

Valentine's Day scores a perfect 100 for Leora Lovell

See story, page 3



White signs with Western Michigan

See Sports, page 11

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NORTH RIDGEVILLE
Press

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Lear North parents, school officials discuss realignment

By Carol Klear

More than 40 concerned parents accepted an invitation by school officials to attend the Feb. 1 meeting and discuss the realignment that will go into effect for the 2006-07 school year. Students who presently attend Lear North School will go to either Wilcox or Liberty elementary schools next fall, paving the way for Lear North to become a first-grade school.

Superintendent Larry Bowersox restated the reasons for the change, as he has done at previous meetings, including the city's growth, leading to larger classes and the need to accommodate the added student population, as well as the lack of new money to construct more school buildings.

Dr. James Powell, principal at Lear North, told parents that the change is "emotional for all of us," and asked parents to call him with concerns rather than listening to unfounded rumors. Bowersox agreed and said district officials want to continue to communicate with parents.

One parent verbalized a question that seemed to be on everybody's mind and asked why the district could not just expand Lear North School, rather than make sweeping changes.

The superintendent said a big part

SEE **LEAR NORTH,** page 9



Decorating for Valentine's Day
Kindergartners Matthew Csarnok and Abigail Bouts, help their teacher, Sheri Leeper get ready for Valentine's Day. *NRP by Carol Klear*



Mayor Dave Gillock, Lorain County Clerk of Common Pleas Court, Ron Nabakowski and Lorain County Commissioner Betty Blair cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the new title and passport office.

Title, passport office opens in North Ridgeville

By Carol Klear

City and county officials, along with other dignitaries provided a backdrop as Clerk of Lorain County Common Pleas Court Ron Nabakowski cut a ceremonial ribbon signaling the opening of a new auto title/passport office in North Ridgeville, located in the Mills Creek Plaza, 33121 Center Ridge Road.

Nabakowski said the growth in the North Ridgeville area was a factor in the decision to open the office.

"County government must provide services where people live," Nabakowski said. "The phenomenal population growth in Avon, Avon Lake, North Ridgeville and the county's eastern township has necessitated the opening of our fourth office for titling and passport services."

The clerk of court said the location of the new facility "also opens the opportunity for passports to the West Side of Cleveland."

Mayor Dave Gillock said he is happy to have the office in the community, adding, "It's a great service for our citizens."

Lorain County Commissioners Betty Blair and Ted Kalo both said they were pleased about the new office.

"I remember when North Ridgeville was a township," Blair said, adding that today it's the third largest city in Lorain County.

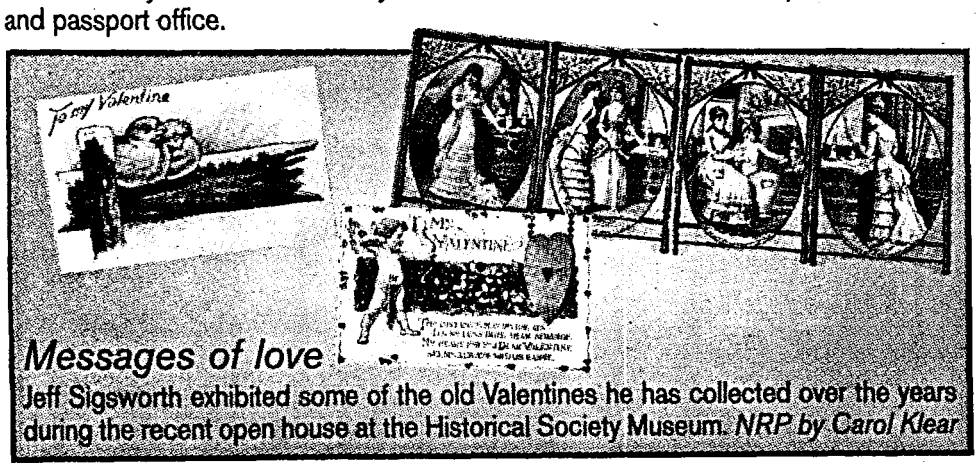
"It's (office) another service in Lorain County," Kalo said.

Sean Dingess was the first person to stop in at the new site to inquire about passports and said he is considering getting one. The cost of a passport, including a photo, is $107.63.

Although a number of people attending the opening questioned when the public would be able to purchase or renew their vehicle and drivers' licenses at the new office, Fred Stratmann, director of media relations for the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles said that would be contingent on "demonstrated need and growth, a year or two down the line."

Cortney King is the manager of the North Ridgeville office and Marilyn Robinson is the title division manager and located in Elyria.

The phone number at the North Ridgeville office is 327-8338. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday.



Messages of love
Jeff Sigsworth exhibited some of the old Valentines he has collected over the years during the recent open house at the Historical Society Museum. *NRP by Carol Klear*

Former superintendent discusses Lorain County education center

By Carol Klear

Accountability, efficiency and high student performance are the benchmarks by which Ohio's education system has come to be measured. Although individual school districts try to reach expected goals, the ambitions are facilitated if educators, businesses and government work together.

According to Dr. Thomas Rockwell, Superintendent of the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Lorain County, years ago it was decided that such partnerships could be directed by county school districts–one system for each county.

Rockwell, a former superintendent of North Ridgeville City Schools, said that the districts were charged with administrative leadership, drafting courses of study, providing in-service teacher training and supervising classroom instruction. Other responsibilities were added later, including fiscal management, purchasing authority and special education.

In 1988 state officials created legislation that permitted Educational Service Centers (previously County School Districts) to form a collabora-

SEE **ESC,** page 9

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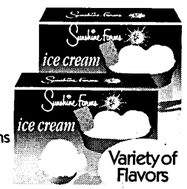


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City officials talk trash; resident talks beautification

By Carol Klear

Trash and debris in ditches continue to be a problem and during Monday's council meeting, Service Department Supervisor Chris Rangus lashed out at residents who refuse to maintain the ditches in front of their properties, especially after city crews work clear them.

Rangus said that he spent a good part of the weekend surveying ditches to make sure the water in them was flowing.

"Most were running to capacity," he told council members, however on many roads, the ditches are plugged.

He pleaded with residents to look in their ditches and remove leaves and other debris from them, stressing that when workers attempt to maintain them, they find the flow impeded by things such as trash cans, newspapers, pop bottles and even tree limbs.

"I believe that some residents do not think the ditches are their responsibility," Rangus said, adding that if there is a problem, call the engineer's department to report it.

Rangus was not the only department head to criticize property owners for their lack of concern for ditches. In his report, City Engineer Larry Griffith said that a month ago, a metal shed was found blocking a ditch, adding that tons of trash have been removed from ditches, including cigarette butts, auto parts and other things, which ultimately costs taxpayers millions of dollars to haul away.

"In 2003, volunteers bagged almost 6,800 pounds of litter," Griffith said, adding that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has a program called, "Plant Pride not Litter."

The engineer said that if everyone would help and educate others, "the result would make it (North Ridgeville) a better place to live."

During lobby, Granite Lane resident Bruce Tomcik, added his comments about making the city a better place to live by using resources already in place.

Tomcik prefaced his remarks by explaining that he has called North Ridgeville "home" for just a year and previously had lived in at least eight other cities and traveled extensively at home and abroad.

"I mention this not to impress you, but rather to add credibility to my remarks," Tomcik said. "I've seen a lot of places."

He went on to describe cities that offer a town center or "recognizable square," where residents can gather and stressed that North Ridgeville is "fortunate to have such a place if only we recognize it."

"The area bounded by Root and 83 and Center Ridge and Bainbridge is a natural," Tomcik said. "It's virtually crying out to be the center of North Ridgeville, a place where people can come and congregate. It's so obvious to newcomers such as myself that its neglect is almost striking."

He pointed out the elements that are already in place, including City Hall, the high school stadium, the library, St. Peter Church and the adjacent South Central Park, however long-term vision is lacking, he said.

Tomcik commended city officials on attracting more businesses and jobs to the city, however he asked, "at what cost?"

"The destruction of the mature forest at Meadow Lakes is a great loss and is repellent," he said. "Will we allow more in the name of progress?"

He encouraged the city to bring "Legacy Village-type shopping instead of another Tops-type strip mall" like the one in Elyria and also aim for shopping places like Avon Commons or Crocker Park.

"Mostly I urge you to step back and take a deep breath, "Tomcik said. "Think of Chardon or even closer, Oberlin and Wellington. Towns with vibrant and clearly recognizable centers where people can and do gather-on foot."

The resident cautioned city officials not to abandon the city to unplanned development, noting that doing so would be a "dereliction of your fiduciary duty to present and future generations of North Ridgeville residents."

In other business, Council passed a resolution authorizing the mayor to apply for financial assistance from the ODNR to purchase land adjacent to the Shady Drive Complex.

Dennis Boose, D-2, supported the idea telling council members that Shady Drive "is maxed out on ball fields."

"We have over 50 players in the city and no place to put them," Boose said, adding that additional playing fields have been needed for a long time.

The extra land could be added to the current facilities or the city could acquire additional property someplace.

"I favor this," Boose said.

Council also supported two resolutions that would allow the city to spend additional funds on projects that ultimately cost more than anticipated.

Mayor Dave Gillock explained that in one instance, additional asphalt was needed to pave Bagley and Bender roads and the other expenditure was the "wrap-up of the East Center Ridge Road sewer project," in which there were unexpected costs.

Griffith supported Gillock in the request for additional funds, noting that there were approximately 300 different situations that needed to be taken care of and "it would have cost two to three times as much" if city officials had waited to process each one.

"We are over one-half-million dollars below budget," Griffith said.

Happy 100th birthday



Leora Elizabeth Lovell

Valentine's Day will be very special for North Ridgeville resident, Leora Elizabeth Lovell, who will celebrate her 100th birthday at Center Ridge Health Campus where she resides.

She was born on Feb. 14, 1906 in Frenchtown, Pa., one of 16 children including two sets of triplets and one set of twins. Moving to Cleveland in her early 20s, she met and married the man of her dreams, Russell J. Lovell. The couple traveled back and forth from Cleveland to North Ridgeville while building a home on Lorain Road, where they eventually settled and raised their five children: Russell and Harold, who live in North Ridgeville; Edgar in Springfield, Ohio; Ronald, in Lowellville, Ohio; and Joyce Frabotta, who lives in Amherst. She also has 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great grandchildren.

Lovell is a member of St. Peter Church, where she worked bingo for years and also babysat for various families throughout the city. She always enjoyed being with her family and cooking, traveling and playing cards.

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CLOSE TO EVERYTHING... Nice 3 bdrm Bungalow w/central air, gas heat, family rm, updates incl.: roof, carpeting, all appl. stay, lg. fenced yard with privacy, aboveground pool, outbuilding, and lots of room for parking. Terry Murray 327-6511. #5181. $111,000.

TRULY STUNNING... This beautiful colonial features 4/6 bdrms, 3.5 baths, impressive 2-story foyer, formal living rm & dining rm w/crown molding, lg. family rm w/gas fplace, breakfast room leads onto lg. deck, all appl. stay, 1st floor laundry, master suite w/jacuzzi and so much more. Pat McGowan 327-6511. #5096. $375,000.

NO EXPENSES SPARED... Lovely 3 bdrm totally remodeled builders home. Gorgeous eat-in kitchen w/pergo flooring and oak cabinets, tasteful colors accent the oak throughout. Huge master, beautifully landscaped totally fenced yard w/new composite deck Gas heat, cent. air, everything is new and waiting for you. Janet Sprecher 327-6511. #5105. $139,900.

STUNING COLONIAL... You will love everything about this beautiful home. Breathtaking 2-story stone fplace in great rm, foyer is open to 2nd floor balcony, 1st floor master suite, 3 additional bdrms on 2nd floor w/bath, kitchen features classic cherry cabinets, formal dining rm, oversized 2-car garag & more. Judy Conrad 327-6511. #5075. $227,500.

GORGEOUS COLONIAL WITH WOODED VIEWS... Come see this exceptional home with tons of upgrades. Enjoy 9 ft. high 1st floor ceilings, slate and wood flooring, a windowed morning room with vaulted ceilings and a great view. 2-story foyer, ent. size family room with stone fplace, den formal dining rm, full bsmt, oversized 2-car att. garage, over 500 sq. ft. of curved stonepad concrete, lush landscaping with lighted walkways. A must see. Darleen Crow 327-6511. #5173. $267,900.

HIGH TRAFFIC... Almost 1 acre a n older 5000 sq. ft. building on it. Close to Rt. 480, turnpike and I-90. Dave Collins 327-6511. #5121. $125,000.

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES What a home! We have it all! Approx. 2900 sq. ft., 6 bdrms, 5 baths, lg. fenced-in yard and plenty of barns. In-law or teen suite for privacy. Updates incl.: 200 amp service, roof, siding, carpet, window, furnace, air, hot water tank, kitchen w/oak cabinets, 2 decks, 2 large barns, and more. Darleen Crow 327-6511. #5108. $219,900.

CUSTOM BUILT HOME... on .65 of an acre! Relax on the deck in the secluded, fenced backyard, newer carpet and vinyl flooring throughout, freshly painted, corian countertops, Andersen windows, crown molding & so much more. Amy Krall 327-6511. #5058. $219,000.

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Time for Girl Scout cookies; pick up some for people in service, as well

KLEARLY SPEAKING

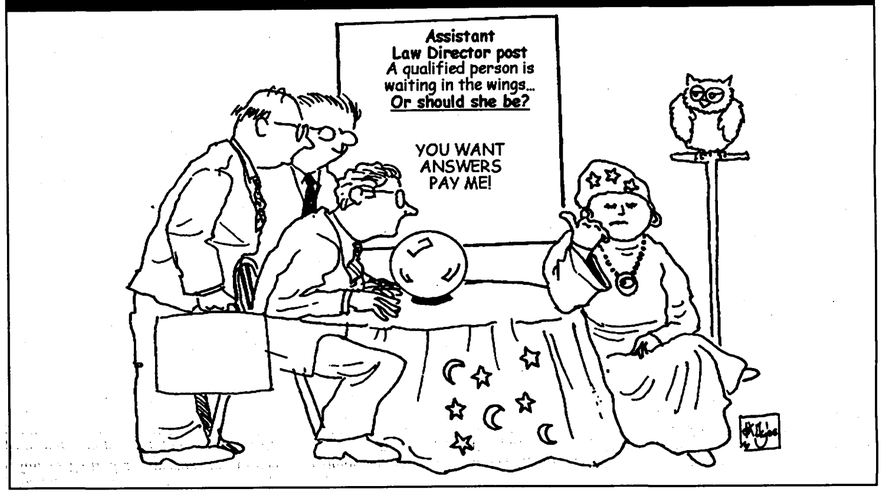
YUM, YUM.....I love Girl Scout cookies and now's the time to stock up. Cathy Ebenschweller said North Ridgeville Girl Scouts have sold more than 34,000 boxes already. If you don't have yours, the Girl Scouts will be selling them at Giant Eagle, Feb. 17, 18, 19 and then again Feb. 24, 25, 26 and at Ace Hardware on Feb. 17. If you'd like to participate in "Operation Thanks-A-Lot," you can buy a box of cookies for $3 or a whole case for $36 and the scouts will send them to the men and women in the military.

SPEAKING OF BUYING.....I hope you know what Tuesday is...come on, think real hard. What does the color red make you think of? *Bull fights???* Oh, come on...duh, no. I'll give you another clue...red hearts. *Playing cards?* No. No. Tuesday is Valentine's Day and you better buy something nice for your Valentine. Use your imagination, but whatever you do, don't forget.

I UNDERSTOOD.....As I listened to the discussion between school officials and parents of Lear North students, last Wednesday I empathized with parents' frustration. Lear will be a first-grade school in the fall and this year's students will go to either Wilcox or Liberty next year. There definitely will be a period of adjustment. When we arrived in N.R. 25 years ago, six of our seven daughters attended five different schools, including half-day sessions at the high school. It was tough to be in a new community and all those new schools, but after a few months we all settled into a routine. Everybody, try to hang in there.

GAS ODOR.....We may have solved the mystery of the intermittent gas odor in the area of SR 83. Mayor Dave Gillock said a broken gas line was found at Thibo's on Friday. Ray Frank of Columbia Gas instructs residents to call the gas company's toll-free number, (800) 344-4077 if they smell gas. When calling, follow the instructions provided. Frank said technicians have been trying to locate the source of the problem for several days and recommended that residents to call each time they notice the odor.

SAD NEWS.....As she announced this week, Melissa Linebrink will no longer be on the NRP staff. Her perspective has added much to the North Ridgeville Press' coverage and I appreciate all she has brought to the paper. We wish her good luck, and on a personal note; *Melissa, I'm gonna miss ya.*



PRESSLINE

Caller: *Considering all Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney's problems this past week, the Corn Festival Committee might want to get someone else to sponsor the horseshoe tournament in the summer.*

Caller: *I think Mr. Crites (City Law Director Andy Crites) should get legal counsel and step down.*

Caller: *My friends and I enjoy watching council on television but we wish Dr. Norris would speak up. He keeps his head down and we can't hear him. If it weren't for Dr. Arndt and his great voice, we wouldn't know what's going on.*

Caller: *Mrs. Klear, I have no quarrel whatsoever with your coverage of City Hall or North Ridgeville City Council, however I am quite disappointed in your personal commentary regarding the president of council, Mr. Ron Arndt. Whether you like him or not is immaterial to me, I think you show some degree of ignorance if you do not real-*

SEE PRESSLINE, page 5

To all, a final farewell from the heart of a reporter



Reporter's Notebook

By Melissa Linebrink

"Another turning point, a fork stuck in the road
Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go
So make the best of this test, and don't ask why
It's not a question, but a lesson learned in time
It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right.
I hope you had the time of your life."
—Green Day

This is by far the most difficult column I have had to write in the three years since I became a freelance reporter for The North Ridgeville Press. It's not because I don't have a subject to write about–in fact, it's just the opposite. However, what I have to say today in my little space is difficult to write. You see today is the last time you will see my byline in this newspaper.

After working for Douthit Communications for nearly five years, I have decided it is time to look toward the future and embark upon a different journey. Don't get me wrong. I love being a journalist. I love meeting new people. I love telling their stories. Simply put, I love writing. And knowing this, I will not stop writing because it is my passion.

So many people have helped me become the journalist I am today. I will never forget the day I walked into the newsroom for an interview with the publisher of the company, Ken Douthit. No one expected him or me there that day, but there I was in my new gray pantsuit with my portfolio in my hand (this was all before I had my son of course).

I was first hired to work for The Avon Lake Press, a sister paper to the North Ridgeville Press. I found my niche working with people like the former editor, Mike Ferrari, current editor Lori Switaj and of course, Carol Klear. They gave me advice when I sought it and were my mentors along the way.

And, without story sources, there would be no stories to write.

I will always remember talking with Carla Kurczi, who in 1990 discovered a lump in one of her breasts. After undergoing a mastectomy, she came out a cancer survivor.

Allene Swanson took on the hobby of knitting caps and mittens. In fact, at one time she donated more than 1,500 pairs of mittens and close to 500 matching caps to the needy.

Mark, Debbie and Max Whitmore have a special place in my heart. Mark and Debbie adopted Max, who is from China, after they tried for several years to have a larger family through in-vitro fertilization. And, this story helped the North Ridgeville Press place at the 2006 Ohio Newspaper Association at the Osman C. Hooper Newspaper Show.

And then there was Gloria Sabat. I spoke with her for a long time via the telephone regarding her passion for baking cookies. She was so pleased that I was telling her and her mother's story, that by the end of the interview, she was crying tears of joy.

These are the types of people I will miss the most–the ones who took time to tell me their story; the ones who trusted me with difficult and sometimes private information. Without people like Carla, Allene, Mark and Debbie and Gloria, the newspaper industry would lose something very important–it would lose its ability to show heart and convey emotion–the reasons I chose to become a journalist–to tell the untold story.

I would finally like to thank all of the readers who grew with me during my years as a reporter with the North Ridgeville Press. It was a pleasure to share with you moments of my life, as well as yours. And, in the end, I hope you had the time of your life, because I know I did.

NORTH RIDGEVILLE Press

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The North Ridgeville Press reserves the right to accept or reject any Letter to the Editor. Each letter requires a name, address and daytime phone number for verification purposes. Letters and e-mails that do not provide a phone number for verification purposes will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and clarity.
Letters for publication on Wednesday must be in The North Ridgeville Press office on the prior Thursday at 5 p.m.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

President responds to letter

To the Editor:

In response to the letter to the editor published in last week's N.R. Press titled, "Same Old, Same Old," I'd like to shed some guiding light to the writer of that letter whom has, as usual, rambled on without any facts.

First, regarding the seating arrangements, the two new board members took the seats of the past members. I took the seat of the president to the left of the superintendent and the new vice president took the seat to my left as has been done in all past years. Ms. Sycz remained in the seat she has always been in. There is no impropriety in this arrangement.

Your next subject addressed officers' positions filled, these were done in accordance with all regulations, as the senior member with the most experience and after serving in the past as vice-president it was a natural and logical progression to be president with no opposing votes. Ms. Hrabik was a natural choice for the position of V.P. as she has served in the past as president and vice-president. While I respect Mr. Dominguez for his self-nomination, neither he, nor any other newly elected board member has the experience to serve the job effectively. I hope in the upcoming year one of the new members will apply for the position.

Moving on to the committee assignments, in our January special meeting each board member was asked to complete a form asking what assignments they desired. Every board member turned these into me and I tried to give everyone exactly what they asked for. This proved very successful, as almost every position asked for by the other four board members was given to them. I took what was left. As this information is public record, I suggest you request it and you will see that it was fair to all, and by far the best method ever used to assign these positions. Each member received an e-mail prior to the meeting making sure they were pleased with their assignments.

As far as the Lorain County JVS position, as was publicly mentioned at the January organizational meeting, I have been asked by the JVS administration to remain at the JVS for at least another year. I have been on this board the past five-plus years, serving as past vice president and president as well as heading up the facilities committee throughout my entire service there. During these past years, my knowledge of construction and construction management has saved the taxpayers of Lorain County well over $100,000 by working with the architects and engineers in the specification preparation and review. Finding alternate methods to achieve goals, and helping the JVS set up direct purchases agreements have allowed the JVS to provide far better services for less public dollars spent. Please feel free to contact Mike Larson at the JVS if you have any doubt as to the value that this member has made to that school. With the new greenhouse and mechanical renovations underway for the 2006-2007 school years, the JVS administration feels it is imperative that I complete the work I began there.

Yes, I do get paid by the JVS as this is considered an extra meeting, had you properly researched the issue you might have discovered that a percentage of that pay I voluntarily donate to a special JVS Board Scholarship Fund which I helped to create. The fact that a North Ridgeville board member has a child at the JVS is NOT sufficient reason to place them in a position on that board, when an existing member has a proven track record that has been beneficial in leadership to the entire Lorain County community.

In summary, the "new" North Ridgeville Board is working well together and is planning many new items that involve all members equally. While there may be split votes on issues, we know that the priority is always to strive for better education. The fact that you have your own personal agendas and problems with existing members of this board has clouded your vision. As new members start to learn the history of some of the issues, and policies that you helped to create, I am confident they will grow and do well on this board.

Ross Mitchell
North Ridgeville

City Hall/BOE news not good

To the Editor:

It was disappointing to read the news out of City Hall and the school board this week.

The Crites/Manning issue has the mayor recommending that the law director not tell the truth: "(Crites) would have been smarter to say 'no' when asked if he had someone in mind for the position." How sad that power is still more important than morality.

As Lord Acton said: *Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.*

Now we're not implying the mayor has absolute power. But the school board report from Ms. McMillen suggests that Ross Mitchell (School Board president) is getting close.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the good of the community were held higher than "saying what is smarter" though not truthful and if the board majority felt working as a team was more important than majority power?

North Ridgeville will only be as strong as its unity.

K. R. Lauterbach
North Ridgeville

Money questions

To the Editor:

I wonder if the North Ridgeville Press could get answers to the following questions from the city:

A. How much was the total police budget in 2005?

How much of that came out of the general fund?

B. What was the dollar amount of the recently passed police levy?

C. What is the total police budget for 2006?

How much will come from the general fund?

Most North Ridgeville residents probably believe that "A" plus "B" should equal "C" and if it does not, they would like the city to explain why. Voters who voted for the levy probably thought that the police budget would increase by the amount of the levy and it if doesn't, they should know why. I know the answer to my question, so it's rhetorical for me, but I bet that many North Ridgeville residents do not know what the true answer is.

Thomas H. Higgason
North Ridgeville

Editor's Note: The following are figures provided by Deputy Auditor, Donna Kiraly.

- *Total police budget for 2005-$3,745,871*
- *Amount from General Fund-Year to date expenditures, $3,631,846*
- *Amount of recently passed police levy-Figure from county auditor, $1,058,000*
- *Total police budget for 2006-That is unknown because the appropriation hearings have not been conducted yet*
- *Amount from General Fund-Same as previous answer*

***PRESSLINE,** from page 4*

ize that as the elected president-elected by his fellow councilmen–he has the right to choose both chairs and members of committee. While you certainly have the right to criticize his choices I think your snide remark about his choice to wish everyone "Good Evening," at council meetings is far beneath the standards that one could hope is set at the North Ridgeville Press. Whether Mr. Arndt is a member of the Toastmasters Club is of no importance, your remarks smack of a personal vendetta. I hope this is not the case as it could interfere with unbiased reporting in the future.

Response: *I appreciate the fairness with which the caller stated her concerns. I do understand that the council president can select committee members and chairs, my problem, as I stated in Editor's Notebook of Jan. 18, was Mr. Arndt's introductory comments of attempting to link talents with committees. And I stand by my opinion that Mrs. Butkowski has shown her ability to head the finance committee for four years, while Mrs. Manning is new, not only to that committee, but to council. I feel Mrs. Manning could have served on the committee, rather than lead it.*

I did contact Mr. Arndt after he announced the committee assignments to ask if he had had counsel on his selections and he told me he had been working on them for a month, which I found odd since he wasn't voted council president until the Jan. 2 meeting.

I have to agree that the last sentence could have been omitted and the caller is correct that it doesn't matter if Mr. Arndt belongs to Toastmasters. I think it immediately came to mind because a number of years ago, Mr. Arndt invited me at least three times to join that club, which I would have enjoyed, if I had the time to devote to it. I apologize for the "snide remark," and I don't have a problem with the council president opening with "Good Evening," but I object to his waiting for everyone in the audience, including this editor, to respond "Good Evening," back to him. And nō, my opinion column has no bearing on objective reporting of any meetings–council, committee, school board or others.

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St. Peter's students look to the future with engineering

By Melissa Linebrink

The weekend of Jan. 21 found three students from St. Peter Catholic School traveling to Columbus to compete during National Engineers Week Future City Competition. Andrea Price, Morgan Gundlach and Kevin Vogel, all eighth-grade students of Chris Bopp, participated in the Future City Project, which is a nationwide competition for junior high school students.

According to Bopp, the program consists of three parts. First, the student had to use SimCity 3000 software to create a city of the future, from the year 2150 and beyond. Then they were required to compose an essay, stating a feasible plan of 500 to 700 words for a particular problem they might encounter in their city.

Finally, students were to construct a large-scale model that represented a portion of the city. Each part of the project took several hours to complete and required a teacher coach and an engineer mentor to assist and encourage the students.

"This was the first time we attempted this project at St. Peter School," Bopp said. "The eighth-grade students were given the opportunity to complete this project in lieu of completing a science fair project."

Eighteen students participated in groups of three. Dave Mahilo, a parent and employee of Invacare Inc., served as the engineer mentor. However, because it was a nationwide competition, only one group of students was sent to Columbus to compete in the Ohio Region for the opportunity to compete in Washington, D.C. during National Engineer's Week, held in mid-February.



Morgan Gundlach (left), Andrea Price, Kevin Vogel and teacher Chris Bopp stand behind part of the city of "Savoirfaire."

"We held a school competition in which the students were graded on their essays and a presentation they gave to a small panel," Bopp said.

The city of "Savoirfaire" whose team members were Andrea Price, Morgan Gundlach and Kevin Vogel, won the school competition, Bopp noted.

Andrea said the most interesting aspect of the experience was her view of North Ridgeville.

"In the SimCity game, buildings could become abandoned, land value varied with its surroundings and roads could become congested," Andrea said. "I realized that Savoirfaire was similar to North Ridgeville and it opened my eyes to some unoccupied buildings that reminded me of the game. It also helped me realize the difference between the new development of Meadow Lakes and an older development off Avon Belden."

Morgan said that after the project was completed, she realized how much time and effort it takes to be an engineer.

"I have a lot of respect for engineers," Morgan said, adding she believes often times their jobs are taken for granted.

Kevin said he enjoyed working on the project with Andrea and Morgan because it was different than a science project and it was not what he expected.

Kevin noted that since he knows what engineers go through on a daily basis with their jobs, he does not intend to pursue engineering as a career.

Bopp said she is very pleased with all of her students and the effort they put forth with this project.

"We all learned a lot," she said. "It is wonderful to see all of the creativity and potential our young students have. They can do great things when they work hard. I'm proud of all of our eighth-graders who accepted a new challenge."

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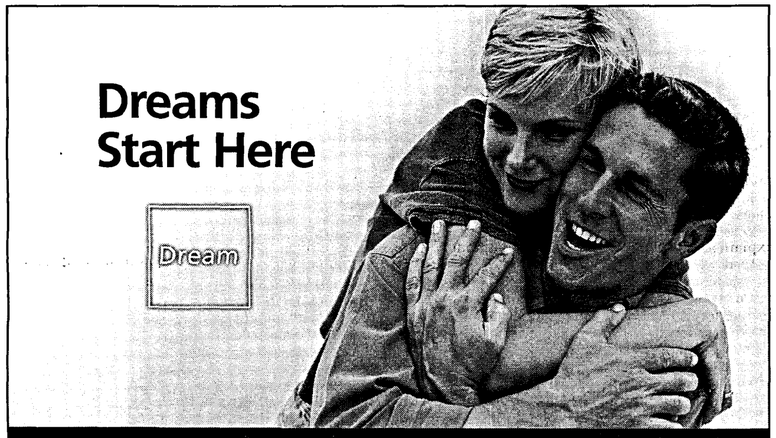
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Former commission member objects to closed gate at Shady Drive

By Carol Klear

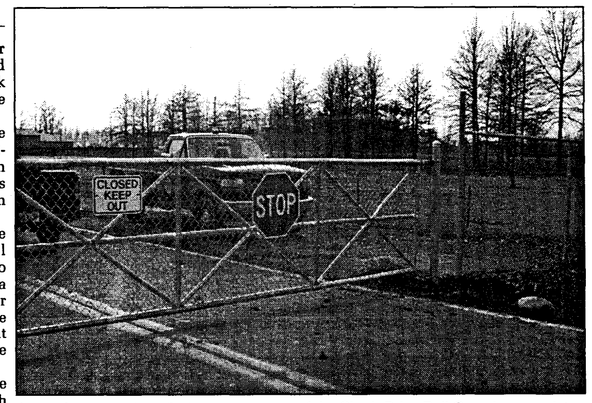
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor Gary Teel updated the Parks and Recreation Commission on the work done by his department last year at the city's parks.

Teel's report on one project at the Shady Drive Complex sparked an irritated response from a former commission member, Ward 2 Councilman Dennis Boose during the Jan. 25 commission meeting.

Due to extensive vandalism at the ballpark, the commission voted to install a gate at the entrance as a deterrent to repeating the damage done. Boose was a member of the commission last year when the panel voted to put up the gate and insisted that his vote was contingent on having it open and accessible to the public during daylight hours.

Recently Boose said he drove to the park and found the gate closed although it was daytime.

Teel said that if the ball diamonds are not being used the gate is closed.



A new fence was installed at the entrance of the Shady Drive Ball Complex as a deterrent to vandals, who caused a large amount of damage a few months ago. The cost of the fence was $8,200.

"I am against that," Boose said. "It's a park."

When Teel said that the soccer park keeps its gate closed between soccer seasons, Boose reminded the commission that the soccer field is only used for soccer and does not have playground equipment like Shady Drive does.

City worker Dennis Tenny questioned whether or not restrooms would be required to be open if the Shady Drive complex is open and accessible.

In addition to the fence, Teel said drains and dugouts have been installed at the ball park. The area around the new concession stand and restroom building was re-graded and seeded and the maintenance building was also painted.

Several projects were completed at South Central Park as well, including raising the lake water level 18 inches. The fence around the concession stand building was removed and the old showers in the restrooms were partitioned for security, Teel said. An ADA-compliant ramp leading to a concrete dock was begun in 2005 and finished last month.

As a kid he made people laugh; today he still does and gets paid for it

By Carol Klear

"Someone will always ask about the children. They're all grown now, all four lead completely adult lives, with jobs, mortgages, children of their own, but I still get a little nervous when someone asks, 'So, what do they do for a living?' Well, there's a hotel manager, a mother, a truck driver and...there's a comedian."

That was how Pleasant Street resident, Dianne Mueller introduced her youngest son, Eric Lyden, via e-mail, to the North Ridgeville Press. Lyden, 35, has been a comedian...let's make that a professional comedian for nine years.

Actually, Mueller said, "Eric has been making people laugh since he was at least 10 years old."

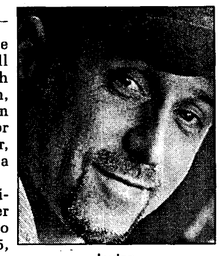
Speaking from his home in New York City, Lyden explained that he had three great role models who helped prepare him for his life today.

"When I was growing up, my older brother, my dad and my Uncle Doug were always making me laugh," Lyden said. "So I guess it was sort of inherent."

The comic grew up in Ewing, New Jersey. According to his Web site bio, "Six years after almost graduating from the University of HisLocalCommunityCollege...where he majored in transferring," Lyden began his journey as a comedian.

"Eric started working at Sears while he was still in high school," his mother said. "And even then, while he sold hardware to unsuspecting customers, he practiced his avocation. They were his first real audiences. Amazingly enough, Sears did not fire him for being a cut-up and poking fun at their customers, but Eric finally moved on of his own accord. He decided to sell cars...but again, Eric was just practicing comedy on another lot of unwitting customers."

Lyden said he never got promoted at Sears, "I'm still acting like a clown." He has friends who are still working at Sears and a few months ago he called them from the cruise ship where he was performing.



Lyden

According to his mother, he took the plunge to doing comedy on stage in front of people at a comedy club in New Hope, Pa., one night.

"There might have been 30 people there and I was more nervous than the day the coach brought him to pitch during a Babe Ruth sectional game at the bottom of the 9th inning with bases loaded, two outs and two men on," she said. "Eric stepped up on stage, took the microphone in his hand and started talking about his family. People laughed. He was not only funny and relaxed, but everyone there could relate to living with a family of nuts and odd balls."

Lyden said he writes his own material and gets ideas from "listening to people say things and observing them do things." Then he puts his own spin on them.

And he has made a success of it, as evidenced by the places he performs, such as the Comic Strip in New York City, Comedy Cabaret in Phildelphia and other places, including his stint on New Year's Eve at Cleveland's Improv. He's also been performing on the Royal Caribbean for 2 1/2 years. He was there Feb. 3-6 on a special Dave Matthews charter cruise.

Although his career as a comedian has served him well, Lyden has begun taking acting lessons with an eye toward expanding his talents in commercials or movies and had an audition last week.

His home base is New York City, where his girlfriend, who holds a master's degree in industrial psychology, lives.

Lyden said he gets to North Ridgeville two or three times a year, although the highlight of his life is his love of laughing.

"My dad tells me, 'Eric, you laugh even if nobody else is around,'"

His mother, who Eric refers to as "creative," said that most parents don't get a chance to watch their children at work, but with Eric it's a little different.

"You can understand that I still get a little nervous when it's the bottom of the 9th and the bases are loaded and your kid is brought in to knock 'em dead," Mueller said.

"Eric still makes me laugh and that's his gift. My gift to Eric is being proud of him for doing well in a tough business."

Lyden's scheduled appearances are listed on www.ericlyden.com/schedule.htm.

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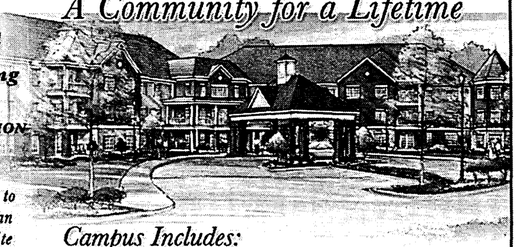
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Greenhouses thrive in winter months despite temperatures

By Melissa Linebrink

Even though winter has been upon Ohio since November, greenhouses in the area still manage to produce plants for the early spring season.

Raymond Diederich, of J.P. Diederich & Sons Inc. located on Center Ridge Road, said that during the winter months he and his employees walk through the greenhouses and repair or replace any loose glass pieces they may find. He also said spring planting season in greenhouses begins in January and February. Furthermore, the temperature in each greenhouse is different depending on what is growing inside.

"Some crops take a higher temperature to grow and others take lower ones," he said. For example, snapdragons require lower temperatures to cultivate, while Easter Lilies grow better in higher temperatures. "Each greenhouse is different."

With J.P. Diederich & Sons Inc. open year-round, customers can be sure to find a flower or plant that suits his/her needs.

Diederich noted that people who wish to plant spring flowers and annuals after the first frost can start by planting seeds in proper containers and allow the flowers/plants time to grow inside first and once they are moved outdoors, he/she will have a crop sooner, such is the case for peppers and tomatoes.

Mark Schuetz is a floor supervisor for Maria Gardens, in Columbia Station, which is the parent company of Kelly Anne Growers, located on SR 83 with greenhouses primarily off Stoney Ridge Road.

Schuetz said that because of the high cost of fuel this winter, Maria Gardens in Columbia Station put off planting for the spring/summer season until February when they normally start in the beginning of January.

"The cost of fuel to heat the greenhouses just increased," Schuetz said

He said if it is sunny out, the greenhouses tend to warm up on their own with a little help from gas heat, but if it's cloudy outside, the greenhouses are kept at 65 degrees inside to cut down on fuel costs.

Dan Stopper, owner of Kelly Anne Growers in North Ridgeville, said when he recently purchased the greenhouses on Stoney Ridge Road, he noticed a lot more work had to be done before he could allow plants to grow inside of them. However, he is confident Kelly Anne Growers will have materials to sell for the early spring and summer months thanks to the 12 acres of land with many greenhouses at Maria Gardens in Columbia Station. There are approximately 17 acres of land with five greenhouses at the Kelly Anne Growers location on Stoney Ridge Road.

"(Owning greenhouses) is a tough business and with gas prices increasing this year, it just gets tougher," Stopper said.

However, the nature of the business is what makes Stopper glad he chose to own a garden company.

"People in North Ridgeville love their yards and hanging baskets," Stopper said, adding he expects the business on SR 83 to open one week prior to Easter of this year.



VFW 2005 contest winners

The North Ridgeville VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Post 9871 announced the winners of the 2005 contests on Dec. 7. Front row, from left; Sara File, 1st in Patriot's Penn, Neilay Shah, 3rd in Patriot's Pen, Felisha Culp, 1st in Voice of Democracy; back row; Nathan Carson, 2nd in Patriot's Pen, Tierrah Powell, 2nd in Voice of Democracy.

Carson lost a tie; Steelers won the game

As the Feb. 3 meeting of the North Ridgeville Rotary Club concluded, members began giving fellow Rotarian Dr. Dennis Carson a difficult yet good-humored time regarding the Pittsburgh Steelers' tie he was wearing in support of the Super Bowl.

According to Rotarian Dennis Boose, one thing led to another, and members began bidding "on the right to purchase the tie from the good doctor in order to initiate its eminent demise."

The members raised $166 within a matter of minutes, and in a true "Rotarian" spirit Carson turned over the tie to the club and donated the money raised to Community Care.

Rumor has it that the tie may reappear (along with a Michigan Wolverine neck piece from another North Ridgeville Rotarian who will remain nameless) at the club's upcoming "Spring Fling" fundraiser as a silent auction item, giving Carson the opportunity to buy it back...if the price is right.



Carson

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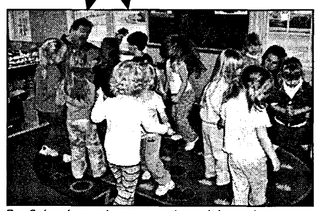
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ESC, from page 1

tive taxing district among local, city and exempted school districts and entitled it a County School Financing District (CSFD).

Rockwell said that in 1995, the role of the county school districts changed.

They were also renamed Educational Service Centers," Rockwell said, adding that in the transition, some districts merged and the original 87 districts were pared to 60 ESCs across the state.

The ESC Governing Board handles oversight, while the day-to-day operation of ESC of Lorain County is the responsibility of the superintendent, treasurer and other administrators, he said.

Explaining ESC of Lorain County, Rockwell stressed that thanks to both business and educational consortiums, the center offers a variety of professional services to the city schools, which include districts in Avon Lake, Elyria, Lorain North Ridgeville Oberlin and Sheffield/Sheffield Lake; the local districts of Avon, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, Keystone and Midview, as well as the exempted villages of Amherst and Wellington and also Lorain County Joint Vocational School.

Some of the benefits of the business consortium include the Lake Erie Education Computer Association (LEECA) which provides data processing, payroll, students scheduling and report cards. There are also items such as co-operative purchasing, natural gas purchasing power and fingerprinting and background check services.

The educational associations provide such services as early childhood, special education supervisory, curriculum and instructional, distance learning and home schooling.

"The Educational Service Center provides a vital link to all children in Lorain County," Rockwell said. However, the linkage comes at a price and with so many levies being rejected, the superintendent said that backed by the 1988 legislation, the ESC Governing Board was asked to pass a resolution to create a CSFD in Lorain County.

"The resolution was passed in 2004," Rockwell said.

The purpose of creating a CSFD may be one of several, including current expenses for the special education and related services, permanent improvement for special education and related services, current expenses for specified educational programs and permanent improvements for specified educational programs or permanent improvements.

Local districts are automatic members, however they can petition to be excluded, the superintendent said. Columbia, Clearview, Firelands, Keystone and Midview districts are part of the established CSFD, but Avon is not.

The board of education of a city or exempted village school district may adopt a resolution requesting that their district is included and the ESC Governing Board accepts or rejects the request. Avon Lake, North Ridgeville, Oberlin and Sheffield are presently included, while Sheffield, Elyria and Lorain are not. The exempted village of Amherst is also part of the CSFD.

If the CSFD puts a levy on the ballot and it passes, voters in the districts that are included in the financing district pay the additional tax, Rockwell said.

"If a city doesn't pass it but wants in, it has to petition," he said.

Rockwell called the creation of the CSFD a "secondary funding source," however he said a decision whether or not to put a levy on the ballot would probably wait until after the May election.

"That's our job to help serve in the best way we can so the kids in the county benefit," Rockwell said.

Rockwell addressed the North Ridgeville School Board during yesterday's work session.

Government contact numbers

Mayor	G. David Gillock	353-0811	dgillock@nridgeville.org
Service Director	Denny Johnson	353-0812	djohson@nridgeville.org
Clerk of Council	Charles A. Norris	353-1508	
Chief Deputy Clerk	Paula Cope	353-1508	
Council members:			
Council President	Dr. Ron Arndt	748-1212	drron@dramdt.com
Ward 1	Nancy Buescher	327-8581	nancybuescher@msn.com
Ward 2	Al Swindig	327-2216	aswindig@nridgeville.org
Ward 3	Richard Jaenke	748-1873	dickjaenke@hotmail.com
Ward 4	Bob Olesen	327-2705	olesend2@comcast.net
At-Large	Bernadine Butkowski	327-8026	bbutkowski@bright.net
At-Large	Andy Young	353-1715	ayoung@nphm.com
City Departments			
Building Department			353-0822
Income Tax			353-0846
Law Director			353-0848
Treasurer			353-0854
Mayor's Court			353-0821
Parks and Recreation			353-0860
Senior Center			353-0828
Service Department			353-0814
Utilities			353-0841
Fire			327-5311
Police			327-4101

LEAR NORTH, from page 1

of the problem is the cost of renovating an aging building. He also said that although the Lear North site has sufficient land for an addition, another consideration is its location.

Another parent asked about the timing of the realignment.

"We need to build and we need money to build," Bowersox said.

"How are we saving money?" someone else asked.

School Treasurer Biagio Sidoti explained that to continue with the present situation could mean hiring additional teachers, however by realigning the classes, the teaching staff could be "spread across the district."

One man was especially upset about the change because he had purchased his home near Lear North School to ensure that his children would be able to walk and asked that school officials redo the boundaries so the change would impact only a few streets.

However, the superintendent said the district is "constantly making adjustments."

Assistant Superintendent Craig Phillips assured the parents that the district's decision was not an easy one, stressing that Liberty and Wilcox "are not neighborhood schools any more." He said that with the new growth, school officials are trying to determine ways to maintain better class sizes.

Responding to a suggestion to use Fields-Sweet School, Bowersox said that the building is sort of a "safety valve," if it is needed, although presently it is being used as a preschool. However, to upgrade it would be very expensive.

"I'm not sure we should take an 80-year-old building and pour one-half million dollars into it," he said, adding that the district wants to hold onto it in case it is needed.

Bowersox also reiterated the fact that voters have not supported new money for the district.

"We have less money, fixed costs and more students," the superintendent said. "Somewhere we have to make changes."

> *"We have less money, fixed costs and more students. Somewhere we have to make changes."*
> ~Superintendent Larry Bowersox

"We're growing like crazy," Assistant Superintendent Dave Livingston said. "We have no additional levies and most important clustering is good for kids."

Sheryl Cassidy expressed a concern about how her daughter would handle the adjustment.

"What will you do to make my daughter more comfortable?" Cassidy asked. "We're willing to work with you; you should be willing to work with us."

Powell told her to visit the other buildings and offer suggestions that would help them make the transition smooth for everyone.

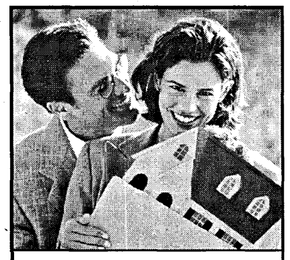
"Your attitude is the key to success," Powell said. "There are a lot of positives here."

Bowersox said the administration is trying to do the best it can with the information available.

Following the meeting, veteran teacher Herb Fiske, who has been at Lear North for 27 years, said that on a personal level he believes in neighborhood schools, however, he said, if the district is going toward clustering, he feels the concept should be expanded and not limited to the first grade.

"If it's good, it's good," he said. "Parents have a choice; kids don't have a say. Kids are the biggest minority."

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Sports

TIME OUT

Lady Lions win four straight



Joe Ostrica

The Lake Ridge Academy girls basketball team guaranteed itself of a winning season with 44-33 victory over Brooklyn last Saturday. The win, which improves LRA to 11-6, is the team's fourth victory in a row. It's the third straight year the Lady Lions have racked up a double-digit win season.

The Lady Lions were never threatened against Brooklyn, taking a 28-16 lead at halftime and a 34-27 lead into the final quarter. A 10-6 fourth quarter sealed the win. Sophomore Alex Hansen led the Lady Lions with 16 points. Seniors Georgia DiOrio (12 points) and Alisha Bouzaher (10) also reached double figures.

The Lady Lions will host Elyria First Baptist Christian on Friday at 6 p.m. LRA defeated EFBC 48-27 on the road on Dec. 16. The Lady Lions will conclude their regular season with a Feb. 16 home game against Brookside at 6 p.m.

Lady Ranger bowlers advance

The North Ridgeville High School girls varsity team finished second at Sunday's sectional tournament behind Vermilion to advance to districts. North Ridgeville finished with 3,320 pins. The Lady Sailors finished with 3,463 pins. The Lady Rangers also finished second in the conference with an 8-1 regular season record. Vermilion finished first.

NRHS defeated Wellington on Jan. 30 1,629 pins to 1,081. Notable scores were posted by Sara Quillin (177, 1610) and Heather Becka (141, 146). The Lady Rangers followed up with a 1,980-1,705 win over Admiral King on Feb. 1. Nichole Lamae (199), Becka (182), Melissa Lee (175), Kimmie Harchuck (174) and Quillin (162) led the way.

Becka had the highest game for the Lady Rangers at the sectionals with a 219. She totaled 545, also bowling games of 165 and 161. Sara Evans (203) and Lamae (200) also broke 200.

Avon is latest rival

Following the NRHS boys basketball team's 58-54 win over Avon, Eagles head coach Jim Baker was asked who Avon's next game was against. When Baker said Avon Lake, a local reporter commented on how it was a big neighborhood rivalry game.

"I guess this one was too," Baker replied, referring to North Ridgeville. "It was loud out there tonight. It was fun to watch, and it was fun coaching this game."

Ranger head coach March Rechin thinks the Avon rivalry is another border skirmish that should be as heavily heated as the one against Midview.

"Avon played great," Rechin said. "Avon is just a great-coached team and those kids don't give up. They're all great kids.

"It's a great rivalry and it will always be like that."

NRMS wrestling

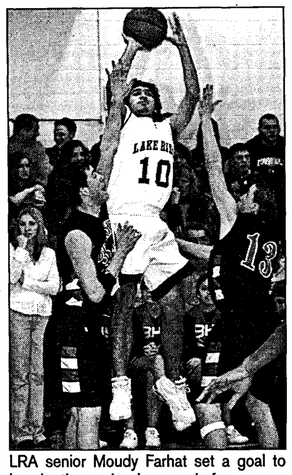
The NRMS wrestling team finished second in the West Shore Conference tournament with 166 points. Fairview was the champion with 216 points. The Rangers had three champions: Matt Zepp (86 pounds), Mitch Walls (98) and John Whipkey (116). Steven Lopez (110), Mike Mees (128) and John Flesher (172) finished second.

Chris Beard (122) and John Phillips (142) placed third. Colton Ulrich (80), Luke Hyer (134) and Justin Dombroski (160) finished fourth.

pressostrica@hotmail.com

Lake Ridge's Farhat sets new school record for 3-pointers

By Joe Ostrica



LRA senior Moudy Farhat set a goal to break the school record for career 3-pointers his freshman year. *Photo by Pro Photography*

For the past couple of weeks, Lake Ridge Academy boys basketball senior Moudy Farhat knew he was very close to a school record. A few games ago, Farhat discovered he had 88 career 3-pointers. He knew he was on the verge of breaking Court Flannery's school record of 92 career triples.

In fact, in 2004, Farhat, who was an up-and-coming sophomore for the LRA varsity team, told Flannery he would break his record.

"I've been trying to get it (the record) since I was a freshman," he said. "I told the person who held it before me (Court Flannery) when he got it that I would break it."

Last Friday in a 63-44 loss to Brookside, Farhat did just that. Coming into the game tied with Flannery's record, Farhat hit the record-breaking shot with roughly 1:55 left in first quarter to cut Brookside's lead to 11-9.

"I called a couple of plays for him to break it early, but unfortunately it didn't get in," LRA head coach James Knight said.

"He's averaging over 20 points a game and shooting the ball really well. He's shooting 39-40 percent as a 3-point shooter. We try to get it to him."

Farhat, who finished with a team high 18 points, also made a second 3-pointer in the fourth quarter. He was happy to break the record on his home court.

"I'm glad I got to get it here (at home) with everyone cheering me on," he said. "The amount of points we scored tonight doesn't represent how we played. The second half was kind of bad, but the total doesn't show how well we played."

The Lions have had a roller coaster season, opening with four straight losses before going on a 5-1 streak. They are currently on a five-game losing streak and are 5-10 overall. It's safe to say the Lions would not have had many wins at all without Farhat's strong play. He is not only the leading scorer for the Lions (22.0 points per game), but also one of the leaders in the county.

"I've been guarding Moudy in practice," Knight, a former Oberlin College basketball player, said. "I was pushing him and getting him to compete. The guys in practice can't guard him. We have competitive drills. He knows now as a senior that he's the go-to guy. It's picked up his confidence even more and he just gets the job done.

"Moudy drives a lot to the basket too. He's getting to the line a lot, sometimes even eight or nine times a game. Part of his high scoring happens if he gets his 3-point shot going and that opens the floor. He really attacks the basket."

With 35 3-pointers already this season, Farhat is about to set a personal best for most in a year. Last season he knocked down 37 treys while leading the team with 269 points (12.8 average).

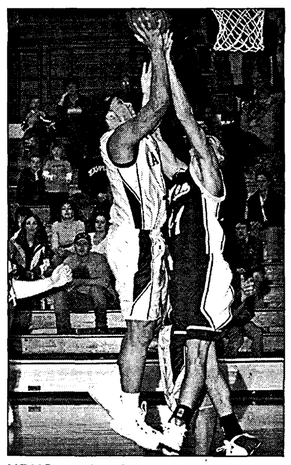
During the Lions' win streak, Farhat had big games, scoring 29 points against Heartland, 31 points and five triples against Cleveland Heritage, 33 points against Christian Community and 32 points against Lake Center.

Asked what his personal highlight was, Farhat said it came in the 71-68 overtime win against Cleveland Heritage.

"I hit a buzzer-beating 3-pointer at Cleveland Heritage," he said. "The shot put the game in overtime and we went on to win. I had 31 points that game, but I'm not happy when I get 30 and lose. I'm happy when I can get 30 and we win."

White's inside presence too much for Eagles in Ranger win

By Joe Ostrica



NRHS senior Jordan White led the Rangers with 27 points and 16 rebounds in a win over Avon. *Photo by Pro Photography*

It was a case of been-there-done-that for the North Ridgeville boys basketball team in a home game against the Avon Eagles last Friday. Just like their game against Midview two weeks earlier, the Rangers played a lethargic first half, eventually falling behind by double digits before clamping down with a strong defensive effort in the second half to rally for victory.

Backed by a virtuoso performance by senior Jordan White, who led all players with 27 points, 16 rebounds and two blocks, the Rangers rallied from a 14-point deficit (36-22) with 6:11 remaining in the third quarter to pull out a 58-54 win over the Eagles.

"When our guys get out there and do get after it, I love our chances," NRHS head coach Mark Rechin said. "It takes a little bit sometimes just to get going. Jordan was unbelievable. He was a one-man show as far as rebounding the ball and blocked shots, his points and defense.

"Sean Bunevich played a ton of minutes with four fouls and that's tough to do, especially when you're asking guys to run all over the place and get after the ball."

White scored 15 of the Rangers' 22 first half points while shooting over 75 percent from the field. Rechin said getting White the ball was the team's strategy from the beginning.

"If we were going to shoot from the outside, it would have to be in the inside first," he said. "I did not want to come down and make a pass and throw up the three. We have to get in first and if we don't get that, then we'll give the outside a look. I think a couple of times in the first half we came down and just tried to get that outside look right off the bat. We're still not that great of a shooting team, by a long shot. We rely on easy baskets, rebounding and defensive pressure."

"Everybody was looking to me because we felt Avon didn't have the post presence that could pair up with me and Sean (Bunevich)," White added. "The team really looked into me and everybody got me the ball and it was great. Everybody came on in the second half. Mike (Nelson) hit a couple of threes and Nick (Carpenter) hit one. It all came together to get this win. We've just got to put two halves together."

White and his Ranger teammates earned the respect of Avon coach Jim Baker, who praised their athleticism.

"Jordan White played very well for them," Baker said. "He gave us a lot of trouble inside. Once they got that inside game going in the second half, they started hitting a few more shots and we had a little bit of a cold spell where we got a little bit rattled. They're a good ball club. They have a lot of good athletes. They're a little bit more athletic than we are."

After Avon built its lead to 14 points, the Rangers went on a 12-3 run to pull within five (39-34). White scored six points in the run, including a breakaway dunk off an assist from Nelson. Nelson followed the play up with a 3-pointer. After a free throw by Carpenter, senior defensive specialist Matt DeLuca stole the ball and drove the distance for a layup to pull the Rangers within four (41-37) at the end of the third quarter.

A second 3-pointer by Nelson and a basket by Bunevich gave the Rangers their first lead (42-41) since the first quarter. North Ridgeville limited the Eagles to just four field goals in the final quarter. On offense, the Rangers attacked the basket, making 17 trips to the free throw line and converting on 12 of their attempts.

"We never got down after Avon got that big lead," White said. "Coach stressed at the half that we had to come out and establish defense like we did against Midview. The second half we just came out fired up."

Nelson finished with nine points, two 3-pointers, six assists, four rebounds and one steal. Carpenter scored nine points, one 3-pointer, four rebounds and two steals. Bunevich added nine rebounds, six points and three assists. James Wojdacz (two points), Jim Dutko (two points), DeLuca (two points) and Josh Kehl (one free throw) rounded out the scoring.

After traveling to North Royalton for a non-conference game on Tuesday (after NRP deadline), the Rangers will get a second shot at West Shore Conference leader Rocky River (10-1 in WSC, 14-1 overall) on Friday at 7:30 p.m. North Ridgeville (6-5 in the WSC, 8-8 overall,) suffered a 60-54 loss in the teams' first meeting on Jan. 10 after Rocky River overcame a fourth quarter deficit.

"That was a big game the first time we played them and it was a close game," White said. "We should have had that, but they're going to be bringing their game here this time. It will be good to play them at our place."

"Rocky River is the top team in the league and you always want to get out and get after the best," Rechin added. "I think our kids, when we played out there, really came out with the knowledge that they could play with them. That game was for the taking with a couple of minutes left. If we're in that position again this time, I think we've gotten to the point where we can do a better job of taking care of the game and putting it away.

"We'll be looking forward to that after North Royalton for sure."

White to take flight with full-ride football scholarship at Western Michigan

By Joe Ostrica



NRHS senior Jordan White stands by his mother Sharon Gall at the signing for his commitment to play football at Western Michigan. *Photo by Pro Photography*

Just as he flew over cornerbacks and safeties to reel in passes for North Ridgeville throughout his career, wide receiver standout Jordan White is ready to take flight at the next level. Last week White signed a full-ride scholarship to play football and major in aviation technology for the Division I Mid-American Conference (MAC) school Western Michigan University.

White, who had received offers from MAC schools Bowling Green, Eastern Michigan, Miami of Ohio and Buffalo also was recruited by Louisville, West Virginia and Indiana. He said making a final decision was difficult, but being on campus at WMU felt comfortable.

"It was difficult, definitely, especially with Eastern Michigan recruiting me the way they did," White said. "Their coach was at our house every week and the coaches were really nice. I narrowed it down to Eastern Michigan, Bowling Green and Western Michigan.

"I made official visits and liked them all, but when I was at Western it just felt different. It felt like somewhere I wanted to be more than the rest. Plus they've got their own airport on campus."

White's mother, Sharon Gall, stood by proudly and satisfied with her son's final decision.

"It's an exciting day," she said. "It's overwhelming, but I'm glad it's all done. Western and the other schools were recruiting him hard. I like Western Michigan a lot. The facilities are nice, the academics are good and his coaches are all awesome. I'm happy with his decision and look forward to the next step of goals he's going to accomplish."

The promise of getting some playing time right away was also a big factor in White's decision. A three-year mainstay for the Rangers, White's versatility and athleticism he displayed at wide receiver and running back on offense, corner back on defense and returner, kicker and punter on special teams was attractive to the school's recruiters.

In his career at North Ridgeville, White had 113 receptions for 1,796 yards and 16 touchdowns, 108 rushing attempts for 847 yards and nine touchdowns, 28 kickoff returns for 461 yards and one touchdown and 33 punt returns for 508 yards and two touchdowns. He said WMU also liked his size (6'2", 210 pounds).

"They said I was definitely going to get playing time," White said. "They said if I come in and have a great summer, then I could be the number-two or number-three wide receiver on the depth chart, but they could move me around and put me on the wing for some plays. They said my scholarship is for running back or wide receiver. Punt returns could be wide open too.

"They liked that I have size. A lot of receivers they bring in are real fast, but they don't weigh a lot. I'm about 210 right now and they want me to be 205 after conditioning. They said I could probably play early because I'm bigger physically."

White said playing for a coach like WMU's Bill Cubit, who put together the biggest turnaround in the history of the MAC by going 7-4 overall and 5-3 in the conference last season after a 1-10 season the year before, was appealing.

"They had a great season this year," White said. "Coach Cubit led them to that big turnaround with the same players. Just when I was there, overall, I liked that I felt right at home and where I'd like to be for the next five years."

Keith Rybarczyk, North Ridgeville's head football coach the past four years, said it was a special experience coaching a player like White.

"I think it's a wonderful thing for the school to have someone go to a Division I college," he said. "It's not often you get a D-I kid come through your school. It's a great opportunity for Jordan. I definitely think he's a very skilled kid that is ready to go to the college level. When you start to dominate and do the things he's been doing for the last two years, now he needs to go another level where he will be pushed and get to really test that ability at that level.

"It sounds like they've got some immediate plans for him. He has to really work hard this offseason and get into college shape. He definitely looks like he's going to play an early part in what they want to do up there. I think he'll do fine."

White said he's looking forward to playing for receivers coach George McDonald.

"He's coached at Stanford, so he knows what he's talking about," White said. "They said they want me to get there right when school is out in June so I can learn the plays and routes. They throw a lot of screens. (WMU senior) Greg Jennings had 98 receptions this year. They get their go-too guys off."

Asked what he's looking forward to at playing at the next level, White said playing at Florida State on Nov. 10 and the season opener at Indiana this fall should be some highlights.

"Just succeeding in the NCAA sounds good to me," he said. "If I could get a catch at Florida State or score a touchdown against Indiana, to succeed so early against bigger schools would be really nice for me.

"The MAC has a lot of players that go to the NFL. I do want to get to the NFL and everything, but when I was little I thought you had to go to Ohio State or Michigan to get there. Now I realize that guys are getting it done wherever they are getting it done."

Asked what he's going to miss the most about North Ridgeville, White said being with his teammates.

"I'm going to miss all of the guys," he said. "I've been going to school with them for almost 15 years and now I'm going away to college. I'm going to miss Friday nights too. That was a big thing."

Ranger bowlers follow conference championship with sectional win

By Joe Ostrica

To say the North Ridgeville boys bowling team has experienced a lot of success in its five years of existence is a bit of an understatement. The Rangers recently won its fifth straight conference championship, going 9-0 for the regular season. They are ranked second in the state power rankings, behind only North Canton Hoover. They also won the sectional tournament last Sunday. The tournament consisted of the 10 teams in the Rangers' conference.

NRHS had 3,870 total pins, 200 pins more than the second-place team. Teams advancing along with the Rangers to the Feb. 18 districts include Vermilion and Keystone.

Rangers' head coach Bob Evans has come full circle with the bowling program. Evans, along with his mother and a couple other bowlers, helped put together the Ridgeville bowling team his junior year in 2001-02.

"Aaron Klein, Bryan Cioffoletti, Andrew Gorzelanczyk and Frank Kotas, who are all seniors on the team now, were all freshmen my senior year," Evans said. "I've always been the first one to help out when it comes to bowling, anything I can give back to these guys before I go is great."

Evans said being ranked high in the state is a sign of how strong the Rangers bowling team is.

"It's phenomenal," he said. "This is our fifth conference championship in a row. I hope they take everything from this season on to the next level. Tournaments started on Sunday. That's the big thing right now. Tournaments are what they come to bowl for."

As of Feb. 1, junior Jason Case was leading the Rangers with a 215 average. Chris Henning, a freshman, has shown a lot of promise for the team's future and is second with a 210 average.

"Jason Case is a natural leader on this team," Evans praised. "He has been since his freshman year. Case is a great bowler and he's really stepped it up this year, taking over the leadership duties for the team. Our senior captain from last year graduated and Jason stepped right up and filled his shoes.

"Chris Henning is an outstanding bowler with a lot of talent. I bowled with his dad for a couple of years, so I already knew how good of a bowler he was. He's just impressed me at different levels. He's bowled under the pressure pretty well this year."

Evans said all the varsity members, including Kotas (202 average), Cioffoletti (190), Gorzelanczyk (189) and Klein (202) are pulling together as a team.

"The entire team is doing well (including) Aaron, Bryan, Andrew and Frank," he said. "They are bowling well as a team. If one guy has an off day, somebody steps up right in that spot. They're a team. That's what I tell everybody, they're a real team."

Evans said the team's number-one goal is a state championship. At state the final eight teams are taken out of a round of baker games. Last year the Rangers placed ninth, just 12 pins out of the top eight.

"They want number one," Evans said. "That's what they've said since day one. They got a taste of what it was like last year. They want it all this year. I think these guys have the best opportunity out of all the teams that I ever coached."

In Sunday's sectional tournament, Cioffoletti had the best scored (237 in game two). He also bowled a 194 and 171. Henning bowled a 231, a 193 and a 216. Case finished with scores of 193, 189 and 195. Klein (181, 186, 147), Kotas (223, 199) and Gorzelanczyk (162) rounded out the scores.

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Athletes of the Week

JORDAN WHITE



School: NRHS
Grade: 12
Sport: Basketball

Two days after accepting a full-ride scholarship to play football at Western Michigan University, White had the game of his career on the basketball court for the Rangers. White helped the Rangers erase a 14-point deficit against Avon to pull out a 58-54 win with 27 points, 16 rebounds, two blocks and one steal. White scored 15 of the Rangers' 22 points in the first half.

ALISHA BOUZAHER



School: LRA
Grade: 12
Sport: Basketball

The senior center had a game-high 18 rebounds to go along with 10 points and six steals in a Jan. 27 win over rival Open Door. Bouzaher followed up with game-high in scoring, 12 points at Columbia and 15 points at Oberlin, both wins. Bouzaher chipped in 10 points in a 44-33 win over Brooklyn last Saturday for the Lady Lions' fourth straight victory.

North Ridge Racquet club opens state-of-the-art golf simulator to public

By Matt Thornicroft

If rain, snow or the freezing cold has kept you off the golf course lately, the North Ridge Racquet Club in North Ridgeville is hoping to have solved that problem. And if you've always wanted to tee it up for a round at Sunridge, Shady Dunes or Pebble Beach, but never wanted to make the trip, well you can do that too.

The North Ridge Indoor Golf Center, the West Side's first microwave golf simulator center, opened to the general public last week. Using the same technology militaries use to track missiles from up to 30 miles away, the high-tech simulator gives the golfer a realistic lay of 20-plus golf courses from around the United States and accurately tracks club speed and swipe, ball velocity, backspins and sidespin among several other factors. There's even a driving range if you're just interested in working on your swing.

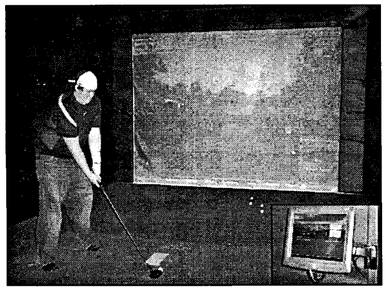
"We did a lot of research and discovered this was the best of its kind," North Ridge customer relations director Chris Hughes said. "They have one at Bunker Hill in Medina and another somewhere on the east side. There are other places that have simulators, but the technology is nowhere near this."

Using a local builder Surest/Executive Enterprises, North Ridge erected the 5,000 square indoor golf center behind its tennis center on Mills Creek Lane. The building will house five simulators and a pro shop. Golfers don't have to be members of the racquet club to join.

If you don't have clubs, no problem. Club rental will be available for those who need it. Golfers that would like can even sign up for instruction from a staff PGA professional.

Though logistical delays held back the opening date, Caroline Hughes, co-owner of North Ridge Racquet Club along with her husband Richard, is excited.

"The building company has been so good to work with, working through bad weather and a lot of tough stuff," Caroline said. "If they couldn't get things done as fast as they have, we would've had to hold off the opening until September."



Chris Hughes of North Ridge Racquet Club puts on a demonstration at the North Ridge Racquet Club Indoor Golf Center. The center, which opened for business to the general public last week, houses five state-of-the-art microwave golf simulators. Each simulator comes with a computer screen (inset) that measures everything you wanted to know about your golf swing. *NRP photo by Matt Thornicroft*

Each simulator bay measures 15 feet in width and 20 feet in length to a wall-to-wall projection screen. Every bay comes equipped with a computer touch screen monitor. Golfers take their shots from spots on the floor depending on what part of the course their shooing from. There's a tee box that includes holes so golfers can use their own tees. There are marked areas for fairway shots, shots from bunkers, rough and putts.

Though there are no sandy bunkers or knee-high grass to deal with, the bays do come equipped with varying surfaces of artificial turf depending on the shot that's being taken. For example shots from the rough and bunkers are taken from tall, plush artificial turf. Green shots are taken from a marked area with closer-cropped turf.

Golfers swing at each shot as they would on an outdoor course, hitting the ball into a projection screen at the back. Microwave sensors that send out pulses at a rate of 7,000 per second measure just about everything you could want to know about every shot and then some. Golfers can even view the line of their swing. The computer posts all the statistics after each stroke and tracks the golfer's score along the way. Players can view their shot from where they took it or watch it sail through the air as it heads toward its landing.

Weather conditions, which users can control, and distance measurements are posted before each shot. There's even an advice button, which when pushed will give you verbal helpful hits as you decide on a target.

There's a driving range for those just looking for practice and the capability for golfers to test different clubs.

The center will be open weekdays beginning at 8 a.m. There will be a maximum of four players allowed per simulator. The cost to use a simulator will be $18 per hour (per simulator) from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and $22 per hour from 4 p.m.-closing Monday-Friday. The price is $22 all day for weekends and holidays. Juniors (18-under) and seniors (over 60) will receive a 25-percent discount. No 18-hole tee times will be accepted after 6 p.m. Club rental is $10.

The golf center is currently signing up leagues and is available to rent for corporate outings.

"We estimate that it will probably take about four hours for four people playing 18 holes and about two hours for four people playing nine holes," Caroline said.

Sports Schedules

Wednesday, Feb. 8
Girls Basketball
7:30 p.m.: Firelands @ NRHS

Friday, Feb. 10
Boys Basketball
7:30 p.m.: Rocky River @ NRHS
7:30 p.m.: EFBC @ LRA
Girls Basketball
6 p.m.: EFBC @ LRA

Saturday, Feb. 11
Wrestling
TBA: NRHS/WSC Championships @ Bay
Boys Basketball
8 p.m.: LRA @ Horizon Science

Tuesday, Feb. 14
Boys Basketball
7:30 p.m.: Oberlin @ LRA
Girls Basketball
7:30 p.m.: North @ NRHS

On Deck

Editor's Note: On Deck submissions are due before 4 p.m. on the Thursday before the desired publication date. Items are run on a space available basis. E-mail to pressostrica@hotmail.com. Fax items to 933-7904, mail to P.O. Box 300, Avon Lake 44012 or drop them off at our offices at 158 Lear Road in Avon Lake.

NRHS softball fundraiser

The North Ridgeville High School girls softball is hosting an all-you-can-eat spaghetti fundraiser Feb. 11 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the VFW Post 9871, located at 6805 Lear Nagle Rd. Cost is $6 for adults, $5 for seniors and $4 for children under the age of 10. For more info, contact Norm Frindt or Jackie Kleinhenz at the High School at 327-1992.

NRASL registration

Registration for the 2006 North Ridgeville Amateur Soccer League (NRASL) season will be held Feb. 18 and 25 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at The North Ridgeville Branch Library. Children ages 5-13 are eligible to enroll to play soccer. Registration will also be required for children that previously played. The Tot Soccer program for U-4 will also be offered. At least one parent or legal guardian must be present, with proof of residence and a copy of the child's birth certificate. The documents will be inspected and returned at registration. For more information, including a description of the boundaries, call Michael Collier. Registration forms can be downloaded from www.nrasl.com Completed forms with payments can be mailed to: NRASL, P.O. Box 39482, North Ridgeville, 44039. Forms must be postmarked by Feb. 28.

Hot Stove baseball registration

Registrations for the 2006 Hot Stove baseball season will be held at Palmer Field Feb. 11 and 18 from 10 a.m.-noon and Feb. 19 from noon-2 p.m. Costs are $85 for boys farm players (ages 5-7), $95 for girls farm players (ages 5-8) and boys travel teams (age 8), $105 for boys H and G and girls A and B (ages 9-12) teams, $125 for boys F and girls C (ages 13-14) teams and $165 for boys E, D and EE teams. Open registration is available for the farm teams. Limited openings are available for those ages 8 and up.



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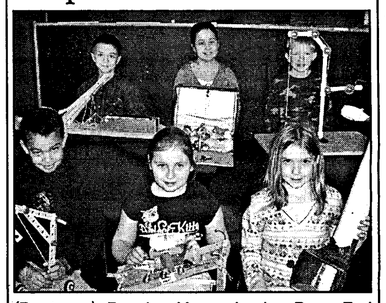
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Simple machines not so simple at Wilcox



(Front row) Brendan Myers, Jessica Ross, Toni Dickson (back row) Josh Koestler, Darian Dickson, Alex George

Sue Hesse's third grade class at Wilcox Elementary not only learned about simple machines, but experienced first hand how to build one of their very own. Students were asked to create a three-dimensional project that used one or more simple machines, e.g., lever, wedge, inclined plane, wheel and axle, pulley, and screw. It was up to the students to come up with their own creation using ordinary items from around their houses. Along with the project, students were asked to write a paragraph about what the machine does, which simple machines were used and which forces (friction or gravity) it helps us to overcome.

"Young children learn more from visualizing and constructing their projects than they could from just reading the text," Hesse said. "Children crave the attention of their parents and this project provided an opportunity for them to work together. Every time parents help their children make connections between the school curriculum and real life experience, they are giving their children a gift."

Alex George said he likes his project very much.

"It is a crane," he said. "My dad and I built it in the basement. We used pipe, screws, nuts and yellow string."

"My project took three weeks," Josh Koestler said. "It is the best science project I ever did in my life. To do the project, I needed my dad. He had to use the saw because it was too sharp for me. I had fun doing my project."

Jessica Ross said she enjoyed learning about simple machines and getting to work on a project with her dad.

"It was fun doing this project with my dad," Toni Dickson said. "We had to find things for the project. My dad did the screw."

Darian Dickson said his simple machine was fun to work on.

"A lot of kids did a great job on their project too," he said. "I think that what everyone said about their projects was cool."

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Michael J. Baker, CPA

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EDUCATION

Record-breaking year for NRHS art students

Thirty-seven North Ridgeville High School (NRHS) students have artwork on display in the Lorain County Scholastic Art Show now through Feb. 19 in the Stocker Center at Lorain County Community College. Gallery hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-7:30 p.m.

More than 1,500 pieces of artwork were submitted countywide with only 200 chosen pieces for display. Each piece was judged and awarded either an honorable mention, silver key, or gold key, the top award. In a record-breaking year, NRHS received a total of four gold key awards, 19 silver keys, and 15 honorable mention awards. Gold key winners from all over the county will compete in a final juried exhibition in New York City. The winners are then displayed in Washington, D.C. and published in a catalog.

The following students are the 2006 Scholastics Visual Art Award Winners:

Gold Key-Demetrius Burks, Audrey Nagel, Cassie Firak, Melissa Beaver

Silver Key-Andréa Nyberg, Demetrius Burks (2), Ashley Black, Melissa Kitko, Maureen Sill, Tony Anderson, Melissa Beaver (3), Mary Ireland, Traci Hoffman, Katie Brennan, Liz Rankin, Dolorita Gibbs, Melanie Erickson, Doris Gibbs, Andrew Bija, Tom Courtright.

Honorable Mention-Andrea Nyberg, Jacqueline Terry, Rebecca Angeline, Sara Jemiola, Demetrius Burks, Irena Yashchishin, Nicole Phelps, Megan Simko, Jeffrey Long, Julie Laskey, Melanie Erickson, Jessica Becker (3), Carey Meddles

Norlson Corporation sponsored the event.

What's for lunch?

For Feb 9-15, 2006

North Ridgeville Middle School/ High School

Thurs: Chicken fryz/roll, meatball sub, tater tots, peaches, milk
Fri: Cheeseburger/bun, baked potato w/chili and cheese, roll, pasta salad, mixed veggies, pears, milk
Mon: Pizza, ham and cheese/bun, peas and carrots, applesauce, milk
Tues: Nuggets/breadstick, sloppy joe, corn, cherry shape-up, milk
Wed: Salisbury Steak w/gravy/roll, chicken patty/bun, potatoes, mixed fruit, milk

North Ridgeville Elementary

Thurs: Chicken fryz, roll, tater tots, peaches, milk
Fri: Cheeseburger/bun, pasta salad, mixed veggies, pears, milk
Mon: Pizza, peas and carrots, applesauce, milk
Tues: Nuggets, breadstick, corn, cherry shape-up, milk
Wed: Salisbury steak w/gravy, dinner roll, potatoes, mixed fruit, milk

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LRA defeats Oberlin on Scholastic Games quiz show

A quiz program featuring academic teams from area high schools began its 16th season on WEOL AM 930 Jan. 30, from 6:05 to 7 p.m. On "The High School Scholastic Games of Lorain County," Lake Ridge Academy defeated the academic team from Oberlin High School by a score of 540 to 180 in a fast-moving hour of questions and answers.

Dominating the competition was an impressive Lake Ridge team consisting of team captain Dustin Travert and brothers Simon and Max Kornblith, who won the program's "Standout Scholar" award. This award includes a check of $50 to the student judged to have contributed the most to his or her team. Most impressive was the historic round in which teams can amass as many as 50 points per item. With a team effort, Lake Ridge swept the round, scoring an unprecedented 30 or 40 points in all five categories, ranging from English to American history, geography and literature.

Performing well, but with not quite the speed of Lake Ridge, was an able Oberlin team, Ian Burns, Vernon Thommeret and team captain Leo Evans.

Faculty advisers for the competitors were Richard McDaniel for Oberlin and Chandana Mozumdar, dean of the upper school at Lake Ridge. Eighteen teams will be competing in Scholastic Games again this year, tying the all-time record for participation. The series of weekly programs will culminate in a county championship to be broadcast in late May.

Sponsored by the Educational Service Center of Lorain County with foundation support, "The High School Scholastic Games of Lorain County" presents two different area high schools each week hosted by program producer, Jim Mehrling. The broadcaster is beginning his 23rd year as a radio quizmaster in northern Ohio.

Upcoming programs in the series:

- Feb.14 at 6:10 p.m.-Clearview vs. Elyria
- Feb. 20 at 6:10 p.m.-Vermilion vs. Open Door Christian
- Feb. 28 at 6:10 p.m.-Firelands vs. Midview
- March 6 at 6:10 p.m.-Avon Lake vs. Amherst Steele
- March 13 at 6:10 p.m.-Brookside vs. North Ridgeville
- March 20 at 6:10 p.m.-Elyria Catholic vs. Southview
- March 27 at 6:10 p.m.-Admiral King vs. Columbia
- April 3 at 6:10 p.m.-Playoff for Quarterfinal qualification
- April 10 at 6:10 p.m.-First Quarterfinal (among top winning teams)

All county public and private high schools are invited to participate. In addition to the weekly "Standout Scholar," awards also include a tuition credit program supported by area colleges and universities, which is also at an all-time high level of support.

Each participating school receives a $500 credit to be given to a deserving student, with many additional credits awarded to schools as they win and compete in playoff elimination.

ACADEMIC NEWS

Helena Traner, Edward Hicks and **Amber Pierce** were named to the Wright State University Dean's List for the fall quarter.

Jeffrey Kenney and **Erica Nyberg** were named to the University of Cincinnati Dean's List for the fall quarter.

The following students have been named to **Ohio State University** honor roll for the fall quarter: Zachary Calamante, Erika Ciszczon, John Durda, Melanie Geyer, Richard Healy, Kelly Kearney, Michelle Lopez, Russell Mahoney, Jason Neff, Danielle Marie Stampfer, Courtney Szocs, Laura Yakumithis.

Michelle Lerch graduated from Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Brian Snow graduated cum laude from Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Mary Bogner, Heather Gorski and **Kirk McGeehen** graduated from Ashland University with bachelor of science degrees in education.

Erin Cerankowski graduated from the University of Toledo with a bachelor of education degree in early childhood.

The following students have been named to the **University of Toldeo** Dean's List for the fall semester: Yvette Marie Ballou, James Downey, Alana Grant, Kara Herbert, Michael Klingshirn, Shawn Mills, Julie Smajdek, Kristin Smajdek and Gretchen Wildauer.

The following students have been named to the **University of Toledo** President's List for the fall semester: Erin Cerankowski, Joseph Downey, Haley Flowers.

The following students have been named to **Kent State University** Dean/President's List for the fall semester: Athena Boone, Meagen Clough, Neil Fentner, Melissa Marino, Justin Plas, Ronda Rak, Laura Robbins, Jessica Rothschuh, Matthew Schubert and Warren Sill.

Ask Dr. Arndt

By: Scott W. Arndt, D.D.S.



A KNOCKED OUT TOOTH

What should I do if I knock out a tooth?

You have a better than 80 percent chance of saving your tooth if you can get to a dentist with the tooth within a half hour. Here are some things to remember: Rinse the tooth off with warm water. But don't scrub the tooth. You might scrub off fibers on the root that are important to re-planting the tooth in its socket. Keep the tooth moist by wrapping it in either gauze or tissue dampened in warm water. If you can easily replace the tooth into the socket, do that.

Some experts recommend just putting the tooth back in your mouth under your tongue during the ride to the dentist. That's fine, too. Just don't swallow the tooth. Your pharmacy may also carry one of the liquid media that are available for just such an emergency. You won't have time for a trip to the pharmacy, however, so you might consider keeping one of these liquid media on hand.

It's likely that you got a laceration with this injury. Press a cold damp cloth with moderate pressure over a cut lip.

Presented as a community service by Dr. Scott Arndt, at 33650 Center Ridge Road, Phone 327-9006 or 835-9939 for information and appointment. Very early morning, evening and Saturday hours available.

Preparing for higher learning

College Goal Sunday

As part of the state-wide college financial event "College Goal Sunday," on Feb. 12 at 2 p.m., Lorain County Community College will host this free event, presented by Ohio Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA), that will assist parents and students with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The event will be held at the College Central Mall, 1005 North Abbe Road, Elyria,44035

Retired teachers scholarship

The Lorain County Retired Teachers Association (LORCORTA) is offering the annual Mary Elizabeth Keller Scholarships in the amounts of $500 to $1,000. Applicants must be preparing for a career in the education profession at any level. Preference is given to students who will be college juniors or seniors on a part-time or full-time basis. Applicants with a bachelor's degree who are returning for teacher licensure are eligible. They must be residents of Lorain County or have graduated from any high school in the county. For further details and an application, write to: Mary Elizabeth Keller Scholarship Committee at 611 Washington Ave., Elyria, Ohio 44035. E-mail: keller@lorcorta.org no later than April 1, 2006. Two references are required.

Home Economics Scholarship

The Lorain County Home Economics Association will be sponsoring two $500 college scholarships to be given to Lorain County residents who will be studying in the field of Home Economics/Family and Consumer Science/Human Ecology. One $500 scholarship will be awarded to a high school graduating senior. The other $500 scholarship will be awarded to a college undergraduate or technical student.

Lorain County students may obtain a scholarship application from their Family and Consumer Science department at their high school or college or from Nancy Curci, 4670 Washington Ave., Lorain 44052.

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Thursday
9 a.m. Women's breakfast-Senior Center
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Free heart and foot screenings-Westlake Center for Community Services
Noon-3 p.m. Tax Time help-Senior Center
1-4 p.m. Cards/games-Senior Center
1 p.m. Toddler story time-NR Library
5:15-6:15 p.m. Beginner Tae Kwon Do-Safetyville building
6:30-7:30 p.m. Cardio-fit kickboxing-Safetyville building
7 p.m. Preschool story time-NR Library
7 p.m. North Ridgeville Democratic Party meeting-NR Library

Friday
9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Low cost immunizations-SJWS Community Outreach Center
9:30-11 a.m. On Target fencing-Senior Center
4-5 p.m. Theater workshop-NRHS
5-6 p.m. Magic class, grades 1-8-NRHS
6-7 p.m. Women's self defense-Safetyville building
7:30-8:15 p.m. Family self-defense-Safetyville building

Saturday
9-11:30 a.m. On Target fencing-Senior Center
9:30-10:30 a.m. Cardio kickboxing/powerflex-Safetyville building
10:30 a.m. Toddler story time-NR Library
10:45-11:45 a.m. Tae Kwon Do-Safetyville building
11:30 a.m. Preschool story time-NR Library
Noon-3 p.m. Valentine Date and Dance-NR Senior Center
12:30-3:30 p.m. Reading Party for Children-NR Library
1-2:30 p.m. Winter Wildlife-Sandy Ridge Reservation/ Johnson Wetland Center
3 p.m. "Jerry Finnegan's Sister"-Workshop Players Theatre in the Round, 44820 Middle Ridge Road, Amherst
4:30-7 p.m. NR High School Girls Softball Spaghetti dinner fund raiser-VFW Post 9871, 6805 Lear-Nagle Road.

Sunday
9 a.m.-noon V.F.W. Country Breakfast-V.F.W. Post 9871, 6805 Lear Nagle Road.
10-11:30 a.m. Self defense-Safetyville building
1-4 p.m. Open House: Johnson Wetland Center-Sandy Ridge Reservation
2 p.m. Steel Away Drum Band-NR Library
3-6 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 140 spaghetti dinner-Fields United Methodist Church

Monday
9-9:50 a.m. A New Wrinkle-Senior Center
10-11:30 a.m. Free blood pressure screenings-Our House
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Crafting/quilting-Senior Center
12:30-2 p.m. Free glucose and blood pressure screenings- SJWS Community Outreach Center
1 p.m. Toddler story time-NR Library
1-2 p.m. Free Audiology Screenings-SJWS Hospital Bldg.2, Suite 290
2-4 p.m. Computer Class Basic IV-Senior Center
6-8 p.m. Free heart screenings Westlake Recreation Center
6-8 p.m. Second Chance-A Lung Transplant Support Group-University Hospitals/Westlake
6:30 p.m. Lorain County Genealogical Society meeting-NR Library
6:30 p.m. Stroke: Risk Factors and Acute Treatments- Westlake Recreation Center
6:30-7:30 p.m. Cardio-fit kickboxing-Safetyville building
6:30-7:45 p.m. Yoga-Senior Center
7 p.m. Preschool story time-NR Library
7:45-8:45 Tae Kwon Do-Safetyville building

Tuesday
10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. Preschool story time-NR Library
Noon-3 p.m.-Tax time help-Senior Center
1-4 p.m. Watercolor classes-Senior Center
1:30 p.m. Red Hat Society meeting-Senior Center
4-5:15 p.m. Bowling, ages 3-adult-Brunswick Zone
5:15-6:15 p.m. Beginner Tae Kwon Do-Safetyville building
6:30-7:30 p.m. Cardio-fit kickboxing-Safetyville building
6:30 p.m. NR Garden Club-NR Library
7 p.m. Planning Commission-Council chambers
8-9:30 p.m. Fencing-Middle school

Wednesday
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Watercolor-Senior Center
Noon Lunch Cards/bingo/ free blood pressure checks-Senior Center
1 p.m. Medicare Part D seminar-Avon Senior Center
3 p.m. Introduction to Microsoft Excel-NR Library
3-4 p.m. Hope and Healing-SJWS Community Outreach
6-8 p.m. Breast Cancer support group-SJWS Hospital
6:20-8 p.m. AWANA meeting-North Ridgeville Baptist Church
6:30-7:30 p.m. Cardio-fit kickboxing-Safetyville building
7 p.m. Step-Up club-NR Library
7 p.m. Jennifer Marshall Lippincott book discussion-Bettcher Convocation Center/Lake Ridge Academy
7:45-8:45 p.m. Tae Kwon Do-Safetyville building

In The Service

Jensen and Szwec complete basic training

Marine Corps Pvts. Alexander Jensen and Alan B. Szwec recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

In addition to the physical conditioning program, the recruits spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drills and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Jensen, Szwec and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values–honor, courage and commitment and what the core values mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Jensen is the son of Catherine Halagan.

Szwec is the son of Robyn L. Glodura, of North Royalton, and Taras B. Szwec of North Ridgeville.

Thanks for reading the Press North Ridgeville

Pear Tree Gallery

Join us during February and March for Artists' Trunk Shows - one artist per day displaying the full spectrum of their work. A "trunk show" gives you the opportunity to meet our artists and purchase some of the best fine art and fine craft in the area at amazing prices.

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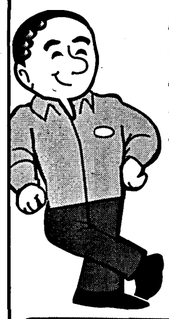
2/7 - 2/11 Jewelry
2/14 Chiseled Glass
2/15 Photography
2/17 Fused and Etched Glass
2/18 Raku Pottery



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Lifestyles

Dems meet

Members of the North Ridgeville Democratic Party will hold its monthly meeting, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. in the North Ridgeville Branch Library.

N.R. Library events

Reading Party for Children

A Reading Party will be held Feb. 11 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Three-year-olds through fifth-graders are invited to this free program. Kiwanis and High School Key Club members will read to three-year-olds through second-graders. Third through fifth-graders can bring pillows and blankets to use while reading independently. Free popcorn, snacks and prizes will be provided, and certificates will be given to children who read at least one half hour. Come anytime during the three-hour time and stay as long as you want to read. The Reading Party is co-sponsored by the North Ridgeville Kiwanis and the North Ridgeville Branch Library. For more information, call the library.

Steel Drum Band Program

Come listen to the unique sound of the Steel Away Drum Band Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. The program is free and ideal for all ages. For more information, call the library.

Spaghetti fund-raiser

The North Ridgeville High School girls softball team is holding an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner fund raiser on Feb. 11 from 4:30-7 p.m. at VFW Post 9871, 6805 Lear Nagle Road. Adults, $6; seniors, $5 and children under 10, $4.

V.F.W. country breakfast

The Ladies Auxiliary to V.F.W. Post 9871, N. Ridgeville is putting on an all you can eat "Country Breakfast." The breakfast will be at V.F.W. Post 9871, 6805 Lear Nagle Road, North Ridgeville on Feb. 12 from 9 a.m.-noon.

The cost is $5 for adults, $4.50 for seniors and $2.50 for children. All money raised will be used to support Americanism, cancer aid and research, community service, veterans' hospitals and youth programs. For more information, call Alice Layne 353-9766.

Boy Scouts spaghetti dinner

Boy Scout Troop 140 is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner on Scout Sunday, Feb. 12 from 3-6 p.m. at Fields United Methodist Church, 34075 Lorain Road. Enjoy a savory dinner served with salad, rolls, coffee or juice for just $6 for 8 years old to adult and children under 8, $3. There will also be a bake sale.

Genealogical society meeting

The Lorain County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will meet on Feb. 13 at the North Ridgeville Branch Library, 35700 Bainbridge Road.

Members are invited to a "Show and Tell" program of sharing an item and its history pertaining to genealogical heritage.

Social time is 6:30 p.m., general meeting and program at 7 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public.

For further information call Jean at 949-5167.

Garden Club meets

The North Ridgeville Garden Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 14 at the North Ridgeville Branch Library. The topics for the evening will include incorporating a water feature into landscapes and Japanese gardening. Gary from Garden Village in North Ridgeville will be speaking. This will be the group's first meeting of the year and new members are welcome. For more information, call 365-8522.

Author discusses book on talking to teens

The Lake Ridge Academy Parents' Association welcomes author Jenifer Marshall Lippincott, who will discuss her book, "7 Things your Teenager Won't Tell You and How to Talk About Them Anyway." Lippincott offers effective strategies designed to avoid the dead-ends and pitfalls of parent-teen interactions on Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Bettcher Convocation Center at Lake Ridge Academy, 37501 Center Ridge Road.

The adults-only presentation is free and open to the public. It is appropriate for parents of all students, especially those in grades four through 11.

Chamber luncheon

Find out more about an important organization recently created to help manufacturers by attending the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon at All Star Cafe party room, 37500 Center Ridge Road on Feb. 16 at noon. The cost is $15 for members and $20 for non-members. Reservations are required no later than Feb. 14 by calling the Chamber office at 327-3737 or e-mail nrcoc@nrchamber.com.

Time for Girl Scout cookies

This year local Girl Scouts will be selling five cookies with zero trans fat grams per serving. The classic Thin Mints, Caramel DeLites, Peanut Butter Patties, and the brand new Thanks-A-Lot and Reduced Fat Cartwheels will all feature zero trans fat. Now you can support Girl Scouting and enjoy a delicious treat, while still maintaining a healthier lifestyle. What's more, more than 70 percent ($2.11) of the $3 cost of a box of Girl Scout Cookies goes to support local girls.

To purchase your favorite Girl Scout Cookies, look for Girl Scouts at Giant Eagle on the weekends of Feb. 17-19 and Feb. 24-26, or log onto www.loveGScookies.org.

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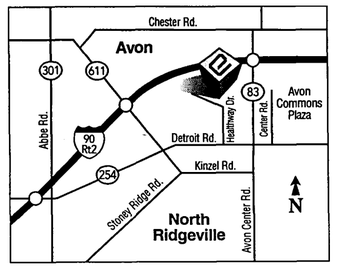
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OBITUARIES

Charles K. Ewing

Charles K. Ewing, 64, of North Ridgeville, died unexpectedly Jan. 23, 2006 at St. John West Shore Hospital.

He was born in Cleveland, was a North Ridgeville resident for 27 years and previously lived in Elyria.

Mr. Ewing was a veteran and served in the U.S. Navy from Feb. 1961 to Feb. 1963. He then served in the Naval reserves until Oct. 1965. He was retired from Hobart Scale Service of Cleveland, where he worked as a service technician for 20 years. He also worked as a bartender at the Fountain Bleau in Avon Lake for 18 years, and he was also a bartender at the American Legion in Avon Lake. He was currently working part-time for M.T.I. Inspections as a driver for Neff Brothers RV in Lorain. He was a member of American Legion Post #211 in Avon Lake and of Avon United Methodist Church in Avon.

Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Patricia (nee Tichenor); daughter, Kathy Charlton of North Ridgeville; son, Kenneth of Carlisle Township; four grandchildren; three sisters, Thelma Stringer of North Ridgeville, Donna and Rita Ewing of Oberlin; and two brothers, Ralph of Oil City, Penn. and Roy of Olmsted Falls.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Veryle and Dorothy (nee Cusick) Ewing.

Arrangements were handled by Liston Funeral Home, North Ridgeville. Burial was at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman.

Casimir 'Cas' Malinovsky

Casimir "Cas" Malinovsky, 76, of Summerfield, Fla., and formerly of Elyria, died Monday, Jan. 23, 2006, after a two-month battle with pneumonia.

Born in Lorain, he was a resident of Lorain County for many years residing in Avon Lake, North Ridgeville and Elyria.

Mr. Malinovsky was employed as an administrator for Lorain County and had served with the Coast Guard for 22 years. After retiring from the Coast Guard, he worked for Lorain County as an assistant administrator and later served as Lorain County administrator, retiring after 11 years. He retired from the county and moved to Summerfield, where he resided in the community of Spruce Creek.

Survivors include his son, Joe Malinovsky of Woodbridge, Va.; daughters Lori Weir of New Russia Township. and Andrea Martin of Elyria; six grandchildren; and sisters Irene Krolik of Whitehouse, Eleanor Kaminski of Elyria, Helen Kimmel of Avon Lake and MaryAnn Socha of Lorain.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Georgia, in 2002.

A Mass in his memory will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 19 at St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church, 5550 Lear Nagle Road. Arrangements were handled in Florida.

Sally Roberts

Sally Roberts, 82, of North Ridgeville, died Saturday, Feb. 5, 2006, at St. John West Shore Hospital in Westlake after a long illness.

Born in Erwin, Tenn., she was a 30-year resident of Lorain County, having lived in North Ridgeville for 10 years, and also in Elyria. A member of the North Eaton Church of God, she enjoyed watching TV and spending time with her family, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Jean Coleman of North Ridgeville; two grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sisters Evelyn Edwards of Johnson City, Tenn., and Doris Jean Sams of Erwin, Tenn.; and a nephew, John Roberts of Elyria.

She was preceded in death by a son, Jeffrey, in 1996; a grandson, in 1976; five sisters; and four brothers. Burial was at Brookdale Cemetery, Elyria.

Liston Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorials may be made to St. John West Shore Hospital, 29000 Center Ridge Road, Westlake 44145.

Carl Gilliam

Carl Gilliam, 70, of North Ridgeville, died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006, at New Life Hospice Center of St. Joseph, Lorain, after a short illness.

Born in Canada, Ky., he lived in North Ridgeville for 40 years.

He was a high mill operator at U.S. Steel in Lorain and retired in 1986 after 35 years there.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Mabel (nee Clark); sons Larry of North Ridgeville and Ron of Oberlin; two grandchildren; a sister, Opal Maynard of Kentucky; and a brother, Foster Gilliam of Kentucky.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kennie and Viola (nee Runyon) Gilliam. Entombment was in the mausoleum at Resthaven Memory Gardens in Avon.

Memorials may be made to New Life Hospice Center of St. Joseph, 3700 Kolbe Road, Lorain 44053 or the Leukemia Society, Northern Ohio Chapter, 20525 Center Ridge Road, Suite 630, Cleveland 44116.

Phony Medicare supplement offer victimizes seniors

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) is warning Northeastern Ohio consumers–particularly senior citizens–about the practices of a Las Vegas-based organization, American Consumer Benefits.

American Consumer Benefits has used at least 17 different names and falsely represented itself as being part of the Better Business Bureau. It is the target of dozens of complaints on file locally and at the Las Vegas BBB for withdrawing hundreds of dollars from consumers' bank accounts without authorization after promising to send everything from non-existent guaranteed credit cards and government services to prescription drug plans and fraud protection packets.

Most recently, an elderly Painesville woman reported she received a call from the company, using the name E. P. Finance, with the offer of a Medicare Supplement package. The woman provided her bank account number and discovered the company withdrew hundreds of dollars from her account, but never sent the package. When her bank tried to help her recover the funds, she received additional calls from Las Vegas. This time, the caller surreptitiously claimed to be from the fraud investigation unit of her bank.

Consumer complaints also allege the company claims to have a portion of the consumer's banking information. It then asks for confirmation and the routing number and issues a draft for $398 on the consumer's bank account. American Consumer Benefits also has been reported to falsely claim it has within its files an improperly written check by the consumer. Money is then withdrawn from the consumer's bank account-often more than once-upon requesting the consumer's bank account number to correct the "error" and return the check.

Complaints sent by the Las Vegas BBB to the company's only known address are returned by the post office as undeliverable.

To check out a company, contact the Greater Cleveland Better Business Bureau at (216) 241-7678 or (800) 233-0361 or visit the bureau online at http://www.ClevelandBBB.org. It's just good business.

Free File opens with enhanced taxpayer services

The Internal Revenue Service and its private sector partners announced the opening of Free File, the free tax preparation and free electronic filing initiative that marks its fourth year. More than 70 percent of the nation's taxpayers–more than 92 million people–qualify for Free File this year.

A new agreement between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, the consortium of tax preparation software companies, means enhanced services and more information for taxpayers who use the free services. Taxpayers must access Free File through IRS.gov.

The following services are available:

The three million taxpayers who used to file their income tax return through TeleFile, an option no longer available, automatically qualify for Free File this year.

Seventy percent of the nation's taxpayers–those with an adjusted gross income of $50,000 or less–will be eligible, but each company sets its own criteria.

Alliance members who offer refund anticipation loans (RALs) must disclose fees and interest rates up front and must make clear that RALs are loans, not tax refunds. Taxpayers also must consent to receive additional information about ancillary financial products.

Alliance members will provide additional tax forms such as Form 4868 that allows for automatic extensions of time to file; Alliance members' Web sites will display whether state online tax preparation and filing services are available and the associated fees, if any.

For 2006, taxpayers with access to a computer and the Internet may check on IRS.gov to determine if they will qualify for Free File. The Free File Alliance selects its own membership, but all members must meet the IRS' high standards for security and privacy. The IRS does not endorse any Free File Alliance company or product. The IRS also will manage the content of the Free File pages accessible on IRS.gov. Taxpayers do not have to purchase any product in order to qualify for the free services.

More than 5.14 million taxpayers used Free File last year, almost a 47 percent increase over the 3.5 million users in 2004. Free File debuted in 2003 with nearly 2.8 million users.

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440-327-8753

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POLICE AND FIRE BLOTTERS

By Carol Klear

Huff and puff and pull the bench down

A Terrell Drive resident reported that a cement bench had been stolen from the front porch overnight.

Whoa, pretty hefty turn

An officer observed a vehicle make a wide turn onto Lear Nagle Road from Lorain Road. He stopped the motorist at Cypress Lane. The driver was speaking with a slur and was under the influence of alcohol. The officer administered several tests and charged the driver with OVI, excess BAC and marked lanes and released him to a sober driver.

Sittin' and drinkin'

A policeman saw a car pull into a vacant business lot on SR 20 at Case Road. Two underage females were sitting in the car drinking alcohol.

Do not call

A subject reported telephone harassment to the police. He said he had 20 calls from the subject and told him not to call. He signed a criminal complaint and the subject was arrested.

That's a no-no

Police received a complaint of a vehicle passing a school bus on Emerald Drive while the bus driver was loading children. The suspect's vehicle was located and the driver cited.

Misled, now missing

An elderly person on Lear Nagle Road reported being misled by a handyman. He had paid to perform repairs that were never made.

Windows, doors and tubs...gone

An employee from Oster Homes filed a theft complaint about someone stealing two windows, two doors and two tubs from Avalon Drive in Windsor Point.

Z-Z-Z-Z-Z

A suspicious vehicle pulled into a drive on Root Road. Police observed a male sleeping in the driver's seat with the keys in the ignition. There were several attempts to wake the male up, but he said he drank too much and he was unable to stand unassisted. When the car was inspected, police found a zip lock bag with marijuana in it.

Just kidding

A vehicle owner said someone stole her cell phone and car keys while the vehicle was in the driveway. A female called the victim's mother and said she found the phone and to call the cell phone to retrieve it. When the victim called, the number was shut off.

Don't give them that

A mother was cited for permitting underage persons to consume alcohol at the residence during a New Year's Eve party.

Downed wire

A primary wire was down across Center Ridge Road and arcing. Firefighters blocked the road as a precaution. Ohio Edison replaced the wire.

Natural gas smell

Coming back from a squad run on the I-480 overpass at Lorain Road, paramedics smelled a strong odor of natural gas near the overpass. There was no smell on the return trip at the same area. The vent pipe out of the side of the roadway possibly had vented gas earlier.

More gas

A resident complained of a gas smell near the intersection of Aurensen and Noll, but firefighters were unable to locate the source of the smell. There have been multiple calls about gas smells over the last three or four months, but when firefighters arrive on the scene the smell is gone.

And still more gas

Firefighters went to Ridgeview Plaza to investigate a strong odor of gas in the house. The owner found the tank on the new snowblower leaking. The garage door and windows were opened.

Transports

From Jan. 18-24 the North Ridgeville Fire Department made six fire runs and 24 EMS runs. There were 10 runs to EMH Regional Health Center, 12 to St. John West Shore Hospital and one to Fairview Hospital. There was one "no transport."

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

N. Ridgeville Real Estate Transfers between 01-21-06 and 01-27-06

Buyer	Seller	Address	Lots	Price
HOWELL S.	WELLS B. L.& IRMA	MAIN ST	4	$3,976
HOWELL S.	WELLS B. L.	MAIN ST	4	$3,976
HOWELL S.	WELLS B. L.	MAIN ST	4	$3,976
HOWELL S.	WELLS B. L.	MAIN ST	4	$3,976
MARTIN RODICA	KARL JEROME	5438 PLEASANT AV	1	$125,600
PRIOR E. S. TRUSTEE	CENDANT MOBILITY	33833 MRNNG GLRY LN	1	$142,500
FOWLER ROBERT M		TANAGER CT	1	$500
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR.INC	AVALON DR	12	$590,667
NVR INC	FJD PROP. LLC	6141 W. BREEZEWAY DR	1	$47,163
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR.INC	PEBBLE CT	12	$590,667
NVR INC	FJD PROP. LLC	5976 GREENVIEW TRAIL	1	$47,163
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR. INC	RAVENWAY DR	12	$590,667
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR.INC	AVALON DR	12	$590,667
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR. INC	RAVENWAY DR	12	$590,667
MARTINEZ DAN	CILONA VIVIAN A	38571 COUNTRY MDW WY	1	$251,000
MELFI STEVEN M	EVANS MICHAEL S	38663 SUN MEADOW CT	1	$228,000
K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	OSTER CONSTR. INC	PARK TRAIL	12	$590,667

N. Ridgeville Real Estate Transfers between 01-28-06 and 02-03-06

Buyer	Seller	Address	Lots	Price
BUTTERNUT GROVE PTNRS	MOULD DEVEL. LLC	PLANTATION PL	3	$1,035,000
BUTTERNUT GROVE PTNRS	MOULD DEVEL. LLC	ISLAND RD	3	$1,035,000
BUTTERNUT GROVE PTNRS	MOULD DEVEL. LLC	ISLAND RD	3	$1,035,000
MCCOMAS JOHN A	DILLON PATRICIA	5075 AVON BELDEN RD	1	$153,000
NOVASTAR MORTGAGE INC	ADAMIC AMY M	35330 OXFORD CT	1	$145,000
ELTON JOHN W	HAGEN NEAL F	35294 WOODBINE ST	3	$167,000
ELTON JOHN W	HAGEN NEAL F	WOODBINE ST	3	$167,000
ELTON JOHN W	HAGEN NEAL F	WOODBINE ST	3	$167,000
EMC MORTGAGE CORP.	GILL THOMAS M	5879 LEE AV	1	$75,000
CALVEY MATTHEW T	GREATHOUSE R.	7185 AVON BELDEN RD	1	$114,000
SHULLICK DAVID A JR	DIAMOND HOMES	37419 BARRES RD	1	$15,000
MCANDREW PATRICK J	NVR INC	5789 OVERLOOK WAY	1	$256,890
WINTERICH THOMAS M	K HOVNANIAN OSTER HMS	37368 SUGAR CREEK LN	1	$265,865
NORFLEET THOMAS AVERY	WAGLER HMS OF CLEV.	37189 TERRELL DR	1	$248,435
PULTE HOMES OF OHIO LLC	UGAR CHESTNUT LLC	BENDER RD	3	$4,751,888
KALMYKOV V. & G.	PULTE HMS OF OHIO LLC	9329 GRIST MILL DR	1	$182,540
PULTE HOMES OF OHIO LLC	SUGAR CHESTNUT LLC	TERRELL DR	3	$4,751,888
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Is there a new addition to your family?

Send us a picture with his/her name, date of birth and weight. You can also include the parent, siblings and grandparent. (A form is available for your convenience.) **E-mail: thepress@bright.net** (attach image in either TIFF, JPEG or BMP format) Please include a SASE if you wish to have your photograph returned.

Mail to: North Ridgeville Press, P.O. Box 39089, N. Ridgeville, Ohio 44039

North Ridgeville Press
Office: 158 Lear Road, Avon Lake, 44012

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When thinking leads to confusion, stop thinking



The Final Word

By D. M. Warnke

I have never been accused of being a deep thinker. That's a shame, because I spend lots of time thinking over details of the events of my life. I try to look at the negatives and say "what can I take from this?" More and more, I find myself contemplating the meanings of situations and not understanding.

Normally I understand a situation but just disagree. Like when my wife is watching some snooty British comedy and laughing hysterically and looking at me like I don't get it. I get it, but it's not funny. Except Benny Hill. That I both understand and think is funny. Odd, it's the only Britcom my wife doesn't like. Understand the President, don't agree with a thing he says. Or a thing the guy speaking in his earpiece says. We can all take comfort in the fact that there are three more years of this coming. I personally am awaiting the day he drops past Nixon in popularity. That will be saying something. Once he passes Nixon, O. J. Simpson will be the target. I think he both can and will do it. One thing is certain; he will never be speaking over my head. So I will always understand what he says, just likely will disagree with it.

Lately I find myself not even understanding. Last week, I stopped at a Bank One branch to get some ATM money at around 11 p.m. The machine ate my card, which I understand happens. The bank opened at 9 a.m. the following day and I was there at 9:01 asking for my card back. But because I was not a Bank One customer, the teller had removed my card from the machine and destroyed it. Less you think it was because I was not a customer, when I asked at my bank, Key, they said they would do the same thing to someone from Bank One.

WHY? My bank tells me they fear liability. So in my case, the card gets eaten in the machine at 11 p.m.

Then I lose my wallet and someone calls the DMV and court records, obtains a fake ID with my information and their picture, and shows up at the bank claiming to be me to get the card back.

All before 9 a.m. the next day. Which we all know is possible with the convenient hours government offices keep. Okay, it's completely not possible. But let us assume it IS possible and someone with my ID shows up to get the card. They STILL have to know my secret code to make the card work as a debit and match the signature on the back for it to work as a credit card.

Which to me means zero liability issues. I still cannot begin to wrap my head around the concept today. All of this obviously put me out because then I had to go to Key and get a new card in 5-7 business days during which I could not get any money.

I hope to run into less and less of the confusion, but am thinking I will be getting more and more. At least by then I'll be able to get at my money.

BBB offers tips for buying flowers and jewelry for Valentine's Day

Thinking of buying flowers or jewelry for that special someone for Valentine's Day? The Better Business Bureau (BBB) offers this advice.

Many consumers turn to their local phone directories to find a florist. A search of the SBC Cleveland Yellow Pages yields listing after listing for "Florist in" followed by the name of a city–Florist in Lakewood, Florist in Parma, etc. Each listing displays a local telephone number and an address of Bernardsville, NJ.

Calls to this number are answered by Our Flowers with Gifted Elegance, a company located in New Jersey. The company does not have any local shops. It refers orders to a network of florists. The Trenton, New Jersey BBB gives the company an unsatisfactory record due to a record of unanswered complaints concerning delivery, product quality, customer service issues, among others.

Be sure you are purchasing from a local florist and be wary of advertisements or listings that do not contain a street address. If you're asking directory assistance for a number, also ask for the street address. When placing your order, ask for the name of the company. Check the company's record with the BBB.

Shopping for Jewelry?

If jewelry is on your list for a Valentine Day's gift, the BBB offers this checklist to help you find the finest quality jewelry at the best value.

Here are some tips on locating a reputable jeweler:

- Word of mouth is very important. Ask your friends and relatives about a store's reputation. Were they satisfied? Did they find the store personnel helpful and well informed? How long has a jeweler been in your community? Established stores are often a better bet to have a solid reputation. Also, does the jeweler belong to any trade organizations? Those groups often require adherence to strict business practices to maintain membership.
- Know what you're buying. What are the special features you should look for in gems, pearls or precious metals? The Federal Trade Commission (www.ftc.gov) offers an online booklet on buying jewelry. The BBB can help as well at www.bbb.org.
- Take the time to shop around, and be sure to compare quality, price and service, as well as the store's refund and return policies.
- The jeweler should also write on your sales receipt detailed information about the purchase.

Always check the reliability of a company with the Better Business Bureau online at www.ClevelandBBB.org, or by telephone at (216) 241-7678 or (800) 233-0361.

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PERSONAL ADS, BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS, HELP WANTED ADS etc.: Deadline Mon. by 3 pm.
EXPERT ADS: Deadline Friday by Noon.
OHIO SCAN ADS: Wednesday by 10 am *(two weeks ahead of publication)*
Deadlines apply to payment, new copy, copy changes and cancellations.

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The North Ridgeville Press reserves the right to reject any advertising material we deem unacceptable. Please check your ad upon first insertion for accuracy. The newspaper will assume responsibility for the first publication only. Compensation will be in the form of ad space or credit, not to exceed original cost of the ad. NO REFUNDS.

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For just $9.00 your 20 word Garage Sale Ad will be placed in the North Ridgeville Press, WestLife, Avon Lake Press, and Vermilion Photojournal newspapers. Your ad will also appear in each paper's Garage Sale Quick Clipper for the convenience of the Garage Sale Shopper!
Remember: Deadline is Monday by 3:00 p.m.!

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LONG TIME SMALL BUSINESS
Person looking to purchase 1 acre of commercial property in **Avon/Avon Lake area.**
Vacant or with Building
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10 Homes for Sale

235 FORECLOSED HOMES in OH & PA Selling @ 14 AUCTIONS
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10 Homes for Sale

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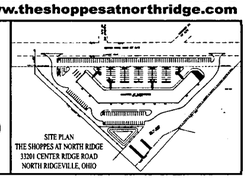
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345 Miscellaneous For Sale

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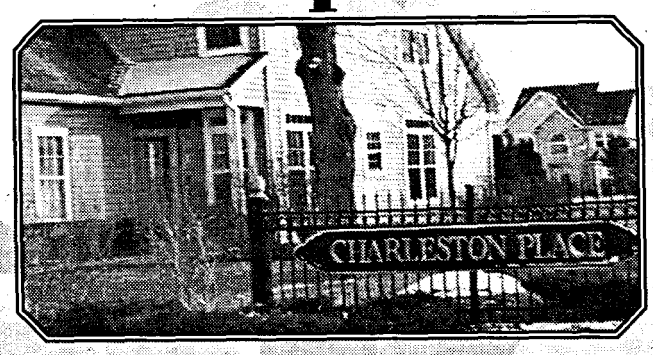
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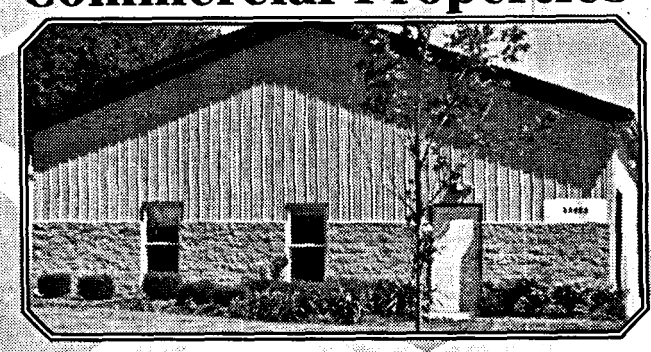
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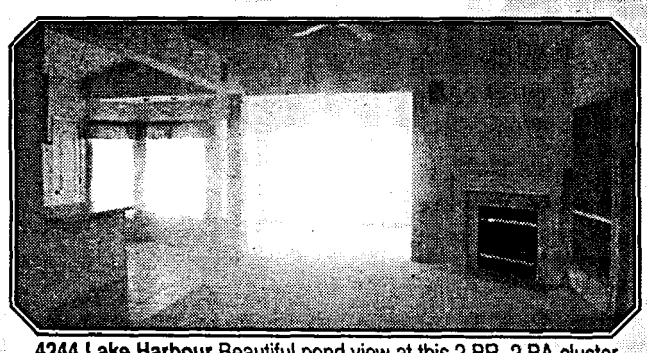
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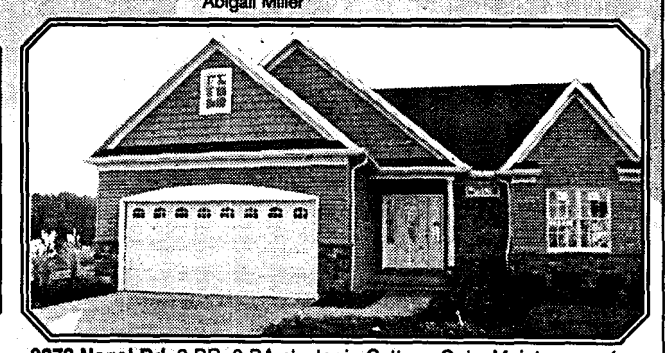
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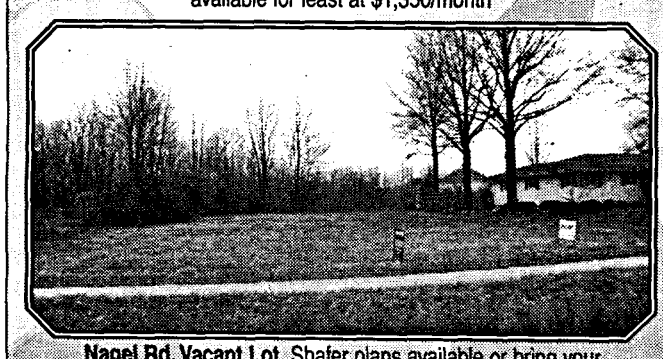
4244 Lake Harbour Beautiful pond view at this 2 BR, 2 BA cluster home. Open floor plan w/den & sunrm. Listed at $252,000 or available for least at $1,350/month



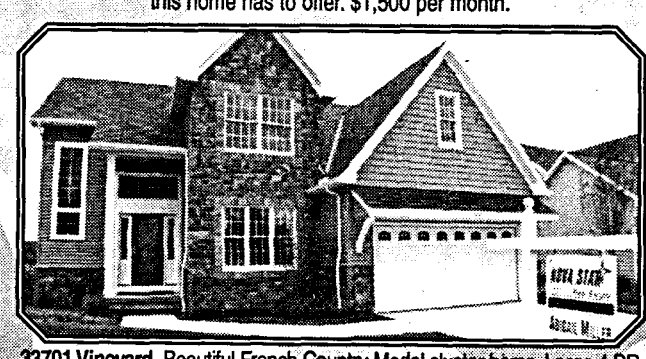
Centennial Village. For Lease. Beautiful 4 bedroom colonial. Was the model home for subdivision. Come and see all the extras this home has to offer. $1,500 per month.



3378 Nagel Rd. 2 BR, 2 BA cluster in Cottage Gate. Maintenance-free living. Come and see all the extras this cluster has to offer. Open Mon-Thurs and weekends 1-5pm. Listed at $297,000.



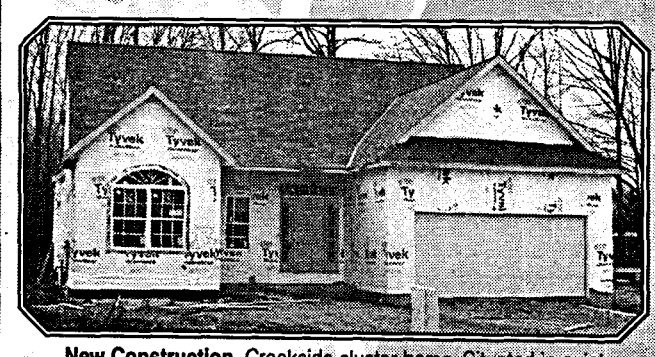
Nagel Rd. Vacant Lot. Shafer plans available or bring your own builder. 100x150. Listed at $75,000



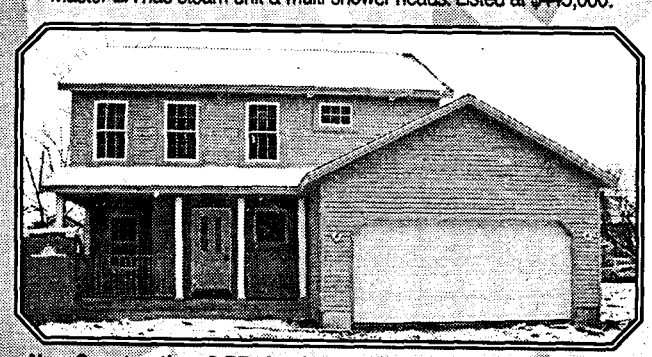
33701 Vineyard. Beautiful French Country Model cluster home. Large 4 BR, 3.5 BA home. Fin. bsmt w/wet bar. Open floor plan w/gourmet kitchen. Master BA has steam unit & multi-shower heads. Listed at $445,000.



Creekside cluster home. Charming 3 BR, 2.5 BA ranch w/finished basement. Neutral decor and open floor plan. Immediate Occupancy. Reduced to $239,000.



New Construction. Creekside cluster home. Situated in quiet cul-de-sac. Large 3 BR, 2 BA. Listed at $292,000.



New Construction. 3 BR, 2.5 BA Parma colonial. Located on a quiet street and easy access to I-480. Kitchen open to great rm w/stone FP, dining rm and first floor laundry. Listed at $199,900.



Come and build a Schafer quality custom home. Large lot waiting for this executive home in Cottage Gate. Starting at $550,000.

For more information call Abigail Miller (440) 336-4836