

NORTH RIDGEVILLE Press & Night

March, 2001 • VOL. 61, NO. 9

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This Week:

Lenten Talks at St. Julie's

St. Julie Billiard is sponsoring Lenten talks. Sessions will begin with 7:30 p.m. Mass. The speaker will begin at approximately 8 p.m.

Tonight (March 7) Fr. Larry Ober, SJ will discuss "Death and Resurrection"; March 14, Fr. Larry Jurcak, "Prayer"; March 21, Fr. J. Glenn Murray, SJ, "Preaching the Word of God"; March 28, Fr. Don Snyder "Reconciliation"; April 4, Fr. Bob Stec, "Called to Ministry: Vocations/Lifestyles"; April 11, Fr. Ed Schenkelberg, "What is the Triduum?" For more information, call 327-1978.

STAMP Sponsors Fundraiser

STAMP will sponsor a pizza social and fundraiser, March 11 from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. at VFW Post 7035, 36950 Mills Rd., Avon. Tickets are \$7.50; children under 6, free. There will be a bake sale and silent auction. Petitions will be available. For more information, call 327-3384.

Country Breakfast on Sunday

The Ladies Auxiliary Post 9871 will host a Country Breakfast, March 11 from 9 a.m.-noon. The menu will include eggs, sausage, hash browns, pancakes, sausage gravy, biscuits, coffee and orange juice. Adults, \$4.50; seniors, \$4; children under 10, \$2.50.

Art of Victorian Tea

The North Ridgeville Garden Club hosts "Art of Taking Tea" March 13 at 7 p.m. Learn about Victorian teas and tea rituals. Contact Debra Haynes at 327-2997.

In Brief:

Erin Go Bragh!

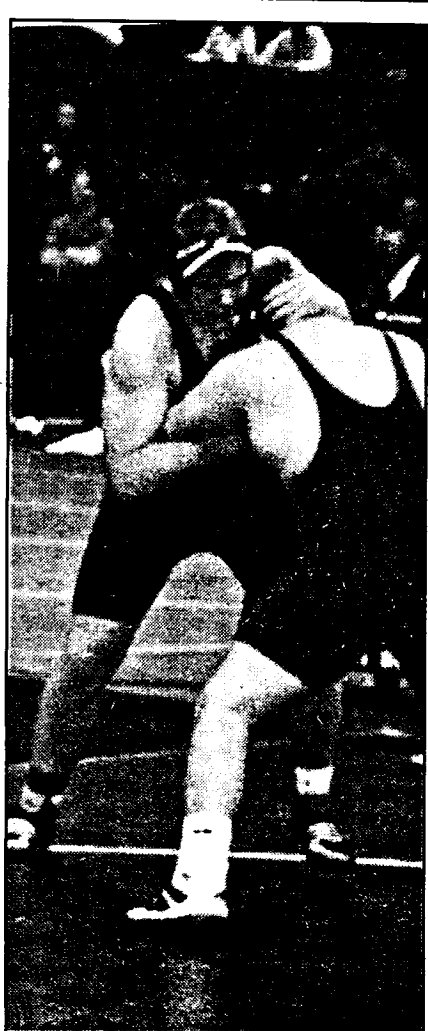
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 9871 as they host a corn beef and cabbage dinner on March 17 at the post, 6805 Lear Nagle Rd., from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Adults \$6 and children under 12, \$4.

Bring Some Joy

Can you sing, play an instrument? Project Joy is looking for volunteer artists for the ongoing visitation program in nursing home. Call Linda 323-2777.

Spring Clean-Up Time

The North Ridgeville Cemetery Dept. will begin clearing out Christmas wreaths, plastic flowers and other artificial decorations on March 19 at the city-owned cemeteries — Ridgeville Cemetery, Fields Cemetery and Sugar Ridge Cemetery. Items left after March 19 will be disposed of. For more information, contact Cemetery Sexton, Gary Teel, 353-0819 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



North Ridgeville senior Greg Powell helped lead the Rangers to a 19th place finish in the Division II State Wrestling Championships last week in Columbus. Powell finished sixth in the state in the 275 pound weight class while teammate Matt Shultz finished fifth at 130 pounds. (Photo by John Gibbs)

Special Development Districts may serve as expansion model

By Carol Klear

Following discussion by the Planning Commission on Feb. 13 and further dissection by the Building and Lands Committee last week, Special Development Districts, may become the model for expansion in proposed interchange areas in North Ridgeville.

According to Safety Service Director Jim Johnson, who submitted the proposed development criteria, the idea stemmed from a request by a property owner for spot zoning. The plan would have put "a very unattractive piece of industrial property beside \$300,000 to \$400,000 homes," he said.

Johnson told the Planning Commission that the Special Development Districts would be in the interchange areas, including Bagley Road, the section where Rt. 10 drops onto Chestnut Ridge, the Rt. 83 exit and the far west end of Center Ridge Road. The four areas, he said, are included in the Master Plan.

Criteria for the districts divide the areas into three classifications with 'A' to include buildings such as restaurants, business and professional offices, retail sales, theaters and hotels; uses in 'B' include those in 'A' as well as convention centers, service stations and warehouse distribution; and 'C' calls for limited industrial such as research and development, facilities, professional offices, office/warehouse facilities, full-service

restaurants and day care. Johnson referred to the new proposal as an "overlay" rather than a new zoning district.

During last Tuesday's Committee meeting, Bob Schmitt discussed the proposed Special Development District, noting the land off Bagley Road across from his Ridgefield development. "The 105 acres include nine parcels of land," he said. "It's not suitable for residential," said Schmitt, and cautioned city officials against someone constructing a small development. "If one small parcel is sold off," he said, "it will poison all the acreage."

Schmitt said that the city needs to plan, however, unless Council officially adopts the Special Development District, "we will fritter land away. We must create a legislative platform. It could be revenue or wasteland." The developer stated that he had purchased the former Dek Hockey property at sheriff's sale to secure the land.

Responding to a question from Councilman Dave Gillock, Johnson said the land presently is residential. Gillock stated that a professional planner is needed to design the special district. Schmitt agreed that a planner should be hired.

A three-way discussion continued between Johnson, Gillock and Schmitt on whether or not the proposal is actually rezoning. Gillock said that the ordinance

See Districts on pg. 13

Who are the faces in the album? Does anybody know?

By Carol Klear

The book's frayed and worn binding tells a tale of aging. The cloth covering is not soft to the touch, in fact is rather like burlap. A delicately designed rose, that at one time had been affixed to the volume's center, now is nearly detached and could be plucked off with very little trouble. The indentation around the edge of the fabric indicates that the floral design also had been repeated there, but long ago had disappeared.

Though the sheathing is tattered, the pages between the front and back covers are breathtaking to behold, as each provides a portrait of a person of another era. Some photos are of children, while others are of men or women — young and older. But who are they? What are their names? Do they belong to the same family or are they merely attractive faces that someone wanted to remember.

Judy Gladish has had the photo album tucked away in a box for nearly 25 years, though when first acquired its condition was less fragile. Gladish has always thought it a treasure, but she wondered who the people pictured throughout the book might be. A young wife and mother, busy with two small children, Gladish had nearly forgotten about the photo album until she read the recent story about the old North Ridgeville city records that were discovered in an Elyria Bank. The tale reminded her of the aged portfolio she possessed and she decided to try to locate any descendants of the



Judy Gladish and her daughter, Jessica, 3, display a very old photo album, Gladish found 25 years ago. (P&L Klear)

people pictured.

Recalling how she first obtained the book, Gladish said, "I was about seven or eight, and my father bought an old white Victorian house with gingerbread on it" that stood at the corner of Lorain and Cook Roads.

At the time her family lived in North Olmsted and the abandoned house, which had been in a fire, was sold at a sheriff's auc-

tion. For about a year in the mid-70s, Gladish's father, Barry Ferguson operated Barry's Motor Mart at the site.

Gladish remembered cleaning the inside of the house and discovering the photo album, but it wasn't until her father gave up his used car lot that she took the

See Album on pg. 12

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Health concerns speeding up timetable for Westerly Sewer

By Carol Klear

Construction of the Westerly Sewer got the go-ahead from the majority of Council, on Feb. 20, but not before City Engineer Stewart Lovece cited some health reasons for his recommendation the proposal be approved by emergency.

Anytime a septic system is abandoned, Lovece told Council, there is the potential for a health hazard to residents, noting that when the Bagley Road sewer line was constructed, health issues were addressed.

To give impetus to the argument for building the Westerly Sewer, Lovece said he asked that bacteria sampling be done in the Ridgeway Ditch. "It was February," said Lovece, "the water was ice cold and bacteria does not thrive in the cold." However, four of the five sites sampled on Feb. 19, along the ditch indicated fecal coliform bacteria counts of more than 1,100 per 100 milliliters.

Jim Boddy, director of environmental health at the Lorain County Health Department told Council, "400 bacteria milliliters in the water would close a beach."

According to information provided, fecal coliform bacteria can occur when sewage overflows and the water has been contaminated with fecal matter from either man or animals. It can be a potential danger to health.

The location of the five testing sites in the Ridgeway Ditch were on the west side of the Maddock Road bridge, the west side of the Race Road bridge, 1,000 ft. north of Center Ridge Road, near the Ridgeview Shopping Center and near the Rae Apartments.

In December Kenneth Pearce, Lorain County Health Commissioner, sent a letter to Mayor Deanna Hill, expressing support for the proposed sewer interceptor, stressing that sanitary sewers are preferred to septic systems by many public health officials, that the individual systems depend on regular maintenance and that systems more than 20 years old have a limited time line.

In conclusion, Pearce wrote, "Please accept this communication as a request from the Health District that the City of North Ridgeville consider serving the entire western section of North Ridgeville with the North-South Sewer Interceptor."

Sewer project bids opened

By Friday's 11 a.m. deadline, 13 companies had submitted bids for the Westerly Sewer project, said City Engineer Stewart Lovece. At \$4,379,186.50, said Lovece, "the apparent low bidder is Underground Utilities of Monroeville, Ohio." The second lowest bid came from M. Digoia Co. in North Royalton, who submitted a bid of \$4,515,930.

Lovece said he had estimated the cost at approximately \$5.88 million, and was happy the bids were under. The engineer said it would take about two weeks to check the figures provided by the 13 companies. "Each one spent thousands of dollars to bid," said Lovece, adding, "quite a few went on site and took test borings."

'DAMN YANKEES' at OLDE TOWNE HALL

Overweight, aging baseball fan, Joe Boyd, makes a pact with the devil so the hapless Washington Senators can win the pennant just once and is transformed into a young power hitter. The musical will be presented Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through March 10. Pictured are Denise Schmid, as Lola, Kyle Smith as Joe Hardy and John Thobaben as Applegate.

Jacobs Group rep to speak to Chamber

Terrence P. Keenan, North Ridgeville resident and real estate project director with The Richard E. Jacobs Group, will be the guest speaker at the noon membership luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce on March 15 at Melody Grove.

Keenan graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1981, where he earned a BS degree in civil engineering and was commissioned as an officer in the Coast Guard assigned to the USCGC Ingham. He achieved the rank of Lieutenant Commander and served two years as an active duty reservist in Cleveland during Desert Storm.

Returning to civilian status, Keenan received his MS in civil engineering from the University of Illinois and has been a registered professional engineer in Ohio since 1987.

Keenan joined the Jacobs Group and has been project manager on some well-known developments in Cleveland. He was personally responsible for overseeing the design and construction of the Cleveland Memorial Plaza, featuring Marshall Frederick's restored work, the Fountain of Eternal Life. He also served for four years as project manager for Jacobs Field on behalf of the Cleveland Indians.

From 1995 to 1998 Keenan was employed by Associated Estates Realty Corporation, as director of construction and development, overseeing the design, construction and governmental approval processes required for all new construction, as well as the development of nearly \$100 million in new luxury apartment communities in a four-state region.

Keenan rejoined The Jacobs Group as a real estate project director, supervising the development of Chagrin Highlands, a 670-acre mixed-use development, located within Beachwood, Highland Hills, Orange and Warrensville Heights.

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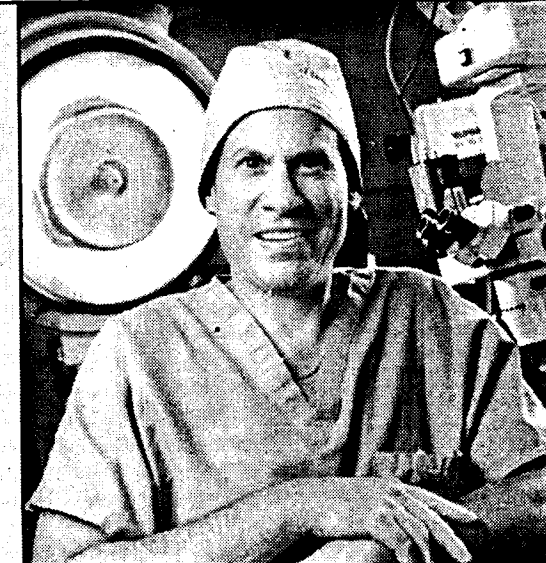
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Press Light

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Press & Light welcomes Letters to the Editor and we attempt to publish as many as possible, space permitting. Letters should be no more than 800 words, typewritten, signed in ink, and contain a daytime telephone number for purpose of verification. The Press & Light reserves the right to edit letters for length, accuracy and legal reasons. To submit letters to the editor, fax, e-mail, mail or hand deliver it to us using any of the fax numbers, e-mail or mailing address listed above.

March 24 is going to be a busy day

By Carol Klear

POPULAR DATE TO BE SURE.....March 24 has got to be THE most popular date of 2001, because everyone wants to have every event on that date. We just got a flyer about that oh-so-delicious annual Swiss Steak Dinner hosted by the First Congregational Church, 36363 Center Ridge Rd...and it's set for March 24, with serving times at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Besides the Swiss steak, there'll be mashed potatoes, homemade rolls, homemade pies and more. Reservations are \$8.50 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 12 and MUST be made by March 17. Call 327-4126 for tickets. Then there's the Night at the Races, sponsored by the Rotary Club on March 24 and the Chamber's 25th anniversary shindig on...you guessed it very same night, as well. Methinks we need a clearing house for North Ridgeville events. Any ideas? On the other hand, with some very shrewd

Klearly Speaking:

scheduling and very reliable transportation, you might make all three.

OH, NO, NOT AGAIN.....I am sure we've been over this and over this and over this, but sure enough last week we got two letters to the editor with no addresses or telephone numbers included. And what have we stated again and again and again...no letters will be printed without verification. So, if you don't see the letter you so painstakingly wrote, included in this week's opinion page, you'll know why. So, give us a call and tell us it's your letter that bit the dust last week and we'll raise it from the ashes and put it in next week.

I MUST TELL YOU.....On a couple of other times I've extolled the merits of books on tape. I love 'em, cuz I can clean, wallpa-

per, paint or whatever and "read" books at the same time. I literally devour mysteries as a rule, but last week I happened on Ted Koppel's "Off Camera - Private Thoughts Made Public," and you just have to get it. Koppel reads it himself and it is fascinating. In fact I'm sure I'll give it a second go-through before I return it to the NR Library. Whoa! Don't rush over to Jaycox Road yet, I'm not finished with it.

WHO AND WHY.....A resident reported getting a flyer "under her trash can" last week advising her NOT to sign the recall petition. OK, fess up, who done it.

IT'S MARCH-YES!.....I am so glad it's March, (and not just because St. Patrick's Day is almost here) and February is history. I don't know about you, but the month of hearts and flowers was more like the month from hell...but we'll talk about that another day. Go find some lucky shamrocks and enjoy March.

Pressline:

Caller: So Linda Dunham wants to run for Council. I hope people paid attention at the Feb. 20 Council meeting because she was being told what to say by Bob Schmitt's lawyer. She'll fit right in.

Caller: Fact - prior to getting involved with our political phony, Linda Dunham went door-to-door on Bagley Road opposing the sewer line.

Caller: At the Feb. 20, 2001 Council meeting, President Jean Brown asked Jerry Phillips to "cease and desist," does she really expect him to stop and die. We need to tell her the correct wording is "cease and desist."

Caller: About the Westerly Sewers agreement - I'm very concerned that the city is going to put up \$2.25 million worth of bonds to pay for this sewer. Builders in this area, I'm not very trustful of and it's not long ago that Frank Detorre went bankrupt, and if our economy continues on the path it is, I don't expect Mr. Detorre and others to have a very profitable decade.

Caller: How come The Press & Light doesn't identify Mr. Kessel as being the Mayor's father?
Response: Mr. Kessel is neither an elected official nor representing an organization in his letter. He has the right to send a letter to the editor as a resident and private citizen of North Ridgeville.

Caller: Certain members of the community have finally thrown all sense of dignity and decorum to the wind when they falsely accuse members of STAMP of spreading lies and innuendos. I challenge them to prove their baseless charges against a group of honest and sincere residents. Remember, "Thou shall not bear false witness."

Caller: About the recall of Mayor Hill, can we do a recall on Bernadette Butkowski and Carol Minnick I believe taxpayers are going to have to foot this lawyer bill for STAMP I think they're causing more problems for North Ridgeville than the Mayor.

Talk about businesses in North Ridgeville, why did The Press & Light move out of North Ridgeville...is there a reason you moved out. Could your answer help to get more business in North Ridgeville, or is it the Councilpeople like Bernadette and Carol Minnick. I'm a 4th Ward resident, and I'm ashamed to say that she's my Councilperson.

Response: We must correct the first portion of the call. The Councilwomen's names are Bernadine Butkowski and Gail Minnick.

In response to the second portion of the call, The North Ridgeville Press & Light is one of a chain of newspapers stretching from Toledo to Chagrin Falls, including the WestLife newspaper. The Press & Light has a very small staff and in the interest of making the best use of office personnel and equipment, The Press & Light now shares office space with its sister paper, WestLife.

Thank You.
 Mike Mytnick and Family
 North Ridgeville

Letters to the Editor:

It's time to drop the doublespeak

To the Editor:

The George Orwell term, "Doublespeak," coined in his novel "1984," aptly describes the Hill administrations sales job at the Feb. 20 North Ridgeville Council meeting.

They pulled out all the stops in their efforts to get approval of the developers' sewer proposal, funded in part by tax dollars. The Hill administration wanted the measure passed by emergency and they wanted it for one reason. If passed by emergency, the ordinance cannot be challenged at the ballot. It was an effort to avoid input by the voters of our community, nothing more.

That said; let's examine the doublespeak offered in defense of passing the sewer ordinance by emergency:

1. The Safety Service Director offered a past sewer ordinance that was passed by emergency. That ordinance would have tapped in homeowners all along the route, the current project was planned to avoid tapping in any current homeowners.

2. The Engineer cited bacteria counts in area ditches and creeks as reason for passing the ordinance by emergency. The proposed sewer will

tap in only 10 current homes and will have no effect on bacteria for years to come. Any new homes would be required to use modern sewage facilities that would not affect the bacteria levels.

3. The Law Director cited an unmentioned "drop dead" date that the developers could take the offer off the table and suggested passing the ordinance by emergency is necessary to avoid that possibility.

Let there be no mistake, the ordinance offered by residential developers for Westerly Sewers was passed by emergency for one reason, to deny voters the right to vote on the issue. That right is clearly spelled out in the North Ridgeville Charter.

Whether you support the Westerly Sewer proposal or not, we should all be outraged at the blatant attempts to deny citizens the right to challenge actions by our government at the ballot. We should be equally outraged that they resorted to doublespeak instead of arguing the issue on the points. It's an open invitation to more litigation. When will it end?

Denny Johnson
 North Ridgeville

Looking forward to a new center

To the Editor:

I am very happy to hear that North Ridgeville is pursuing the idea of building a community recreation center. I feel this is something the city has needed for some time now and I truly believe that this center will help those of all ages enjoy a warm inviting atmosphere for social entertainment.

This center can serve multiple purposes. It can be a place for all ages to meet with friends to relax, socialize, and enjoy simple conversation. It can also be a place for helping our residents improve upon and maintain good health by providing many forms of aerobics and physical exercise. It will also help keep our children off of the streets.

As a lifelong resident of North Ridgeville, I have seen this city grow very quickly. In keeping up with this growth and surrounding communities, we need to provide for our residents of all ages. The senior center is busting at

the seams and our children need a place where they can meet to socialize and/or improve upon their own health and physical attributes.

In the past, my family and I have joined other recreation centers in surrounding communities. My children loved to be able to swim and enjoy the water slides especially during the winter months. My wife and I enjoyed the stress relief by being able to go somewhere locally where we could also have fun and maintain our health. I would obviously rather pay the membership fees to the community that I reside in.

I truly believe that this is something that will definitely help North Ridgeville as a community. I can only hope that voters will feel the same when it comes time to vote for this issue in May.

Thank You.

Mike Mytnick and Family
 North Ridgeville

It's questionable when police can wait three days to issue a citation

To the Editor:

After reading Colleen Kiley's letter to the Editor in the Feb. 21 issue regarding her accident, I find it necessary to add my comments to the Press & Light.

It's questionable when the police can wait three days to issue a citation for a traffic incident. Does this mean that an officer can observe a traffic infraction then take up to three days (or more) to make up his mind whether or not to issue a citation? In my opinion, if the citation was not issued at the time of the accident, the Police Department eats it.

The officer on the scene obviously did not feel a citation was warranted due to the existing road conditions but was overturned by his lieutenant. Penalizing a citizen after the fact is just not right and fighting the ticket is the right thing to do.

Richard S. Cook
 North Ridgeville

Call cable provider and request FX

To the Editor:

For years ESPN has been bringing us NASCAR. ESPN aired all the NASCAR events on various channels and these channels were all included in the Cable Service Packages. Now that Fox has taken over NASCAR that is no longer the truth. The Sunday races are shown on the local Fox channel, but neither the Saturday races nor the other events are shown locally. Everything but the Sunday race is aired on the FX channel.

I called AT&T Broadband (800) 933-2225 and was told the FX channel is currently not available to any of their subscribers. They informed me that they needed 3000 cable subscribers to request the channel before they make the channel available. The request can be made in person, by mail or telephone.

AT&T is not the only cable provider who does not offer this channel. If you would like to see the Saturday races as well as the other NASCAR events please call your Cable Service Provider and request the FX channel be added to your package.

Lisa Harding
 North Ridgeville

Feb. 20 council meeting 'shocking'

To the Editor:

In light of the shocking North Ridgeville City Council meeting held Feb. 20, I couldn't believe my eyes as I read Mayor Deanna Hill's Feb. 24 letter to the Chronicle expressing her dismay at how taxpayers somehow seem to interpret her "lofty" intentions.

The Feb. 20 council lobby session began with President Jean Brown forcing a man in the audience to remove his hat to show respect for the flag and was told to leave it off for the remainder of the meeting. Then

Letters to the Editor:

the audience was forbidden to applaud their approval of speakers during lobby. Two attorneys were refused their full two minutes to speak because they expressed opinions against the mayor and/or the majority on council. The chairman of STAMP was refused his two minutes because he was reading his reasons, which were contained in a legal document, for the mayoral recall. One gentleman speaking against the proposed, permanent 40 percent income tax increase was told after one minute that his two minutes were up. He was stunned! At one point the television camera was blocked in a seemingly obvious attempt to prevent the audience at home from witnessing the pathetic display. The ACLU would have loved it!

I spoke against a couple pieces of legislation, which were being slipped through the process without being properly scrutinized. One in particular was poorly drafted, giving the mayor unlimited power, and was setting the city up for litigation. Instead of City Council inquiring into the problem in an effort to repair it, the majority returned from recess and made the motion to suspend the third reading, giving them the ability to pass it that night! The legislation was introduced by the Mayor giving her unlimited power to negotiate the purchase of properties with no funding appropriated. The auditor made it very clear that it was invalid. However, two members still continued to argue in favor of its passage.

The Westerly Sewer plan was passed on emergency that evening denying the taxpayers referendum rights. The sewers were not mandated by the EPA and no emergency existed. Litigation involving two PCDs is pending in the courts. This premature passage of the sewer legislation is causing more serious unnecessary problems for the city, and is a slap in the face to its people.

Landowners living along the proposed sewer trunk line petitioned the city and will pay 2001 fees upon completion of the line. However, it was discovered that one property owner on Otten Road was afforded the same opportunity. He'll pay 2001 prices no matter how many years it takes to run a lateral past his property. No one else that I'm aware of has been included in this sweet deal. The revelation caused quite a stir in council chambers.

It was discovered that the Mayor introduced legislation last summer, which repealed legislation that provided homeowners with a payment plan when tapping into the sewer system. It was approved by City Council at that time. The result is that taxpayers would have been forced to pay up front. A member of STAMP saved a lot of heartache and financial burden to seniors

and young families by discovering that piece of legislation.

Please bear in mind that this is just one Council meeting of many. Abuse of the system continues unabated. This administration and majority on Council refuse to acknowledge that the Supreme Court of Ohio, The City Charter, and First Amendment Rights are our lawful Constitutional determinants of how a city must operate.

Many disgruntled taxpayers and all members of STAMP are not now, nor have ever been opposed to a good sewer plan, to well structured and properly legislated PCDs, to controlled growth or to developers' rights. But, we adamantly reject the tyrannical methods being implemented by the city in the process of achieving these ends. All trust and confidence in the current administration have deteriorated beyond the point of no return. The people have no alternative but to act in their own defense.

Nancy Buescher
 North Ridgeville

Has enough of STAMP

To the Editor:

I am a longtime resident and former councilman in North Ridgeville. Never have I seen such nasty and downright mean behavior as I have seen by Councilpersons Butkowski and Minnick and their little group of political antagonists called STAMP - all led by Gerald Phillips.

Not only do these people create havoc and embarrass the rest of us, they have filed five lawsuits, threatened several more and have filed six petitions, including one against our Mayor. You know - the Mayor they say should be recalled for cleaning up human waste in our ditches and bringing business to our city to reduce our taxes.

They continually spew insults, personal attacks and outright hatred for those we chose to do a job for us while costing taxpayers up to hundreds of thousands of dollars for their lawsuits and the attorney they hired.

I think I speak for a lot of people in our city when I say I've had enough of that crew. And, you can pay your own attorney. He sure is not mine.

Olin R. Cousino
 North Ridgeville

Hill's best not good enough

To the Editor:

At the last council meeting, Mayor Deanna Hill mentioned as the reason for

passing the sewer legislation on an emergency basis, was the fact that there is a deadline that if not met, would mean that the developers can back out of the agreement to pay any portion of the westerly sewers.

Now who negotiated this agreement with the developers? I believe that it was the Mayor. Why would anyone, who is responsible for negotiating on behalf of the city and in its best interest, give the developers a way to "opt out" or an escape clause when they agreed to pay for the westerly sewers?

The mayor also stated that she "absolutely will continue to do my job to the best of my ability as I was elected to do." Well, Madam Mayor, I guess your best isn't good enough. The only reason she included that escape clause in the first place was to ram the legislation down our throats and give council no choice but to pass this legislation on an emergency basis.

It is clear to me and to others, that the Mayor is a self-serving opportunist who is running the city in Clinton-like fashion, without regard to the best interests of the city.

That's a shame! Now that we've entered the 21st century, the person leading this city into the future should be working on behalf of the city and not making deals to put the city at financial risk. She has no regard for the future of North Ridgeville or its citizens. I hope the situation changes before it's too late.

John C. Prajzner
 Chairman STAMP

It's a fight over a right

To the Editor:

It started out as a disagreement on PCD developments. Now it has evolved to a fight over whether citizens have a right to vote on anything.

If it is allowed to stand that cities can pass ordinances and attach frivolous emergency clauses to them to deny the citizens the right of referendum, then all future controversial ordinances will have an emergency clause.

Why are North Ridgeville's Mayor and five members of Council so committed to keeping the citizens from voting on things that will have such an impact on the community? I believe that question demands an answer. Voting is a fundamental right of our form of government. Who are they to deny us that right? Could it be that they do not want to respond to the will of the people?

The people who signed petitions to put issues on the ballot are not afraid of a vote. We are prepared to live with whatever the majority decides, and so should the city council and administration.

Joseph Antush
 North Ridgeville

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AGES 3-4 LITTLE NINJAS CALL FOR DETAILS

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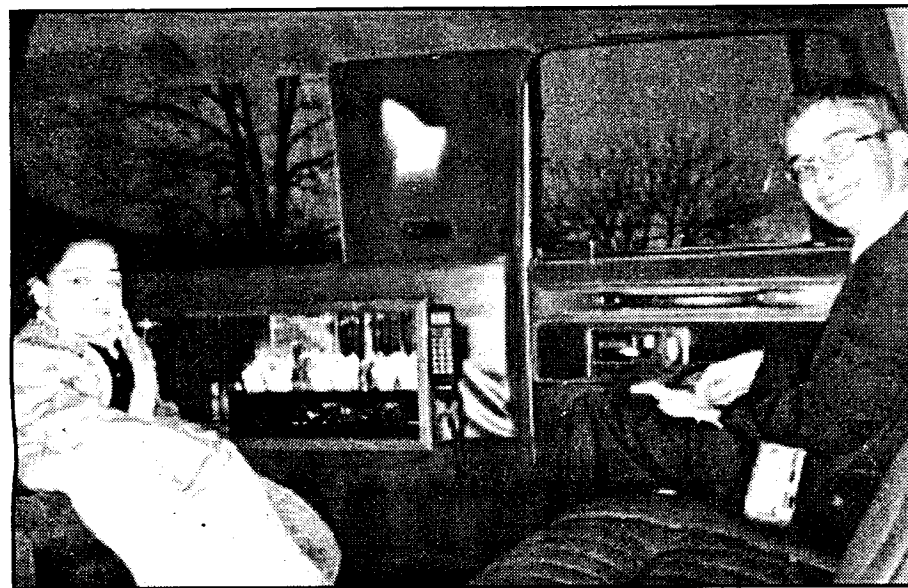
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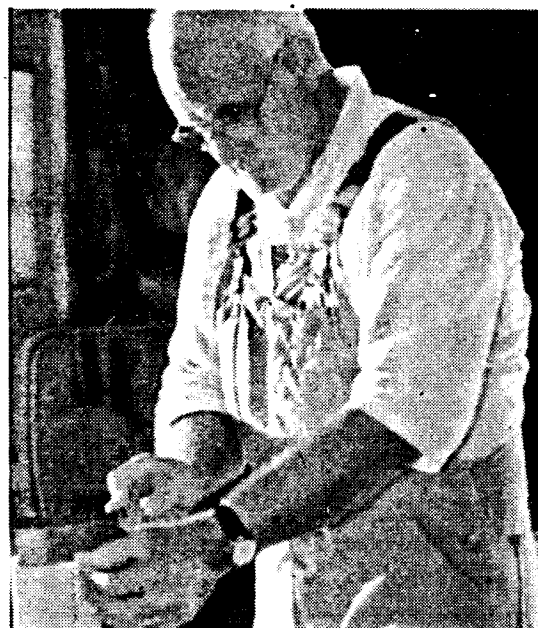


TRAVELING IN STYLE

When Joe Congrove and Robin Radziewicz went to the Winter Formal at North Ridgeville High School recently, they rode to the dance in a white stretch limousine, with a stop for dinner before going to the dance. (P&L Klear)



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THIRD Wednesday of every month -
Amherst Hospital
254 Cleveland Avenue, Amherst.
10AM - 11AM

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Short Parks meeting covers a lot of ground

By Carol Klear

The monthly Parks and Recreation Commission meetings might be short — just 16 minutes last Wednesday — but the discussions cover a lot of ground.

Parks Director Jim Spaulding reported on the recent presentation for the proposed Community and Senior Center, noting that the public meeting was "packed." The Community Center Committee has been meeting and preparing marketing plans, he said, and the drawing and fact sheet are expected to be on the city's web site soon. Spaulding invited anyone wishing to help promote the Center to call him.

A proposed income tax increase of 0.4 percent will be on the May ballot and if approved will be used to fund the Center.

Commission member Terry Murray asked if non-residents would be permitted to join the Center. Spaulding said, "Fee schedules haven't been structured. We have to approve the project first."

Though The Press & Light carried several Press Line calls and letters to the editor opposing the Center in the Feb. 28 issue, Spaulding said he has heard "no negative comments," and following the meeting he criticized the newspaper for printing comments from unknown callers.

In support of the proposed complex,

Spaulding said, "I'd rather pay city income tax and see, feel and touch my money right here in our city. I predict (passage) by a positive 2-1."

The Commission voted to postpone spending \$2,560 for contracted services for Hot Stove. Spaulding had recommended the expenditure based on 256 participants for the 2000 season, however, Dennis Boose argued that Hot Stove had not provided the necessary financial statement. "Last year," said Boose, "there was no balance sheet. This time it doesn't include the \$2,560 we gave them."

"Our city could not do without Hot Stove," said Boose, "we need them." However, he said, in requesting funds for contracted services, the organization "needs to be more prepared."

Spaulding suggested a meeting with the Hot Stove treasurer.

The Parks Director told the Commission that the Lorain County Health Department has informed him that guidelines for the Shady Drive concession stand will be more stringent this year due to the lack of sewers or a septic system at the complex, and no perishable items can be sold.

Commission members are expected to meet with the Baseball Boosters this week to determine how to handle the concession stand.

Police Department gearing up for three sessions of Safetyville

Get ready for Safetyville, to be held the weeks of June 11-15, June 18-22 and June 25 to 29, with sessions from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Safetyville, sponsored by the North Ridgeville Police Department and coordinated by youth officer, Detective Larry Swenk, provides an educational setting in which children are exposed to various safety concerns. Safetyville instructors, Anna Kanis and Linda Zbynowski, are qualified teachers in the North Ridgeville City Schools and have years of experience work-

ing with young children.

In Safetyville, children are taught safety skills regarding traffic, school bus and pedestrian activity. Using toy vehicles in a new and unique miniature village, they are taught the basic safety skills in an enjoyable and realistic environment. The children are also given classes in a brand new classroom on stranger danger and other personal safety topics, plus they get to meet local police

See *Safetyville* on pg. 10

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Obituaries:

JOHN J. CONJALCO SR.

John J. Conjalko Sr. 72, formerly of North Ridgeville died Feb. 23 at the New Life Hospice Residential Center in Lorain following a long illness.

Born in Coral, Pa., he lived in North Ridgeville from 1971 to 1995. He had previously lived in Elyria and in recent years. He had resided in a nursing home in Lorain.

He was a machine operator at York International in Elyria for more than 25 years and retired in 1995.

Mrs. Conjalko was a former member of St. Agnes Catholic Church in Elyria.

He enjoyed fishing, spending time with his family and friends and taking care of his grandchildren.

Survivors include daughters Diane Ambrosio of Lorain and Debra Thomas of Elyria; a son, Jack Jr., of Elyria; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and six sisters.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary E. (nee Freece), in 1994; his mother; his father; and two sisters.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Peter Church with the Rev. Thomas J. Hyland, pastor, officiating. Burial was in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to New Life Hospice, 5255 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria 44035.

The Busch-Bogner Family Chapel handled arrangements.

EVELYN L. JURCISEK

Evelyn L. Jurcisek (nee Szucs), 54, of North Ridgeville died Feb. 23 at the Cleveland Clinic after a short illness.

Born in Cleveland, she lived in North Ridgeville about 15 years.

She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Jurcisek was a member of St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church.

She enjoyed decorating her home and hosting gatherings for family and friends.

Survivors include her husband, John; sons John Jr. and Scott, both of North Ridgeville; a daughter, Kathleen Jurcisek of North Ridgeville; eight grandchildren; two brothers; and a sister.

Services were held at the Berry Funeral Home, Westlake.

Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Cleveland.

FRAZIER L. BOOTHE

Frazier L. Boothe, 67, of North Ridgeville died Feb. 24 at his home after a long illness.

Born in Bluefield, Va., he moved from Cleveland to North Ridgeville 35 years ago.

He was a crane operator at the Ford

Motor Co. in Brook Park for 32 years before retiring in 1991.

He served in the Army.

Mr. Boothe enjoyed yard work, building birdhouses, watching western movies and playing guitar.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Joanne (nee Cramer); daughters Vicky Beal of Elyria, Laura Redhoff of Bucyrus and Sharon Boothe of North Ridgeville; sons Rocky of Caledonia, Ohio, Keith of Peebles, Ohio, Mark of East Liberty, Ohio, Dale of Bucyrus and Curtis of Key Largo, Fla.; step-daughters Evelyn McDaniel of South Bend, Ind., Celeste Oden of North Ridgeville and Yvonne McDaniel of Sheffield Lake; step-sons Roy McDaniel of Elyria and Todd McDaniel of Indiana; 15 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; three sisters; and five brothers.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister.

Graveside services were held at Butternut Ridge Cemetery in Eaton Township, with the Rev. Bill Tumbleson, chaplain of New Life Hospice in Elyria, officiating.

Memorials may be made to New Life Hospice, 5255 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria, 44035.

The Bauer-Laubenthal Funeral Home handled arrangements.

EUGENE J. STAFFORD

Eugene J. Stafford, 79, of North Ridgeville, died Feb. 24 at Northridge Health Center in North Ridgeville after a long illness.

Born in Cleveland, Mr. Stafford lived in Westlake before moving to North Ridgeville in 1995.

During World War II, Mr. Stafford served in the Army.

He was a fireman and an oiler for Cuyahoga County before retiring in 1989 after 25 years of service.

Mr. Stafford was a former member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Grace (nee McCaskey); a son, Thomas Stafford of North Ridgeville; a daughter, Elizabeth Arnold of San Jose, Calif.; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and a sister.

Mr. Stafford was preceded in death by three brothers; two sisters; and his parents.

A memorial Mass was held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Avon with the Rev. John Misenko, pastor, officiating.

The David Bogner Family Funeral Home handled arrangements.

MICHELLE RICE-JONES

Michelle Rice-Jones (nee Montgomery),

28, of Elyria died Feb. 24 from injuries received in an automobile accident.

Born in Elyria, she was a lifelong resident. Mrs. Rice-Jones was employed by Welcome Nursing Home in Oberlin as a certified nursing assistant.

She loved being with her children, bowling, playing pool, fishing and anything having to do with the outdoors.

Survivors include her husband, James; daughters Melana and Paige Montgomery, both of Elyria and Brittney Rice of North Ridgeville; sons Caleb Rice of Elyria and Seth Nordstrom of North Ridgeville; a sister and brother; maternal grandmother; paternal grandmother and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father; maternal grandfather and paternal grandfather.

A memorial service was held at the Bauer-Laubenthal Funeral Home, Elyria with the Rev. James L. Gordon, pastor of Elyria Baptist Church officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Michelle-Rice Jones Fund in care of the funeral home.

WILLIAM SCHMITTGEN JR.

William Schmittgen Jr., 78, of Elyria, died Feb. 16 at the Northridge Health Center in North Ridgeville.

Born in North Ridgeville, he lived there and in Elyria most of his life.

An Army veteran, Mr. Schmittgen served in Germany and France during World War II, and received a Purple Heart.

He was longtime employee of J.R. Dall Ford in Elyria, where he worked in the parts department.

Survivors include his son, Donald Schmittgen of Sullivan, Ohio; his daughter, Peggy Hawk of Wellington; brothers Russell

of Elyria and Robert of North Ridgeville; and sisters Marian Fosselius and Virginia Deering, both of Largo, Fla.

Mrs. Schmittgen was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers.

A graveside service was held at Ridge Hill Memorial Park, Amherst Township with the Rev. David Lane, associate pastor of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Elyria, officiating.

The Dicken Funeral Home in Elyria handled arrangements.

Service News:

Pvt. William Bradshaw

Army Reserve Pvt. William J. Bradshaw has graduated from the utilities equipment repairer advanced individuals training course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, MD.

During the course, the student was taught maintenance, test, repair, adjustment and inspection of gasoline engine systems, bottle cleaning at charging stations, air conditioning electrical and vapor systems, refrigeration unit electrical systems, portable rechargers and valves.

Bradshaw is the son of Kenneth Lee and Debra Bradshaw of Dickens Circle, North Ridgeville.

Stork Report:

A baby boy was born to James and Tina Stewart on Jan. 29 at EMH Regional Medical Center.

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Police Reports:

By Mark Maier

Deserving Oscar Mayer Wiener Awards

Two male subjects attempting to break into a house on Feb. 27 found a little more than they had bargained for. When the terrible two attempted to break into the residence on Denny Rd., they were welcomed with a 17-year-old female who had come home from school for lunch.

Before they attempted to break in, the phone rang and the victim assumed that the person was someone she knew. When she answered the phone, there was only breathing coming from the other end. This occurred up to about five times within a three-minute span.

After the phone calls, the victim noticed that her dog began barking and scratching the front door. At this time, the doorknob began jiggling as if someone was attempting to get inside.

The victim screamed, at which point she observed two male subjects run. One was wearing a black pair of jogging pants and a black sweatshirt. He ran northbound away from the house. The other was wearing a gray or white sweatshirt and ran southbound.

She went to the kitchen where she could see the back of the residence. She observed the one male dressed in all black jump a fence and continue northbound towards Bainbridge. This subject is described to be a white male approximately 5 ft. 10, 160 pounds with short blond hair.

The victim quickly called 911 to advise dispatch of the event that just occurred. Officers were quick to respond and begin searching the area where the male subjects may have been heading. Patrolman Roth turned onto Bainbridge from Chestnut Ridge Rd. The officer observed a subject in dark clothing running northbound, crossing Bainbridge. He patrolled the area of Fairacres, Dodge, and Glendale, but was unable to locate the male subject.

Patrolman Neiman patrolled the area of Pitts Rd. and Wil-Lou, but had the same results as Patrolman Roth. Neiman continued to patrol the area as Roth made contact with the victim.

When Roth arrived at the residence, the victim informed him that she is unsure who the male subjects were or why they had attempted to gain entrance to the residence. She also told officers that a similar incident occurred last summer with her neighbor who lives in the house directly across the street.

The incident is still under investigation.

Yard working man

Several residents on Pitts Rd. called the police on Feb. 28 in regards to a prowler who was whistling and shadow boxing. He had also knocked over a swing set.

Lt. Accorti and Patrolman Cross were dispatched to the back yard of one of the residence on Pitts Rd. after receiving two separate phone complaints of an unknown mail causing the disturbances.

When the officers made contact with the male subject, they placed him in handcuffs. The officers noticed an odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected on the subject's breath and that he was unsteady on his feet.

The defendant informed officers he was out drinking with a friend and the friend dropped him off at home. He informed officers that he was in his backyard "kicking around leaves, trimming trees, and raking leaves." He also admitted to knocking over the swing set, which the officers observed to be partially in the high school parking lot.

The defendant was transported to the police department. During the booking process, the officers had to explain several times to the defendant why he was under arrest. The defendant went through several mood swings. According to the police report, the defendant went from being overly

cooperative to the point of being obnoxious.

While booking him, Cross attempt to photograph the defendant. The officer had made no attempts to hide the camera, but kept it in plain view, however, the defendant asked if the camera were a stun gun.

The officers permitted the defendant to contact a sober friend to drive him home, but he refused. He was then placed into the detox cell until he became sober.

The defendant was cited the North Ridgeville Mayor's court on March 14.

Fire Reports:

Ashes to ashes

There was a surprise at the Ash Wednesday service at St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church. The surprise turned out to be a visit from the fire department.

The fire alarm went off inside the church shortly before 7:30 p.m. due to the burning of incense. The alarm was canceled while firefighters were en route.

State of grass

What happens when hot coals from a fireplace get thrown on grass? The grass, more than likely, will catch fire.

A resident on Island Road learned this lesson on Feb. 27. Firefighters responded about 5 p.m. to a call regarding a grass fire and a possible structure fire.

Upon arrival, firefighters found a grass fire behind the home. The fire was started when the owner threw hot coals on the grass while in the process of cleaning out his fireplace. The fire was 50 feet by 25 feet and was quickly extinguished.

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North Ridgeville Middle School announces academic honors

The following students were named to the North Ridgeville Middle School Honor Roll for the second, nine-week grading period:

GRADE SIX

High Honors: Megan Aigner, Samantha Aliff, Matthew Austin, Devin Ballard, Melissa Beaver, Tyler Bender, Stephen Berghaus, Kristin Blotzer, Kori Branscum, Jason Case, Jaclyn Cassidy, Katelyn Chopcinski, Samantha Clark, Kelly DeCapite, David DeLatt, Miguel Dominguez, Veronica Francu, Katarina Gardner, William Garver Jr., Matthew Gill, Jamie Gionfriddo, Corey Grand, Kevin Grissinger, Ashley Hamrick, Kimberly Herman, Traci Hoffman, Ashley Horvath, Rhiannon Jones, Ashley Judson, Jessica Kresak, Nicole Kresak, Lacey Krueger, Monica Kulow, Kayla Lange, Richard Lenz, David Lewton, Cassandra Lutheran, Lauren Melcher, Kristin Mullins, Jacob Nelson, Sarah Paulus, Melissa Penkava, Nicole Phelps, Caitlin Placzek, Amanda Quintana, Jacquelyn Riquitto, Elliot Rodriguez, Anthony Russo, Rachael Sandidge, Hannah Shepard, Megan Simko, Justin Simon, Kristina Smerecki, Michael Sprachmann, Kyle Sullivan, Aaron Waryk, Kenneth Watson, Renee Williams, Kelly Wilson, Kelly Wright, Danielle Yandura, Stephanie Zeller.

Honors: Michael Allen, Jamie Ashcraft, Omar Atassi, Michael Backsack, Heather Becka, Sara Beshara, Michael Biggs Jr., Amanda Bija, Sarah Bonness, Brittany Bukala, Anna Cleary, Ashley Deubel, Stephanie Edwards, Melanie Erickson, Thomas Gonzalez Jr., Shannon Greif, Justin Grifith, Joshua Haggard, Andrew Hanich, Ashley Harnish, Jessica Heck, Jessica Houser, Dean Hunt, Joseph Iachini, Mary Ireland, Robert Kidd, Kelley Kloefer, Matthew Lance, Patrick Laseke, Samantha Leach, Stephanie Lingenfelter, Christopher Longacre, Melanie Machovina, Lawrence Mandley, Holly Matjasic, John McGraw, Nicole Mitchell, Allan Mitschke, Brittany Muller, Christina Osborn, Matthew Priebe, David Pycraft, Lyndsie Rabung, Steven Robbins, Rachael Roberts, Jessica Schuster, Lindsey Spooner, Jennifer

Stribing, Kazimer Szmanski, Kimberly Thomas, Amy Tracey, Kailin Vadda, Megan Ward, Melanie Wiesbrook, Jennifer Wolf, Irina Yashchishin.

GRADE SEVEN

High Honors: Tarik Atassi, Christy Bagola, Amanda Bier, Andrew Bija, Susan Bing, Victoria Burdette, Timothy Canton, Zachary Carlson, Angela Cascone, Kayla Chappell, Jennifer Deamicis, Elizabeth Frindt, Jesse Frisch, Melanie Gardnere, Lynn Harmon, Allison Henderson, Jill Holava, Kathryn Hrabik, Ryan Kenney, Jennifer Kisel, Kimberly Klein, Katherine Klima, Cory Kokensparger, Kristen Lanham, Timothy Malinich, Amy Marino, Gregory Marsh, Britney McDonald, Anthony McNamara, Brianna Murray, Andrea Nyberg, Sarah Ochall, Donovan Page, Natalie Reis, Aida Rodriguez, Maxwell Rothacker, Alissa Rothgery, Jessica Sas, Kathryn Schreiner, Melody Semock, Daniel Siftar, Catherine Smith, Dana Spangenberg, Christ Stelmarski, Jared Stermole, Chad Supers, Brit Swanson, Ashley Szabo, Trista Szocs, Tatjana Taleff, Melissa Turner, Ashley Tyson, Brandon Varga, Brittany Ward, Kevin Wilson, Denise Woods, Justin Worsch, Jacquelyn Zeller, Courtney Zupancic.

Honors: Anthony Anderson, Justin Barton, Melissa Becia, Lindsey Bodjanec, John Boylan Jr., Michael Bruno, Sean Bunevich, Kevin Bycek, Katherine Byrne, Deanna Cavallo, Kaitlin Chafetz, Steven Cheh, Steven Cortez, James Dunbar, Kirsten Dyer, Ryan Edwards, Brian Ferguson, Michael Fulkerson, Brett Germain, Kayla Griffith, Christopher Hilson, Ashley Holloway, Aly King, Melissa Klinger, Mark Kocin, Frank Kotas, Richard Lambert, Samantha Lauffer, Jesse Martin, Heather Milam, Ashley Miller, Jennifer Odell, Dana Pavel, Brian Pettry, Timothy Pettry, Nicole Priore, John Ridinger, Gayle Scanlan, Justin Schroeder, Bryon Schutz, Jaimie Sklenicka, Kelly Smalley, Jacquelyn Sojka, Hilary Sundheimer, Ashley Tawney, Monique Terrell, Jacqueline Terry, Samantha Vinicky, James Waite Jr., Alexander Walls, Dustin Wanosky, Kate Watson, Nathanile

Honor students announced at Lear North Elementary School

The following students were named to the Honor Roll at Lear North for the second, nine-week grading period:

GRADE THREE

Straight A's: Shannon Hallisy, Jasmine Shaver, Alicia Springer, Alexandra Flanigan, Kelli Foster, Stacia Jenkins, Honor Roll: Amnea Abu-Saleh, Corey Vancs, Nicole Clesh, Haley Groah, Chelsea Rose, Kishan Samaroo,

Merit Roll: Alec Joseph, Anthony Leeper, Stephanie Malinich, Michael Mohn, Ashley Taylor, Aaron Trainer, Dustin Woods, Heather Murray, Steven Zeller, Megan Nagy, Julie Svoboda, Daniel DeLaat, Brenden Vanover, Annalyse Frederick, Michael Morrisette, Matthew Smith, GRADE FOUR

Straight A's: Kristen Rohrer.
Honor Roll: Briana St. John, Branden Heck, Haley Fitz, Amanda Mangas, Courtney Hokeah, Gwen Poe, Jessica James, Stephen Hujo, Cara Melcher, Anthony Papa, Brandon Wissel.



ALL DRESSED UP

Women attending the North Ridgeville Senior Women's Breakfast recently, enjoyed a fashion show with styles from Ames Dept. Store. Five of the 12 models are, from left to right: Anne Marianne, Shirley Worcester, Norma Hornig, Kathy Segan and Mary Segan. The Senior Women's Breakfasts are held on the second Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. The cost is \$2.50.

Williams.

GRADE EIGHT

High Honors: Shaina Berghaus, Adam Bowers, Zachary Calamante, Serena Carleton, Megan Cuebas, Brian Dodd, Rachel Firak, Laura Fulton, Dana Gabel, James Giggis, Jamie Gluvna, Christopher Halke, James Hayes, Susan Hetzel, John Hoffstetter, Angelina Houllis, Kelly Hughes, Jessica Jenkins, Andrea Jones, Brittany Julio, Kelly Kearney, Amanda Klein, Kevin Kleinsmith, Michelle Lopez, Courtney Lore, Tracey Lucas, Nicole Martin, Ashley McGraw, Amanda Milam, Laura Miller, Shawn Mills, Julia Myer, Abigail Nagaj, Stephanie Nagg, Erica Nelson, Rochelle Patrick, Tera Pavel, Robyn Pierce, Julie Ramey, Zachary Roberts, Michael Russo, Emily Safron, Gita Samaroo, Kristen Schremm, Erika Swanson, Shannon Syarto, Helena Traner, Coletta Uliano, Katherine Ulicky, Kneka Ulrich, Craig Urbanik, Aleksander Vasilevski, Eric Viergutz, Megan Walling, Season Winchell, Eric Yandura, Rostislav Yaremko.

Honors: Lauren Armenio, Victoria Arnold, Candice Bales, Jennifer Baracz, Christy Berkley, Amanda Bly, Kathryn Boone, Whitney Brooks, Catherine Cromwell, Rudy Der, Brandie Eichler, Nicole Gray, Kyle Gustely, Amanda Hamrick, Kristen Hanich, Jillian Hansen, Cristalle Harris, Tabitha Hetrick, Kristin Holliday, Chad Lawrence, James Lingenfelter II, Justin McCallihan, Jamie Mezera, Gary Oliva, Steven Outrich, Julius Palange, Amber Pierce, Kyle Rechner, Chase Ripley, Christina Sas, Rachel Schubert, Michael Seme, Chad Smith, Dennis Stern Jr., Stephanie Surella, Adrian Taylor, Heather Thomas, Joshua Tini, Kristen Wiesbrook.

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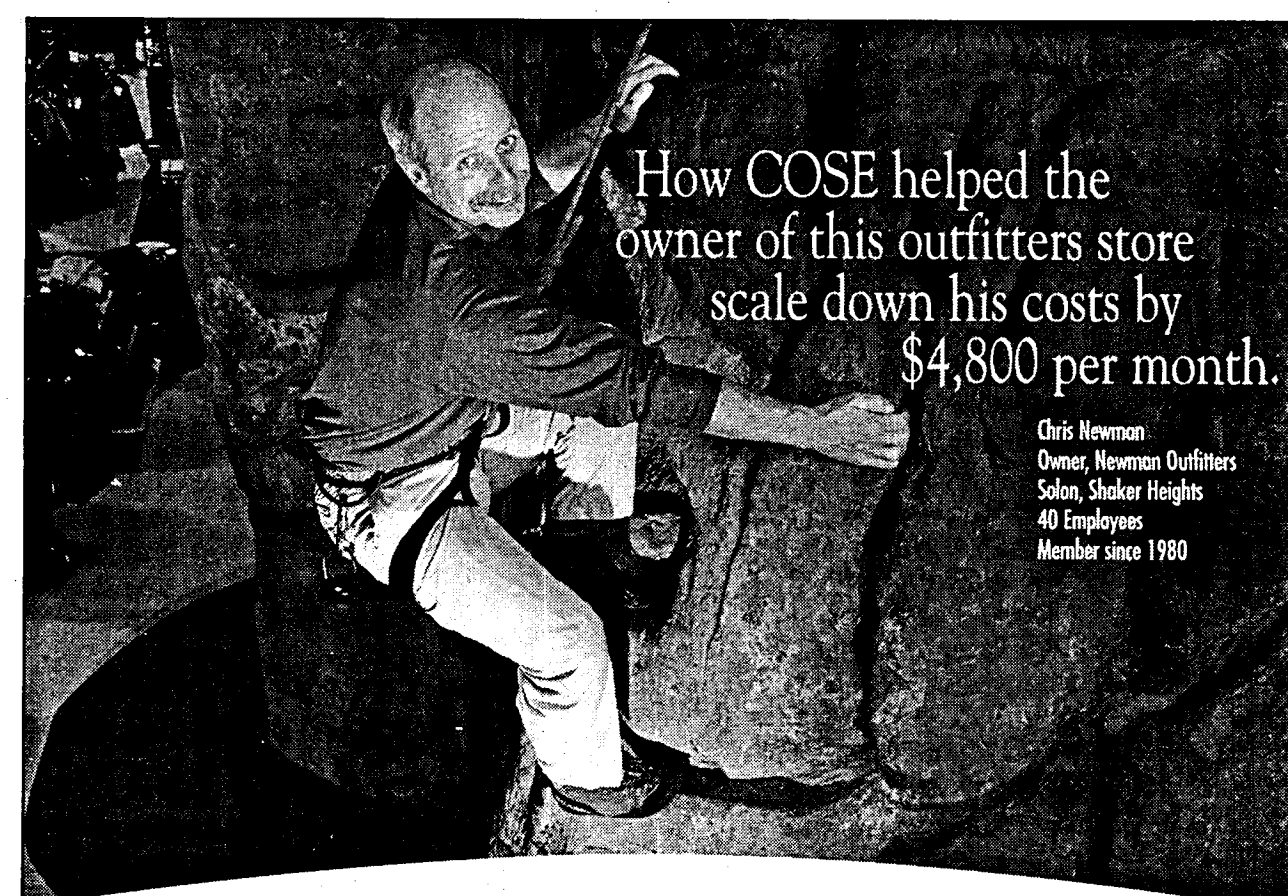
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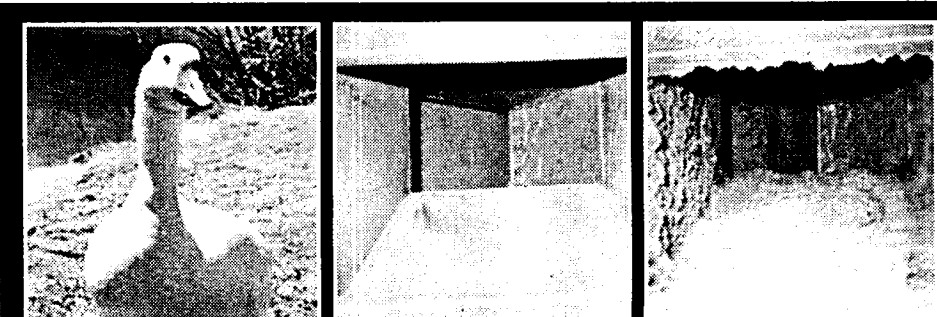
Safetyville from pg. 6

officers and firefighters and see the emergency vehicles and equipment up close, as well as ride on a school bus. The new classroom is adjacent to the village so that the children don't have far to walk for the practical application instruction.

The program, designed for children who will be entering kindergarten in the fall, is not a pre-requisite for kindergarten. It is open to North Ridgeville residents, non-residents who attend school in North Ridgeville and non-resident children who have a parent or relative who lives or works in North Ridgeville. Other non-resident admission

will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Classes are set up as one-week sessions, Monday through Friday, for 11/2 each day.

The cost is \$20 per child, which covers all classroom material, instruction and a Safetyville T-shirt. Payment is due upon registration. Class registration will be held at the North Ridgeville Police Department from 9 a.m. to noon on March 31 and April 7. The Police Department is located at 7307 Avon Belden Rd. (SR 83), south of Center Ridge Road. All registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis. This will be the only open registration for 2001 classes.



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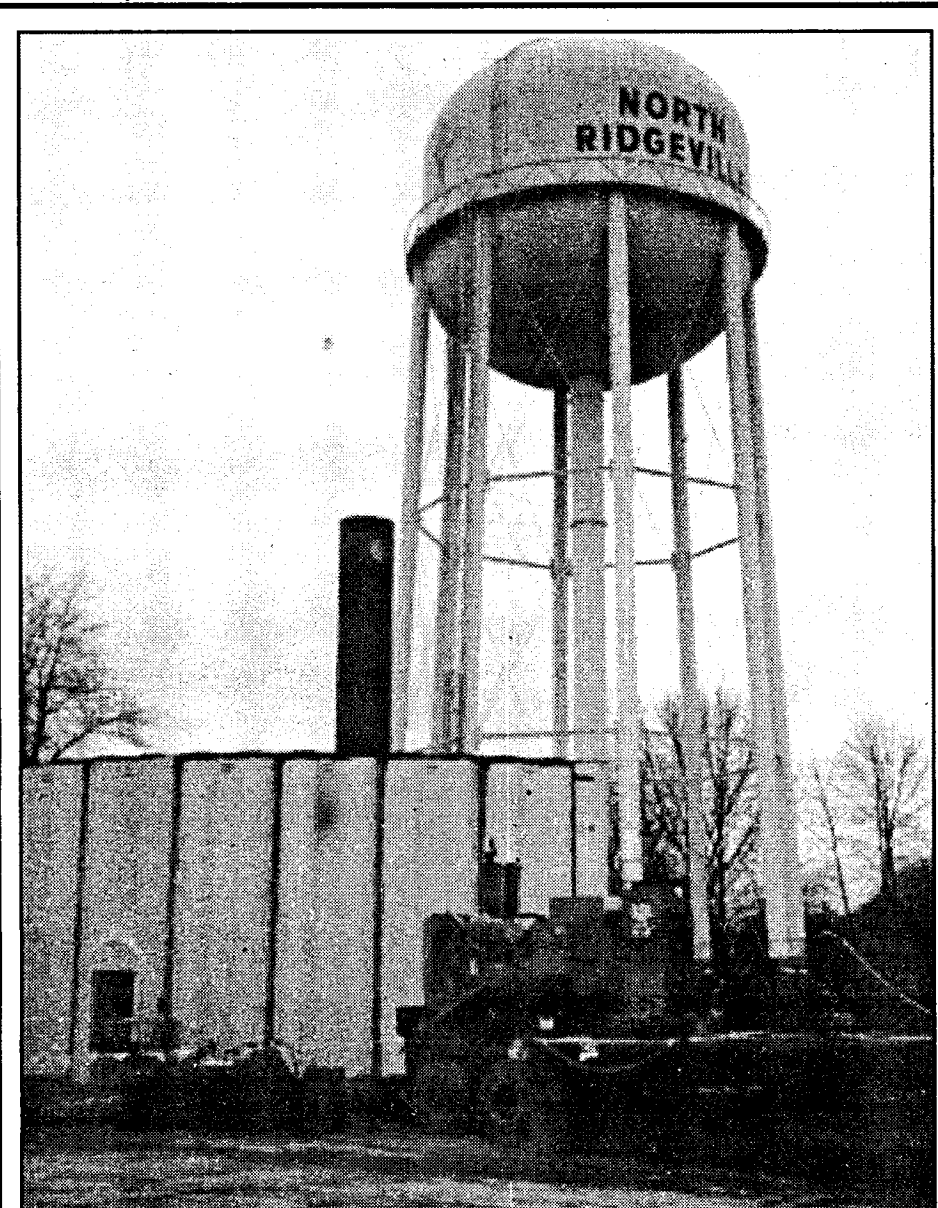
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IN WITH THE NEW

Keep an eye on the work in progress behind the Fire Station, as the city's new water tower is beginning to take shape just in front of the present tower. (P&L Klear)

Blair intends to seek fourth county commissioner's term

Betty Blair has announced her intention to seek a fourth term as Lorain County Commissioner 2002.

Blair, a lifelong Lorain County resident is serving as president of the Lorain County Board of Commissioners this year. Her involvement includes chairing numerous organizations: the Lorain County Community Alliance, a local Council of Governments; the County's Investment Advisory Committee; the Lorain County Economic and Industrial Development Commission (LCEIDC); and the county's 911 Review Committee.

Named 2001 Assistant Vice President of NOACA, the five-county metropolitan planning organization covering our area, Blair served as President in 1996, and on several committees including being named Chairman of the Commuter Rail Study Committee, the Planning Advisory Committee and the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Blair is also a member of the Lorain County Visitor's Bureau Board; the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees; the Black River Remedial Action

Planning Board and the Workforce Investment Board.

A past President of the Lorain County Association of Township Trustees and Clerks and as a Board member and Officer of the Ohio Township Association, she served for 23 years as the elected Clerk of Carlisle Township, resigning in 1990 to begin service as County Commissioner. Blair served as a member of the Public Services Institute Advisory Committee at Lorain County Community College from 1994-1998, and as a member of the Vision 21 Planning Process at LCCC.

Blair and her husband of 42 years, Charles L. Blair, have six living children and 10 grandchildren. They attend both St. Mary's and Holy Cross Parishes in Elyria, where Blair is a Eucharistic Minister, and chairs the Holy Cross Finance Commission.

A 1956 graduate of Elyria Catholic High School, Blair is also a Founding Trustee and Officer of the Dr. James L. Kolopus Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., which has awarded over 45 college scholarships since its inception in 1971.

The challenges facing Lorain County



Betty Blair

continue to involve the wise use of taxpayer dollars and making infrastructure investments for the County's economic future. "I am extremely pleased to have participated with Lorain County Treasurer, Dan Talarek, and the Investment Advisory Committee, in increasing the County's investment income for three straight years - \$7.8 million in 2000, \$6.7 million in 1999 and \$7.09 million in 1998." Dan will serve as Chairman of Blair's Elyria-area re-election campaign.

Gloria Avenue homeowners file federal lawsuit

By Carol Klear

A Gloria Avenue couple filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Cleveland on Friday, charging two dozen city, county and state officials, as well as developers and financial institutions with a lengthy list of violations including fraud, extortion, libel, harassment and mental anguish, as well as violations of federal and state laws.

Ronald J. and Sara L. Siemientkowski filed on their own behalf, noting in the suit that they were "compelled to bring this suit as Pro Se Plaintiffs due to the cost prohibitive nature of legal representation for their complex case."

The 96-page document details the problems they allegedly have encountered since moving into their home at 33975 Gloria Ave. July, 1999, including the presence of Radon, which the Siemientkowskis say created health problems for them.

Names as defendants in the suit are; Moreland Homes, Inc., Monica A. Dettore, Frank Dettore, Tony Horvath, Third Federal Savings & Loan Association of Cleveland, FirstMerit Bank, NA by merger f.n.a. Security Federal Savings & Loan, Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation a.k.a. Lorain County Title, modern Poured Walls, Inc. (MPW) construction Services, TUFF-N-DRI a.k.a. Koch Waterproofing Solutions a.k.a. Koch Waterproofing Solutions, Inc., Esser Plumbing a.k.a. Ray Esser & Sons Plumbing & Heating Inc., Zunich and Associates a.k.a. Michael Zunich and Associates, Inc. a.k.a. Dettore Group, Don's Refrigeration, City of North Ridgeville, Mayor Deanna Hill, North Ridgeville Chief Building Inspector Guy Fursdon, City Engineer Stewart Lovece, Law Director Eric Zagrans, Lorain County Health Department, U.S. Environmental protection Agency, Ohio Environmental protection Agency, State of Ohio health Department, Ohio Farmers Insurance Co., City of Avon lake, Fritzky Residential Appraisals, LLC and other defendants as they become known.

38 YEARS

Russell Realtors celebrates anniversary

Russell Realtors celebrated 38 years as the "home team" during a recent awards banquet and honored the firm's top 20 agents in 2000, based on volume. The top sellers from North Ridgeville are: Darleen Crow, Elaine Beane, Janet Beane, Judy Conrad, Arlene Doman, Dave Long and Calleen Hanko. Janet Beane was named "Rookie of the Year."

Newman "Russ" Russell, who founded Russell Realtors in 1962, was specially recognized, as were the many new agents who joined the company throughout the year.

Ron Russell, company president told the 200 realtors and guests that the volume statistics for the year were the best in company history, with an increase of 12.7 percent, over and above the 10 percent increase in 1999.

He also spoke of the accomplishments for the year 2000, including the opening of a new Amherst office, the affiliation of Ameri-Corp Title and Ameri-Corp Mortgage and the addition of an agent-owned company retirement plan. Russell Realtors has offices in Brookpark, North Ridgeville, Strongsville and Amherst.

Campus News:

■ Megan McNamara of Dorchester Avenue was named to the Dean's List for the autumn quarter at the University of Cincinnati.

■ David Downey, the son of Al and Sue Downey, has been named to the fall 2000 Dean's List at Malone College.

■ Ernie Fesco of Stoney Ridge Road had been named to the Dean's list in the College of Arts and Sciences at Shawnee State University.

■ Jessica Kearney was named to the Dean's list with Honors at Lee University. She is the daughter of Richard and Mila Kearney.

■ Daniel Kubiak has joined the College Republicans at Ashland University.

■ Jessica Hill of Fortune Ct. was named to the Dean's List at the University of Toledo.

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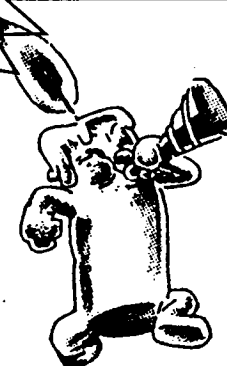
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Album from pg. 1

book home, as a sort of keepsake. "I was always going to enter it in the antiques at the Cuyahoga County Fair," she said, but the idea sort of vaporized as the years went by.

Recently Gladish again began perusing the pages, wondering anew the names of the people gazing back at her, like the young boy posing with a rifle, whose picture, according to the lettering on the back, was taken by the American Eagle Portrait Co., 790-792 Lorain St. in Cleveland. Another child was photographed by Cleveland Platinum Printing Co., 792 Lorain Rd., while the photo of a baby in a long white dress, had the name R. F. Krumhar & Co. Photographers, 548-554 Pearl St., Cleveland in gold on the reverse side.

Each portrait seemed to have been taken by a Cleveland photo company. "Elyria may not have been built up at that time," said Gladish, "which could account for the photos being taken by Cleveland firms."

Though there are no dates on the photos, historical information gathered about photography, indicate that from the 1850s through the 1890s photos were considered a substitute for drawings. The word "photography" was taken from Greek words that mean light and writing. At times the photos were retouched to make them appear more like paintings.

A few of the photos in Gladish's album are tintypes, which produced photos on a



These are just three of the many old photos that fill an album Judy Gladish discovered 25 years ago. Gladish hopes to return the photos to their rightful owner.



metallic sheet, though not tin, rather than on glass. Tintypes were introduced in the early 1850s and were immediately popular for their simpler and faster processing. They were also less expensive to produce, and they could be mailed.

One of the problems Gladish found in searching for the owner of the album is that the house was in North Ridgeville, near the spot where the cement is presently, and she grew up in North Olmsted, and was unfam-

iliar with Ridgeville families. She did recall that there was a lake behind the house, as well as a small airport.

Former Lorain Road resident, Tom Schuhmacher, remembered the airport also, as well as a man named Strauss who owned the house in the 1940s. "He rented the hangar to a company," said Schuhmacher, "and every time someone wanted some money, it caught fire."

Mrs. Richard Sullinger, who also grew up

in that area said that she had a girl friend, whose last name was Fayer, who lived in the house before the Strauss family. She also recalled that someone named Bell actually owned the house.

And the mystery of the faces in the photo album continues, with several interesting leads. If anyone can provide more information about whom the photo album might belong to, please call The Press & Light, 888-871-6784.

Real Estate Transfers

Address	Buyer	Seller	Price
8549 Antler Tr	Jason & Tracey Corbo	Ryan Homes	\$163,000
32690 Deerspring	Marilyn Schurr Trust	Bob Schmitt Homes Inc	\$240,075
6046 Emerald St	Thomas Foster	Thomas Klenotic	\$138,500
6030 Fair Acres	Rhema Homes Inc	Linda Toth	\$32,000
6088 Mills Creek Ln	Robert & Frances Mulkins	Carl Saxa	\$167,000
33928 Morning Glory	Michael & Carol Kane	Susan Sweda	\$117,000
5906 Ridgeview	Donald & Jeoungae Hackney	Todd Wright	\$126,000
5928 Ridgeview	Brian Sharp	Jennifer Williams	\$124,000
33911 Schwartz Rd	Christopher & Denise Belas	August Homes Co	\$134,100
32763 Willow Brook	Secretary of Hud	Sheriff of Lorain Cty	\$64,000
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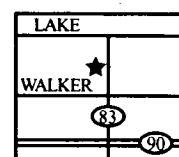
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Liberty School names honor students for second, nine-week grading period

The following students at Liberty Elementary School were named to the Honor Roll for the second, nine-week grading period:

GRADE THREE

Straight A's: Madison Armendarez, Ross Arnold, Stacy Bohr, Justin Dombroski, Cody Kucinic, Brandy Lenz, Jackie Lucas, Steven Matis, Stephanie Murphy, Collin Oliva, Justin Rumps, Cari Stefanik, Colton Ulrich.

Honor Roll: Rachel Allen, Tyler Aranda, Ricky Cayet, Kari Cook, John Flesher, Katie Gordon, Joseph Griswold, Jessica Halter, Angela Horvath, Rheanna Johnson, Joshua Kirchner, Steven Lopez, Amber Ozanich, John Philipps, Haley Proszek, Sandra Shinn, Kyle Wright.

Merit Roll: Alex Ashie, Sara Baird, Samantha Frees, Michael Geiger, Robert Gray, Jessica Hall, Kyle Harris, Pami Hess, Tabitha Hill, Lauren Hutka, Ryan Johnson, Jerry Kilby, Amanda LaFontaine, Jose Leal, Kirsten Lewis, Todd Morris, Rebecca Payne, Philip Saad, Kenedi Schultz, Sammy Tanner, Emily Varner, Ashley Waite, Mitchel Walls.

GRADE FOUR

Straight A's: Nicole Harter, Rachel Hetrick, Anna Horvath, Zak Jester, Trista Kushen, Becky Saleet, Allison Willis.

Honor Roll: Jordan Akdogan, Lauren Bacisin, Clint Bender, Kyle Brown, Katie Dalton, Michael Donelon, Kelly Duffy, Jes-

sica Francu, Nicholas Gable, L.B. Harrison, Josh Kresak, Kayla Leining, Jill Quintana, Cory Rechner, Hanna Shoemaker, Scott Toth, Alyssa Vah.

Merit Roll: Stephanie Allen, Ashley Anthony, Dana Beidler, Allyssa Bertram, Brad Cain, Rebecca Campbell, Carol Crow, Samuel Doll, Zachary Ellis, Nikhol Hales, Andrew Ireland, John Konrad, Tom Kontz, Michael Mahoney, Matt McGinty, Michael Mees, Molly Mervurio, Arsheena Mohamed, Lindsey Nagaj, Azure Patterson, Amber Smith, Valerie Urbanik, Carly Vercek, Melanie Wengler.

GRADE FIVE

Straight A's: Theresa Hutka, Jonathan Jozefkovicz, Matthew Murphy, Danielle Owen, Allison Smith, Jamie Wright.

Honor Roll: Samantha Bistline, Lindsey Bobich, Carolyn Bodjanac, Shannon DeAmicis, Justin Fletcher, Chellsie Holcomb, Jeremy Jenkins, Drew McGhee, Teague Simoncic, George Slaman.

Merit Roll: Roy Black, Amanda Blevins, Summer Bogami, Nicholas Brown, Spencer Grimes, Nicholas Grissinger, Chad Hall, Brett Hamilton, Cody Herman, Lauren Lopez, Shannon McClintic, Ariel Moore, Amber Naylor, Donnie Ott, Jevon Panagaris, Katie Reynolds, Erica Rodriguez, Lizette Rueda, Hannah Sedar, Alice Shoemaker, Markus Spielhaupter, Stephen Toth, Kristina Zauner.

Districts from pg. 1

gives the city the ability to restrict uses, but questioned whether is rezoning. Schmitt said, "It is a zoning classification. It keeps a rusty nail from being driven."

Committee Chairman Larry Overby expressed concern about telling land owners in Special Development Districts, "this is all you can do."

"I can't imagine anyone not liking this," said Schmitt.

Overby asked if anyone of the nine owners of the Bagley Road property had been contacted. "How about running this by the owners?" he suggested.

The Councilman acknowledged he likes the proposal, but reiterated his concern for the landowners.

Johnson recalled that in 1964 when there was no zoning in North Ridgeville, zoning codes began to take root and no one was asked if they wanted to be in a particular zone.

Schmitt said, "If we do this, we'll do all these people a favor." The developer recommended putting an industrial or commercial operation on the Bagley Road property and it is used for a Special Development District, he will give land for an entrance.

Gillock recommended "more revue" of the proposed special district. "I'm not com-

fortable changing the zoning without residents knowing," he said. "The Special Development District Ordinance might have to be revamped," he said.

Johnson insisted, "It will be an overlay." In some portions of the proposal, said Gillock, "It looks like we're getting the cart before the horse."

"We want to control development," said Johnson.

"Get the property owners' approval first," said Gillock.

"That's not the way to do it," said Schmitt.

Overby inserted, "I like the idea, I just want to run it by the property owners first."

Gillock asked, "Is this rezoning or overlay?" and noted that during the Planning Commission meeting Assistant Law Director Toni Morgan said that the entire area is rezoned but nothing changes. "With an overlay," he said, "nothing changes until a developer comes forward."

Overby said, "If people that own property think it's a great idea, I don't mind taking the flak."

Schmitt advised, "Get a professional planner to design it have hearings, etc. and everyone knows."

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2:00 Ray Frank Columbia Gas Community Relations Manager	Ways to Reduce your Heating Bill.
2:30 Jack Kouzma Owner, Kouzma Insulation	Spray on Cellulose Insulation means comfort, safety & energy efficiency.
3:00 Chad Grude Rep. Norandex Tim Smith Rep. Simonton Windows	"What are Energy Efficient Windows?"
3:30 Ross Britton Vice-President, Airtron	Cost-Saving Measures for your Heating and Cooling Systems.

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Shultz fifth, Powell, sixth at State

By Jerry D. Dudek

Led by seniors Matt Shultz and Greg Powell, North Ridgeville had its best finish at the State Wrestling Championships in Columbus last week, finishing 19th in a field of more than 60 Division II teams.

The record-setting performance resulted in two Ranger wrestlers placing in their respective weight classes.

Shultz finished fifth at 130 pounds, while Powell was sixth at 275 pounds. Only the top six wrestlers in each weight class are considered to have placed in the state championships.

In all a contingent of four Ranger wrestlers finished the week with an 8-9 record, evidence that the North Ridgeville wrestling program is competitive with the elite programs in the state.

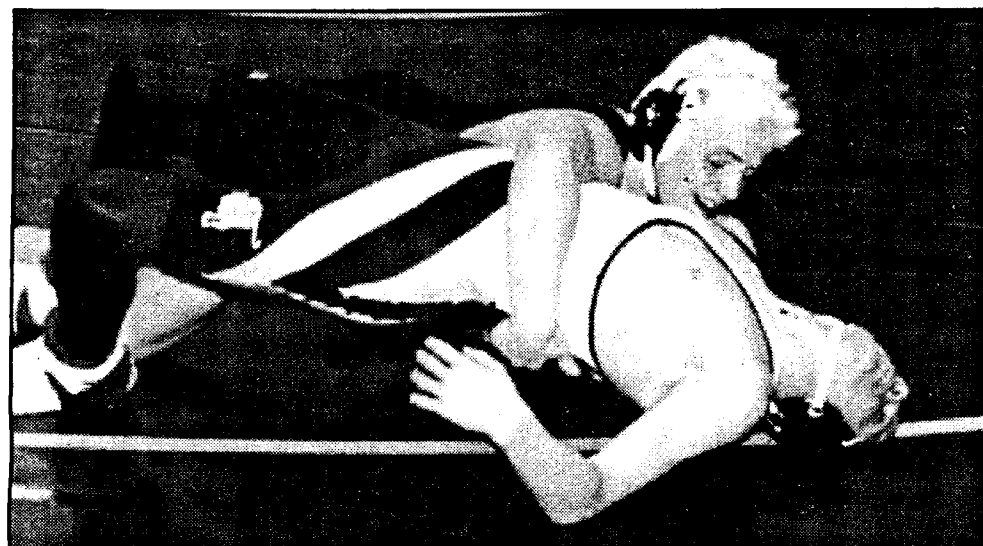
"They earned there way down there," North Ridgeville wrestling coach Ed Haller said of Shultz, Powell, Sean Minter and Matt Rabung.

Shultz went 4-1, Rabung, 2-2 at 103 pounds, Powell, 2-3 and Minter, 0-2 at 125 pounds.

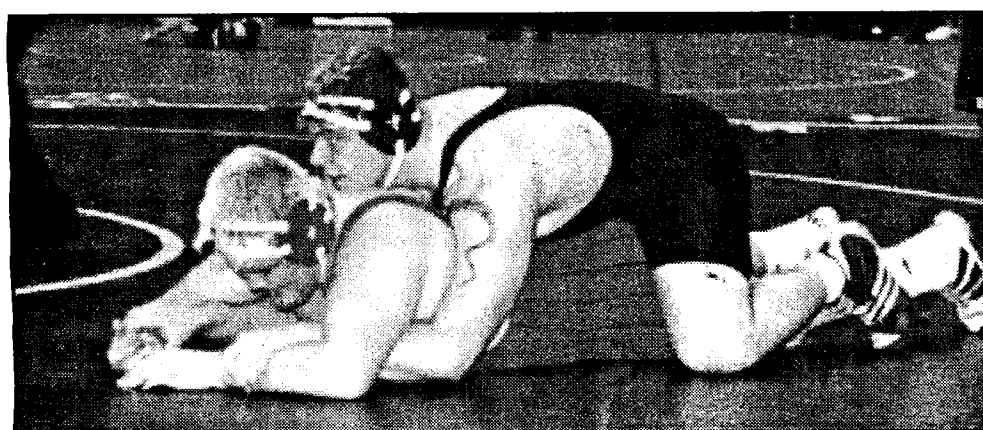
"Everybody wrestled pretty decently. We lost a lot of close decisions. They (Shultz and Powell) could have placed a little bit higher, that was the only downside of the whole week. But sometimes, it doesn't happen for you on a given weekend and it didn't happen here for us," Haller said.

Shultz entered the state championships as a district winner and looked toward a semi-final showdown with C.P. Schlatter of Columbus DeSales. The showdown never happened as Shultz lost an 8-7 decision to Chad Turchetta of Twinsburg after leading in the match. He also dropped a 5-4 decision in the semi-finals of the consolation bracket against Billy Evans of St. Paris Graham. He was leading in that match 4-3 until the final seconds.

Powell was the only North Ridgeville wrestler to win his first two matches. He was



Matt Shultz, above, scores back points in State wrestling action in Columbus. Below Ranger wrestler Greg Powell holds his opponent down. (Photos by John Gibbs)



a 2-1 overtime winner over Mike Reeder of Chagrin Falls Kenston in the opening round, then he pinned Brad Kassner of Circleville at 5:49 in the quarterfinals.

But he was a pinned by Roger Miller of Dayton Chaminade-Julienne in 23 seconds. Miller would go on to win the state title. He dropped two consolation bouts, one in overtime to finish sixth.

Rabung, a sophomore, had a solid tournament winning two and losing two match-

es. "That's quite an accomplishment for a sophomore," Haller said.

Minter had a tough draw based on his District placing (third), his coach said.

"If he would have come out of another bracket, he could have placed as well," Haller said.

See Wrestling on pg. 16

Match-by-match results of Rangers

North Ridgeville finished in 19th place at the 64th State Wrestling Championships last week in Columbus. Four state qualifiers garnered 22.5 points, winning eight matches in Division II.

Here's a match-by-match look at what all four Ranger wrestlers did in the three-day tournament.

At 103 pounds sophomore Matt Rabung lost his opening match to Jake Meinking of Cincinnati Purcell Marian, 4-3.

In the opening round of the consolation bracket, he defeated Nate Lindquist of Columbus Bexley, 5-4 and in the second round of the consolation he was a 6-5 winner over Adam Pizzuro of Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

Rabung's season came to an end with an 8-2 loss to Mike Compton of Willard.

At 125 pounds senior Sean Minter was decided 10-3 by David King of Youngstown Liberty in the opening round. King would go on to finish fifth. In the opening round of the consolation, Branden Taylor of Lewistown Indian Lake decided Minter, 6-5.

At 130 pounds senior Matt Shultz won four of six matches. Both losses were by a single point. He finished fifth in his weight class. He had entered the tournament with a 15-0 record and was a sixth-place finisher last year in the same weight class.

See Results on pg. 16

It's true, point guards do make better free throw shooters

By Jerry D. Dudek

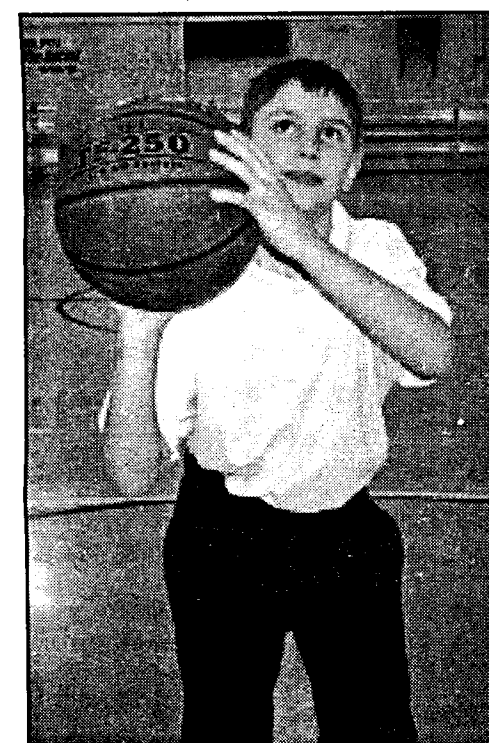
For some reason, point guards and good free throw shooting seem to go hand in hand and two young St. Peter Elementary School students are a testament to that reasoning.

Michelle Feierabend, an eighth-grader, and Kevin Sentner, a fourth-grader are advancing to the Knights of Columbus Foul Shooting Championships in the state capital on March 17. Feierabend and Sentner survived three rounds of competition—one at St. Peter's, one at St. Ignatius and one at Brecksville, to qualify for the state finals.

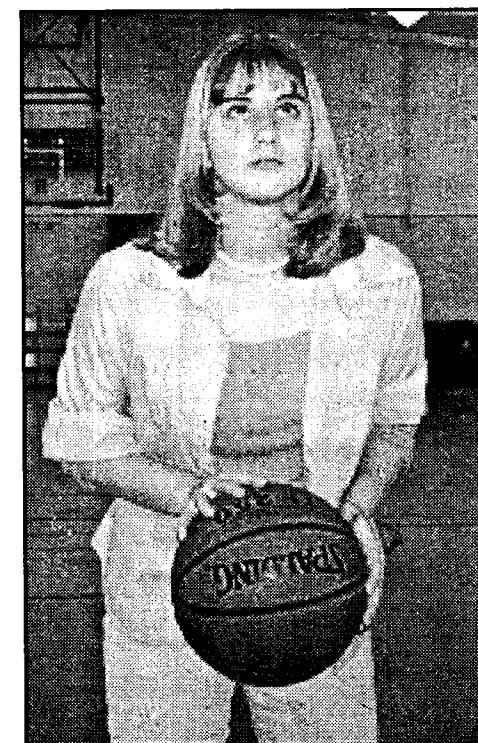
Both are point guards on their respective basketball teams.

Feierabend, the daughter of Denise Gdovin of Lagrange, was entered in the 14-year-old division. She made nine of 15 free throws at the local competition, 18 of 25 shots at the St. Ignatius District and 22 of 25 at the Brecksville Regional. She averages 11 points a game for the St. Peter's eighth grade girls' team as its point guard.

Sentner, the son of Mary and Allan Sentner of North Ridgeville, was entered in the ten-year-old division. He made 15 out of 15 free throws in the local competition, 23 of 25 at St. Ignatius and 20 of 25 at Brecksville. His total of 20 earned him a tie for the title, so he was forced into a shoot off. He made four of five foul shots the first round, tying his competitor, then made all five of his attempts in the second shootout, while his opponent only



Kevin Sentner



Michelle Feierabend

managed to make three. Of the 75 free throws he attempted in the three competitions, Sentner made 67 of them for a percentage of .893.

Sentner is the youngest of three Sentner basketball playing brothers. Neil is currently a freshman at Elyria Catholic and David is a seventh-grader at St. Peter's. He plays point guard on his City League team of ten-year-olds. St. Peter students don't compete in the Catholic Youth Organization basket-

ball league until they are fifth-graders. Feierabend, who finished fourth in the Regionals of the Elks Free Throw Shooting Contest as a seventh-grader said free throw shooting seems to come natural to her.

"I never really practice shooting free throws a lot. To get this far I guess I got a little lucky, but I do better under pressure," she said.

Making free throws is a simple matter of rhythm, repetition and routine, Feierabend

said. "Each foul shot, a dribble the ball three times, spin it in my hand, take a deep breath and shoot and hope it goes in," she said.

Sentner's basketball prowess is well documented. As a third-grader Sentner won the school-wide St. Peter Shoot for the Roof competition. The competition called for a player to make as many baskets from designated spots on the court worth a variety of points in two minutes. Sentner's point total of 96 was the run-away winner. The victory was especially sweet because both of his older brothers entered the competition.

Sentner said that he has not spent a whole lot of time practicing free throws in preparing for the K of C competition. His foul shooting secret is simple --- "bend your knees and use your legs."

He said that being the youngest of three basketball brothers has helped him because he gets a chance to compete against better players than he normally would. Sentner, who stands at 4'8", pointed out that in backyard contests with his brothers, he rarely gets to shoot free throws because his brothers never admit to committing any fouls against him. He also listens attentively to his father's coaching advice.

Ten-year-olds in the competition shoot from 12 feet, while 14-year-olds shoot from the standard 15-foot distance. Each participant is given five practice free throws before shooting 25 consecutive charity tosses.

IN SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Jitters get the better of Rangers

By Jerry D. Dudek

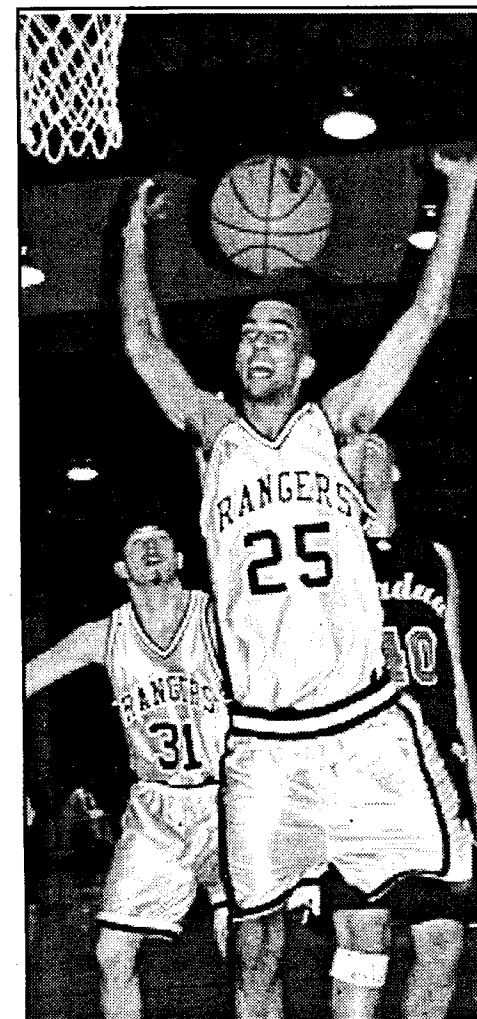
Mike Rechin had hoped his team had gotten out all of its tournament jitters following a 47-42 win over Padua in the Division I Sectional opener last week at Admiral King High School. But apparently, those jitters weren't ready to go away as they reappeared in the second half of the contest Friday night with Holy Name, and the results were predictable---Holy Name 58, North Ridgeville 44.

The Rangers finished their season at 10-12, dropping three of their last four games. Even though North Ridgeville was seeded fourth in the tournament, Rechin knew it was going to be a difficult road out.

"I thought we were jittery on Tuesday (against Padua) but I thought things were more settled in for this game. But that was an outstanding team we played out there and coming in we knew that we were in for a tough game," Rechin said. "We knew that Padua was tough, but Holy Name was tougher."

It was a great second half that propelled the Rangers to the win over Padua, but it was an equally dreadful second half that sealed their fate against the Green Wave. North Ridgeville was outscored 34-16 in the second half. Combine that with a 1-42 scoreless streak at the end of the first half and it was obvious that the Rangers were in big trouble.

North Ridgeville led by five points early in the contest after a basket by Josh Hill and a three-pointer by Derek Misorski, but the Irish, held scoreless the first two-and-a-half minutes of the contest, scored three baskets within a minute to take the lead. The first quarter and much of the first half was a sea-saw of lead changes, but the Rangers put in their best run in the second quarter, scoring seven of the first nine points, four by Hill and a three-pointer by Geoff Andrews. Late in the second quarter, in just a 30-second span, the Rangers scored three-straight baskets, thanks to Green Wave turnovers and took a 28-22 lead. With 30 seconds left in the half, Rechin called for his team to take the last shot but an ill-advised shot with ten



Senior Josh Hill tries to get his hands on the basketball during the Rangers 47-42 victory over Padua. Teammate Shawn Everiss looks for the rebound. (Photo by Mike Yatkco)

second remaining gave Holy Name's Tom Harrington the opportunity to rebound and go coast-to-coast for a lay-up at the buzzer. In hindsight, that may have been the play that rallied the Green Wave.

Harrington, who finished with 17 points (Hill led North Ridgeville, also with 17 points), hit a short-jumper to break at 32-32 tied midway through the third quarter and the Rangers would never get any closer the rest of the way. Holy Name hit its free

throws down the stretch in the fourth quarter and the Rangers missed most of their three-point opportunities.

"Holy Name managed to shut us down when they really needed to," Rechin said. "They put the clamps on our big guys. We had some size advantage that we didn't make use of. We didn't get the ball where we needed to get it and I guess that's mostly my fault."

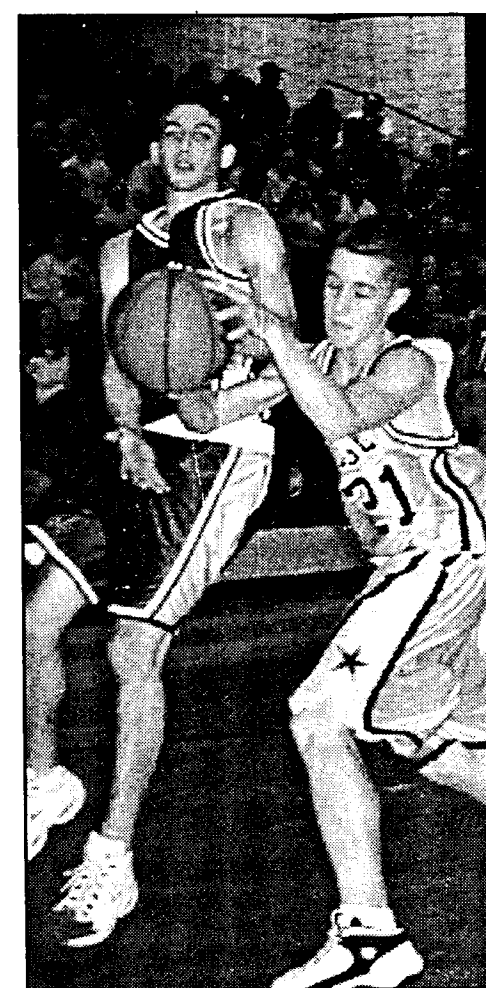
"Inside, we were trying to catch the ball and dribble and when we did that, there would be eight hands in there. I just didn't think we were aggressive enough," the coach said.

Turnovers, there were 18 of them, kept the Rangers from getting into the flow of their offense. North Ridgeville managed just three shots in the first four minutes of the second half, when the Green Wave started its run.

Although Hill scored 17 points all from the inside, it was the three-pointers that helped the Rangers get and stay in the lead, at least in the first half. Three different Rangers hit triples in the first half, Misorski, Andrews and Ryan Schroeder. But the trifecta trough seemed to dry up in the second half. Two three-point attempts went in and out for Misorski at critical times in the third and fourth quarters. North Ridgeville did manage a rare five-point play as David Winchell hit a three-pointer while Shawn Everiss was fouled boxing out for the rebound. He made both ends of a one-and-one but it only cut a 13-point lead to eight points with less than two minutes to play. Rechin, despite the loss was proud of his team's play this season.

"We have some crushed and devastated 16- and 17-year-olds," the coach said after the game, commenting on his team's competitive attitude. "We'll lose the two big guys Josh and Jeremy Hill) but a lot of young players got experience this year. Next year we will change things around and run a different type of offense, not a lot of that high-low stuff."

With the exception of the Hill brothers, everyone else is an underclassman and will be back next year for North Ridgeville.



North Ridgeville's Ryan Schroeder battles for a loose ball with a Holy Name player in the Rangers 58-44 loss to the Green Wave. (Photo by Mike Yatkco)

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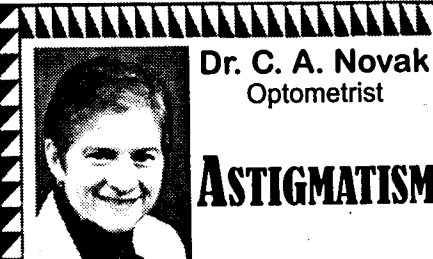
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Results from pg. 14

In the opening round he defeated Aaron Martin of Pataskala Watkins Memorial, 14-9, but in the second round he lost to Chad Turchetta of Twinsburg, 8-7.

In the consolation bracket, he was an 18-3 winner over Kenny Wilson of Carrollton, then he defeated Corey Hayden of Copley, 14-2 in a major decision.

In the consolation semifinals, he lost to Billy Evans of St. Paris Graham, but in the fifth place finals he defeated Zach Hensley of Lemon-Monroe, 15-5.

Turchetta finished third and Evans finished fourth.

Senior Greg Powell, in the 275-pound weight class, won two of five matches. Two of the matches went into overtime.

Powell was the only Ranger wrestler to win his first two matches and reach the championship semifinals, but it was tough luck from then on. Powell was a 2-1 overtime winner over Mike Reeder of Chagrin Falls Kenston in the opening round, then he pinned Brad Kassner of Circleville at 5:49 in the quarterfinals.

But he was a pinned by Roger Miller of Dayton Chamade-Julienne in 23 seconds. Miller would go on to win the state title.

In the consolation semifinals, Powell lost to Terry Cottrell of Uhrichville Claymont and in the fifth place championships, he lost to Kipp Cullin of Medina Buckeye, 6-5. He would finish in sixth place.

Rabung finished the season at 35-8; Minter was 34-6, Shultz 18-2 and Powell led the team in wins with 36 with just five losses. The four wrestlers comprised the largest contingent of wrestlers from North Ridgeville to compete at the State championships and the first time that two Ranger wrestlers placed in the tournament.



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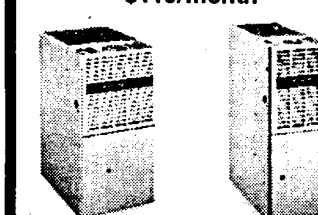
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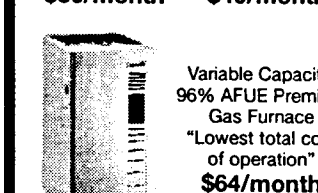
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Anders is the North Ridgeville swimming team

By Jerry D. Dudek

There is no "I" in the word "team," coaches like to say, but in the North Ridgeville swim team, there certainly is an M and an E and that "ME" is sophomore Sara Anders.

Without question, Anders IS the team, the only girl or boy that swims or dives for North Ridgeville.

The daughter of George and Debbie Anders recently completed her second season as the Rangers swim team, competing in just three meets. Because North Ridgeville doesn't have a full team, Anders only competes in invitational meets, the conference championship and the post season tournament.

North Ridgeville has had partial swimming teams before, but for two years now, Anders has been a one-man team, and that is something that has never happened before.

Officially, Anders mother is her high school coach, but at the Elyria YMCA she is under the tutelage of Elyria High School coach Colleen Everhart. Anders swims at the Elyria Y, as does the Elyria High School team, but Colleen does not practice with them.

The North Ridgeville school administration is supportive of the swimming program. Debbie said that athletic director Ed Klahn approached her to be the parent-coach for the swim team and assisted her throughout the season.

Ohio High School Athletic Association rules allow swimmers to compete in two individual events and two relays at any given meet. Anders, this year, swam the 50-meter freestyle and the 100-meter backstroke. Last year, as a freshman, she swam the 50 and 100-meter freestyle.

"Every meet was an improvement," her mother said. "He had great improvements on her personal

times, but they weren't good enough to get her to the District."

In the Division I Sectional at Lakewood High School, Anders was 18th out of 39 swimmers in the 50-meter freestyle in a personal best time of 28.89 seconds. In the 100-meter backstroke, she was 12th out of 33 swimmers in a personal best of 1:13.16. Only the top three advance to the District in each event. Since that time, swimming in YMCA competitions, she has cut .39 seconds off her freestyle time and more than three seconds off her backstroke time.

Anders said she has two goals for next year, an individual goal and a team goal.

"I would like to make it to Districts and then to State," she said of her individual goal. She also wants to recruit at least three more swimmers so that she can swim in relays.

"It's kind of frustrating being the only person on the team. Other students come up to me and say they would join the team if they knew about it, but I think it is just an excuse. It would be a lot easier with more girls on the team. It's hard going to a meet where the only people you know are your mom and your coach," Anders said.

The sophomore has tried to recruit classmates and it appeared as if a second swimmer was going to compete this year, but for the second year in a row, Anders was the lone swimmer on the team.

Her mother said that part of the problem of recruiting is that practices sessions last from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Elyria Y, which is a difficult time for parents if they work, to get their children to practice.

Things may be looking up for next year, however. A couple of North Ridgeville eighth-graders who swim at the Elyria Y with Anders have

expressed an interest in swimming on the team next year.

Even if there was an overwhelming turnout for the team next year, it will be years before North Ridgeville has a viable swimming team, Debbie Anders said.

"It would be great to have a couple of more kids on the team, but it is going to be a long while before this school has a team of any magnitude. Most programs have 60 and 70 kids swimming," she said.

A new recreation center, (which is being discussed in North Ridgeville), if it has a swimming pool, would certainly help the swimming program out at the high school, Debbie said.

"If the recreation center includes a swimming pool, they've got my vote," she said.

Swimming, it seems, is Anders life. The 15-year-old swims or conditions year-round as part of the high school, YMCA and French Creek teams. She has been swimming since she was eight years old.

"I just love being in the water and swimming," she said.

In her spare time she babysits (it's about the only job that can fit in to her busy swimming schedule. She is also a land lover, sort of. She was a member of the North Ridgeville Lady Ranger tennis team.

Anders' individual goals are lofty ones. She would have to cut another three seconds off her 50-meter freestyle time to be in the running for a District and State birth and another eight seconds off her backstroke time, but Anders says that hard work, experience and maturity will help her next year.

"If I work hard, it's something I probably can do. The older you get, the stronger you get and the more experienced you get," she said.

Now, all she hopes for is a teammate with whom she can share that expected success.

Despite bad weather, spring sports practices get underway in North Ridgeville

You couldn't tell it by the weather but practice for high school spring sports officially began on Monday.

Scores of athletes at North Ridgeville and Lake Ridge Academy will be participating in baseball, softball, tennis, track and lacrosse.

March 5 was the first day that spring sports teams could practice outside but not many did. Temperatures in the 20s, howling winds and snow resulted in the cancellation of most practices, or moved them inside.

Participants in spring sports, like all high school seasons, have just three weeks of practice before the season gets underway but unlike fall and winter sports, the weather has a big impact on how much work the teams get in. Practice is held during the summer for autumn sports and winter sports are all played inside.

Baseball and softball are the sports which are affected the most in the spring because of inclement weather.

North Ridgeville will field teams in baseball, softball and boys and girls track this spring, while Lake Ridge will have teams in tennis, baseball, lacrosse and track.

Tom Kubinski will coach the Ranger varsity baseball team; Norm Frindt will coach the varsity softball team;

Lucky Varouh will coach the varsity boys track team and Dan Rademaker will coach the girls track team.

Kubinski's assistants include Ron Carr, Kevin Long and Bill Russell; Frindt will be assisted by Loren Lange, Erica Gillock and Amy Bright; Varouh will be assisted by Brian Gardner and Joe Sloboda; and Rademaker will be assisted by Pam Nolan and Sloboda.

Baseball and softball get underway on March 28 when the Rangers and Lady Rangers travel to Southview. The girls and boys track teams open their season up at home on March 28, facing Olmsted Falls and Elyria Catholic.

Wrestling from pg. 14

Rabung's experience at the State Championships will impact next year's team.

"It's always good to have a wrestler coming back with that kind of experience. Actually, we took our district qualifiers down to Columbus so that they could see what it was like.

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THURSDAY

OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS, 9 a.m. Women's Breakfast. 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Pinochle Club.

ADULT CPR with FIRST AID BASICS, 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The American Red Cross, Lorain County Chapter, 2929 West River Rd. North, Elyria. 324-2929.

N.R. PARKS & REC. DEPT., 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Ongoing Body Sculpting class at the Sr. Center Multi-Purpose Room. \$40/month. 353-0860/info.

HARVEST LIFE BEREAVEMENT CENTER, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. "Harvest Hope" support group for anyone who has experienced the death of someone close. 5255 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria. 934-1482/info.

ZONING BOARD MEETING, 7 p.m. Council Chambers. RECOVERY, INC., 7:30 p.m. Self-help for people dealing with fears, phobias, panics and depression. Meets weekly at Lorain County Community College, 1005 N. Abbe Rd., Room CC114 (faculty lounge), Elyria. Call Bob MacIntyre, 440-236-8841/info.

ALANON, 8-9 p.m. at New Life Community Church, 34100 Center Ridge Rd., N.R. 277-6969/info.

NRASL, 8 p.m. Sr. Center.

FRIDAY

ST. JOHN WEST SHORE HOSPITAL, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Low cost immunizations at Community Outreach Dept., Bldg. #2, Westlake. Sponsored by CSA/St. John Ministries. N.R. PARKS & REC. DEPT., 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults at the Sr. Center Multi-Purpose Room. \$7/class. 353-0860/info.

ROTARY CLUB, noon at the Office For Older Adults. LORAIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC., 7:30 p.m. Agricultural Center, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria.

SATURDAY

N.R. PARKS & REC. DEPT., 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults. \$7/class. 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Ongoing Karate class for children and adults. \$20/4 lessons. Both classes held in the Sr. Center Multi-Purpose Room. 353-0860/info.

ADULT CPR and ADULT CPR WITH FIRST AID BASICS, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The American Red Cross, Lorain County Chapter, 2929 West River Rd. North, Elyria. 324-2929.

SUNDAY

VFW #9871 LADIES AUX., 9 a.m.-noon. Country Breakfast Buffet. Cost: adults/\$4.50, seniors/4, children under 10/\$2.50

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OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Craft Club, Quilting, Computer Classes. Soup for 35 cents. 353-0828/info.

ST. JOHN WEST SHORE HOSPITAL, 12:30 p.m.-2 p.m. Free blood pressure screenings. 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Free hearing screenings. Both held at Community Outreach Center, Bldg. #2, Westlake. Sponsored by CSA/St. John Ministries.

WOMEN'S OPEN GYM VOLLEYBALL, 6:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. Wilcox Elementary School \$2 per night.

HARVEST LIFE BEREAVEMENT CENTER, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. "Mourning Hearts" support group for parents who have lost a child to death. 6:30 p.m. "Harvest Hope" support group for people who have experienced the death of someone close. 5255 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria 934-1482/info.

BASEBALL-SOFTBALL BOOSTERS, 7 p.m. Park & Rec. Office.

VFW #9871 MEN'S COUNTY COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m. at the post.

TUESDAY

OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS, 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Watercolor Classes.

N.R. PARKS & REC. DEPT., 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults. \$7/class. 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Ongoing Body Sculpting class. \$40/month. Both classes held at the Sr. Center Multi-Purpose Room. 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults at

the Middle School. 353-0860/info.

ADULT CPR and COMMUNITY CPR, 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The American Red Cross, Lorain County Chapter, 2929 West River Rd. North, Elyria. 324-2929.

TOPS CLUB #656, 7 p.m. Fields UM Church, Lorain Rd. PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m. Council Chambers.

PRE-SCHOOL PTA, 7:30 p.m. Middle School Cafeteria.

VFW #9871 MEN'S COUNTY COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m. at the post.

GARDEN CLUB, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Quilting, Cards, Bingo. Lunch \$3.25 by reservation. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Watercolor class. 353-0828/info.

WESTLAKE TOASTMASTERS #497, 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Webster's Place.

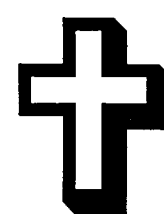
ADULT CPR RECERTIFICATION, 5:30 p.m. The American Red Cross, Lorain County Chapter, 2929 West River Rd. North, Elyria. 324-2929.

WEIGHT WATCHERS, 6p.m.-7 p.m. First Congregational Church, 36363 Center Ridge Rd. 1-800-487-4777/info.

BAND BOOSTERS, 7 p.m. Middle School Band Room. BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE, 7:30 p.m. Park & Rec. Office.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m. Old Town Hall.

VFW #9871 MEN'S MEETING, 8 p.m. at the post.



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Calvary Church of the Nazarene, 34861 Center Ridge Rd. David Woods, Pastor. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service 10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. 327-1687.

Cathedral of Life, 5375 Jaycox Road. Rev. John Helms, Pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.; Service 6 p.m.; Wed. Eve. Service 7 p.m.

Church of Christ, 36350 Chestnut Ridge Rd. Jason Hardin, Evangelist. Bible Study 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Springs of Life Church, 31850 Bagley Rd. N. Ridgeville. Family worship and children's church. Sun. 10:30 a.m.; Sun. eve 6 p.m.; Wed. eve 7 p.m. Springs of Life Bible College and Seminary Tue. and Fri. at 7 p.m., Sat. at 9 a.m.

Church of God, 6000 Lear Nagle Rd. Rev. Larry Sheffield, Pastor. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.

Faith Baptist Temple, Rt. 10 & Root Road. Sunday School for Children & Bible Study for Adults 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.

Fields United Methodist Church, 34077 Lorain Rd. C. Michael Gibson, Pastor. Sunday Our worship services are at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with church school for children ages 3 through 12 grade beginning at 10:00 a.m. Crib and toddler room available.

Harvest Ridge Assembly of God, 35600 Lorain Road. (440) 327-0024, Fax: (440) 327-7808. Sunday School - 9:30 am. Morning Mass 9:30 am. Sunday Evening Worship - 6:30 pm. Wednesday at 7 pm - Prayer Service, Reality Youth Ministry, Missionettes & Royal Rangers.

Hosanna Christian Fellowship, 34425 Lorain Rd., Suite 2. (Located just west of Root Rd.) N. Ridgeville. Jim Neece, Pastor. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Home Groups Thurs. 7:00 PM. (Call for locations.) Timothy House, Ages 5-11, Wed. 6 to 7 pm. Teen M.A.D. House (Teens Making A Difference) Ages 12-18, Wed. 7:30 - 9:00 pm. The evenings include free arcade, pool, air hockey and radical truth, God's Word. Youth Ministries meet at 6:00 Avon Belden Rd. (N.W. corner of Rt. 33 & Center Ridge Rd.) Call 440-327-7725.

New Heart Community Church, 34899 Lorain Rd. (at Butterum Plaza) 327-7449. Service: 10:00 am Sun. Nursery/Children's Church. Bible Study: 7:00 pm Sun. Evs., Counsel, Marriage, Divorce, Relationships/Communication.

Christian Soldiers Apostolic Church, 5298 Lear Nagle Rd. Rev. Patty Kiser. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.

Northridge Christian Life Church, 35535 Center Ridge Rd. Pastor William Falk. Sunday Services 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday School & Nursery School provided. 353-0758.

Sugar Ridge Baptist Church, 36800 Sugar Ridge Rd. Rev. Bill Shomo, Pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Sunday & Wednesday Evening Services 6 p.m.

New Life Community Church, 34100 Center Ridge Rd. No. Ridgeville. Liberty Center. Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Sept.-May 9:00 a.m. Christian Education.

New Life Pentecostal Church of God, 6000 Lear Nagle, North Ridgeville (440) 353-3593. Rev. Scott Nicol. Sunday Service 2:30 pm; Thursday evening 7:30 pm.

North Ridgeville Baptist Church, 5400 Lear Nagle Rd. Rev. Gerald Flury, Pastor. Sunday Services: Sunday - Worship Services 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Children's Church 11:00 a.m.; Evening Service 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

North Ridgeville First Congregational and United Church of Christ, 1000 a.m.; Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Pastor - Rev. Phil Kunz.

St. Julie Billart Catholic Church, 44039. Phone: 327-1978. (Located between Center Ridge and Mills Road) on the north side of Lear North Elementary School) Saturday Mass 5 p.m.; Sunday Worship Schedule: Masses: Morning 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Saturday Confession 3-4 p.m. in Chapel or by appointment. Father Richard Gonser, pastor.

St. Peter Catholic Church, 35877 Center Ridge Rd. Saturday Mass 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass 6, 8, 9:30, 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Reconciliation Saturdays 4-5:55.

Shepherd of the Ridge Lutheran Church, 34555 Center Ridge Rd. Rev. Paul Oberhaus, Pastor. Sunday Worship Services 10:15 a.m.; Family Education 9 a.m. Midweek Worship Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

New Heart Community Church, 34899 Lorain Rd. (at Butterum Plaza) 327-7449. Service: 10:00 am Sun. Nursery/Children's Church. Bible Study: 7:00 pm Sun. Evs., Counsel, Marriage, Divorce, Relationships/Communication.

Christian Soldiers Apostolic Church, 5298 Lear Nagle Rd. Rev. Patty Kiser. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.

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AVON LAKE RANCH
Excellent location near I-90, shopping, and medical facilities. Quality built 3BR/2.5 bath, large LR w/ gas log FP, oak cabinets in kitchen and laundry room w/ plenty of storage, one-car attached garage, central air and gas heat. \$147,500.
Call 1-888-375-0956

AVON LAKE: 2BR/2RM Ranch, corner lot, large eat-in kitchen, AC, gas heat, full basement, close to schools. 104 Vanda. \$124,000. Open House Sunday 2:00pm-4:00pm. 440-933-5261 or 440-933-2769

AVON LAKE: 202 Brookfield Rd., 4BR/2.5 bath, heated 2' car garage, fenced yard w/patio, finished basement, CA, vaulted ceilings in FR, gas log FP, all appliances. Walking distances from pool, park & schools. Must Sell! 440-933-8227

AVON LAKE: Landings 2BR/2RM Townhome, FP, CA, attached garage, \$104,900. Call 440-933-4281

ELYRIA: Must See! Cherry Ridge, Lease option available. Lovely 2BR/2RM condominium, FP, New Carpet, extras, garage, \$88,300. 440-933-5005

HENRIETTA TWP: 4BR/2.5 bath, outbuildings, 18+ acres. 440-965-7925 or 440-365-5650

NORTH RIDGEVILLE: OPEN HOUSE
7388 West Point Dr. 03/11, 2:00pm-4:00pm. 3BR/2.5 bath, detached garage, 75x255 fenced lot, \$107,900. Must See! 440-327-6049

STUNNING GEORGIAN HOME
Avon lake, 31657 Tradewinds Dr., By appointment only. Prestigious Westwinds, pool and tennis community. Features 2 story foyer and family room, library with custom built ends, dual stair case 3800sq ft. Too many amenities to list. \$450,000
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VERMILION: 1251 Sanford St., 4BR/2.5 bath, \$115,000.
By Owner. 440-967-4811

WESTLAKE: Open Sunday, 12:00pm-3:00pm. 2843 First Street, 2/3BR/2.5 bath Bungalow. C/A, fenced yard, new furnace and roof, dead end street. \$134,900.
440-892-6847

45 For Rent

AVON
3BR/2RM Ranch. Large LR/rec room, 2-car attached garage. Large lot. Near schools. \$95/month + deposit.
Dave 440-934-5268

AVON LAKE: 3.5 room newly renovated apartment. \$400/month + deposit. Unfurnished. Appliances and utilities included. Cable and phone lines accessible. Parking space and close to bus stop. Call Carole 440-933-7745

AVON: New 2BR/2RM duplex with appliances, garage, 1.5BTH, C/A, separate utilities. No pets. \$750/mo plus security. 440-934-6434

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Experience Needed
Busy office needs a conscientious, detail-oriented candidate with the ability to handle multiple tasks. QuickBooks and Microsoft Office experience a plus. Send resume with salary requirements to:
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Full-Time
Busy office needs a multi-tasked, customer service oriented person. candidate must possess excellent phone demeanor and Microsoft word experience. Knowledge of dictaphone a plus. Competitive benefits package. Please send resume and salary requirements to:
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\$13.35 base-appt.
Scholarships/co-ops available. Conditions apply. Must call now! Call Mon-Fri 10:00am-5:00pm
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In need of an OFFICE CLERK
Room for advancement.
Free computer training.
Skill Level: \$500/wk.
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AREA OFFICE SERVICES

CHURCH HOUSEKEEPER

Rocky River Presbyterian Church is seeking a Housekeeper. This is a part time position, working with a full-time Custodian, and requires approximately 20 hours each week. We are looking for a reliable worker to do general light duty cleaning. We expect starting compensation to be \$7.50 per hour, but compensation requirements of the applicant will be considered. Please forward your resume to:
Rocky River Presbyterian Church
21750 Detroit Road
Rocky River OH 44116
Attention:
Human Resources Committee

DRIVERS

Ground Transportation Company is seeking independent contractors with all size vehicles. Local and long distance. Great pay.

Please call:
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* \$10.00/hour to start
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Reliable transportation required. Promotions into management. Cleveland West Suburbs.
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FOSTER CARE

The Lorain County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities is seeking individuals interested in providing foster homes for adults with disabilities.

For more information, please call 440-329-3734

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Challenging environment. Skill Level: \$520/wk. Free health insurance for kids and teens. Unemployment with car.
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LAWN MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Chip's Greenworld Landscaping
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Must Have Valid Driver's License
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440-934-0225 or
440-871-9448.

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Immediate opening:
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Medical office experience required; computer skills desirable.
Send resume with salary requirements:
P.O. Box 303
Avon Lake, OH 44012

RECEPTIONIST

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Monday - Friday
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Will Train
Mail resume to:
30638 Center Ridge Road
Westlake OH 44116
Or fax resume to:
440-892-4101

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