

Lady Royals defeat rival Open Door

See Sports, page 10



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NORTH RIDGEVILLE

December 15, 2004 • VOL. 64, NO. 48 Your Hometown Newspaper







Getting ready to celebrate the holidays

Senior models at a recent holiday fashion show are lovely to look at in their festive outfits. From left, Ann Cooper wears a sparkling royal blue sweater over her black pants. Martha Flanagan goes red and black in her outfit. Connie Brent is ready for an evening out in the always-popular black gown.

Ask and you shall receive; perhaps more than you ever intended

By Carol Klear

There's an old saying, "Be careful what you wish for." City officials hoped residents would respond to the survey that went out with this month's water bill...and did they ever.

"The response is really good," Mayor Dave Gillock said. "We sent out 10,000 and approximately 5,000 (questionnaires) came back. I've been told 10 percent is a good response. We've got a stack about 2 feet tall."

Gillock called some of the responses "interesting," but also noted how difficult it is to communicate with the public at times because many people don't understand that the city and school district are separate entities.

Some of the comments returned reflected a misunderstanding of which is responsible for what, but regardless, Gillock is impressed with the number of surveys

The survey prepared by the Community Development Advisory Committee focused on some issues of concern including a new rec center, industrial and commercial growth, road maintenance and housing. Those topics required residents to rank them by importance, but the bottom half of the assessment gave residents a chance to

SEE **SURVEY**, page 9

Grafton inmates help themselves as they try to help others make good choices

By Carol Klear

Pacing back and forth on the stage, microphones in hand, the two men exuded all the confidence of CEOs of large corporations, as they talked about themselves and the lives they lead.

But instead of the traditional dark suits, colored shirts and the complementary ties of today's businessmen, 34year-old Nick Nageotte and Glen Ewing, 27, wore khaki pants and shirts—the uniforms of inmates of the Grafton Correctional Institution where they are presently incar-

Nageotte and Ewing were speaking to students at

North Ridgeville High School as part of the "Dope is for Dopes" Youth Outreach Program, that allows minimum security inmates to give presentations to children about their choices and how drugs and alcohol affected their lives.

"We're not trying to scare you," Nageotte said. "We don't want you to wind up where we are."

Glen Ewing

Ewing, who has served seven of his 11-year sentence for dealing drugs, said he came from a home where both parents had good jobs.

"I had a good family," he said. "I went to school, got good grades and played sports, football and baseball. I took Karate.

"When I got to junior high school, my father started doing drugs and alcohol," he said. "Things changed."

Ewing said when he got home from school he'd find his father home drunk and arguing with his mother.

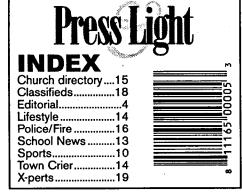
"He was also high on cocaine," he said.

The teenager, his brother and sister witnessed the arguments, "but mother wasn't into arguing," he said, especially when his father was high.

The verbal fighting was hard enough for the family, but

SEE INMATES, page 9







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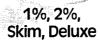


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Ace Hardware holds grand opening at new N.R. store

Last Thursday dawned dark and dank, but people began lining up well before the new Ace Hardware opened, anxious to get into the brightly lit retail center and take advantage of its specials.

Owner, Greg Gathy, put some finishing touches on some of the merchandise before the doors opened. But as customers continue to queue up, store employees rewarded their patience with a long table set with steaming hot coffee and dozens of donuts.

Finally a saw horse was set up just outside the entrance and as Gathy and some of the employees held a piece of wood, Mayor Dave Gillock welcomed the store to the community and with a new twist on the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony, sawed through the wood.

Ace Hardware was officially open.

has been serving customers for several weeks, the official three-day Grand Opening was held Dec. 9-11, with freebees for the first customers who made purchases on each of the three days.

On Thursday, the first 100 customers received a free extension cord with their purchases, on Friday the first 200 people received free light bulbs and on Saturday the initial 100 got a free 32-gallon trash can, plus 20 percent off all items that fit in the trash can.

In the same shopping strip, adjacent to Ace Hardware, another new store, Dollar General Store, opened Nov. 20 and has been serving a steady stream of customers ever since. The store offers low prices and value to its customers with national brands, as well as private brands of food, housewares, seasonal items, cleaning supplies and more, many priced at \$1 or less and some a little higher.



mark the official opening of Ace Hardward. P&L photo by

Call Community Care to 'adopt' a child for Christmas

By Carol Klear

As the saying goes, "Christmas is for children," but this Christmas many North Ridgeville children may not find a single thing under the tree, June Yost director of Community Care said.

"We have so many more children to provide for this year," she said.

There are many reasons that this is possibly the worst year for families wanting gifts for their chil-

"More people are needing help," she said. "There are the unemployed, the ill and the underem-Whatever the reason, Community Care needs

assistance and Yost is pleading with residents to adopt a child this Christmas. "We have at least 40 boys and girls from infants to teenagers that we need help with," she said.

The youngsters' wish lists are simple, Yost said, noting that the only things two little girls asked for were backpacks and pajamas.

This year Community Care's food supply is in

good shape, she said.

One reason is that many stores offer "buy one, take one," and customers often give the extra one to Community Care. Several schools also held food drives including St. Peter, Lake Ridge Academy and the middle school. Yost called the middle school's food contributions "remarkable."

"In November we fed over 1,022 people," she said. And donations from the coupons in the Press & Light generated approximately \$2,000. But still the

need for gifts for children remains, she said.

If there is anyone in the community who feels they could "adopt" a child for Christmas, call Community Care, 353-9716 and a volunteer will provide you with the child's "wish list." But hurry, the distribution of Christmas gifts will be Dec. 21.

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Ed Kelly

JUST NEVER KNOW.....We went to Toledo on Sunday to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Toledo Ursuline nuns. Mr. K's aunt is an Ursuline, so along with other relatives we shared the day with her. It was very nice, but heading home on the turnpike, we got a case of the grumbellies and stopped at a plaza. Well, lo and behold a couple of other Ridgevillians, Dean and Mary Winslow were headed home from a family visit in Michigan and stopped at the very same plaza at the very same time. How often would that happen?

HEADING WEST On our way west to the event, I did a double-take as I spotted a herd of buffalo just sort

Press & Light

KLEARLY SPEAKING

of laying around in the pasture off the highway. I began to wonder if we hadn't traveled just a tad too far west. I mean...BUFFALO???

MISSED IT From what I hear retired firefighter, Bob Gilder, gave a great talk on greenhouses to members of the Historical Society last week. I just can't quite manage to be every place every time, but I give it a good

YOU MISSED IT If you didn't

BUT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE

TO TRANSPORT MUCH

SMALLER CHILDREN.

IT'S VERY, VERY ECONOMICAL.

Theatre's Christmas production, you really missed a fun evening. Sharon Godsey did a great job directing the kids and they all seemed like naturals. One of the funniest scenes was the chorus' rendition of "Twelve Days of Christmas," and the girl that sang, "Five go-o-olden rings." She was so funny and the longer the song went

on, the funnier she got.

COUPLE OF THINGS.....I loved the show, but could somebody from the city replace the light bulb at the front entrance. Somebody's going to fall on those steps and if I remember correctly, it is a city building. Oh yes, I don't know whose responsibility this is, but

...AND DRIVER

get to the Olde Towne Hall Youth some bulbs in the theatre's chandeliers also need replacing and the fixtures themselves need cleaning...badly. Who's up for that one??? It's a lovely theatre, but...

IT'S WINTER, OH YEAH.....Wasn't that some nasty stuff Monday morning. It didn't look bad, but the streets were like glass. In fact as I tried to navigate up the hill on Root Road toward Center Ridge, I watched a group of school kids slip-sliding across the street. One boy was attempting to ride his bike to school and PLOP! fell down. He literally crawled the rest of the way, while one of the other kids dragged his bike onto the sidewalk for him.

PRESSLINE

Deanna Hill: I was coming to work this morning (Dec. 13) and instead of having clear roads getting to Elyria and then having it ice, it was just the opposite. It took me 45 minutes and everybody going less than 20 m.p.h. on a clear sheet of ice all the way from the my house to Elyria and 57. There is no excuse for that. It's not like other cities didn't know because I work with people from around the county and no one had the problem this bad-a complete sheet of ice. I left a message for Dave Gillock there is no way anybody should be out on that.

Response from Mayor Dave Gillock: The problem was timing. It hit late. The police called the bridge crew out at 5 a.m. and it got worse by 6:30 a.m., but we waited until 7 a.m. to call out the trucks because if we had called them at 6:30 it would have cost three hours overtime and the rush hour traffic had already begun. By the time it got bad and the

SEE PRESSLINE, next page

having a bad day and perhaps when

you take a moment to smile at him or

ȟer, you may have brightened their

may be difficult to take a moment and

think about the cashier at the grocery

store, the clerk at a department store

or the waiter or waitress in a restau-

rant. Remember they are people too

and they deserve the same respect

they give you. While you are out buy-

ing groceries to feed your family, buy-

ing gifts for your loved ones or spend-

ing time chatting with an old friend at

That being said, this is my last col-

umn until 2005 as there is no paper

being published Dec. 29. I would like

to wish everyone a safe and happy

and comments coming my way via e-

mail at melissalinebrink@hotmail.com.

Don't forget keep those story ideas

Often during the holiday season, it

Wishing doesn't make it so, but it could be a great start

Has anyone ever asked you, "If there was one thing you could change about yourself, what would it be?"

How many people have responded with, "I wish I was thinner," "I wish I had a better smile" or "I wish I had more self-confidence.

Whenever I have pondered that question, I always reply with the same answer-I wish I could sing.

I remember in junior high I tried out for "The Wizard of Oz" by singing Bette Midler's, "Wind Beneath My Wings." That is the worst song I could piece, but back then, the song was mine. I knew by heart.

I often have wondered what my choir teacher thought when he heard the first line, "It must have been cold there in my shadow" coming out of my mouth. Did he want to reach for earplugs? Was he thinking, "This poor

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Reporter's Notebook

By Melissa Linebrink

Of course, I will never know what he really thought. All I needed to hear was "Thank you" in his monotohave chosen to use as my audition ne voice to know the part was not

> lowing in self-pity, I decided I really didn't have time to be in a play any-

As the years went by, I found other ways to be on stage-through dance. One talent I do have is the ability to keep a beat. I enrolled in jazz class during my sophomore year of high

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Melissa Linebrink Cartoonist: Ed Kelly

school and continued on through my freshman year at Bowling Green State University.

And, to this day, you can still find me dancing away in our spare room. I now have a dance partner though. Yes, my toddler enjoys bouncing around with me as I dance to anything from the soundtrack of "Swing Kids" to Celine Dion. (I also throw in a few "Wiggle" songs or other silly songs.) I do believe Ethan has inherited the

"dancing gene" as I call it. Another talent I feel I have is the ability to make someone smile.

When I was 16 years old, my first a local diner, remember the people job was at McDonald's. I will never who are working that day. forget the girl who trained me told me to smile often.

"Smile," she said. "For it might be the only smile that person receives that day.

I have kept that advice close to my heart.

You never know when someone is

holiday season!

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

> Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

As we look forward to the holidays, the city welcomes good news

This is a wonderful time of the year to communicate good news about North Ridgeville.

We received two grant approvals: \$150,487 from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency); the other is the Lorain County Solid Waste Management 2005 Recycling Grant worth \$106,500.

In retail, we have added Dollar General, Ace Hardware, Conrad's Tire, Ten Point O Gymnastics, and two restaurants, Quiznos and Bullfrogs.

In the commercial arena, Hampson Corporation has chosen North Ridgeville as its home. Invacare has moved 205 engineering jobs to our town. In addition, we have several major commercial projects currently underway with JBC Technologies that will bring 100 new iobs within three years, Walgreen's with over 20 new jobs, and Pioneer Ridge, the first Del Webb 55 and older community



Dr. Ron Arndt

to be built in Ohio.

Council Corner

Council President

We are anticipating more than 300 new jobs in North Ridgeville in the near

In the service arena, sewer projects are nearing completion going west on Center Ridge Road and we have completed about 40 percent of the easement agreements for the east to SR 83. The railroad overpass project is also back on track to begin in April of 2005 with a completion date in September of 2006. Soon we will begin the project to take the "zig" and "zag" out of Lear Nagle Road and make it a gentle "S" curve past the dental office to connect the north and south sections.

The new portion of Bender Road from Sugar Ridge and the extension of Taylor Woods going east are now open. This new road will give safety forces a direct route to Taylor Woods. The project will allow the Beckett companies to pursue their master plan of a technology park which, in the future, could bring up to 1,000 new manufacturing jobs to North Ridgeville

This holiday is a great time to acknowledge those who make Ridgeville a wonderful place to live. While we have been challenged by financial strains our city employees have continued to do the best they can with what they have. In spite of deep department cuts they continue to positively serve residents. Employee moral has been bolstered by simple, kind acts of our safety-service director and mayor who took time to talk personally with each and every employee, helping to maintain positive attitudes and look for solutions to challenges during our difficult economic times.

When you see one of our city employees, why not wish them a Happy Holiday and give them a warm "thank you."

Finally, 2004 has seen a new flavor, a new lightness and a new attitude of cooperation among councilpersons and with the administration. Because we all want the same positive outcome for our city, this mindset for North Ridgeville is reaping exciting rewards. I believe 2004 has been a remarkable year. With your help, 2005 has the potential to bring us even greater riches, contentment, and joy as we all work together to make North Ridgeville the city of choice to operate a business, to raise families, to live and recreate. Happy Holidays!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Check out FPS web site

We are writing in response to a letter to the editor dated Dec. 1, 2004, concerning the opening of a Family Planning Services (FPS) clinic in North Ridgeville. While director Patricia Berger's letter spoke of the services FPS offers, it neglected to address the dangers it poses to our children. FPS may provide some beneficial services, but they also provide all kinds of sex education, contraception, drugs, and abortion referrals. They freely provide these services not only to adult women, but also to our children without parental consent or knowledge.

Evidence of this can be seen on their web site www.familyplanningservices.org. At first glance, they seem like a good place. However, a closer look reveals how destructive they can be. Most of the "contraceptives" they provide can actually cause early abortions. Links to other web sites contain sensitive, personal and private information that is best discussed within the family. Some sites are disgusting. Elsewhere, a list of all their sexual health services and resources can be found. Later it states, "No one need ever know that you have visited us."

As parents of five daughters, having FPS in North Ridgeville greatly disturbs us. Just as all other families in our city, we take our responsibility of parenting very seriously. It is our job as parents to teach our children sex education, informing them of the risks and dangers of sex outside of marriage, STDs, unplanned pregnancy, and abortion. Teenage girls are not equipped to make such important decisions about sex on their own or with a stranger in a clinic. The influence of FPS in our community tells young people that parents don't understand or care about their lives or their well-being. It would be far better to welcome businesses and agencies into our community that support and encourage the strengthening of the family, rather than its destruction.

Ed and Becky Hetrick North Řidgeville

Much left unsaid

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter on Dec. 1, from the director of Family Planning Services (FPS). I am sure that what was stated in the

letter was accurate, but it is what was left unsaid that is concerning.

She stated that the vast majority of FPS patients are over the age of 18. What "percentage" is a vast majority? This needs to be clarified. If 60 percent is a vast majority then 40 percent of their patients are younger than 18 and 2,000 of the 5,000 clients treated this year would be high-school aged or younger. Their web site does specifically state that FPS serves all women of reproductive age.

She also stated that over 90 percent of their patients receive services because of their socio-economic status. High school aged girls would easily fall into this category, as the majority of them would be attending school and therefore be unable to earn a large income.

She also said that FPS does not provide abortion services, however, according to their website, they will provide the "morning-after" pill (which is a chemical abortion) and upon request will give referrals if the emergency contraception is no longer an option.

found her letter to be very misleading and feel we need to inform others on what FPS is all about. I think it would benefit our community to protect our youth from such a presence. I encourage anyone reading this to visit the website at www.familyplaningservices.org where you will find all that I have said and

> Jennifer Krueger North Ridgeville

The rest of the story

As a new satellite office of Family Planning Services of Lorain County is hoping to open its doors in North Ridgeville and in response to Patricia Berger's letter in last weeks issue, I'd like to offer "the rest of the story."

In addition to the "helpful" services offered by this organization, a quick trip to their web site at www.familyplanningservices.org (with particular attention to their "teen" and "links" pages will lead you to see they are also in the business of promoting an attitude of permissiveness when it comes to teen sex. It is stated over and over again in their information in various ways that sex outside of marriage with ANY partner, male or female, no matter your gender is fine as

Their services include dispensing of birth control and the "morning-after" pill, (which is an abortion at its earliest stage) and referral for surgical abortions for any of its clients of reproductive age, no matter how young. These services are avail-

able for free and are provided with com-

plete confidence, requiring NO

long as you're "ready" and "protected."

As parents of nine children, we know very well how important it is to be aware of our children and what they do.

PARENTAL CONSENT whatsoever!

Wake up, North Ridgeville...visit their web site...see if this organization is one you would like influencing our commu nity and our young people.

Mark and Linda LaLonde

North Ridgeville Review funding methods

To the Editor and all North Ridgeville

To begin with, the way that current real estate tax funding works is that a pool of money gets approved by voters when the majority votes yes for a levy. The result is that when new homeowners move into North Ridgeville, their tax dollars are used to reduce all existing North Ridgeville residents' individual property taxes by ONLY a few dollars or cents a year during the life of the levy, during which the pool of money is kept constant. When property assessments increase, the effect in only on new levies passed after the date of the last

assessed value. WHY DO PROPERTY TAXES HAVE TO BE THIS WAY?

Why can't the property taxes of new homeowners be immediately added to the city and school funding sources? Why do homeowners have to be at the mercy of local assessor boards? Why can't property taxes, once the millage has been set, have future increases limited to the rate of inflation as publicized by the federal government as long as the homeowner continues to own his home? This would eliminate the need for replacement and renewal taxes that rob the city and school district of the benefit of new home growth since it holds the dollar amount of the tax to be connected constant.

Once a home has been sold, then the homeowner starts his tax basis at the

then-current market value, with future increases being limited to the rate of inflation for as long as the new homeowner stays at that home. The way these existing taxes work

now, homeowners, especially seniors, could be taxed out of their homes because market values could rise faster than their ability to pay. Please not at this point: an increase in market value of one's home is only realized if one then sells the home! In a somewhat recent school income tax meeting, the school board acknowledged that if seven years ago they had followed the inflation indexing property tax method, then there would be no need for an additional tax now.

I have encouraged the North Ridgeville School Board to work with the other Ohio school boards to pursue such an avenue, but sense a great reluctance on their part to do so because they feel that the slope is too steep in dealing with the Ohio State Legislature. My point to them was that there is strength in numbers-if all of the school boards spoke with one voice, maybe good things might happen. I encourage others to contact the North Ridgeville School Board to spur

them into action. I also asked the school board what it would do when the Ohio Supreme Court finally rules on the fundamental legal issue that ANY form of tax that results in the funding of student educational costs (grades K-12) on an unequal basis is inherently unconstitutional. State funding of schools should relate only to operating expenses (books, supplies, utilities and teachers' salaries), which would result in every student in the State of Ohio being funded at the same level. I asked the board is there is to be consistency in education across the board in Ohio, then why would they feel that funding should be a the local level, but rather a state responsi-

I encourage the city administration and the North Ridgeville School Board to take an active role in challenging our state legislators to change the laws regarding property taxes. I will be sending a copy of this letter to Earl Martin, our state representative.

> James A. Davies Jr. North Ridgeville

PRESSLINE, continued

trucks were out, they couldn't get through the traffic. People think this is punishment for not passing the police levy, but that's not true. It was just timing; it hit at rush hour. We're still doing SR 83 and SR 20 and the hills leading to them.

Gillock also said the auditor reminds residents that the city has not started any reduction program yet and that the same situation occurred last year due to the timing of the storm. He said the main roads and the hills would still be salted. Again, he said, Monday's problem was due to timing.

Caller: I was watching the council meeting on cable last week and I could-

n't hear a thing the council clerk was Response: Assistant Council Clerk

resolve the problem. Caller: The city is in such a desire of money, why not take that \$190,000 for the survey of Center Ridge Road and put it where it could be put to good

use. We don't need this problem that

we got. Mayor of Fairacres: Why do you have to have three ornaments to put on the tree-a pickle, a pig and a frog. What does that mean? I'm amazed I

don't know anything anymore. Response: We checked with several Internet web sites concerning the meanings of those particular orna-

ments and found the following. The pickle ornament is reminiscent of an old German glass ornament and tradi-Paula Cope said she is working to tionally is the last one to be hung on the tree. Whoever finds it on the tree gets an extra present.

There was not much information available about the pig and the frog ornaments except that the pig signifies wealth and the frog means good luck in business.

Caller: We know who pays for the school calendar they put out every year and it's very nice, but who pays for the Town Planner? Why don't they do like Amherst and make the Town Planner also a school calendar. That way they could cut down on expenses, both the city and the schools could share one

calendar. We don't need two or three calendars, especially that size. It's just a way of cutting down. The city and the schools have to learn to cut down like the citizens of North Ridgeville have to cut down when there's no work, retired or whatever. So why don't you implement this for next year?

Response: According to Dayle Noll, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, both calendars are paid for by advertisers. Advertisers pay the entire cost of the Town Planner. No tax money is expended for it. As for combining the school calendar and the Town Planner, Noll said there are so many events in both areas that listing everything on one calendar might create confusion.

Ulicky, who has been a member of Rotary Interact for

Ulicky said this is an opportunity for high school stu-

There are an estimated 50 high school students who

President of NRHS Student Council Schremm said,

through Student Council, that she and others try to give

back to the school. Recently, Student Council purchased

an alma mater sign and held a food drive during

interested in the City of North Ridgeville, as well as the

ous," Bahr said. "I am very proud we were able to give

them opportunities and to have the support of their par-

ents who, along with us, encouraged them to always

Schremm said a lot of students at the high school are

"Students' contributions to our school are numer-

dents to interact with younger students for an afternoon

of fun during the holiday season.

volunteer their time for this event.

desire a broadened horizon."

several years, is a significant person during the annual

holiday party at Wilcox Elementary School for the first

graders.

Thanksgiving.

Toy Story: Popular Christmas gifts aren't always just toys

By Melissa Linebrink

Editor's note: This is the third of a four-part series focusing on toys. The first week's installment focused on history toys from the early part of the 20th Century. The second week spotlighted what toys are popular for children in his/her early years. This week's article will center on the toys that appeal to the adolescent population. And, the fourth week will concentrate on the dangers of some toys, such as video games.

As children grow up, the type of toys or entertainment they ask for during the holiday season may also change. While some parents agree that as children age, the gifts are easier to buy; others disagree.

Sheffield Village resident Melanie McDougal finds that shopping for her twin 12-year-old daughters is a snap compared to when they were in their elementary years.

"It's been easier to shop for them as they grow older," McDougal said. "This year was really easy."

However, McDougal was quick to add that one list consisted of 28 items, while the other had 24 items listed. This year's list included items such as PlayStation 2 games, the board game "Scene It," and of course, clothing.

The PlayStation 2 games the girls are interested this year include 'Dance Revolution' and 'Karaoke Revolution.

The board game "Scene It" is somewhat new to the entertainment market. It incorporates not only a board game, but a DVD as well. During the game, the players are asked to watch a movie clip by using the DVD and then answer a question.

McDougal explained that there have been times when she has questioned what her daughters want in terms of video games, but the sales associates at Target have always been helpful.

"One of my daughters wanted SIMS 2 and I asked the clerk at Target about what was in it and he told me that it had 'teen activities,'" McDougal said, adding that there was nothing inappropriate in her opinion

with the game. "Last year, I bought a PlayStation game and it had prostitution in it and shooting. I am more careful now. It's great that the games are labeled now because don't have a clue what Souper star them." for As clothing, her girls into are jeans, corduroys and the popular sweaters that come with plete

matching scarves and hats. "They are really into 'hoodies' this year," McDougal

for them the past two years."

McDougal said what she buys her girls each year simply depends on her budget.

"Some years I have a Christmas Club (that she pays into), so some year's (gifts) are better than others," McDougal said.

Avon Lake resident Coleen Spring has three children, ages 11, 15 and 17, and each year it seems to get increasingly more difficult to meet their demands.

"The prices have increased and I feel limited in what I can get them,' Spring said. "I always wish I could

is

each want

personal

Not only does inflation cause her problems, so does locating the items her children desire. On deadline, Spring has been unable to find PlayStation systems. There are two models on

"When they were younger, I basithings the market and she not been able to either one. The price older model \$149 while the newer model \$ 1 9 9 . However, the children also

The board game "Scene It" uses both a game board and small, it DVD player to take entertainment to a new level of fun.

er, which may be the better choice. "They can take the personal DVD player in the car with them," Spring

With Christmas just 10 days away, Spring knows that buying them clothes will be a success.

"All they really want are clothes," she said. "Clothes are always a big

And this year, the big clothing item on her children's lists is Under Armour gear. Under Armour can be worn during any time of the year underneath an athlete's regular clothing. It then adapts to the weather condition and locks in the person's core body temperature. For example, "Cold Gear" locks in thermal protection and enables a body to stay warm without extra weight.

According to Spring, one piece of Under Armour can range from \$25 to

Bob and Carol Becka of North Ridgeville have two children to buy for each holiday season-Heather, 15 and Brandon, 12.

Carol said the one item on Heather's list is money.

"She wants to save for a car. That's a high priority in her life now," Carol said of her daughter.

Additionally, Heather will also be receiving her class ring that cost her parents \$300, and a few music CDs.

> Brandon is a bit more difficult to shop for. "She (one of

Brandon's relatives) called me to tell me that for the past three years, she has him given Sporting Goods gift cards for

Christmas," said, Carol adding Brandon is very interested in sports. In fact, Brandon

has a season pass to Boston Mills, a ski said. "It has been Clothing, like this hoodie from Old Navy, is area located 25 the first choice a popular item with pre-teens and teens. miles south of Cleveland, where he

This year, Brandon's main item

And, like some families, the

was Under Armour so he can stay

warm while he is out snowboarding.

Beckas do not set a budget for the hol-

iday season. But, thinking back, Carol

often wishes she would have taken

gifts. One from the parents and one

from each set of grandparents because

Baby Jesus only received three gifts,"

Ridgeville, have three children to

Bill and Rita Price, also of North

"My friend only allowed for three

snowboards.

her friend's advice.

Carol said.

"All my children (including 5year-old Will) and myself like 'Harry Potter' and 'Lord of the Rings,' so anything having to do with these series is on Bethany's list especially," Bill

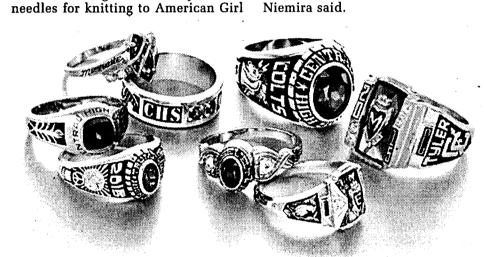
games. Gift certificates are also a big

Both Bill and Rita try to watch what they spend and always even out the gifts for the three children so no one feels slighted.

"Each child does get what we call their 'big gift' that runs about \$50 to \$100." Rita said.

According to a recent press release issued by the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the 2004 holiday season has been following the same shopping pattern of last year-it starts off moderate and then declines the preceding week.

Given this pattern, this may very well mean that the consumer will step up their holiday shopping and spending over the upcoming (week) to finish the 2004 holiday season on the strong side," ICSC's chief economist and director of research Michael Niemira said.



purchase gifts for this year, but two of them, Bethany, 10 and Andrea, 12, ested in DVDs, CDs and GameBoy

picked

geared

toward their age

level and most of

type of learning

element associat-

Rita said. "As

toddlers, the big-

ger ticket items

were about \$30.

Now, that is an

average cost for

their list. Also,

when they were

Little Tyke toys,

items on

them, Bethany, 10 and Andrea, 12,

fall into the "pre-teen" category and

sometimes that makes buying items

now it can be anything from electron-

According to Bill, his daughters'

ics to books to CDs, to things I have

lists "run the gamut" from yarn and

never even heard of before!'

cally

for them a bit more difficult.

For teens who are in high school, a popular gift is a class ring.

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NRHS students aim to broaden horizons and make a difference

Bv Melissa Linebrink

In a society where teens struggle to fit in, a group of North Ridgeville High School (NRHS) students are paving their way to success both inside and outside the

NRHS Principal Patricia Bahr deems this group of students "difference makers."

The core group of students includes Chris Halke, Kristen Schremm, Chris Stelmarski, Brit Swanson and

"These students take an idea and immediately expand on it. They seek opportunities and share them with others," Bahr said. "It is clear these students will

Swanson is part of the gifted and talented program at NRHS coordinated by Mary Ellen Carrais, the educational service coordinator of Lorain County.

Recently, Swanson has been a key player in bringing well-known speakers into the classrooms. Through the distance-learning program at WVIZ, the PBS affiliate in the Cleveland area, noted speakers can communicate to students in schools. Students at multiple sites can simultaneously see and speak to one another over the fiber net-

Swanson explained that if a student has a question for the speaker, he or she can e-mail the question in to the speaker at the television station and the speaker will then respond immediately via the television.

Today, Liz Murray, the young girl who was homeless

EARLY DEADLINE

The PRESS & LIGHT will be closed for

Friday, Dec. 24th. We will be open

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January 5, 2005 Experts:

Early deadlines for

Dec. 22nd at Noon

Christmas Thursday, Dec. 23rd and

There will be NO 12-29-04 Issue of the

North Ridgeville PRESS & LIGHT.

and eventually found herself inside one of the nation's most prestigious universities, Harvard, will be speaking. Murray's life has been made into a movie recently aired on Lifetime called "Homeless to Harvard."

"I really enjoy being part of this program," Swanton said. "It's something extra, but we bring it inside the school."

On Nov. 11, Stelmarski was one of 11 students to attend the Town Hall meeting.

"We were only one of seven high schools invited," Bahr said. "The invitation was extended by the Superintendent of Bay Village Schools."

At the meeting, students, staff members and a parent took part in a discussion with Ohio Gov. Bob Taft and Virginia Gov. Mark Warner.

Stelmarski said both governors took questions from the students regarding education and the men also asked the panel ways schools can be improved.

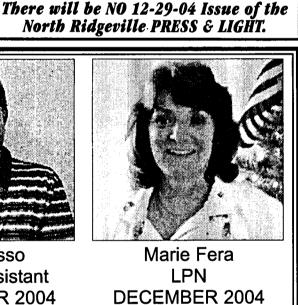
'It was very interesting and I learned a lot," Stelmarski said. "It was insightful at what role (the governors) play in the education system. And, we were helping them by letting them know what goes on in the schools.'

Halke recently received a first-hand experience in filming and editing as he and several other students gained access to the presidential rallies in Lorain and Cuyahoga counties. Additionally, these students also secured their own credentials to the press area of these events, Bahr noted.

Halke said after the rallies were videotaped, they were edited and presented to the student body at NRHS via



DETAILS...



The PRESS & LIGHT office

¿ Early deadlines for Jan. 5,

2005 issue are as follows:

will be closed on FRIDAY, DEC. 31st for New Year's.

News: Thurs.. Dec. 30th at 5 P.M.

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By Melissa Linebrink

Each holiday season sees a plethora of people in search of the perfect Christmas tree. After the lights are strung and ornaments are placed, a beautiful house decoration may become harmful, even deadly, if not taken care

of properly. North Ridgeville, Assistant Fire Chief Scott Bement said to his knowledge the North Ridgeville Fire Department (NRFD) has not had any live trees burn because of electrical

"But, it is possible (to have a fire), if the tree is dried out," Bement said.

As for artificial trees, Bement explained the tree itself will not ignite, but some ornaments can be combustible.

He said there is no specific amount of time tree lights should remain on since today the lights are made in such a way that they do not get extremely hot. However, some families have older light sets that could be damaged or not up to present day standards and could create

"Decorating trends have improved the fire safety in homes over the practices in the past," Bement said. "People used to use more live pine roping inside

the house and larger lights on their

According to the National Fire Protection Agency NFPA), candles are not far behind in terms of causing harm during the month of December. In a press release issued in

September 2004, it stated that candles are becoming increasingly more common as the reason for house fires. In 2001, candles started fires in an estimated 18,000 homes in the United

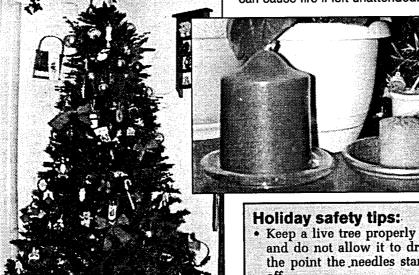
States. This is a 15 percent rise from 2000 and more than triple the number According to the NFPA, the candle fires in 2001 were responsible for about 190 civilian deaths, 1,450 civilian

injuries and \$265 million in property Bement said that the NRPD has not had to respond to many fires involving candles so far this holiday season.

"These days, people seem to be using candles about the same amount of time year round," he said.

Bement said he recalls a few instances over the past three to four years, where candles were left unattended, including one where a candle was left unattended ignited a poster hanging on the wall, curtains near a burning candle caught fire and a child's coloring part of holiday decorating and rituals.

Christmas trees, while offering holiday ambiance, can create hazards. Candles can cause fire if left unattended.



book caught on fire that the girl put on her mother's dresser near a candle that was burning.

The NFPA stated the reason most candle fires tend to take place in December is because they are used frequently as a Keep a live tree properly watered and do not allow it to dry out to the point the needles start to fall

- Do not put any combustible decorations near fireplaces or wood hurners.
- Do not burn boxes or wrapping paper in a fireplace or wood burn-
- Do not leave candles unattended. Do not overload electric outlets by using multi-plug adapters.

Livingston: We are on target with what we said we'd save

By Carol Klear

In his transportation report to the school board last week, Assistant Superintendent Dave Livingston said, "We are on target with what we said we'd save."

Livingston was referring to the adjustment in busing this year following the defeat of the school levy in the March Primary Election. Students who live within two miles at their respective schools, must walk to school.

According to prepared figures, buses

traveled 2,339 total daily miles in fiscal year 2004, while the projection for 2005 is 1,818 miles. Approximately 30 school buses han-

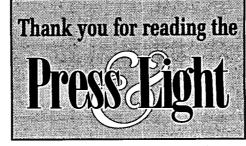
dle the schedules each day, with the largest run, middle school, he said.

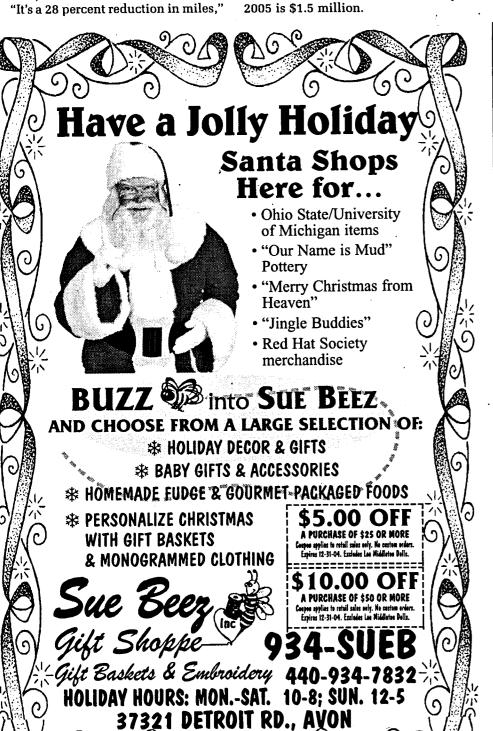
Transportation revenue for fiscal year 2004, including state support, local support, field trips and revenue from outside groups totaled \$1.6 million, while revenue estimated for fiscal year

On the expenditure side of the ledger, the total transportation cost for 2004, including such items as staffing, benefits and operations was \$1.6, while the projected cost for fiscal year 2005 is \$1.5 million.

The busing guidelines for students went into effect Aug. 1. Students who live more than two miles from their schools would continue to be bused.

Bus service would have been restored to public and parochial students beginning Jan. 18, 2005 and to high school students in August 2005 had the levy passed in the General Election. The district is going to voters again in a Special Election in February.





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SURVEY, from page 1

say what's on their minds...and they did.

One questioned the "rumor that school buses are half full," while another advised that city officials be "physically responsible.'

One property owner suggested that when the city is looking for more money, officials should try "looking deep in the system."

INMATES, from page 1

things got even worse was when Ewing's father "pulled a

Being the oldest child, Ewing confronted his father and told him he couldn't believe he would bring a gun into their home.

"I stood there and stared at him," he said. "The next thing I knew he pistol-whipped me. I grabbed my father and wrestled him to the ground and we called the police." Ewing said as they grappled he told his father, "I love you, I don't want to hurt you."

That was the end of life, as the young man had known

"My mother got rid of my father," Ewing said. "But my mother could no longer do what she had done. She was a

With no father figure in the home, Ewing, just 14, told his audience, "I knew it all."

He said he wanted to help his mother and went to the projects to try to find a way to earn some money.

"I did some work," he said. "I sold crack cocaine. I was in the eighth grade and I was popular. I began hustling."

Ewing said he had money in his pocket and was one of the most popular guys in school. Moving on to Elyria High School, he continued to push drugs. He still played football in ninth grade, but when football season was over, he skipped so much school, that he was ineligible to play when he reached 10th grade.

"I'd get to school and then I'd leave to go out hustling," he said. "Every time I went to school, I'd get in some kind of trouble."

And finally Ewing was expelled.

"I moved in with my father and went to Clearview High School," he said. "I realized Clearview was different than Elvria. I didn't fit in and I got into arguments with my father.'

At 17, Ewing, by his own admission, "had no education, was selling dope, met a lot of girls and got one preg-

"I needed more money to take care of a child," he said. "I was pushing more, I was out in the hood...in my mind, everything I was doing was good."

But things began going sour, as Ewing began going after people for money they owed him and police started chasing him over his drug deals.

"I was hurting people, jumping on them...whatever it took to get my money," he said.

"Now, I'm doing 11 years for a decision I made," Ewing told the high school students. "I'm in jail, my kid's out on the street with no father. My mother worries about me. My brother and sister come to see me."

When Ewing was first locked up he said he was sent to what was known as Gladiator School Camp.

"I seen people get raped, stabbed and got beat up myself," he said. "I seen a lot in prison." Initially Ewing was at the Southeastern Correctional

Someone questioned why the schools have "three superintendents," while someone else said, "close the senior center.'

"The planning commission sucks," one resident wrote and another really hates traveling Center Ridge Road and recommended "eliminating all red lights" on

North Ridgeville's branch Post Office came in for its share of comments, in the survey, with one resident

Glen Ewing and Nick Nageotte head back to the Grafton

Correctional Institution after their presentation to the

Institutional at Lancaster, Ohio, but he left there and went

life," he said. "I don't want the life I had then. I called home

and talked to my family. I was introduced to this program.

dent body. I know the things I was doing were wrong. I

"I started to read and started getting a new respect for

"This isn't something you want to do," he told the stu-

He told the teenagers that the decisions they make

"Think about what you heard. Think about it, think

Nageotte told the students he is serving a four-year sen-

"How many drink alcohol?" he asked, noting the hands

"How many have a license to drive?" was the second

"How many drink and drive or know someone that

Across the gym, the classmates looked at each other,

"Three years ago, Dec. 6, I was in an accident," he said

friends called and said they'd treat him to dinner. The idea

home," he said. "But more friends came in and I had a few

call on my cell phone. I looked at the phone and hit a man

"I figured I'd eat dinner, have a few drinks and go

"I was 10 minutes from home," Nageotte said. "I got a

At the hospital, what the doctor said changed the

"I thought he was going to say something was wrong

But what the physician said was that the man Nageotte

sounded good and he met them at the restaurant.

that went up here and there across the high school gym.

NRHS student body. P&L photo by Carol Klear

want to change. I want to be a father to my son."

today will determine the outcome of your life.

tence for aggravated vehicular homicide.

question. More hands rose in the air.

not knowing if they should admit their guilt.

to the Grafton facility.

about it."

Nick Nageotte

does?" Nageotte asked.

more drinks."

He headed home.

in a head-on collision.'

young man's whole life.

with me...that I was hurt," he said

insisting that the "post office extend its hours." "The school grounds should be better maintained,"

another wrote and someone else had a solution for saving money...cut every other position."

"There was a lot of support for the police and fire," Gillock said.

It's going to take a lot of time to sift through all the responses, but when the tabulation is finished, Gillock plans to publish the results.

"I was scared," he said. "All I wanted to do was die. A

nurse sat on my bedside and said she was involved in an

accident and her daughter went through the windshield."

The nurse went on, noting that everyone gets a tombstone listing the date of birth and the date of death. "What you do with the dash in between is up to you,"

she said. "What did I do that was so wrong?" he wondered. "I

was drinking and driving. Backtracking from that moment, Nageotte said he had grown up in Medina and graduated from Medina High School under very strict parents.

"At 18, I still had a 10:30 p.m. curfew," he said. After graduation, Nageotte went on to Ohio State

University (OSU), just 21/2 hours from home. "It was a big change," he said, adding, "I had my first

drink at 19."

He had a friend named "Tony," a wild, but popular young man. He told the young audience that he recently learned that Tony is dead from doing cocaine.

"I spent six years at OSU and left without a degree," he said. "My freshman year I wanted to go into engineering. My sophomore year I wanted to be an architect."

But most of all Nageotte was drinking and partying. But he had to return home because his father died and he had to help run the family restaurant with his mother.

"But it wasn't for me and I started going out more," he said. "I was a 'Weekend Warrior.' I knew drinking and driving was wrong, but nothing would ever happen to me."

His mother sold the restaurant and Nageotte enrolled in Walsh College.

Although most people can't get a good job without a college degree, Nageotte landed a corporate sales job and pulled in \$100,000 a year. He owned a house and two cars. "I thought I was a good kid; I could do no wrong," he

But on Dec. 6, 2001, all that changed, "because of my own bad decision," he said.

"If you decide to do things wrong like drinking and dri-That day he had gone home from work and worked ving, it's not going to be if you get caught, but when you out. Nageotte detailed the subsequent events, stressing that he was so tired he didn't want to go out, but some

"I killed a man while drinking and driving," Nageotte "You can choose to make life good or you can choose

to make life bad," he said. Following the presentation, both men said they want to talk to young people and let them know the mistakes that

can be made. Nageotte said that sometimes he receives letters from

students telling him how much he helped them. When his time is over and he leaves Grafton, he said he wants to return to college and get his degree, then go back

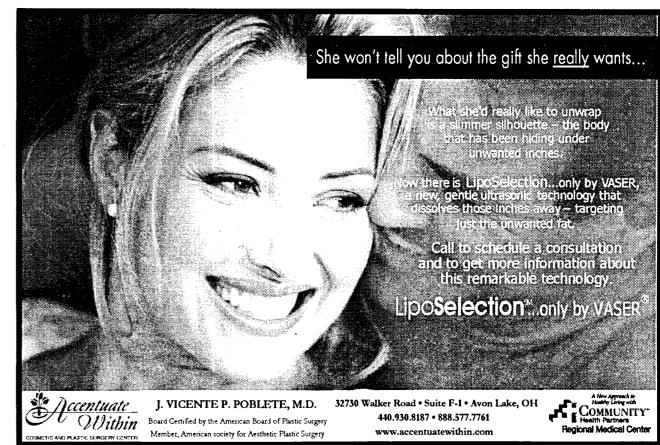
Ewing said he wants to further his education and get a

"I've never paid taxes," he said.

"Helping them (students) helps us too," he said.



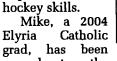
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TIME OUT

Haszto brothers make mark on ice

North Ridgeville residents and brothers Mike and Mark Haszto continue to impress with their hockey skills.



Joe Ostrica named to the Western States League All-Star team that will compete in a Showcase tournament in Cicero, New York Jan. 16-17. His team, the Phoenix Polar Bears, is ranked number-two in the country with

a 22-2-0 overall record. In a recent four-games-in-four-nights road trip, the Polar Bears outscored their opponents 49-1. After defeating the Tulsa Bazooka Blues 12-0, Phoenix followed up with two wins over the Dallas Titans (8-1, 12-0) and a 17-0 win over Tulsa. Phoenix cranked out a team and league record 115 shots on goal, surrendering just three shots to Tulsa.

Mike Haszto netted a goal and three assists, while blasting 21 shots on goal during the game against Tulsa. Overall, Haszto now has six goals, nine assists and a plus/minus rating of +24.

Mike's younger brother, Mark, is making a name for himself as a sophomore at Elyria Catholic. The first-time varsity starter didn't take much time to get his first varsity goal. Just 1:13 into the game, Mark put the Panthers up 1-0 over Rocky River. EC cruised to a 4-1 victory. North Ridgeville's Richie Baker assisted Haszto on the play.

Up 2-0 after the first period, Baker scored the only goal of the second period to give EC a 3-0 cushion. Rocky River pulled within 3-1 five minutes into the final period before David Bessas scored EC's fourth goal a few

Gymnastic notes

North Ridgeville's Kailey DeMarco earned first-place on the floor and second-place overall (36.8 points) in the Level 4 nine-year-old division at the Holiday Classic gymnastic competition on Dec. 4. She scored a 9.1 on the bars, 9.1 on the beam, 9.2 on the floor and 9.4 on the vault.

Ridgeville's Mikayla DePolo earned third-place on bars (8.85), to go along with her 8.0 on beam, 8.05 on floor and 8.6 on vault. Her all-around score of 33.5 gave her a 12th-place all around score in the Level 4 10-year-old divi-

Both girls qualified for the experienced division for the championship meet to be held in February. What a nice accomplishment, considering this was only the third meet for both of them.

Local college athletes

A few local residents are continuing their athletic careers at the college ranks this winter. North Ridgeville High School graduate Sara Perry has been voted a team captain for the second straight year for the College of Wooster's women's basketball team. The senior point guard has been starting the majority of the season. Lutheran West graduate Brittany Feher is a freshman forward at Concordia University Nebraska (CUNE), located in Seward, Nebraska.

NRHS grad Matt Shultz is a 133pound junior wrestler at Cleveland State University.

pressostrica@hotmail.com

Lady Royals even up with win over Patriots

By Joe Ostrica

The Lake Ridge Academy girls basketball team evened its record to 3-3 with an impressive 47-28 victory over Open Door Christian last week. It was the Lady Royals' third-straight win over their biggest rival. According to head coach Jim Dispirito, it was an important win, especially with LRA coming off its biggest loss of the year, a 62-25 setback against Black River.

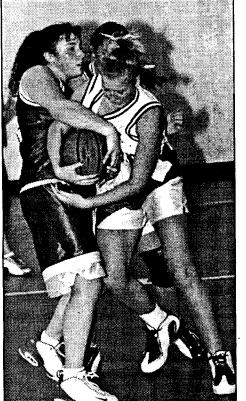
"After the Black River loss we challenged the girls," Dispirito said. "The challenge to the kids was 'What are you going to do? Are you going to come back?' This young team put that loss behind them and they bounced back. It was a good win."

With a pressing defense from the opening tip, the Lady Royals caused eight steals in the first three minutes of the contest. Senior Yanna Voutsiotis connected on her first three field goal attempts as LRA cruised to a 14-0 lead with 2:42 remaining in the opening

"We talked to the girls at the beginning of the season and told them that speed and defense is going to have to carry us," Dispirito said. "Tonight we were able to get into the press, which we didn't have Wednesday night against Black River. We played aggressive defense and we attacked things instead of sitting around.

"From the beginning, Alex, and especially Georgia (DiOrio), really got us going on defense. Georgia did very well defensively here last year too. Then Yanna comes out and hits her first three or four shots. That was the offense we needed to get us going. That's what we wanted to see. We had eight of 12 girls scoring."

Trailing 28-10 at halftime, Open Door managed a 6-2 run early in the third quarter to pull within 30-16. It was the closest the Lady Patriots would get to Lake Ridge. The Lady Royals responded with a 13-2 run, giving them their biggest lead of the night with a 25point cushion (41-18).



LRA sophomore Mary Elise Topp (left attempts another steal against Open Door. Topp finished with eight points, eight rebounds and four steals in the Lady Royals' win. P&L photo by Frank Corsello

Voutsiotis and freshman point guard Alex Hansen shared team-high scoring honors with 10 points apiece. Hansen just missed a triple double as she added nine steals and nine assists. Voutsiotis also had six steals and three assists.

"This was by far Yanna's best shooting game this year," Dispirito said. "She looked like the Yanna of old. This is the player we had last year and we need her to keep it up this year. She scored 10 points and created a lot of offense with her defense."

Katie Gardner was hitting from the high post for the Lady Royals as she finished with six points, four steals and 10

rebounds. Mary Elise Topp (eight points, four steals, one assist, eight rebounds) and DiOrio (four points, 10 steals, four assists and six rebounds) also had big games for LRA.

Wednesday, December 15, 2004

"Everybody got in and had serious playing time tonight," Disprito said. This is the type of game where we could have scored a lot more points, but that doesn't accomplish anything. We want to teach sportsmanship and try new things. We had four different girls run the point. I was very happy with the passing. We looked for the open people. That's something we haven't always done. We've been impatient in the past. Open Door is very big inside and we had to rely on the outside."

After hosting Rittman on Tuesday (after P&L deadline), the Lady Royals will travel to Elyria First Baptist Christian on Friday.

"We struggled against Rittman last year but now it's their time to make the long bus ride up to our place," Dispirito said. "They're another team like Black River that we need to gage ourselves against."

With a roster of only 12, including five freshmen, Dispirito is happy to be .500 six games into the season.

"With a young team like this, ideally if you can finish 10-10 that's a good season," he said. "Anything above 10 wins and you're ahead of schedule. But you just have to take it one game at a time. If you start looking ahead bad things happen and you don't want that to happen.

RULING OVER THE RIVAL

Lake Ridge 36, Open Door 32

Lake Ridge 47, Open Door 28

Dec. 10, 2004

The Lady Royals have won three straight over their rival Open Door Christian Dec. 12, 2003 Lake Ridge 37, Open Door 31 Jan. 30, 2004

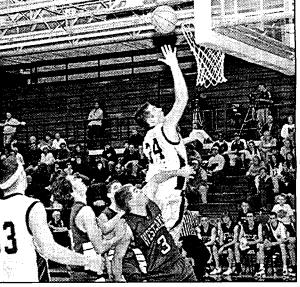
> Rebounds Mary Elise Topp (LRA) 6.0 Gardner (LRA) 5.8 DiOrio (LRA) 5.3 Amanda Bier (NRHS) 4.0

Tessa LaRue (LRA) 4.0 Montgomery (NRHS) 3.3 Laura Hammond (NRHS) 3.2 Voutsiotis (LRA) 3.2 Hughes (NRHS) 3.0

Assists Hansen (LRA) 7.5 Montgomery (NRHS) 2.0 Steals Hansen (LRA) 8.5 Voutsiotis (LRA) 5.2

DiOrio (LRA) 4.8

Blocks Hammond (NRHS) 1.2 3-pointers made Montgomery (NRHS) 7 Branscum (NRHS) 6 Amanda Bier (NRHS) 4 Rachel Camargo (NRHS) 3 Sarah Mays (LRA) 2 Hansen (LRA) 1



KRISTY MONTGOMERY

School: NRHS Grade: 12 Sport: Basketball

Through the first six games of the season, Montgomery has taken charge to lead the Lady Rangers in several

categories, including scoring (16.0 ppg), steals (3.5), assists (2.0) and three-pointers

MIKE NELSON

School: NRHS Sport: Basketball

Nelson helped the Rangers rally from a 14-point halftime deficit to a 53-49 win over Berea. Nelson scored the



tying layup in the final minutes and sank some clutch free throws to seal the win. He's averaging 12. ppg for the Rangers.

NRHS/LRA HOOP STATS

(through Dec. 12)

Boys Basketball

MOUDY FARHAT

a season high 21 points, including three

three-pointers, against Fuchs Mizrachi.

Farhat has 12 three-pointers so far this

School: LRA

Sport: Basketball

Farhat is leading

the Royals in scor-

ing (14.7 ppg) and steals (2.0) in the

early going of the

Grade: 11

Scoring leaders Moudy Farhat (LRA) 14.7 Joe Faragher (NRHS) 13.5 Mike Nelson (NRHS) 12.0 Jordan White (NRHS) 11.0

Rebounds Faragher (NRHS) 10.0 White (NRHS) 8.5 Grea Norton (LRA) 6.0 Kevin Klanak (LRA) 5.5

Assists Nelson (NRHS) 3.0 Sammie Farhat (LRA) 2.0

Steals Nick Carpenter (NRHS) 2.0 Moudy Farhat (LRA) 2.0 3-pointers made Moudy Farhat (LRA) 12

Girls Basketball

Nelson (NRHS) 3

Scoring leaders Kristy Montgomery (NRHS) 16 Alex Hansen (LRA) 10.8 Georgia DiOrio (LRA) 5.7 Katie Gardner (LRA) 5.7 Yanna Voutsiotis (LRA) 4.8 Kelly Hughes (NRHS) 4.5

Montgomery (NRHS) 3.5 Elise Topp (LRA) 3.2

YANNA VOUTSIOTIS

Voutsiotis also chipped in six steals and

three assists. It was LRA's third straight vic-

School: LRA

Grade: 12

Sport: Basketball

The senior guard

scored a team-high

10 points in the

Lady Royals' 47-28

win over Open

Door Christian.

tory over Open Door.



NRHS junior Joe Faragher leads the Rangers in scoring and rebounding. P&L photo by Frank Corsello

Rangers split two conference games

It was a seesaw weekend for the North Ridgeville High School boys basketball team last weekend as the Rangers split back-to-back games on the road. After rallying to defeat Berea in an impressive 53-49 victory, the Rangers fell apart the next day in a 64-53 loss to Midpark.

Things didn't look too good for Ridgeville in the early going at Berea as they trailed 33-19 at halftime. Despite trailing by 14 points, the Rangers came out on fire in the third quarter. The team shot 50 percent from the the field and cranked up the defense. NRHS outscored the Braves 16-9 in the third

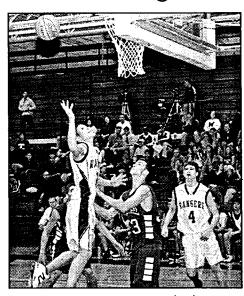
quarter to pull within seven (42-35).

Berea responded with a 6-2 run to take a 48-37 lead with just under six minutes remaining in the contest. Then the Rangers started chipping away. A jump shot by Nick Carpenter was followed up by a three-point play by Joe Faragher, who scored 14 of his team-

high 15 points in the second half.

Down 49-44 with two minutes left, Faragher again scored on a three-point play to pull Ridgeville within two (49-47). A layup by junior guard Mike Nelson tied the game at 49. Key rebounding by Faragher, along with clutch free throw shooting by Nelson, put Ridgeville on top as the Rangers improved to 2-0 in the Pioneer Conference Heritage Division (PCHD). Last year the Rangers won just four games in the PCHD. Nelson finished with 12 points, including two threepointers. Jordan White added 11 rebounds and six points.

LOW



NRHS junior Mike Nelson (left) helped secure the Rangers' win over Berea. P&L photo by Frank Corsello

The Rangers got a taste of their own medicine the next night at Midpark. After leading 30-26 at halftime, the Rangers were outscored 21-7 in the third quarter, finding themselves in a 47-37 hole entering the final period. The Rangers could only manage five points in the fourth quarter as Midpark ran away with a 64-53 win.

Faragher led the Rangers with 14 points and eight rebounds. Nelson added 11 points while White finished with eight points and five rebounds.

The Rangers (2-2 overall, 2-1 in the PCHD) will host Brecksville (2-3 overall, 1-2 in the PCHD) Friday.

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PRESSURE RELIEVING MATTRESS

Nothing goes right for Lake Ridge in loss to Open Door

By Joe Ostrica

It was a long night for the Lake Ridge Academy boys basketball team last week as the Royals suffered a 70-17 road loss against rival Open Door Christian. The Royals, who shot below 20 percent compared to the Patriots' 50 percent, only managed 38 field goal attempts in the contest. Open Door took 61 shots and took advantage of the Royals' 31 turnovers to run away with the game.

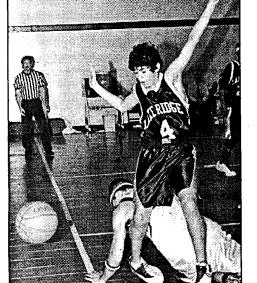
"Nothing went our way," LRA head coach Patrick Lange said. "None of our shots went down. Defensively we weren't there. They made their shots. They're a good outside shooting team and they were making their shots. It just wasn't our night. You can't win if you can't score points."

Before the Royals even took the floor, they were missing two key starters due to injuries, Sam Maczuzak (knee) and Brett Cannaday (arm).

"We don't want to make excuses but we're missing two of our starters," Lange said. "If we have Brett and Sam, I guarantee this is a different ballgame. I guarantee we're not 0-4. But that happens. Teams are going to have injuries and you have to rebound and get back."

With more than half of its roster featuring freshman and first-year players, the undersized and inexperienced Royals were in for a long night. Open Door boasted a senior-laden starting lineup that averaged 6'3" in height.

The Patriots jumped out to an 11-0 lead. A jumper by LRA junior Moudy Farhat put the Royals on the board 11-



LRA freshman Diego Chahda boxes out an Open Door opponent to force a turnover. Chahda finished with four points in the contest. P&L photo by Frank Corsello

2 with 45 seconds left in the opening quarter. Farhat led the Royals with seven points, including one threepointer.

"We tried to look inside but they were shutting us down so we were forced to shoot from the outside," Lange said.

The Royals managed to score 10 points in the second quarter with some nice inside play by Farhat, freshman Ethan Boye-Doe and junior Greg

Norton. But it was the last highlight for Lake Ridge.

Trailing the Patriots 27-12 at the half, Open Door came out on fire again in the third quarter, turning up their defense to a higher level. For nearly 16 minutes, the Royals were held scoreless as Open Door built a 62-12 lead.

"To me the first five minutes of the first quarter and the third quarter set the tone." Open Door head coach Alan Januzzi said. "I thought it was important we come out in the third quarter, regardless of the score, with some intensity and make good decisions. We mixed up some defenses and created several turnovers. If you come out lethargic in the third quarter with a big lead, you can let a team chip away and get back in the game. You don't want to do that."

Freshman Diego Chahda stopped the Royals' scoring drought with a jumper with 2:33 remaining in the contest. Sammie Farhat split a pair of free throws and Chahda converted a layup before the buzzer sounded off with Open Door winning 70-17.

The final score did not sit well with Lange and his players.

"I told my kids remember the next time we play these guys," Lange said regarding the Jan. 28 rematch that will take place at Lake Ridge. "We'll have another chance at them. These guys are all coming back the next couple of years. I told them don't ever forget about this game and we won't. Open Door is one of our biggest rivals and

SEE LRA BOYS, page 11

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Thur: Turkey w/gravy, dinner roll, pota-

Fri: Fish or chicken sandwich, potato

North Ridgeville Elementary

Thur: Turkey w/gravy, dinner roll, pota-

Fri: Fish sticks or chicken nuggets,

toes, corn, peaches, cookie, milk.

toes, corn, peaches, cookie, milk.

and cheese pierogies, cole slaw,

North Ridgeville Middle

School/High School

fruit cocktail, milk.

No school until Jan. 3

Ranger wrestlers edged by Berea in close match

The North Ridgeville High School wrestling squad lost a close match to Pioneer Conference Heritage Division (PCHD) opponent Berea last week. The Braves edged the Rangers 35-34. It was a nice improvement for North Ridgeville, who lost 44-21 in 2003 to Berea.

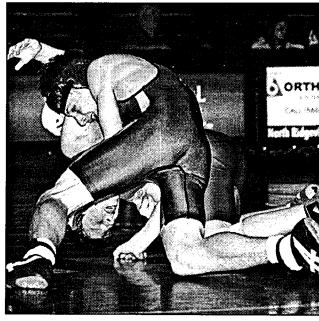
Junior Joey Asp was the only Ranger to win with a pin. He took down Berea's Bill Cherry in 3:37 in the 152-pound weight class.

Micah Wall (103 pounds) won a 17-8 major decision over Chris Yutzy. Nick Rundle (145) won a 5-2 decision over Nick Schneider. In the 215-pound division, Johnny Stumpf won a 6-2 decision over Jon Rogowski.

Ranger standouts Kyle Gustely (119) and Alec Barker (heavyweight), as well as Mike Koenig (125), won by forfeits.

The Rangers will take on two Pioneer Conference teams in two days this week. After hosting the Frontier Division's Brunswick on Thursday at 7 p.m., Ridgeville travels to Brecksville for a PCHD matchup on Friday.

NRHS will return home Dec. 22 when the Rangers host their own Holiday Wrestling Tournament. Cleveland Central Catholic, Lakewood, Lutheran West, Midpark, Open Door Christian, Orange and Valley Forge will compete with the Rangers in the tourney, which Ridgeville hopes to make an annual event.



NRHS junior Micah Wall (top) defeated Chris Yutzy with a 17-8 major decision. P&L photo by Frank Corsello

Christian named to All-Great Lakes Region team

North Ridgeville native and Baldwin-Wallace College goalie Nate Christian has been named to the NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) Division III All-Great Lakes Region team.

Christian was instrumental in leading the Yellow Jackets to a 14-5-1 finish and 5-3-1 in the Ohio Athletic Conference, helping B-W set a singleseason record for wins and the school's first-ever berth in the four-team OAC



"Nate had an outstanding season and is very deserving of the honor," B-W head coach Reid Ayers said. "He is among the best at his position in the OAC, the

region and in Division III. We are also happy that Nate will be back next year."
In goal, Christian played in all 20 games and a total of 1,804 minutes. He faced 223 total shots, including 104 on goal. He has a 0.96 goal-against-average with the school-record-tying eight shutouts and 84 saves. Christian has 16 shutouts in two years as a starter.

LRA BOYS, from page 10

this is something these young guys are going to build from.

"They're upset and disappointed in the way they played tonight. I guarantee you the next time we play these guys it will be a different ballgame. You just have to learn from your mistakes and get back in the race. We're down right now but we'll be back

Januzzi said he expects a much different contest when the teams face again, especially if the 6'5" Maczuzak returns along with point guard Cannaday.

"We expect a different game because they'll be healthy," Januzzi said. "I think Patrick Lange does an excellent job for Lake Ridge. He's going to bring his team along. He's missing his big guy, they have some injuries and they're going through some adversity. I think as time goes on, that team will be playing well as the year progresses. I'm certain that's going to happen.

The Royals will look to get their first victory this Friday when they travel to Elyria First Baptist

"This is a game we can definitely win if we play well," Lange said. "We will continue to work on all phases of the game. I am scouting them on Tuesday and that will give us an idea of what our game plan

After playing EFBC, the Royals will have an 18day break over the holidays before resuming play on Jan. 4 against Medina Christian Academy.

"The break will give us an opportunity to go back to the drawing board and focus on what we need to work on," Lange said. "It gives the injured players a chance to get back into shape and learn what they missed. I plan on doing a lot over break that will help the team grow and learn."

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004 **Girls Basketball**

7:30 p.m.: NRHS @ Strongsville

Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004 Wrestling

7 p.m.: Brunswick @ NRHS

Friday, Dec. 17, 2004

Girls Basketball 6 p.m.: LRA @ EFBC Wrestling

7 p.m.: NRHS @ Brecksville **Bovs Basketball** 7:30 p.m.: Brecksville @ NRHS 7:30 p.m.: LRA @ EFBC

Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004 Girls Basketball 6 p.m.: Valley Forge @ NRHS

Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2004

Wrestling TBA: Holiday Tourney @ NRHS **Boys Basketball**

TBA: NRHS @ DiFranco Tourney

Girls Basketball 6 p.m.: NRHS @ Vermilion

Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 **Boys Basketball** TBA: NRHS @ DiFranco Tourney

ON DECK

Softball clinic

The North Coast Spirit will be hosting a softball pitching clinic for girls on Dec. 28 at North Ridgeville High School. Carla Brookbank, owner of an instructional school and a professional player, will be conducting the clinic. Registration is limited. Complete information, registration form and bio information on the instructor can be obtained at www.northcoastspirit.com or by calling 327-4361.

Junior Ranger basketball

The North Ridgeville Parks and Recreation office is now taking registrations for the Junior Ranger basketball camp to take place Jan.-March of 2005. Boys and girls in grades 3-6 can learn the rules, strategies, fundamentals and sportsmanship from North Ridgeville High School varsity coach Mark Rechin and his staff. The goal is to promote, support, develop and improve basketball opportunities for the youth of North Ridgeville. Registration deadline is Dec. 17. For more information, contact the parks and recreation office at 353-0860.

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ACADEMIC NOTES

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Kathleen Smith, of North Ridgeville, recently graduated from the dental assisting program at the Ohio Institute of Health Careers.

Abigail Dodd and Chris Dodd, both of North Ridgeville, were named to the Dean's List at Ohio University. Abigail is a psychology and biology major. Chris is a mechanical engineering major. Their parents are Doug and Marilyn Dodd, of North Ridgeville.

Sonya Cseke, of North Ridgeville, will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Cleveland State University on Dec. 19. She is 2000 graduate of North Ridgeville High School. Cseke plans to continue her education.

JVS Honor Roll

The following North Ridgeville students were named to the Honor Roll at the Lorain County JVS: Ronald Davis, Karl Frederick, Dana Gabel, Douglas

Kozar, Madelyn Kwasny, Matthew Lazarek, Gregg Lehart, Jonathan Rosado, Hanna Toth, Alex Walls.

ARC accepting nominations

The North Ridgeville High School Academic Recognition Committee will accept nominations for the 17th annual Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame induction. To be eligible for this nomination, the person must be a graduate of North Ridgeville High School a minimum of five years. Nominations for the Alumni Hall of Fame should include the following information: alumnus name, current address, year of graduation from the North Ridgeville school system, age, occupation and biographical information about the nominee listing distinguishing honors, community service and other accomplishments. The nomination must also include the nominator's name, address and phone number. Nominations should be sent to Patricia Bahr, principal, North Ridgeville High School, 34600 Bainbridge Road, North Ridgeville 44039. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 21, 2005.

EC After-Prom committee hosts breakfast

Committee, with Elyria Catholic SADD Chapter will host a pancake breakfast Dec. 19 from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The menu will include pancakes, sausage,

The Elyria Catholic After-Prom orange juice, coffee or milk for \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Santa will be there, so bring a camera. Kids can get their face painted. Proceeds will help with the cost of After-Prom.

No school until Jan. 3 St. Peter Catholic School

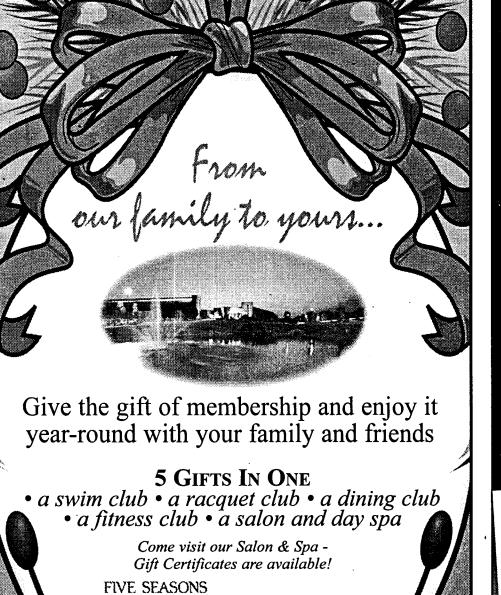
fries, fruit cocktail, milk.

■ Thur: Manager's choice.

1 Fri: Pizza, salad, fruit medley, milk. No school until Jan. 3

A Message to Our Readers...

Please Note: The Press & Light will NOT be publishing a Wednesday, December 29, 2004 issue. Our regular weekly schedule will resume with our Wednesday, January 5, 2005 issue.



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TOWN CRIER

Thursday 9 a.m. Men's breakfast-Senior Center.

1-4 p.m. Cards and games-Senior 2:30-4:30 p.m. Lorain County Gen. Health Dist.-Free blood pressure screening-Rite Aid Pharmacy, 34321

Center Multi-purpose room. 7 p.m. NRFL-Senior Center.

senior citizens and students.

7 p.m. Food Addicts Anonymous-St. John West Shore Hospital, bldg. 2, auditorium B. Call Gloria 327-9492 or Kay 960-5384/info.

Saturday 9-11:30 a.m. On Target fencing-Senior Center Multi-purpose room. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Isshinryu Karate-Safety

Sunday

9 a.m. Food Addicts Anonymous-St. John West Shore Hospital, bldg. 2, auditorium A. Call Gloria at 327-9492 or Kay at 960-5384/info. Monday

North Ridgeville City Schools and St. Peter School begin Christmas break

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Lifeline screening-Senior

YWCA Women's Voices Project on Dec.

19 at 7 p.m. at Elyria YWCA, 318 West

Ave., Elyria. The performance is free to

the public and includes a post-show

reception.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Crafts and quilting-Senior Center. 7:30 p.m. City council meeting-Council

chambers. 7:30 p.m. N.R. Arts Council-First Congregational UCC Church.

Tuesday 7-8 a.m. Kiwanis Club of North Ridgeville-Community Care. 9:30-11 a.m. On Target fencing-Senior Center Multi-purpose room.

1-4 p.m. Watercolor class-Senior Center.

6:30-7:30 p.m. Body Sculpting-Senior Center Multi-purpose room. 7 p.m. TOPS Club #656-North Ridgeville Baptist Church, 5400 Lear Nagle Road. 7 p.m. Food Addicts Anonymous-Peace Mennonite Church, 9300 West Ridge

Road, Elyria. Call Kay at 960-5384 or Gloria at 327-9492/info. 8 p.m. NRASL-Senior Center.

located at 36363 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville.

Free program at NASA

The NASA Glenn Visitor Center will host "Earth's Only Moon-Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" on Dec. 29 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Learn more about the moon's geology, early efforts to explore its surface and our nation's plans to return to the moon. Presentations are as follows: 11 a.m.-"Lunar Revelations: An Overview of Lunar Science" and 1 p.m.-"Journey to the Moon: The Cleveland Connection." There will be free photos at the "Picture Yourself in Space" digital photo booth, kids "Make & Take" craft activities and plenty of handouts. Reservations are suggested for the presentations. For more information and reservations, call (216) 433-9653 or vísit visit.grc.nasa.gov.

JVS offers tech program

The Lorain County JVS Adult Career is offering a new office technology program to begin Jan. 31. This 480-hour

program will include the following topics: Microsoft Office XP including Windows, Word, and Excel; Internet/email usage; keyboard skill building; office procedures; customer service skills; and an 80-hour work-based learning experience with local busi-

Wednesday

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Watercolor class

Noon, Lunch, cards and Bingo-Senior

1-4 p.m. Watercolor class-Senior Center.

3:30-6 p.m. Child immunization clinic-

St. Julie Billiart Church, 5500 Lear Nagle

5-6:30 p.m. Isshinryu Karate-Safetyville

6:30 p.m. Civil Service Commission-

6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers-First

Congregational Church, 36363 Center

7 p.m. Mini-Rangers Football Boosters

meeting-South Central Park Community

8 p.m. VFW #9871 Men's meeting-at the

and foot clinic-Senior cCenter.

Building.

Council chambers.

This program will be held Monday-Thursday, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Jan. 31-June 2. Upon program completion, participants will be eligible to take the Microsoft Office test that, upon passing, will certify them as a Microsoft Office Specialist in Word 2002.

Some participants may be eligible for financial assistance. The Adult Career Center has a financial aid counselor on staff to assist those who would like to apply for aid.

To register for this course, contact the JVS Adult Career Center, located at the intersection of SR 58 and SR 20 in Oberlin. Call 774-1051 or 986-6601 ext. 254. For more information, contact Terri Brennan, program coordinator, at

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Mrs. Truskot attended SS. Cyril & Methodius Slovenian Church, Lorain. She enjoyed reading, crossword

She was born in Lorain in 1928 and

was a lifelong resident of the Lorain

Lorain, following a lengthy illness.

puzzles and board games and collected Mr. Spisak retired in 1994 from porcelain figurines, glassware, china, Society/Key Corp. Bank in Cleveland Avon bottles and antiques. She also where he was assistant vice president enjoyed the cats, dogs, snakes, rabbits, of operation and had worked for 29 fish and the skunk she had as pets. She years. He previously owned and operhad been a Girl Scout while growing ated Bernard Spisak Salon of Hair

Fashion in Lakewood. Survivors include her husband of He was a member of St. Peter 54 years, Frank Joseph Truskot Sr.; Catholic Church in North Ridgeville daughter, Francine Marie Quan (nee where he served as the church organist Truskot) of Toledo; sons, Frank Joseph for the past four years. He was a mem-Truskot Jr., Frederick Joseph Truskot ber of the Knights of Columbus North Ridgeville Council 7970 and a Fourth and Floyd Joseph Truskot, all of Lorain, and Florian Joseph Truskot of Degree Knight with Lt. Francis South Amherst; brothers, Edward McManus Assembly. He also was a Novak and Robert Novak, both of member of the Elyria Polish Club. Lorain; sister, Dorothy Sas (nee Novak) Mr. Spisak enjoyed bowling with of North Ridgeville; and five grandthe Friday Buckeye Seniors League

children. where he was the secretary and the Preceding her in death were her Monday Seniors League at Buckeye father, John Novak; brothers, John and Lanes in North Olmsted. He also Joe Novak; mother, Francis Novak (nee enjoyed toll and watercolor painting, Zore); and daughter, Francine Jane making crafts, crocheting and garden-

Arrangements were handled by Wyers Funeral Chapel, Sheffield Township. Private services were held at Calvary Cemetery, Lorain.

Daniel Carl Reisinger

Daniel Carl Reisinger, 48, of Kemp, Texas, died Dec. 3, 2004, at his home. He was born Dec. 4, 1955, in Amherst.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1974-1979. Mr. Reisinger employed as a mechanical supervisor by Waste Management in Texas.

He 'enjoyed fishing, gardening, camping, cookouts, stock car racing and his dogs.

Survivors include his daughters, Danielle Reisinger, Gentrie Reisinger and Heather Reisinger, all of Texas; his parents, Thomas M. and Janet R. (nee Fowler) Reisinger of Oberlin; brothers, Charles L. Reisinger of North Ridgeville, Melvern T. Reisinger of Waco, Texas, Raymond K. Reisinger of Wellington, Jeffrey S. Reisinger of Greenville, Texas, and Robert J. Reisinger of New London; his compan-

of Lorain, died Dec. 4, 2004, at New ion, Mary Emory; and former wife, Life Hospice Center of St. Joseph, Cindy Reisinger of Texas.

OBITUARIES

Preceding him in death was a brother, Timothy A. Reisinger.

Arrangements were handled by Cowling Funeral Home, Oberlin, where services were held Dec. 8. The Rev. Brian Kenyon of Calvary Baptist Church officiated. Burial was in Eaton Township Cemetery.

Carmella A. Ryan

Carmella A. Ryan (nee Giampetro), 90 of North Ridgeville, died Dec. 7, 2004 at Brighton Gardens in Westlake following a short illness.

She was born March 3, 1914, in Dunbar. Pa. and had resided in North Ridgeville since 1957.

She was a member of St. Peter Catholic Church, the Altar and Rosary Society, former member of the Legion of Mary, member of the North Ridgeville Senior Citizens, where she served as treasurer and member of the board of directors and was a former member of the Case Road Cassette

She enjoyed bowling and bowled on the Brunswick Senior League. Mrs. Ryan retired in 1974 from

Bendix-Westinghouse in Elyria after 24 years, where she was a secretary to the plant superintendent.

Survivors include sisters, Angelene Manzola of Elyria and Dolores Giampetro of Cleveland and brother, Rocco Giampetro of Bellflower, Calif.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Thomas C. Ryan in 1977, her parents, Peter and Marie Giampetro, six sisters. Rose Giampetro, Catherine Giampetro, Mary Van Gorder, Florence Monti, Sister Anita Marie of the Apostles of Sacred Heart and Jean Helzel.

Arrangements were handled by David Bogner Family Funeral Home, North Ridgeville. A Mass was celebrated Dec. 10 at St. Peter Church, North Ridgeville. The Rev. Stephen Kaminski, pastor was the celebrant. Interment was in the St. Peter's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Peter Memorial Fund, 35777 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville 44039.

Paul R. Welsh

Paul R. Welsh, 78, of Elyria, died

Dec. 8, 2004, at EMH Regional Medical Center, following a long illness.

He was born Nov. 8, 1926, in Prospect, and lived in Elyria since 1971. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 26 years, serving during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War before retiring as an NCO in 1973.

He was employed by the city of Elyria in communications from 1973 until retiring in 1988.

Mr. Welsh attended St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1079, the Disabled American Veterans and American Legion Post 12, where he was past commander and Legionnaire of the Year in 1992. He was a past president of Korean War Veterans of America,

the Elyria Council of Veterans and the Memorial Day Committee, for which he served as parade marshal for 30 years. He also previously served as chef de gar, grand director of youth sports, national committeeman of youth sports, grand chemiot of the American Legion. He was a member of Elks Lodge 465, Moose Lodge 778, and the Elyria United Polish Club. He was also a merit-badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America and the charter president of the Greater Elyria Soccer Association.

He enjoyed golf and bowling. Survivors include his wife of 54 vears, Phyllis R. (nee Holliday); sons, Paul G. Welsh of North Ridgeville, Philip G. Welsh of Alexandria, Va., and Peter G. Welsh of Carmichael, Calif.; half-sister Karen Bodner of Lorain; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his half-brothers Eugene Welsh and David Eiseman; and sister, Phyllis Evans.

Arrangements were handled by Reichlin Roberts Funeral Home, Elyria. Graveside services were held Dec. 14 at Brookdale Cemetery. The Rev. Francis McNutt, pastor of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, officiated. Full military honors were provided by VFW Post 1079. Burial was at Brookdale Cemetery, Elyria.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetes Association, PO Box 1131, Fairfax, Va.

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Bernard J. Spisak

Regional Medical Center.

Olmsted.

Bernard J. Spisak, 70 of Elyria, died

He was born Dec. 8, 1933 in

Lakewood and he had resided in Elyria

for the past 10 years. He previously

lived in North Ridgeville and North

He is survived by his wife of 47

years, Patricia A. (nee Sostakowski);

sons, Mark Spisak of Monroe, N.C. and

David Spisak of Elyria; daughters,

Susan Palko of North Olmsted and

Anne Palko of Elyria; seven grandchil-

dren; sisters, Mary Prickett of Avon

Lake, Theresa Witczak of Pinehurst,

N.C. and Coletta Sostakowski of

ents. Michael and Mary Spisak; broth-

ers, Edward, Ray and four infant broth-

David Bogner Family Funeral Home,

North Ridgeville. A Mass was celebrat-

ed Dec. 7 at St. Peter Church. The Rev.

Stephen Kaminski, pastor was the cel-

ebrant. Interment was in the St. Peter's

made to the St. Peter Memorial Fund,

35777 Center Ridge Road, North

Memorial contributions may be

Florence J. Truskot (nee Novak), 76,

ers; and one sister, Veronica Pesto.

Preceding him in death were par-

Arrangements were handled by

Cleveland.

Cemetery.

Ridgeville 44039.

Florence J. Truskot

suddenly Dec. 4, 2004 at EMH

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Jim Neece, Pastor

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7:30 p.m. NRHS band concert-Ed. Center. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$3 for

Friday St. Peter School Christmas parties

9:30-11 a.m. On Target fencing-Senior Center Multi-purpose room. Noon, Rotary Club luncheon-Senior

LIFESTYLES

Toys for Community Care

The North Ridgeville Early Childhood PTA is hosting its annual Toy Drive benefiting Community Care of North Ridgeville through the middle of December. A drop box is located at the North Ridgeville Public Library. Please leave donations of new, unused

toys for boys and girls of all ages. Do not gift wrap your donations. Community Care will distribute all donations to needy children of North Ridgeville, in the hopes that everyone will have a Merry Christmas.

main drop-site sponsor for donations of new or gently worn coats for the annual WTAM Coats for Kids campaign this drive will run from now-Dec. 28. Each offices will be dry-cleaned and then will be distributed Dec. 7 and 8 by The

Salvation Army. Last year, 10,500 coats were collect-

Cleveland Public Theatre and Elyria YWCA announce Hope Here, readings

Coats for Kids drop-sites Smythe, Cramer Co. is serving as the year. Coats will be donated to needy

Hope Here performance

children in northeastern Ohio. The of Smythe, Cramer's 36 branch locations will be a collection drop site for the donated coats, which may be dropped off during regular business hours. Coats collected at the branch

and carols at 11 p.m. The church is of new work from the CPT/Elyria

ed for the campaign.

idents wrote, played theatre games and acted out their stories. The best work from each woman was then shaped into a piece for performance. For more information about the event, contact Women's Voices Project

Manager Chris Seibert at (216) 631-2727 x 201.

Child immunization clinic Clinics are open to any family with children up to age 18. There is a fee for each immunization, however, no one will be denied an immunization due to inability to pay. A parent or guardian must bring the child and a record of the child's previous immunizations. For more information, call Lorain County General Health District at 244-3418, Elyria City Health Department at 323-

7595 or Lorain City Heath Department at 204-2300. A clinic will be held Dec. 22 from 3:30-6 p.m. at St. Julie Billiart Church,

5500 Lear Nagel Road.

Christmas Eve services First Congregational United Church of Christ will hold a Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. with lessons

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



Common emergencies and what to do

Here's how you should handle some common emergencies: For a coothache, clean the painful area gently with a soft-bristle brush and floss. Rinse with warm salt water. Do not apply aspirin directly to the gum or tooth. It can cause a burn. If a permanent tooth is knocked out, contact Dr. Arndt immediately for an emergency appointment. Meanwhile, if possible, gently put the tooth back in its socket until you can get to the dentist. Otherwise, cover the tooth in a container with milk, salt water or saliva. You may also hold the tooth between your cheek and gum. Don't try the latter, though, with a child who might swallow it. If a tooth is pushed loose, try to reposition it using little pressure. Don't force it back into its socket. Get to the dentist as quickly as possible. If you break a tooth, rinse the mouth with warm water to keep the area clean. Once again, you should see a dentist immediately. For a bite, cut or puncture of the tongue, lip or cheek, apply firm pressure with gauze or a clean cloth. Call Dr. Arndt if the bleeding doesn't stop within 15 minutes.

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

This past fall, artists from CPT traveled to Elyria to teach, share, and collaborate with formerly homeless women. These women are residents of Elyria YWCA's Women's Campus Project. Together, the artists and the res-

ticket office.

Motley Crue

phone at (216) 241-5555.

onto www.playhousesquare.com or by

visiting the Playhouse Square Center

Motley Crue Red, White & Crue Tour

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22 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50 and

\$57 at all Ticketmaster locations, the

Gund Arena ticket office or charge by

Thank you for

reading the

POLICE & FIRE BLOTTERS

By Carol Klear

Too drunk to drive

Police officers stopped on Lorain Road at 1-480 to check on a disabled vehicle on the entrance ramp. The driver was arrested for

Getting to the root of it

A Root Road resident reported that her husband had pulled her hair and threatened physical harm. The husband was arrested and charged with domestic violence.

Caught!

A male on Sullivan Drive was arrested and referred to Lorain County Juvenile Court for

Camping out

A female was arrested at Crystal Springs

Campgrounds for domestic violence.

Doggone!

A Nicoll Drive resident reported a missing

Bang-up job

An adult male was riding a bicycle on SR 20 and shooting fireworks at other individuals in the parking lot of Changa World in the Ridgeview Shopping Center. He was arrested and charged with unauthorized discharge of fireworks, OVE and excess blood alcohol con-

Inside iob

The manager of AutoZone on SR 20 filed a theft report with police and a store employ-

Gottcha!

A Center Ridge Road resident complained to police that neighbor children were shooting paintballs at people. A juvenile was identified and the incident referred to Juvenile Court.

Speakers stolen

A Garrett Road homeowner's vehicle was entered during the night and two stereo speakers and three amplifiers were taken 'Doling' it out

Police were called to a Burns Road

address when a man reported that his wife threw a pineapple at him and hit the left side

No problem

A citizen called from the area of Root Road and the railroad tracks about smoke. Nothing

was found on the north side of the acks, but there was some smoke coming fro a stack on Gary Sweet's barn. A neighbor ated that Sweet had just left the site and kees a wood burning stove going to keep equipent from freezing. There was no fire.

Knock down drag out

A motor vehicle accident occurr when a car traveling on Center Ridge Roawent off the road and struck the corner of aouse. No hazards were found, but a corn of the exposed foundation was knocked ut. There were no injuries.

Transports

From Dec. 3-8, the North Rideville Fire Department had five fire runs and 30 EMS runs. There were nine runs to EMI Regional Medical Center and 15 to St. John Vest Shore Hospital. There were six "no transpirts."

OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS EVENTS

The Office for Older Adults is located at the North Ridgeville Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road.

Activities Craft group

The group meets on Mondays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A soup lunch is available for 35 cents.

Wednesday luncheon

Cards are played from 9 a.m.-noon. Lunch is served, by reservation, at noon for \$3.25 with bingo following.

On the third Wednesday of the month, free blood pressure checks are offered. Super Thursday luncheon

On the fourth Thursday of the month, a luncheon will be held for a cost of \$5. Reservations must be made by calling 353-0828 by Wednesday by 10 a.m.

Men's breakfast

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month for a cost of \$2.50. Reservations are required one day in advance. Call 353-0828 to make a reservation. Women's breakfast

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month for a cost of \$2.50. Reservations are required one day in advance. Call 353-0828 to make a reservation.

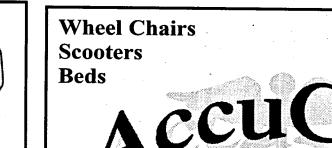
Men's and women's breakfast

When there is a fifth Thursday in the month, a breakfast will be held for both men and women at 9 a.m. at cost

of \$2.50. Reservations are required one day in advance. Call 353-0828 to make a reservation.

Computer classes

Beginning computer to specialized computer classes are held by Web Wise Seniors on Mondays at the Senior Center. The cost is \$42 for each series of classes. The instructor specializes in teaching seniors. For more information or to enroll, call



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OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS EVENTS

Firelands Symphony Orchestra

Firelands Symphony Orchestra will present a Christmas concert, "An Old-Fashioned Holiday" at the Daniel Ross Center for Performing Arts at Avon Lake High School on Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Music director, Santos Perez, and the orchestra will combine music, theater, dance and song. For ticket information, call (440) 610-5755.

Clay Aiken

Clay Aiken perform will a full with orchestra on his "Joyful Noise Tour," coming to Playhouse Square's Palace Theatre on Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Aiken will perform his hits as well as celebrate songs from his new holiday album. Tickets

are \$60, \$45 and \$25. Tickets will be available at the Playhouse Square ticket office; online at playhousesquare.com; and by phone at (800) 766-6048.

'Finding Nemo'

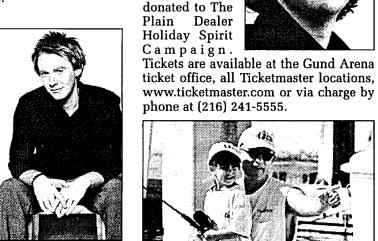
Disney/Pixar's "Finding Nemo" at the Gund Arena Jan. 12-23. Tickets are available at the Gund Arena Box Office, www.ticketmaster.com Ticketmaster outlets. To order by phone, call (216) 241-5555. Tickets are \$10, \$15 and \$20 with a limited number of \$40 and \$60 seats.

"Movin Out," a new musical by Tony Award-winner Twyla Tharp based on the songs of Billy Joel opens in Cleveland for a two-week engagement at Playhouse Square Center Feb. 8-20. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by phone at (216) 241-6000 or online at www.playhousesquare.com. Ticket prices range from \$32.50-\$77.50 (plus handling). Discounts for groups of 20 or more available by calling (216) 771-

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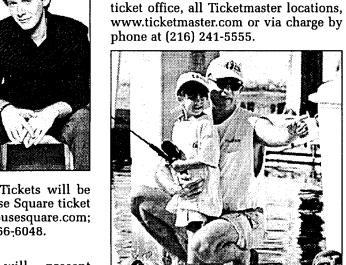
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Josh Groban

will be at Gund

Arena on Feb.

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\$38.50. A por-

tion of the pro-

ceeds will be

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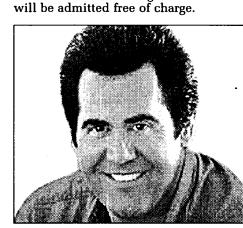
Josh Groban

2005 Cleveland Sport, Travel & Outdoor Show

The 68th annual Cleveland Sport Travel & Outdoor Show will be at the I-X Center March 12-20. Tickets are \$9.95



for adults, \$4 for children and free for children 5 and younger. Discount tickets good for \$2 general admission are available at most AAA offices. Any Boy or Girl Scouts attending in full uniform



Wayne Newton

"Mr. Las Vegas," Wayne Newton will perform a holiday concert at Playhouse Square's Palace Theatre Dec. 17. Tickets are \$50, \$40 and \$35 at the Playhouse Square Ticket Office, www.playhousesquare.com or call (216) 241-6000.

'Guess How Much I Love You'

"Guess How Much I Love You" will be presented Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. in the Ohio Theatre. Based on the award -winning children's story by author Sam McBratney and illustrator Anita Jeram, Guess How Much I Love You is a magical puppetry piece depicting the unique bonds between parent and child. Tickets are \$14.50 each and can be purchased by calling (216) 241-6000, by logging

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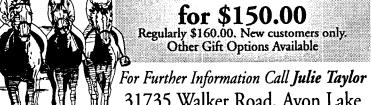
Sue Beez carries large selection of newborn and infant clothing and items including Robeez Footwear, Taggies, Mullin Square, "Our Name is MUD" pottery, and other select items. Sue Beez is at 37321 Detroit Road, Avon. Call them at 440-934-7832 (SUEB).



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This newspaper will not knowing accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Or eaders are hereby informed that a lwellings advertised in this newspar are available on an equal opportuni asis. To complain of discrimination ca HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. Th number for the hearing impaired is 1 800-927-9275



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AVON LAKE 4BDRM, new kitch CLEARVIEW DIST: Available Jan 1st 3BDRM, secluded area. Section 8 approved. \$590. 440-327-8224

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