry Prairie Post Office was established Feb. 12, 1851, and discontinued Dec. 15, 1904. Wm. Lemm was Postmaster as of March 16, 1865; Anthony Rengers in 1881, and Bernard J. Bertke as of July 8, 1898. (Did Bertke have the Post Office, in his Store?) Do Cranberry Readers have a post mark from

this Post Office?

Since John Kemper specifically asked about the store, I will provide the information written in the 1978 "Mercer County History Book." The Bertke Store was founded in the late 1800's by B.J. Bertke. In 1924, his son Frank purchased the store, and he or his family operated it until 1971. Bud Whitsett then operated the store until 1977, when the building was purchased by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The building was then used as a Hispanic Center with a Chapel and Social Center for the Spanish speaking people of this area of Ohio and Indiana. Father Quentin Hauer, OFM, was the Resident Director, for about 200 families. An old photograph of this building with Peggy Clark, was in the Daily Standard, and identified as "Clark's Corner Store." Does anyone know about Clark's Corner Store?

I remember the day in August 2005, when I drove through Cranberry, and saw the old Cranberry Store being demolished. I stopped and photographed the loss of that piece of Mercer County's history. I remember in 1982, when we excavated the prehistoric elk in the Prairie, and learned it was 9000 years old. Maybe in another 9000 years, someone will excavate the old bricks from the Cranberry Store, and say, "Look at these old red bricks! I wonder what historic building stood here!" 2008, plus 9000 years, would make it the year 11,008 when Cranberry's future citizens will be making that Archaeological dig. Maybe some local residents will toss some 2008 pennies, into the dirt today, to help those future Archaeologists date this site?

Do you think that's funny? Well, the bow hunters who brought down that elk never dreamed we would be finding that elk, and digging it up in 1982, after they lost it 9000 years ago!

[The Mercer County Historical Society President Joyce Alig, may be contacted at 3054 Burk-St. Henry Road, Saint Henry, OH 45883, or hialig@bright.net or 419-678-2614.]

Postcard Images now available

The Auglaize County Historical Society announces its newest publication, Postcard Images of Auglaize County.

Postcard Images of Auglaize County is now available for sale from the Auglaize County Historical Society. Postcard Images is a hardbound, full-color, 232-page collection of more than 600 historic postcards of Auglaize County. Readers will learn about our county through the scenes and stories revealed by these postcards, many of which have never before been published. Longtime St. Marys historian George Nearing compiled this unparalleled set of images of the communities.

The Historical Society anticipates that the book will be a great gift for family and friends, this limited-edition volume will only increase in value through

the years.

The price of the book is \$42.80 for historical society members (that is, \$40 plus tax), or \$53.50 for non-members (\$50 plus tax). Those who purchase ten copies or more are eligible for the member price. Membership in the Auglaize County Historical Society starts at \$25 per year.

As a special bonus the Historical Society will also sell copies of its previous publication, A Military Memoir of World War II, at a discounted rate for those who purchase Postcard Images. Anyone who purchases a copy of Postcard Images may also purchase Military Memoir at a discount, \$8 for a single copy or \$7 each for multiple copies (20-30 percent less than the list price).

Books will be sold this Sunday, September 14, at the Wapakoneta Museum, 206 W. Main Street from 1

to 4 p.m. Books will also be sold this Sunday during the Historical Walking Tour of St. Marys at Memorial Walk. Anyone who pre-ordered their book may pick it up at this time.

Books are also available for sale at the following local bookshops: Canal Side Books (St. Marys), The Bookmark (Wapakoneta), and New Bremen Coffee Company and Books. No membership discounts or Military Memoir discounts are available from retail book shops; those benefits are only available to those who purchase books directly from the Auglaize County Historical Society.

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.

Wapakoneta Anniversary Committee announces September schedule

The bluegrass band Sugar Grove will appear in concert on Sunday, Sept. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Rotary Gazebo, Harmon Park. Rained out in June, this Miami County band will present an afternoon of toe-tapping music for the entire family. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the free concert! (Rain location: First English Lutheran Church, Mechanic and Blackhoof Streets)

The First United Methodist Church will host a Harvest Festival on Sunday, Sept. 21, in and around the Log House and Commercial Building at the Auglaize County Fairgrounds. The event will showcase pioneer activities, a fitting theme inasmuch as the Methodists were the first organized congregation in Wapakoneta, establishing themselves here in 1833, the year of the town's founding.

The day begins with a special church service at 10:30 a.m. in the Commercial Building. Guest speaker for the occasion is the Reverend David Chivington, assistant to the district superintendent of the Northwest Plains District. The service is open to the entire community.

Beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m., or directly after the service, the church will host a lunch stand in the Commercial Building. The effort is reminiscent of the lunch tent organized by the First United Methodist Church for many years during the county fair. In fact, the proceeds from the fair tent allowed the church to help pay for the construction of

the current sanctuary. Lunch will include hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, homemade chicken noodle soup and chili, homemade pie, and drinks. Donations will be accepted for lunch, which will be served throughout the afternoon, or until everything sells out.

Pioneer activities will be presented from 1 to 5 p.m. They will include demonstrations of quilting, weaving, and whittling, among others. An apple butter making demonstration will be sponsored by the Church of Christ of Auglaize County. Children's activities, presented from 2 to 4 p.m., will include a three-legged race, sack race, hoop race, greased pig competition, watermelon seed spitting contest, and search through the saw dust. Musical groups will perform throughout the afternoon and wagon rides will be provided. Activities will be held in and around the Log House and Commercial Building, rain or shine. The event is free and open to the public.

States First United Methodist church representative Vickie Cartmell, "This will be a fun day for all. We have been celebrating our church's anniversary, which is also 175 years. What a fun way to participate in the celebration with Wapakoneta on its 175th. There will be delicious homemade soups and pies, and music scheduled all afternoon, with special activities going on through the day."

For more information, contact Rachel Barber, 738-4924.

On Sunday, Sept. 28, at 1 p.m. the Anniversary Committee will host a special presentation of Dudley Nichols' "The Bells of St. Mary's," at the Historic Wapa Theatre, Downtown Wapakoneta. Rescheduled from the August 17 film festival because of technical problems, the event is free and open to the public. Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman match wits and wills in this film classic, considered a sequel to the equally famous Going My Way. The event will include a special preview, film footage of Wapakoneta shot by Wapakoneta Daily News editor Rue Melching during the 1930s.

The Anniversary Committee and Auglaize County Historical Society will also present the traveling exhibit "Made in New Bremen, Made in Wapakoneta," from Sept. 15 through Sept. 30 at the Auglaize County Public District Library, Wapakoneta. The exhibit highlights the diverse industrial history of these two 175th communities with photographs as well as actual items manufactured in the communities in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibit is free and open to the public during the library's regular hours.

"Made in New Bremen, Made in Wapakoneta" also marks the debut of the 5th installment in the Anniversary Committee's heritage postcard series. The free postcards, as well as complete schedule of anniversary events, are available at the City Building, Library, Closet Systems, and other locations

Weather spotters class offered

Auglaize County EMA is sponsoring a weather spotters class on Monday, Sept. 15, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Otterbein St. Marys Retirement Living Community located at 11230 SR 364, St. Marys. The course will be held in the Community Room and parking is available in the

South Parking Lot. Rick McCoy, EMA Director for Van Wert County, will be teaching the course. There will be only one session.

The public is welcome to attend. Please register by calling the EMA office at 419-739-6725 no later than Friday, Sept. 12.

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Race to the Eldora Speedway

Clanton fulfills vow to win World 100

ROSSBURG, OH (Sept. 6) – Several years ago, upon his first visit to Eldora Speedway, Shane Clanton made a vow to himself “some day I AM going to win the World 100”. That vow was fulfilled Saturday night as he ruled the 38th annual running of the famed Late Model event in front of one of the largest crowds to ever witness action at Eldora.

Like most of the previous first-time winners, Clanton was emotional in victory lane and the 31-year old Locust Grove, GA chauffeur admitted at the post-race press meeting “this still hasn’t sunk in. I can’t believe it.” Clanton had only qualified for the World 100 twice before, 2004 and 2005, with an 11th place finish each time.

He may not have been the quickest of the 175 cars taking time trial runs on Friday night, with a clocking of 15.974 to put him 34th on the grid, but it worked to his favor when quick qualifier Earl Pearson, Jr. was called to the stage to draw for the heat race inversion. Pearson, the 2006 World 100 winner and new track record holder with a 15.350 effort around the one-half mile clay oval, drew a six. The placed Clanton on the pole of the 4th heat.

He clinched a win in that race to line him up third within the 28-car starting field.

As the tension and excitement reach a feverish pitch, the green flag for the 100 lap, 50-mile chase was unfurled, with pole-sitter and defending champion Jimmy Owens jumping into the early lead. However, before one lap could be completed, Brian

Birkhofer looped it in turn three to slow the field.

That was to be the final caution flag for a long spell, as with the restart, the talented field rolled off 82 consecutive laps before another yellow bunting would be displayed.

Owens resumed the command point on the restart, with Clanton and Don O’Neal in pursuit. Jeep VanWormer and Billy Moyer completed the top five during the early stages, while an undaunted Birkhofer was moving forward through the pack.

The fast pace allowed Owens to open was appeared to be an insurmountable lead over the pack, while Clanton ran his own pace as lapped cars came into play by lap 17. Owens was clicking them off rapidly, but that process allowed Clanton and company to gain some ground.

Lap 23 provided the first surprise of the chase, as crowd favorite Scott Bloomquist exited the race with a badly smoking power plant to record a 28th place finish, the worst of his 19 starts.

No caution flag was needed and at the quarter century mark, Owens remained in control, with Clanton second, Pearson up to third, followed by Jeep VanWormer, Matt Miller and Scott James. Second quick timer Tim McCreadie was having trouble duplicating his time trial run and was running near mid-pack.

About ten laps later, things began to get real interesting, as Clanton pulled within inches and Owens and for several laps, the duo raced side by side. At the mid-point, the crowd was in

a frenzy as Owens and Clanton literally took turns at ruling the roost. Lap 56 was the turning point, as Clanton finally took the lead he was to hold until the checkered flag.

Owens simply didn’t have anything for Clanton through the distance.

A pair of show stoppers on lap 82 proved to be the only slowing points. The worst of the pair was a three car pile-up involving five-time winner Moyer, James and Shannon Babb. Heavy damage to Moyer’s mount eliminated him from action, while James and Babb were able to continue.

Even that realignment of the field failed to deter Clanton from his mission.

With a nine mile, 18-lap run to the checkered, Clanton remained cool, calm and collected. The popular driver was being congratulated by nearly every competing team as he drove from the scale area to victory lane and once upon the stage to accept the hallowed ‘globed trophy’, he exited the car to a tumultuous approval from the fans.

Owens came home second, with a strong running VanWormer third, followed by Matt Miller and a late race improving McCreadie up to fifth..

The quick pace set by Owens and Clanton found only nine cars on the lead lap at the finish, with Birkhofer redeeming himself for a 7th place finish.

2008 World 100 -- 175 Cars
Fast Qualifier – Earl Pearson Jr. 15.350 (New World 100 track record)

Non-Qualifier 1: Dusty Moore, Rick Corbin, Jimmy

Dean, Wayne Maffit Jr., Shannon Thornsberry, Anthony Ferguson, Dean Anderson, Larry

Kingseed, Adam Thrush, Kevin Mack, Jill George, Dennis Potridge, Doug Zartler, Nick Marloft, Scott Koskovich

Non-Qualifier 2: Tim Isenberg, Kevin Reeve, Steve Lance Jr., Justin Shaw, David Hilliker, Mark Thrasher, Brian Claudnic, John Mayes Jr., Randy

Woodling, Justin McNeill, Michael Stiltner, Gary Schalmo, Chuck Roelle, Larry Allen, Chris Dick

Non-Qualifier 3: Justin Ratliff, Dona Marcoulier, Jeff Wolfenbarger, Bill Williams, Scott Schmitt, Jeff Beyers, Scott Daly, Joseph Pomeroy, Brandon

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Prizes will be randomly drawn from all eligible entries received and winners contacted to pick up their prize. Only ballots clipped from the newspaper will be accepted.
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**Friday Football Roundup
Section B**

MINSTER

Wildcats lose first of season against Blue Jays

By Allison Roorda
Community Post

Friday's night's game between the Minster Wildcats and the Delphos St. John Blue Jays saw the Wildcats rushing to catch the Blue Jays. But the team from Delphos managed to stay ahead of their opponents and chalk up a MAC victory.

Minster started with the kick off, and Delphos St.

John returned the ball to the Wildcats' 25 yard line. Quarterback Wes Ulm ran in the last yard for the first touchdown of the game. Jordan Rode's kick was good for the extra point, making the score 7-0 with an early Blue Jay lead.

"Delphos came to play," commented Minster Coach Eric Belcher. "They were ready. They came down on that first kick off return and

kept the ball and split Minster's defense for a second touchdown. Rode's kick was good and bumped the score to 14-0.

"I was very pleased with the way we played for the first two quarters and the first half of the third quarter," Delphos Coach Todd Schulte said. "I thought we executed very well offensively in the first half."

The Blue Jays' return

Minster had several possessions in the third quarter, but St. John's defense held them to turnovers, and neither team was able to score. The fourth quarter started out much the same as the first. The Blue Jays started at third and four at the 41 yard line. Ulm kept the ball and blasted through the Wildcats for a run-in touchdown, putting Delphos St. John at 28-7 after only 38 seconds.

"They have a very good quarterback in Wes [Ulm]," Belcher said. "He runs the ball really well and does a good job of reading the options, impressed me when he threw the ball."

On Minster's next possession, Baumer's pass to Brian Mueller made for an 82-yard touchdown. The extra point was good for 28-14 at 10:11. Minster's return kick was blocked, but the Wildcats recovered the ball at the 50 yard line. Baumer passed to Whitford for a five-yard gain, then Baumer took the ball up the middle for a Wildcat first down. Whitford picked up another first down at the 15 yard line, then ran the ball down the left side to plunge into the endzone. Minster's extra point was blocked by Chris Pohlman, making the score 28-20. St. John's next possession led to nothing, and the Wildcats took the ball again. But Klausung intercepted Baumer's pass and ran in for a touchdown from the 32 yard line.

"That was huge because the wheels were falling off for us," Schulte said of



Photo by Allison Roorda
Scott Borges strives to take down Blue Jay Matt Brinkman while Ian Ranly rushes to aid.

Klausung's interception. "They were doing a good job moving the ball, and it didn't seem like we were gonna stop anything they were doing. So that was a huge interception and return. Our defense has been pretty consistent getting turnovers, but it was nice to get a turnover and score. It kind of took the winds right out of their sails."

With 3:52 left to play, the Blue Jays had a 15-point lead over the Wildcats. Mueller returned the kick to the 43 yard line but fumbled the ball when he was tackled. Adam Warnecke recovered the ball for St. John and kept possession long enough to stall the Wildcats. Time ran out on Minster's last possession, and the game ended at 35-20 for Delphos St. John.

"Early in the first half, I don't think we were quite ready to play," said Belcher. "Our defense let them get the ball a little early in the game, and I feel like that set the tone. I felt like we did pretty good the second half. The defense just wasn't in position that first half. We had opportunities, and we missed tackles. You don't tackle in this league, you're gonna get your clock cleaned every week."

Minster outran Delphos St. John in rushing yardage, with 289 yards to the Blue



Photo by Allison Roorda
The Wildcats and Blue Jays scramble through a pile-up to recover a loose ball in Friday night's contest.

set the tone for the game."

After the opening touchdown, Whitford returned the kick to the 20 yard line, but Minster was unable to score on their possession before A.J. Klausung intercepted a pass by Minster quarterback Austin Baumer at St. John's 10 yard line. Ulm completed a pass to Jay Leininger, who ran to the Wildcat 23 yard line. Reid Heitkamp intercepted a pass, ending the first quarter in Minster's possession.

In the second quarter, Delphos St. John took the ball again and ran for two successive first downs to the 15 yard line. Ulm then

kick went for a touchback, starting Minster at the 20 yard line. Ty Whitford ran the ball down the field to St. John's 22 yard line before getting tackled. Baumer picked up a first down at the 12 yard line, and Whitford ran the last ten yards for a Minster touchdown. The extra point was good, and the score became 14-7 for St. John with 3:45 left in the half. But the Blue Jays were quick to respond to Minster's score when Leininger took the return kick to the 34 yard line. Ulm's pass found Auster Sheeter for another touchdown, bringing the score to 21-7 going into halftime.



Photo by Allison Roorda
Minster quarterback Austin Baumer looks to Ty Whitford for a quick pass.

Lady Cats move to 2-0

By Allison Roorda
Community Post

After another shut out performance by the Minster volleyball girls against the Fort Recovery Indians, the Lady Wildcats move to a record of 2-0 in the MAC.

When asked her reaction to the game, Coach Ashley Rohrer's response was definite.

"Nothing but excitement," she said. "These girls have worked so hard to get where they are."

The Wildcats moved out to the forefront early in the first game with a six-point lead. Sarah Purpus bopped a spike down, but Erica Fullenkamp's serve came up short to give Fort Recovery the opportunity to serve. A long serve went out of bounds, and Minster took the ball again at a 12-8 lead. Fullenkamp hit two more kills.

Austi Weitzel hit an ace for Minster, and Paige Prenger served up the last point to win the first game 25-15.

In the second game, intensity reigned as both teams fought for their points. Delanie Wolf hit down the first ace, but Fort Recovery quickly tied up the points. Minster scored the final three points to end the game at 26-24.

"The girls definitely deserved every point that they earned," said Rohrer. "They fought for every point. Right now we're just excited and we're looking forward to the rest of the season. I think we're going to have some really good things happen."

Minster returned with renewed vigor to dominate the third and final set of the match before ending with the same score as the first, 25-15.

Fullenkamp led her team with 15 kills and four blocks. Gruber had

17 assists, and Kate Vondenheuel, Baumer and Purpus each had three aces.



Photo by Allison Roorda
Erica Fullenkamp leaps for a jump serve as Kara Monnin looks on.

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MARION LOCAL

Marion Local Flyers blast onward

The hope of the Parkway Panthers to upset the reigning Division V state football champion, Marion Local Flyers quickly faded as the Flyers scored early and often cruising to a 42-14 win at home.

The Flyers employed a stingy defense and tenacious ground attack that proved too much for the Panthers. The Flyers defense allowed only 31 yards on the ground while the Flyer offense rushed for 243 yards.

Marion's Head Coach Tim Goodwin was quick to credit the defense for the win. "Our defense shut them down and gave us great field position," Goodwin said. The Panthers were held to 2 first downs the entire game.

The Panthers began the game with the ball but hastily turned the ball over on the second play from scrimmage. Running back Logan Hunter attempted a half-back pass but it was intercepted by Marion's Marcus Moeller deep in Panther territory. Four plays and 48 seconds later, Marion scored its first touchdown on an 18-yard run by Ben Smith.

The remainder of the first half

looked very similar to the first few minutes of the game, as Marion's defense continued to stuff the Panthers offense and give their own offense great field position. Smith led the Flyer offense by scoring two more times in the half with touchdown runs of 7 and 5 yards respectively. Flyer quarterback Jarren Griesdorn connected with Jason Wolters for a 19 yard score in the first quarter.

The half ended with the Flyers leading 28-0 and the Panthers only gaining a total of 19 yards.

Parkway began the second half with a new life as they forced Marion to a three-and-out on the very first possession of the half. However, Marion's offense regrouped, scoring twice in the third period on touchdown runs by Smith and Dillon Kremer. Smith scored on a run of 2 yards by going over the right side of the line and Kremer scored on a 5 yard run up the middle.

Parkway did score in the third quarter on a 67 yard pass from quarterback Jared Bourelle to receiver Josh Fisher.

The Flyer starters saw no more action at the onset of the fourth

quarter as Coach Goodwin emptied the bench. Parkway held the Flyers scoreless in the fourth quarter and added another score on a 69 yard pass from Bourelle to Grant Ripley.

Parkway's coach Ed Kuhn thought the inconsistent play of his defense was a key factor in the loss. "We would play sound, solid defense for a few plays and then we would have a break down. It just seemed all night we would have a good play then a break down, and then a good play, then a break down," Kuhn commented.

With the loss, Parkway moves to 2-1 on the season, and will face the 3-0 Anna Rockets at home next Friday.

The Flyers move to 3-0 with the win and travel to Coldwater next Friday for what will be one of the biggest games in the state of Ohio. The Cavaliers of Coldwater are also 3-0 and the reigning Division IV state football champions.

"It's what high school football is all about. Our kids will be ready. Coldwater's kids will be ready. It will be a fun game," Goodwin said about next week's contest.



Photo by Fred Kremer

Jacob Arling carries the ball for Marion Local as Drew Luginbill of Parkway tackles.



Photo by Fred Kremer

Mark Bills and his son Carson prove you're never too young to enjoy a good football game.



Photo by Fred Kremer

Marion Local Flyer Marcus Moeller darts by teammate Jacob Arling.



Photos by Fred Kremer

Above: Ben Smith evades Parkway Panthers Joshua Fisher and Logan Hunter.

Right: Hank Bevington and Joshua Fisher rush to catch a Marion Local Flyer with the ball.



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FORT LORAMIE

Redskins drop non-league face-off with Dixie

From Staff Reports

Fort Loramie fought hard in their non-league contest Friday night against the Dixie Greyhounds, but the Greyhounds finally edged out the Redskins after an intense night of play.

Dixie pulled ahead early with a 14-0 lead in the first quarter. Quarterback Nick Worley shined, completing six of his first seven passes for 93 yards and one touchdown. Fort Loramie quarterback responded with a 53-yard touchdown strike to Tyler Rose in the second quarter. The Redskins scored again with less than five minutes left in the half to take a narrow lead, 16-14. However, Dixie was able to come back, thanks in part to a short kickoff and a 15-yard penalty against Fort Loramie. The Greyhounds scored again, recapturing the lead at 22-16. Finally, with 20 seconds left of play in the half, Mitch

Raterman plunged into the endzone from two yards out, tying the game at 22.

The third quarter passed by with both teams adding a touchdown and a two-point conversion to their scores, keeping the score tied at 30 with 12 minutes left in the game. The fourth quarter was a battle of field position and defense. After another Redskin touchdown, Fort Loramie led 36-30, but Dixie roared back on their next possession with a drive of 82 yards in five plays. Worley ended with a 13-yard touchdown pass to Woody Earls, ending the game at 37-36.

"We had too many misses on both sides of the ball," Fort Loramie head coach Jon McCumber said. "We need to start making plays. Give Dixie credit. They ran their routes and played better defense."

Fort Loramie drops to 1-2 total and will host Ada on Friday night.



Photos by Tammy Stephens

Above: Tyler Rose carries the ball as a teammate runs alongside to defend him.

Below: Cody Albers is taken down by a Dixie Greyhound.



Photo by Tammy Stephens

Eric Drees and Zac Ranly tackle a Dixie Greyhound runner.



Photos by Tammy Stephens

Left: Redskin Tyler Rose grabs on a Dixie Greyhound in an effort to halt the progress.

Below: Jake Stephens chases down a Dixie Greyhound ball carrier.



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New Bremen falls to St. Henry Redskins

By **Randy Wilker**
Sports Correspondent

NEW BREMEN – The New Bremen Cardinals football team just ran out of time Friday night and it led the St. Henry Redskins to a 26-13 victory in front of a homecoming crowd at New Bremen.

“This is a game where we are playing 14 juniors and seniors and that makes a big difference,” Cardinals head coach Rob Messick said. “They just wore us down and that is how it is. We got beat by a good team and I’m not disappointed with how our team played at all.”

It took a while for both teams to get warmed up in the first quarter and it wasn’t until the end of the quarter before somebody to score.

Nick Kramer nailed a punt for the Cardinals with 4:59 left that pinned the Redskins back at their six. They went to Brent Prenger on the ground and he moved the ball out to the 31.

Following a seven yard pass and a run that lost a yard, put St. Henry in a third down situation. The Redskins got bailed out when the Cardinals were drawn off sides giving the Redskins a first down. They took advantage when Neil Schwieterman broke loose on a counter play and raced 46 yards for a touchdown. The extra point kick hit the goal post making the score 6-0 with 53 seconds left.

New Bremen got the kickoff and moved out to the St. Henry

45, but a pass by Caleb Williams was intercepted at the 38 with 11:04 left.

Mixing the run with the pass the Redskins moved the ball down the field where Prenger capped the drive with a five yard touchdown. St. Henry went for two and the pass was good, but they were called for holding and the kick by Jon Speck was good making the score 13-0 with 6:25 left.

The Cardinals took the kickoff and moved the ball downfield with several key completions from Caleb Williams to Philip Borkowski and a 23-yard completion to Jared Cox to put the ball at the 27. Seven plays later Williams went in on a sneak from the one for the touchdown. The extra point by the homecoming king Corey Jutte made the score 13-7 at halftime.

“Throughout the game we had some big pass completions,” Messick said. “We had a fairly balanced attack tonight.”

The Cardinals had 209 yards passing and 68 yards rushing.

St. Henry didn’t waste time in the third quarter as they came out and marched 52 yards in eight plays with Prenger scoring on a 25 yard run. The extra point kick made the score 20-7 with 8:33 left.

In the game the Redskins had 310 yards rushing and Prenger led the way with 196 yards and two touchdowns and Schwieterman had 106 yards and a touchdown.

“Brent Prenger is a returning

starter for us,” Redskins head coach Jeff Starkey said. “He ran the ball hard and Neil Schwieterman ran the ball hard and the offensive line did a good job.”

The Redskins (3-0, 1-0) capped their scoring in the fourth quarter when Jordan Post completed a 19-yard touchdown pass to Vic Fortkamp with 7:18 left to make the score 26-7 when the extra point failed.

New Bremen tried to make things interesting at the end. Taking the ball at their 43 the Cardinals went to the air and drove the ball down to the six yardline when Williams completed the touchdown pass to Jared Cox. The extra point kick was blocked making the score 26-13 with 4:55 left.

The Cardinals (1-2, 0-1) attempted an onside kick and when the Redskins fumbled Dillon Otting recovered at the 48. They drove the ball down to the one but the Redskin defense stiffened and took over on a failed fourth down at the one with one minute left.

“We fell short tonight,” Messick said. “This game was close to being 26-20 and we just ran out of time and downs. The kids showed a lot of guts coming back and we are pleased with the progress. We determined that we are a good football team and we just have to take care of business from this point on.”

New Bremen travels to Delphos next Friday to face the Bluejays, while St. Henry entertains Versailles.



Above: Caleb Williams makes his way out of a pile-up against the St. Henry Redskins.

Below: Jared Cox chases down a Redskin ball carrier.



Photos by Craig Pence

Above: Dylan Crisp outruns a St. Henry Redskin.

Right: New Bremen students prepare to greet their team on Friday night.



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School lunch menus for the week of Sept. 15

Fort Loramie

Monday: Cheeseburger, french fries, peaches and a baked item.
 Tuesday: Chicken patty sandwich, tortilla chips w/ cheese sauce & salsa, mixed fruit and iced grahams.
 Wednesday: Salad bar, Manwich sandwich, french fries, mandarin oranges and a chocolate chip cookie.
 Thursday: Spaghetti & meatballs, salad w/ dressing, pears and garlic bread.
 Friday: Pizza sub, tater tots, pineapple and a baked item.

Marion Local

Monday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes w/ gravy, applesauce and a dinner roll.
 Tuesday: Hamburger sandwich, cheese slice, french fries and pears.

Wednesday: Deli turkey sandwich, broccoli w/ cheese, mixed fruit and yogurt.
 Thursday: Grilled cheese, tuna & noodles, celery sticks and peaches.
 Friday: Sausage pizza, lettuce, pineapple and a cookie.

Minster

Elementary School

Monday: Popcorn Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Peaches, Roll
 Tuesday: Stuff Crust Pizza, Green Beans, Applesauce
 Wednesday: **Professional Day – No School**
 Thursday: Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers, Hot Dog Sandwich, Baked Beans, Pears
 Friday: Chicken Patty Sandwich, Cali-

fornia Blend, Mixed Fruit, Cheetos
Middle School

Monday: Chili Dog Sandwich, Corn, Pineapple
 Tuesday: Meatball or Chicken Sub, Broccoli, Pears
 Wednesday: **Professional Day – No School**
 Thursday: Chili Soup, Crackers, Peanut Butter or Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Applesauce
 Friday: French Bread Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Green Beans, Oranges
High School

Monday: Chicken or Meatball Sub, Broccoli, Applesauce, or Chicken Fajita Salad
 Tuesday: Pepperoni Pizza or Hot Pockets, Corn, Peaches, Breadstick
 Wednesday: **Professional Day – No**

School

Thursday: Hamburger or Footlong Sandwich, Baked Beans, Apple Cobbler, Cookie
 Friday: Chicken Nuggets or Popcorn Chicken, Potatoes, Pineapple, Roll or Crispy Chicken Salad

New Bremen

Monday: Hamburger sandwich, cheese slice, fries and pears.
 Tuesday: Chili soup, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, crackers and mixed fruit.
 Wednesday: Chicken nuggets, green beans, wheat bread and sherbet.
 Thursday: Pizza quesadilla, california blend, applesauce and a peanut butter cookie.
 Friday: Tacos w/ lettuce & salsa, a roll, orange slices and teddy grahams.

Area athletic results

Brookeville Invite Sept. 6

Boys team results
 1. Brookeville (1:31:08)
 2. Marion Local (1:33:43)
 3. Dixie (1:38:37)
 Girls team results
 1. Brookeville (1:46:38)
 2. Marion Local (1:52:04)z
 3. Dixie (2:11:09)
 Top Marion Local runners
 Todd Heitkamp (18:39) – 7th
 John Broering (18:43) – 8th
 Andrew Hemmelgarn (18:54) – 9th
 Josh Heitkamp (19:00) – 11th
 Nathan Tangeman (20:11) – 15th
 Rachel Hess (21:54) – 6th
 Brie Jutte (22:06) – 7th
 Katrina Brand (22:11) – 8th
 Ashley Dirksen (22:41) – 11th
 Claire Schwieterman (23:12) – 12th

Tiffin Carnival Invite Sept. 6

Boys area team results
 6. New Bremen
 7. Minster
 14. Fort Loramie
 Girls area team results
 1. Minster
 37. New Bremen
 42. Fort Loramie
 Top area runners:
 Justin Eilerman: New Bremen (16:45) – 13th
 Joby Stechschulte: Minster (16:54) – 18th
 Jon Holland: Fort Loramie (17:06) – 27th
 Tyler Meinerding: Fort Loramie (17:14) – 33rd
 Jeff Kremer: New Bremen (17:22) – 43rd
 Lei Bornhorst: Minster (18:58.23) – 1st
 Jessica Albers: Minster (18:58.51) – 2nd
 Maria Dahlinghaus: Minster (19:48) – 11th

Averie Borhorst: Minster (20:02) – 20th
 Sophia Richard: Minster (20:16) – 26th
 Samantha Hoelscher: Minster (20:22) – 29th

Volleyball results Sept. 2

New Bremen swept St. Marys 25-17, 25-15 and 25-18.
 Jackson Center over Fort Loramie 25-19, 29-27 and 25-14
Sept. 4
 New Bremen 3
 Coldwater 0 (25-19, 25-21, 25-21)
 Marion Local 3 St. Henry 0 (25-18, 25-23, 25-20)
 Anna over Fort Loramie 25-14, 25-16, 25-15
 Minster over Fort Recovery 25-15, 25-24, 25-15

Sept. 6

Marion Local defeated Anna Saturday in four matches: 25-17, 25-22, 23-25, 25-21.
 The Minster Varsity Volleyball Team traveled to Stebbins on Saturday for a trimatch. Minster defeated Sidney City in 2 games 25-9, 25-21 and Stebbins in 2 games, 25-7, 25-13. Sarah Purpus led the team with 6 aces and Kara Monnin contributed 11 digs. Erica Fullenkamp paced the offense with 13 kills, 2 blocks, and 17 assists with Ellen Gruber contributing 16 assists.

Golf results

Versailles 160 Marion Local 186.
 Marion Local Scores: (John Elking-47, Monte Imwalle-51, Nate Thobe-46, Andrew Kremer-42, Mich Winner-56, Tyler Bruggeman-57)

Redskins host meet, girls win

The Redskins hosted the Fort Loramie Cross Country Quad on Sept. 2. The Fort Loramie girls cross country team took first place honors with a team time of 1:54:04.

Boys team results:

1. Sidney (1:35:31)
 2. Fort Loramie (1:35:40)
 3. Houston (1:44:05)
 4. Indian Lake (2:13:07)

Girls team results:

1. Fort Loramie (1:54:04)
 2. Indian Lake (2:00:16)
 3. Sidney (2:13:09)
 4. Bradofrd (2:25:50)

Top Fort Loramie boys runners:

John Holland (18:18) – 4th
 Tyler Meinerding (18:33) – 5th
 Brett Quinter (18:57) – 6th
 Ben Barhorst (19:39) – 8th
 Tyler Magato (20:11) – 12th
 John Frey (20:33) – 15th

Top Fort Loramie girls runners:

Ally Puthoff (22:23) – 2nd
 Kylie Drees (22:33) – 3rd
 Kara Gasson (22:49) – 4th
 Megan Fullenkamp (22:50) – 5th
 Paige Hilgefert (23:17) – 6th
 Katie Plas (24:26) – 10th



Above: The Fort Loramie girls and boys cross country teams compete at the Fort Loramie Cross Country Quad on Sept. 2. The Redskin girls team took first place honors.

Minster golf takes down New Bremen

The Minster and New Bremen boys golf teams met last Thursday at Arrowhead Golf Course for a close match-up.

The Wildcats scored a team total of 156, while the Cardinals followed closely at 165. High scorers for Minster were Craig Purpus with 38, Adam Sherman and Austin Fisher with 39 each and Ben Hogenkamp with 40.

New Bremen's Christopher Williams scored 39 and Nathan Smith and Joel Hemmelgarn scored 45. Martin Holdren of New Bremen earned the match medal with an individual score of 36.

Minster 156 (Craig Purpus 38, Adam Sherman and Austin Fischer 39, Ben Hogenkamp 40, Matt Borchers 41, Oliver Weaver 45)
 New Bremen 165 (Mar-



Minster's Drew Hogenkamp attempts a putt while New Bremen's Patrick Ferguson watches.

tin Holdren 36, Chris Williams 39, Nathan Smith and Joel Hemmelgarn 45, Kyle Evers 46, Joel Miller 48)
 JV
 Minster 174 (Xavier Bernhold 41, Drew Hogenkamp 43, Sam Phlipot 44, Eric Trushaw 46)
 New Bremen 200 (Brad Evers 46, Dakota Myers & Jordan Barlage 49, Patrick Ferguson 56)

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Minster volleyball snags win against Fort Loramie



Photos by John Zwez

Above: Andrea Holthaus watches teammate Hilary Blagg dig for a save.

Far Right: Lady Wildcat Emily Barhorst launches the ball over the net as Kristen Zumberger goes up for the block.

The Minster Varsity Volleyball Team defeated Fort Loramie in four games on Monday. Scores were 21-25, 25-23, 25-23, 25-22. Paige Prenger and Ellen Gruber led the team with five aces apiece with Kate Vondenhuevel chipping in four. The team's defense was stellar with Kara Monnin recording 18 digs and Paige Prenger adding 10. Ellen Gruber had a game high 22 assists with Erica Fullenkamp knocking out 14 kills and Delanie Wolf adding 12. Sarah Purpus contributed seven kills as well. Congratulations to the lady cats who are now 6-3 on the season.

The junior varsity team defeated Loramie in three close games. Morgan Prenger rattled off several straight serves to end game three.



Fort Loramie girls win Tri-Match

Tuesday, September 2, 2008 - Arrowhead Golf Course Tri-Match

A match featuring two undefeated teams: St. Henry (9-0) and Ft. Loramie (7-0) and a school in their first year of a girl's golf program in Riverside

Ashley Kunkler - 44
Shelby Link - 48
Kendra Rindler - 48
Shelly Post - 50
Taylor Rindler - 50
Janelle Gerlach - 57

Ft. Loramie - 185
Brooke Albers - 42
Kaitlyn Turner - 46
Brittany Goettmoeller - 47
Beth Barhorst - 50
Lori Meyer - 53
Taylor Middendorf - 54

Riverside - 253
Chelsea Purtee - 59
Erin Krisher - 64
Paige Atlerholt - 64
Ali Selhorst - 66
Brittany Shough - 68
Bailey Robinson - 68

Final Score:
Ft. Loramie - 185
St. Henry - 190
Riverside - 253

Match Medalist = Brooke Albers (Ft. Loramie) - 42

Present Records:
Ft. Loramie 9-0
St. Henry 10-1
Riverside 2-6

Individual Scores:
St. Henry - 190

College fair provides info to students

On Wednesday, Sept. 17, St. Marys Memorial High School will hold its annual College and Technical Fair in McBroom Gymnasium from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This year's fair will feature over fifty colleges, universities, military representatives,

technical schools and proprietary schools.

"This is a great opportunity for students and parents to come in and gather information, pick up applications and ask questions of the representatives in a friendly atmosphere," event organizer

Bill Cheslock said. "We encourage anyone thinking about their future to come in and check out the institutions that will be here."

The fair is open to everyone in Auglaize, Mercer and surrounding counties.

Band Boosters fall fundraiser

The Minster Band Boosters have scheduled their Fall Fundraiser for Wednesday, Sept. 17 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at Minster High School. The group is selling barbecue chicken and barbecue pork chop dinners made by Romer's Catering. Each dinner includes 1/2 barbecue chicken or two pork chops, potato chips, applesauce, a dinner roll and butter. The cost of each dinner is \$6.50. Tickets may be purchased from any band member grades 7-12 or by calling Deb Ahrens at 419-628-4502 by Sept. 12.



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Stukenborg

says...

by P.M. Stukenborg
Guest Columnist

Sept. 12, 2008

High School Football Forecast
Minster 28, Fort Recovery 21
Coldwater 28, Marion Local 21
Fort Loramie 24, Ada 17
Van Wert 35, Celina 21
St. Marys 35, Defiance 28
Lima Bath 34, Shawnee 18
LCC 21, Columbus Grove 14
Delphos St. John 21, New Bremen 14
Kenton 28, Elida 0
Tippacano 25, Indian Lake 17
Lima Senior 28, Meadow Dale 21
Anna 35, Parkway 14
Spencerville 35, Paulding 21
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Upper Scoito Valley 45, Ridgemont 14
St. Henry 35, Versailles 7
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College Forecast
Navy 35, Duke 7
Georgia 28, South Carolina 14
Kentucky 38, Middle Tennessee 14
Michigan 35, Notre Dame 7
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Ohio State 28, Southern California 21



**This
week in
sports...**

The Community Post

C

Thursday, September 11, 2008

50 cents

Serving Our Communities since 1896



**Health and Wellness
Section C**



The Community Post

Thursday, September 11, 2008 Serving Our Communities Since 1896 50 Cents

JTD hospital foundation nets over \$53,000 from golf classic

The 16th annual JTD Hospital Foundation was held recently at Arrowhead Golf Club in Minster. The event netted over \$53,000 that will be used to benefit the Grand Lake Hospice Program and patient care.

One hundred twenty four golfers played in the morning and afternoon flights sponsored by 57 companies and individuals. Premier sponsors included Carestream Health, H.A. Dorsten, Inc., Northwest Group Services and Premier HealthCare.

Major Event sponsors were Asset Allocations, Inc., and Delta Dental. Asset Allocations, Inc. sponsored the Helicopter Golf Ball Drop, a new feature for the Golf Classic this year. The winner of the Golf Ball Drop—the ball closest to the hole, was Dr. Betty Bibbins of DocuComp, LLC. A 50/50 split of the total chances sold of \$5,420 netted the winner and the Foundation \$2,710 each. Key Bridge Medical Revenue Management and Midmark sponsored at the tournament level.

Championship sponsors included

AAP St. Marys, Alexander & Bebout, Inc., Chase, DocuComp LLC, Document Solutions, Falcon Financial, Hafenbrack Marketing, Innovative Office Solutions, Inc., Lima Memorial Health System, Miller's Textile Services, SMS proTECH, and Trinity Health Group.

Since 1993, over \$274,000 in net profits has been raised for the hospital through this popular event, and is an important fundraiser for facilities upgrades, equipment and health care scholarships.

Overall Tournament Champs were Innovative Office Solutions, Asset Allocations won the Women's Flight, and Key Bridge Medical Revenue Management won the coed flight.

Contest Winners included Susan Clune and Rex Carr; closest to the pin; Susan Fantz and Erick Eyink for second and third shot closest to the pin; Longest drive, Laura Wellman and Andrew Kiess; longest putt, Thelma Hogenkamp and Dr. Kasimir Oganowski.

The donation of prizes and awards



Photo provided

Pictured L to R: Tom & Betty Leininger of Asset Allocations, Dr. Betty Bibbins (golf ball drop winner), Kathryn & Craig Kennedy of Asset Allocations, Inc.

from many area businesses and individuals helped to make this a special day for all participants. Each golfer received a sleeve of golf balls from RB Advertising;

championship awards were provided by Visions and St. Marys Chrysler sponsored the hole-in-one contest.

Health department provides variety of services

By Jessica Honigford
Community Post

Lay-offs, high gas prices and the general increase in health care costs make the decision to go to the doctor a tough one for some people.

The Auglaize County Health Department provides a wide array of services, some on sliding fee scales, to help the residents of the county receive the proper health care, regardless of their income.

Cindy Jones, director of nursing at the county health department said the department offers services for infants, children and adults alike.

The Women, Infant, Children program (WIC) provides supplemental nutrition for women and children of low income. To qualify women must be pregnant or breastfeed and children must be five years of age or younger.

"It's to give them a good start with better nutrition," Jones said. "It is definitely a supplemental program. I think that's something people struggle with. It's there to supplement what

they're able to do for their families."

WIC provides food such as milk, eggs, cereal, cheese, beans, peanut butter and infant formula to families in need. The program also provides nutrition education, meal planning and healthy snack ideas for small children, all while monitoring the children's height, weight and body mass index (BMI) and comparing them to the standards for the child's age.

The Auglaize County Health Department also offers immunizations to county residents of all ages. Among the immunizations offered are all the childhood vaccinations, the flu vaccine, the pneumonia immunization, tetanus, and the hepatitis B and C vaccines.

Another service the health department offers is family planning assistance, funded by Title X funds. Fees for services are based on income assessment with no one being denied services for their inability to pay. The health department provides annual physicals with pap tests, STD screen-

ings, immunization screenings, nutrition evaluations, assessments for domestic violence, sexual coercion and mental health issues. Women are also provided with birth control methods.

"Prenatal clinic patients are seen in the prenatal clinic on a sliding fee-scale same as the family planning clinic," Jones said. "Women are seen here in the clinic up to the last month of their pregnancy then they're transferred to the delivering physicians' group at St. Rita's. They are provided with all the standards of care in their prenatal experience coordinated with the WIC program."

Jones said of all the programs, the pre-natal care program has the least amount of demand because she believes the medical providers in the area do a good job of providing quality care regardless of method of payment.

She does, however, believe the immunization services are well-utilized due to their accessibility in St. Marys and New Bremen as well as the health department's location in

Wapakoneta.

"Family planning I believe is under-utilized somewhat," Jones said. "I'm not sure everybody in the community is aware that the services are there, that they can obtain annual pap tests and STD screenings, just annual preventive care we also do pregnancy testing and referrals. Care is given in a very friendly non-judgmental attitude and the services are available for any county or any state resident."

With cold and flu season approaching quickly, Jones wants the community to know the immunizations are available. "Look for us throughout the county in October providing flu and pneumonia shots," she said. "We'll be in Wapakoneta, St. Marys, New Bremen, Minster and Waynesfield. They're available to anyone desiring protection." For more information about the services the Auglaize County Health Department offers visit them online at www.auglaizehealth.org or call them at 419-738-3410.

Help Me Grow evaluations for kids birth-five years

The Auglaize County Early Childhood Collaborative Group, Help me Grow is a group of agencies and community members striving to meet the increasing needs of children birth to 5 years of age and their families. As children learn and grow, we see the progress reflected in the things they do each day. Learning and growing happen naturally, but can be affected for good or for bad – by many things.

Do you have questions about how your infant or toddler is growing and learning? Does your child have problems sitting, talking, walking or eating

If your child's development is puzzling to you and you suspect there is a problem, today may be the right time to seek another opinion. If there is a need for special help, the sooner it is provided the better it will be for your child. In an effort to help these children who might be having problems, CHILDNET will be conducting free screening for children birth to five years of age on the following dates:

When: Monday, Oct. 6, 2008 – New Bremen at the ABC Center 20 E. First Street New Bremen from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If you have questions about your infant or toddler's development now is the time to get answers to them. Don't delay! The sooner you get help for your child the brighter his/her future will be. To pre-register for the screening or to get further information call Charlotte Axe, at the Auglaize County Health Department 738-3410 or 1-800-531-6134.






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Health and Wellness

Foundation names two new members

J T D M H auxiliary announces upcoming events

The JTD Hospital Foundation recently elected Stacey Grieshop to the Board of Directors. The Foundation is the fund raising arm of Joint Township District Memorial Hospital and is an affiliate of the Grand Lake Health System.

Grieshop is employed at Mercer County Board of MRDD as a PLAY Project Home Therapy Consultant and lives in Celina. Stacey and her family are very involved in service to the community.

"We are very grateful for the strong and talented group of individuals who are willing to raise funds to help support the care of our patients. Stacey brings a wealth of fundraising experience, and has a strong interest in the future of the hospital and helping its continued financial development," says Karen Ryals, Executive Director of the JTD Hospital Foundation.

The JTD Hospital Foundation recently elected Richard Bernie Schroer to the Board of Directors. The Foundation is the fund raising arm of Joint Town-



Photo provided

Bernie Schroer of St. Marys ship District Memorial Hospital and is an affiliate of the Grand Lake Health System.

Schroer is retired, and is the co-owner of New Bremen Machine & Tool, Inc. He lives in St. Marys with

his wife Marilyn, and most recently served for nine years on the Joint Township District Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. He served as vice chair for one year, and Chairman for six years. Schroer is very



Photo provided

Stacey Grieshop of Celina

is active in the community with his church and other boards.

"We are all grateful for the strong and talented group of individuals who are raising funds to help support the care of our pa-

tients. Bernie is a passionate advocate for the hospital and has a strong interest in its future financial development," says Karen Ryals, Executive Director of the JTD Hospital Foundation.

The public is invited and welcome to attend any of the following Auxiliary events:

A \$5.00 Jewelry Sale will be held on Monday, Sept. 22 and Tuesday, Sept. 23. The sale will start at 12 p.m. on Monday and end at 7 p.m. Then on Tuesday the sale will be from 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, pins, Christmas items, etc are all \$5.00 each. This event will be held in conference room 3 and 4.

The book sale will be held on Thursday, Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 17 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Books make excellent gifts for birthdays, anniversaries and holidays! Check out the great selection of books and save up to 70 percent on these incredibly low prices.

The 2008 Christmas open house will be held on Friday, Nov. 21 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come and see all our holiday items including snowmen, Santas, wreaths, greenery, nativity scenes, and Christmas trees. Take advantage of our 20 percent discount on holiday merchandise and free refreshments.

All proceeds from these events benefit patient care through the JTDMH Auxiliary.

Council on Aging offers senior living series

This monthly program is designed to offer presentations and discussions on a wide variety of topics which interest today's seniors. Upcoming sessions are "A Prescription for Caregivers" on Tuesday, Sept. 16. On Tuesday, Oct. 21, Crystal Oswalt will pres-

ent "Grandparents raising Grandchildren"; on Tuesday, Nov 18, from 1 to 3 p.m., Kendra Thompson of the Ohio Department of Insurance and Liz Paduano from Keypro will give a presentation on Medicare and Keypro. Finally, on Tuesday, Dec. 16, Lynn Ritter of

Alzheimer's Association will present "Keeping Your Sense of Humor during the Holidays."

These presentations are free, open to the public and will be held the third Tuesday of every month at 11 a.m. unless noted at the Auglaize County Council on Aging in

St. Marys.

Respite services for the presentations will be provided by Golden Living Center. Pre-registration is required if you need respite care. For more details, please call Trena or Michelle at 419-394-8252 or 1-866-244-6401.

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Health and Wellness

Study reveals Dayton-area drug and alcohol trends

DAYTON—Results of the 2008 Dayton Area Drug Survey (DADS) indicate that fewer students have tried or regularly use drugs, alcohol, and tobacco than in past years, but overall use, especially among older students, remains a serious problem.

The 2008 survey consisted of a voluntary, anonymous questionnaire completed by 17,315 students from 7th to 12th grade in 17 Dayton area school districts. Roughly 83 percent of the respondents self-identified as white, most lived in suburban areas, and the group included nearly equal numbers of boys and girls.

First administered in 1990, DADS is a biennial study conducted by the Center for Interventions, Treatment, and Addictions Research (CITAR) at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine in collaboration with Unified Health Solutions and area school districts.

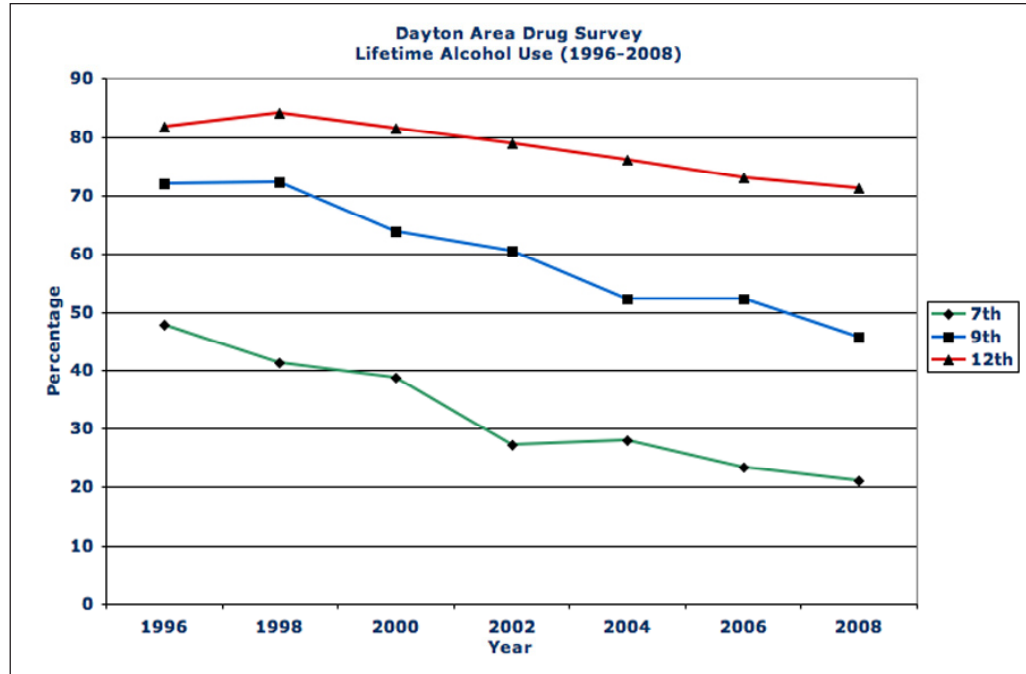
The 2008 survey found that alcohol remains the most widely used drug. More than 70 percent of 12th graders reported having tried alcohol, 54.3 percent have been drunk at least once, and 27.2 percent had five or more drinks in a row during the two weeks before the survey. Among 9th graders, 45.7 percent have tried alcohol, 24.7 percent have been drunk, and 9 percent had five or more drinks in a row in the previous two weeks. The correspond-

ing percentages for 7th graders are 21.2 percent, 6.2 percent, and 2.5 percent, respectively.

Among high school seniors, 39.8 percent reported any cigarette use, down from 43.4 percent in 2006. Similar decreases occurred among 9th and 7th graders. While fewer students are smoking, rates of daily or heavy smoking were essentially unchanged.

“Teenagers’ use of alcohol and tobacco is significant, because it can result in a variety of serious and lasting health and social consequences,” said Russel Falck, M.A., assistant professor of community health and associate director of CITAR. “In addition, tobacco and alcohol are ‘gateway drugs,’ whose use can lead to abuse of other drugs.”

By 12th grade, 44.3 percent of students have used an illicit drug at least once, including 39.4 percent who have tried marijuana/hashish (a slight decline from 2006). Among younger students, 16.2 percent of 9th graders and fewer than 2 percent of 7th graders report having tried marijuana/hashish. Experience with other illicit drugs by 12th graders varied, with decreases in the percentage who have tried cocaine HCl, crack, and methamphetamine, and slight increases for prescription opiates or tranquilizers, MDMA (ecstasy), and heroin.



The survey also covered behaviors and attitudes aside from drug use. For instance, among high school seniors, 45.8 percent reported riding in a vehicle when they believed the driver was under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, and 28.7 percent reported driving under the influence themselves. In the 30 days prior to the survey, 26.5 percent of 7th graders, 22.8 percent of 9th graders, and 12.3 percent of 12th graders felt bullied by other teens, and 16.4 percent, 12.1 percent, and 7.8 percent, respectively, got into a physi-

cal fight with someone. During the same time period, 4 percent of 7th graders, 5.7 percent of 9th graders, and 14.8 percent of 12th graders missed school without permission.

On a positive note, some 89.1 percent of students currently consider themselves happy or very happy with their lives.

For a complete summary of the 2008 DADS and numerous data tables, visit www.med.wright.edu/citar/dads/

Mercer Health announces free prostate cancer screening for area men

Mercer Health joins the nation in observing Prostate Cancer Awareness Week, Sept. 14 to 20. They are offering a free prostate cancer screening on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the Community Medical Center, 950 S. Main St., Celina, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m. The screening is conducted in cooperation with local urologist Dr. T. Amaran.

The Prostate Cancer Education Council (PCEC) recommends yearly screenings for men 35 and older if they have a family history of the disease. All men over 40 should be checked yearly.

The PCEC states, “Offering examinations for the early detection of prostate cancer is the critical first step. The American Cancer Society has reported that the five-year survival rate of men with prostate

cancer detected in the earliest stages is nearly 100%. Screening is important because the only way to detect prostate cancer in its earliest stages is through a prostate cancer screening.”

Those who want to be screened at the Community Medical Center must call in advance for an appointment by calling 419-678-5196. A limited number of openings are available. Men with a family his-

tory of prostate cancer and those between the ages of 40 to 75 will be given priority. Screenings usually take about ten minutes.

Rates of death from prostate cancer have declined over past years, but the disease remains the second leading cause of cancer death in American men. One in six men will be diagnosed with prostate

cancer this year, and it is expected that nearly 30,000 men will die from the disease. However, due to early detection, approximately 2 million men in the U.S are prostate cancer survivors. With more annual cases of prostate cancer than that of breast cancer among women, screening is imperative to ensure the health of the men of our nation.

Renee Kinney, RN, Mercer Health Wellness Services Director, notes that the blood test results will be available about three weeks after the screening. Results will be mailed to each participant. For more information about the screening, call 419-586-1220. To register, call 419-678-5196.



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Health and Wellness

Former CEO returns home, turns to JTDHM for care

Over the years, Bob Harman spent a good deal of time at Joint Township District Memorial Hospital. Not as a patient or doctor, but as the former Chief Executive Officer.

Upon retiring, Bob moved with his wife to the Cleveland area for a change of pace but quickly moved back to the Grand Lake region to be closer to family. An avid golfer, Bob swung, chipped and putted his way through constant knee pain, the result of severe arthritis. When enough was finally enough, he sought help from the only place he trusted with his care – JTDHM and Grand Lake Health System.

"I have known Jim [Dr. James A. O'Neill M.D.] personally for some time but it was the Hospital's quality reputation and Jim's expertise in orthopedics that led me there," said Mr. Harman.

Dr. O'Neill is a highly respected orthopedic surgeon in the Grand Lake

Health System and has seen many patients with knee problems over the years. After seeing Bob's x-rays, Dr. O'Neill knew the retiree would have to undergo total knee replacement surgery of both knees. "He told me I should have come to him years ago because the damage to my knees was so severe," said Bob.

It's a story that's becoming more and more common among Boomers. When prescription medicines no longer work on the pain, patients turn to surgery. Where the procedure was once thought to be reserved for the much elderly, Boomers are now the largest growing age group having total knee replacement (TKR) surgery, according to a Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery report.

"We all want to be healthy and live active, independent lives as long as possible. For patients living with chronic knee

pain, total knee replacement surgery is a viable solution that can drastically improve the quality of life," offers Dr. O'Neill. It's a procedure that's also become safer and quicker to recover from thanks to less invasive techniques, or one requiring a smaller surgical incision.

Bob had his first knee replacement in early 2007 that saw a significant reduction in his pain. Happy with the results, Harman scheduled the second surgery for his other knee in the fall. Both surgeries were performed by Dr. O'Neill at JTDHM and aftercare was coordinated through Grand Lake Health System. Bob was back on the course, reportedly swinging better within six weeks of each surgery, but these were not tee times easily made.

"It was a long fought uphill battle to get to where I was. I give all credit to the Physical Therapy Department for being able to push

me to my limits and get me to do what was necessary for a healthy recovery," said a reflective Harman.

Even after the physical therapy, in and out-patient, Bob committed himself to performing the recommended exercises to strengthen his knee, which he continues to do to this day. "The harder you work at anything and the more you push, the more you get back and experience the rewards sooner," said the happy patient. "I definitely feel that I have a new lease on life. Coming home to JTDHM to have the surgeries was the best decision I could have made."

For more information on total knee replacement (TKR) at JTDHM and to find out if the surgery is the right option for you, contact Dr. O'Neill's office at (419) 394-4636 or Joint Township Hospital at (419) 394-3335.

Mercer Health Board re-appoints officers

The Mercer Health Board of Governors elected officers for the next year.

Returning for a second term as President was Cy Brunswick. The re-elected Treasurer is Tony Gonzalez and Mary Lou Wenning will continue her role as Secretary. Doug Klosterman was chosen as the new Vice President. Each term is for one year.

The Board also heard a presentation by Linda Steinbrunner, RN, MA, Director of Service Excellence. She provided information about the program used to measure patient perceptions of the quality of care they receive at Mercer Health.

She explained that the company Mercer Health uses to contact patients is called Quality Data Management (QDM). She says, "We use their serv-

ices because it allows us to examine many aspects of the care we provide from patient's satisfaction with room cleanliness to pain management, nursing care and other services. The results we receive are usually available within 10 days after the patient is treated. This allows us the opportunity to take action immediately if we see a problem."

One area she noted that has demonstrated improved perception of service through reviewing QDM data is the Emergency Department at Mercer Health. She said, "The data we receive helps to focus our improvement efforts to provide a better outcome for our patients."

We implemented some changes, and patient satisfaction with the quality of care we provide has shown improvement based upon

the data we are receiving from QDM."

QDM uses a telephone survey approach. Steinbrunner explained that there are certain questions hospitals are required by law to ask former patients, but questions that are more specific to Mercer Health are also asked. She says, "All hospitals will be required to publicly report their findings beginning in December, 2008. We were part of the pilot project and have been providing results to the public since July, 2008."

In other business before the Board, Vice President of Patient Care Services Lisa Klenke, MBA, RN, gave an update on a program implemented last year that takes a look at the hospital operations and develops ideas that can be incorporated to reduce hospital

expenses. To date, Klenke estimates that the projects currently implemented will save the organization over \$85,000 over the next three years. More projects are being evaluated.

Chief Executive Officer Jim Wermert reported that Dr. Eric Hensen, Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) Specialist, is hoping to begin office hours on or about September 15. He has received his Ohio Medical license. He will be sharing his time with Van Wert County Hospital.

Chief Financial Officer Cindy Berning reported that Mercer Health's expenses exceeded income by \$87,256 for the month of July. Since the fiscal year began in April of this year, revenue over expenses is \$460,322.

Allen County Red Cross seeking blanket donations

As the fall heating season approaches, the Allen County Chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking donations of new packaged blankets for distribution to families that suffer from fire incidents.

Last year the Allen County Chapter responded to over 80 incidents servicing nearly 300 people. Our continued help to those who suffer from fire incidents relies greatly on the generosity of the community to provide the materials for assistance needed.

Those wishing to donate new packaged blankets may do so by dropping them off at the Chapter House at 610 S. Collett Street, Lima, Ohio. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. For further information, please contact Roger B. Fessler, Emergency Services Director, at 419-227-5121.

Health Briefs

Hospital offers Super sitters babysitting training course

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital is pleased to once again offer our Super Sitters babysitting training course. Super Sitters is a complete babysitting program developed by Dr. Lee Salk and Jay Litvin. The purpose of the program is to prepare sitters for the physical, psychological, and emotional needs of the children they are caring for. Some topics that are covered include safety, emergency care, child development and behavior/discipline. Trained hospital personnel do the actual teaching.

The focus of the program is on 5th and 6th grade sitters, but other interested individuals are welcome to attend. The next class will be on Sept. 29, Oct. 1, 6, 8, 2008. Class times will be from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. and will be held in conference room 3. Pre-registration is required and the cost is \$15 per participant which includes workbook. Please bring a light healthy snack and a beverage will be provided.

Class size is limited to 20 registrants. For more information or to register, call Cindy Gaerke, Community Outreach, 419-394-3335, ext. 1130.

Sibling class scheduled at JTDHM

On Saturday, Sept. 13, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Joint Township District Memorial Hospital in St. Marys will conduct a Sibling Class for children, ages 3 to 10, whose mother is expecting the arrival of a new baby. The class will be held in the conference room #1 on the first floor.

A tour of our Birthing Center, a slide presentation and handouts will be included with the class. A new video on becoming a big brother or sister will be shown. An OB department registered nurse conducts the class. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to attend.

To register, call the Joint Township District Memorial Hospital OB Department at 394-3335, ext. 2419.

United for Health Care offers sign language workshop

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital and Mercer Health will be offering an American Sign Language Workshop taught by a certified instructor, beginning Oct. 13 and continue on Oct. 16, 23, Nov. 6, 10 and 13.

This group will meet on six times, on either a Monday or Thursday evening from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., at the Richardson Bretz Building, 119 W. Fulton St., Celina.

The class involves learning the "sign" alphabet as well as basic vocabulary. Interaction and class participation enables the participant to benefit from and enjoy learning this unique language.

Registration is required and limited to 15 participants. A nominal fee of \$25 per person is required. To register for the class please call Anne Larger at (419) 394-3335, ext. 1128 or Therese Brunet at 419-678-5196.

UVMC offers Emergency Care symposium

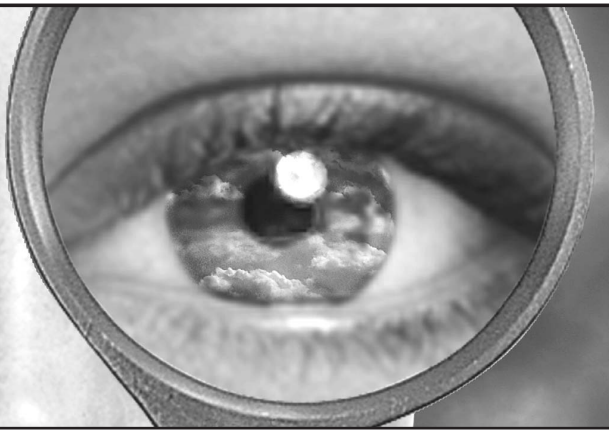
An Emergency Care Symposium, sponsored by UVMC for emergency care providers and disaster management responders, will be held at the Upper Valley JVS, Piqua, on Thursday, Sept. 18, and Tuesday, Sept. 23, from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. The symposiums offer information on patient management in the field and in the Emergency Department setting.

The programs offered on Sept. 18 include:

- Grain Bin Rescue: Pre-hospital management of a victim trapped in a grain bin
- Pandemic Flu: Pandemic flu readiness and the role of the first responder
- Penetrating Chest Injuries: Pre-hospital evaluation, management and treatment
- Cadaver Lab: Review invasive procedures such as airway management techniques and chest decompression, and identify anatomical structures and landmarks on a "guided tour"
- The programs scheduled for Sept. 23 feature:
- Farm-Related Incidents: Identify hazards and causes
- Perils of Inadequate Documentation: Accurate documentation can reduce negligence lawsuits
- Rescue at a Crime Scene: Steps to preserve a crime scene
- Mass Casualty Incident: Hands-on management of a school bus accident

For more information and registration, contact Tony Alexander, EMS manager, at 440-4886.

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Health and Wellness

Neth completes Homeward Bound program

The Versailles Health Care Center is pleased to announce that Norma Neth of Sidney, Ohio has successfully completed her Homeward Bound program. Neth was transferred to VHCC when she was discharged from

Wilson Memorial Hospital following a change in mental status. She was thrilled to be able to return to home following discussion on the hospital regarding long term placement in an extended care facility.

Upon admission on May 13, 2008, Neth required minimal assistance with transfers due to weakness and inactivity. She was very quiet and unsteady concerning her behaviors. She could complete her activities of daily living with minimal assistance. She was alert but had increased confusion with a flat affect. She required constant voicing to complete task. She refused to leave her room upon admission. This was

a significant change prior to her hospital stay in which she was independent with all aspects of life.

On June 24, 2008, Neth could perform all functional transfers independently. She was also highly independent with gait on all levels of terrain. She met her maximum potential regarding strength and range of motion. She was completing all activities of daily living including homemaking task independently. Her emotional status was greatly improved. She was very motivated to participate in group therapy and help other residents and staff around the facility.

Neth's family chose VHCC because it was the only facility with a bed available that could meet her needs. Upon discharge both Neth and her family gave VHCC a thumbs up. They were very impressed with the facility and mentioned that therapy did an excellent job.



Congratulations to Neth on her successful completion of the VHCC Homeward Bound program. She is pictured with

Tammy Moyar, COTA, and Don Quijano, PTA, members of her VHCC rehab team.

Sports-related eye injuries cost up to \$200M per year

Sports can be a beneficial part of growing up, teaching children social skills as well as providing an environment for healthy physical activity. Unfortunately, eye injuries can sideline kids for more than just one season. According to the National Eye Institute (NEI), eye injuries are the leading cause of blindness in school-aged children. And, most of those injuries are sports-related.

There are more than 100,000 sports-related eye injuries every year with 42,000 requiring emergency care. In fact, a U.S. emergency room treats a patient with an eye injury due to sports every 13 minutes. Prevent Blindness America, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health

and safety organization, has dedicated September as Sports Eye Health and Safety Awareness Month to educate the public on how to make sure their eyes are safe while playing sports.

The NEI also states that baseball is the sport responsible for the greatest number of eye injuries in children aged 14 and younger. In fact, The Coalition to Prevent Sports Eye Injuries reports that approximately 1 in 50 Little League players will sustain an eye injury that requires attention. However, basketball is the leading cause of eye injuries in those aged 15 to 24.

"We already know that 72 percent of all sports-related eye injuries are to those aged 25 and younger.

Yet, only 15 percent of children wear eye protection," said Hugh R. Parry, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness America. "We strongly support all efforts to ensure that children use appropriate safety eyewear for every sport in which they participate."

Common injuries among athletes who do not wear approved protection include painful scratches on the cornea, inflamed iris, fracture of the eye socket, swollen or detached retinas, traumatic cataract and blood spilling into the eye's anterior chamber. Injuries can range from temporary to permanent vision loss.

The financial impact of sports-related eye injuries is also significant, costing between an estimated \$175

to \$200 million annually. Additionally, one in eight victims of severe eye injury due to sports initiates legal proceedings against parties that are assumed to be responsible.

Fortunately, 90 percent of all sports-related eye injuries can be prevented just by wearing the proper eye protection. Lenses should be made of polycarbonate and have an American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) label, indicating they meet the standards of the ASTM for the specific sport. There is no evidence that wearing eye protection hampers athletic performance.

"Through educating coaches, parents and children we hope to put an end to unnecessary blind-

ness and vision loss from sports-related injuries," added Parry. "By encouraging our kids, leading by example, and demanding their safety, we hope to help ensure a lifetime of healthy vision."

For more information on sports eye health and safety, including a listing of recommended eye protection by sport, please call Prevent Blindness America at 1-800-331-2020 or visit www.preventblindness.org.

About Prevent Blindness America

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness America is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on

promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness America touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening and training, community and patient service programs and research. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. Together with a network of affiliates, divisions and chapters, it's committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America. For more information, or to make a contribution to the sight-saving fund, call 1-800-331-2020 or visit us on the Web at www.preventblindness.org.

Introducing Dr. McCartney

Jodi D. McCartney, M.D., obstetrician/gynecologist, has joined the medical staff at Wilson Memorial Hospital offering a full-range of obstetric and gynecological care for women of all ages including:

- Complete obstetrics care plus deliveries in Wilson's Family Birth Center
- Routine yearly exams
- Menopause and perimenopause
- Infertility
- Urinary incontinence
- Female sexual dysfunction
- Birth control options
- Gynecological surgery
- And more...

Dr. McCartney is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology. She completed her residency at East Tennessee State University and is a graduate of Wright State University School of Medicine.

For more information or to schedule an appointment please call 937-498-5373.



Jodi McCartney, M.D.
OB/GYN

Wilson Care OB/GYN... A Team Approach for Women's Health



Elizabeth Brandewie, M.D.



Valerie Schulte, D.O.



Jodi McCartney, M.D.



Lisa Pleiman, C.N.P.



www.wilsonhospital.com

Office locations: Wilson Medical Building (915 W. Michigan Street, Sidney)
Newport Medical Building (located in Newport just west of St. Rt. 66)



Heritage Manor Family Picnic