NORTH RIDGEVILLE 1000

Ridgeville Branch ib

April 12, 2000 • VOL. 60, NO. 28

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This Week:

Easter Egg Hunt

Calling all kids 3 years old (and under) through age 9. The Rotary Club of North Ridgeville will hold its annual community Easter Egg Hunt on April 15 at 2 p.m. at Ranger Stadium (behind the middle school).

There will be 10,000 eggs filled with candy, as well as hundreds of great prizes, including bicycles, just waiting for kids. Take a basket or bag to carry the eggs and don't forget to check inside each egg to see if you have won a prize. The empty eggs can be placed in containers throughout the stadium.

In case of severe weather, the event will be postponed until April 16.

Flowers program

Jan Manke of the garden club will present "The Language and Meaning of Flowers," on Friday at noon at the North Ridgeville Branch Library. The program is sponsored by the North Ridgeville Friends of the Library and each person attending will receive a free seed packet.

Weigh Down Workshop

Have you ever felt like a slave to food? If you want to take your focus away from food, the Weigh Down Workshop is for you. Participants meet for a 12-week series of uplifting video lesson in a class setting. Materials include a student guide and 12 audio tapes.

A free, no-obligation introduction will be held at North Ridgeville Baptist Church, 5400 North Lear Nagle Rd., on April 13 at 7 p.m., with the first class beginning on April 20. For more information call 440-365-2808.

In Brief:

Patience is the key

Safety Service Director Dan Zirzow asks motorists to be patient while portions of Bainbridge and Root roads are under construction. Zirzow said the city is trying to find ways of making the situation easier. Though the detours are inconvenient, it shows improvements are being made, he said.

Teachers in Who's Who

Two 4th grade teachers at Liberty Elementary School, Marlene Solt and Cindy Buckosh, have been selected be in the sixth edition of "Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2000," Only high school and college students who have been noted in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and "The National Dean's List," respectively, may nominate one teacher from their entire academic experience, Just 2.5 percent of the nation's elementary teachers are honored in "Who's Who."



Several state officials pay a visit to one of the discussion groups in progress during the April 5 regional forum on education, held at the North Ridgeville Education Center. From left; Martha Wise, president of the State Board of Education, Dr. Susan Zelman, state superintendent of public instruction and Senator Jeffry Armbruster, R-North Ridgeville. (P&L Klear)

Zelman: Ohio should have a

world-class education system

By Carol Klear

In a regional schools forum held at the North Ridgeville Education Center, April 5, over 200 people representing school districts in Lorain and Cuyahoga counties vented their views on Ohio's education system and State Superintendent Dr. Susan Tave Zelman, along with several other state officials listened, pledging to carry the opinions expressed in the 90-minute discussion groups back to Columbus.

Martha Wise, president of the State Board of Education, Sen. Jeffry Armbruster, R-North Ridgeville and state Rep. John Bender, D-Elyria were on hand for last week's forum, which covered issues such as the 4th grade reading guarantee, standards and testing, school accountability, funding, safety and the state's role in education.

The event held in North Ridgeville was one of 13 community forums held through?

out the State of Ohio and Zelman told the 200 persons attending that when the Department of Education queried school districts about hosting one of the public meetings, approximately 50 superintendents responded.

"North Ridgeville had a terrific proposal," said Zelman, "they did a good job of convincing us to come here," where groups of 15 or less, under the guidance of a facilitator, tackled tough issues.

During a press conference, the Superintendent stressed her philosophy of problems down; solutions up. Defending the controversial proficiency tests, she said the purpose of the testing must be clarified. "Parents and teachers must be held accountable," she said, then asked, "How do we align success?"

See Forum on pg. 10

Voters clo NORTH RIDGEVILLE LIBRARY NORTH RIDG

By Carol Klear

They needed a little more than 500 signatures of registered voters, but in two weeks the committee pushing for a referendum on planned community developments collected 908 signatures on petitions and presented them to Council Clerk Jim White during the April 3 Council meeting. It was the first step in putting the issue of Planned Community Developments (PCDs) before voters.

Vince Loparo, who headed the referendum committee, said he "was excited" about the number of people who were willing to sign the petitions. "The citizens spoke," he said, "and I trust Council to make the right decision and go by what the people say."

Although the committee had just two weeks to gather signatures amounting to 10 percent of the total electors who had voted in the November election, they did it. Loparo, who resides in Ward 1, the area in which the 200-acre PCD will be built, said he wishes all 900 persons "could have come to Council." He also said that if his committee had had two more weeks, the number of signatures would have doubled.

How did the door-to-door effort go? Loparo said "80 percent didn't know what a PCD was."

According to legislation, the PCD would provide for 20 percent green space. Loparo said that he likes the idea of green space, but widening roads is more of a priority. "First things first," he said.

Mayor Deanna Hill said that it's difficult to judge what committee members told persons as they asked them to sign the petitions, and theorized the request may have gone something like, "You know there's this issue, you should have input, sign this and you can vote on the issue."

Hill said she is not convinced that many

See *PCD* on pg. 6

Local findings to go to county prosecutor

The investigation into what caused the March 26 crash on Sugar Ridge Road that took the lives of two teenagers, is nearly complete, said Capt. Richard Thomas of the North Ridgeville Police Department.

On Friday Thomas said that there are a few details to finish before the information is sent to the county prosecutor's office for analysis.

Sarah Semmens, 19, and Angela Francway, 18, were killed when the Honda Civic Semmens was driving

See *Investigation* on pg. 7

Fire chief back to work after month away

By Carol Klear

North Ridgeville Fire Chief Richard Miller is back at his desk after an absence of nearly four weeks. Miller was on paid administrative leave from March 1 to March 11 and on unpaid suspension from March 12 to March 25. The action followed questions by city administrators about the way Miller handled a potential emergency, the last weekend in February. Safety Service Director Dan Zirzow ordered an investigation. Assistant Fire Chief Andy Wagner was acting-chief during Miller's absence.

Following the April 3 Council meeting, Law Director Eric Zagrans said that disciplining Miller showed that no city employee is above being reviewed for their actions. Zagrans also said that Miller agreed that there had been "appropriate sanctions" in the matter.

Last week Miller told The Press & Light that when he resumed his duties on March 27, it was "business as usual" at the fire station. He also said that though he could file an appeal with the Civil Service Commission, he does not plan to do so.

Assistant Council Clerk Paula Cope was also put on paid administrative leave, March 1, and has not yet returned to work.

According to police reports, Cope was arrested for DUI on Feb. 26 and later was taken to the hospital after her daughter called 911.

Initially Zirzow stated that both Cope's and Miller's leaves pertained to the same incident; Zagrans said they were separate. Following his return to work, Miller said

See *Miller* on pg. 10



Religious worship has always been a part of North Ridgeville

By Carol Klear

Lord, thou has been our dwelling place in all generations, Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst

formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past,

And as a watch in the night

Since the earliest settlers arrived in North Ridgeville and made their homes, the one constant was the faith in God that many brought with them from their Connecticut roots, inspiring them with the strength and will to form organizations of worship.

As Easter nears, it seems a wonderful time to begin a discussion on some of the many churches alive with faith in North Ridgeville today.

It was 1810, the Indians who had previously enjoyed the freedom of the land's wilderness, had seemed to diminish in numbers and hostility, and 13 men arrived in the territory that eventually became North Ridgeville.

The settlers came from Connecticut to claim their land, with the Tilliston Terrell family arriving first. The date was

Forging a new home in an unknown area would not be easy. To strengthen their resolve they turned to the Lord, and on the very first Sunday after they arrived from their long journey, Joel Terrell held a religious service, which included scripture, prayers, and singing of psalms. According to a short history written by Glen F. Warner, Terrell did "more than anyone else to establish worship and maintain

Not all the pioneers were church members and struc-

See *Worship* on pg. 12

Military:

■ Army Staff Sgt. James Hicks Jr. has been named noncommissioned

Selection was based on the individual's exemplary duty performance, job knowledge, leadership qualities, significant self-improvement and other

Hicks, a military police squad Police Company, Geissen, Germany.

Army Spec. Brian R. Shaffer has been decorated with the Army Achievement Medal.

The medal is awarded to soldiers who have served in any capacity in a noncombat area authorized by the Secleader, is assigned to the 527th Military retary of the Army. The recipients distinguished themselves by meritorious

accomplished the act with distinction.

Shaffer received the award while assigned as a military police with the 25th Military Police Company at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii.

He is the son of Tonja R. Klein of North Ridgeville, and Leonard S. Shaffer of Lagrange.

The specialist is a 1996 graduate of North Ridgeville High School.



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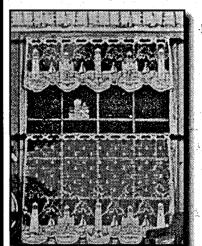
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Press & Light Mailing Address: P.O. Box 39089 NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OH 44039

Press & Light Office Phone: 1 (888) 871-6784

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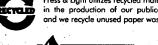
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North Ridgeville puts its best foot foward

By Carol Klear

BEST FOOT FORWARD.....When Ohio Education Superintendent Susan Tave Zelman and State BOE President Martha Wise, along with Senator Jeff Armbruster and State Rep. John Bender visited Ridgeville's Ed Center for a community forum last Wednesday, they were impressed ... with the facility (which had once been a supermarket), the people participating and the food (it was tempting). And Superintendent Tom Rockwell thanked and congratulated the entire staff from food service to maintenance workers to support staff for the team effort in organizing the regional event. And Klearly adds kudos, as well, on a job very well done.

ON TOP OF SPAGHETTI....Despite what that old song says, you don't have to get on top of spaghetti (ugh, what an idea), but you are invited to Liberty Elementary on April 18 between 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. to enjoy that Italian dish that's everybody's favorite. The supper costs \$4.50 in advance

Klearly Speaking:

for adults, \$5 at the door, \$3 in advance for children and \$3.50 at the door, and for a whole family of 5, it's just \$15. From 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. there will be an auction and raffle and admission to that is free. All proceeds from the evening's fun will go toward Liberty's Playground 2000 project.

FREE FERTILIZER.....NR residents can collect up to one yard of biosolids (residue from material removed from sewage) and use it to fertilize your garden. Go the French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant on Abbe Road in Sheffield. No, this isn't an April Fool's joke. OK, so check it out for yourself, call French Creek at 934-5251. If I can round up a truck, I think I'll be headin'

CONGRATS.....Dennis Boose has been named to the Parks and Rec Commission, to fill out the unexpired term of Doug Beach who resigned recently. Dennis

might as well be on the panel, he attends every meeting, and usually has a question or comment during lobby. Even Councilwoman Gail Minnick, who's on the Commission as Council's liaison, likes the idea and said she's looking forward to working with Dennis. Wait a minute, isn't this Dennis' encore performance on the panel...I'm sure he was on once before, so no training

WINTER'S OVER I just know we've seen the last of the real heavy white stuff, so could we all get out and do some picking up. Those blue and gold streamers that were hung on utility poles as a Rah! Rah! to the Rangers several months ago, looked great then, but today, they're anything but attractive. We don't have to wait for Pride Day to show pride in the community.

SPEAKING OF....While we're talkin' blue and gold, what ever happened to plans for a sign at Pitts and Center Ridge directing people to North Ridgeville High School.

When it comes to reminiscing, memory's the first thing to go

By Josh Cable

Ah, the good old days.

I can remember back when I was a kid: Elian Gonzalez was an All-Star second baseman with the Texas Rangers. The closest thing we had to genetic cloning was the Mandrell sisters. As for elementary school violence, well, we only had that if our chocolate milk was frozen. I think it was that long walk back to the lunch line that made me so prone to violence (against small insects in my driveway). Either that or the unnecessary interaction with the lunch ladies. I can't prove it, but they were always out to get me (so was my gym teacher---Mrs. You know who you are!).

Think about how times have changed even in the last decade: it was just ten years ago that Al Gore invented the Internet. If you were doing any "surfing" in 1989, you were probably in your favorite "La-Z-Boy with a remote control and a can of (insert the name of your favorite canned alcoholic beverage here) in your hand. At least, I hope you were holding a (insert the name of your favorite canned alcoholic beverage) in your hand.

I remember when sharing your Chapstick would only give you cooties. Now you can get 5-10 years for sexual harassment in the workplace. There goes my best pickup line (next to, "Hi, I'm a newspaper reporter still living with my parents. Want to go out with me?")

Smoking was cool. It didn't give you bad breath and it didn't kill you (as quickly). In fact, life was just one long smoke break back in the old days. At my old job, you could smoke at work---right at your desk. Imagine the sheer pleasure of inhaling all that tar, nicotine and carcinogens while performing your daily job functions at the same time! If

Letters to the Editor:

Just Joshin':

only someone would invent a time travel machine (that allowed smoking).

Gas, back then, did not cost \$2 a gallon. In fact, it didn't cost anything. I don't even remember fueling up back in the old days. I don't even remember driving, come to think of it. We just flew through the air to wherever we wanted to go (usually to the ciga;

And there were cigarette stores galore. There were cigarette shopping malls with stores for each brand, stores that sold cool smoking accessories (like customized iron lungs and body bags) and other cigaretterelated items. Probably one of those Spencer Gift-type stores with practical joke items like machines that make the ground slope upward when smokers are walking and cigarettes that smell like flatulents.

Speaking of flatulents ... ah, never mind. Back then, you didn't see professional athletes getting arrested for murder and other various felonies. Not in my day. In those days, professional athletes stuck to the business of playing their individual sports and spending their excessive fortunes on prostitutes and fast cars. They were purists.

There were no gang-choreographed dance routines in the end zone after a successful play. Pro athletes didn't even wear helmets back then---they ate the bark off a rotten tree for breakfast and then drank 16 longneck bottles of Coca Cola for dinner. That's all they needed. That and a lot of Pepto Bismol afterward.

Back then there was no such thing as "herbal remedies" or "supplements" or "aromatherapy." People didn't go to "health

spas" or "weekend yoga retreats" or anything else in "" to improve their health. Masseuses were just for the wealthy and the really perverted. Relief was spelled R-O-L-A-I-D-S. If that didn't work, a shot of whiskey in the morning would set you straight. And lots and lots of cigarettes.

In my day, we didn't have 84,000 TV channels. Mobile homes were still considered "chic" by most domestic tornadoes. Hulk Hogan was actually named Hulk Hogan and Vince McMahon was a seedy wrestling impresario. I guess some things never change.

Websites needed to be cleaned out of the garage before their owners spawned and laid eggs. Internet usually meant "interstate" after the person you were talking to said "Huh?" and you didn't reply. Download still had something to do with shifting into a higher gear or making a bowel movement (depending on which part of the country you were in at the time).

CD-Rom was R2-D2's cousin.

Ricky Martin and Britney Spears were still in Hell, waiting to be born.

I made more money than Bill Gates (if you compare my lifetime salary and 401K to his hourly wage in his first year out of college).

William Jefferson Clinton was a bright and innocent young schoolboy who called his teachers "Maam" and made his mother proud with his good marks at school and his impeccable manners. It would be several more years before he had the life-changing revelation that chicks dig guys with power.

This is "The Mysterious Voice in Italics' saying, "Ye gads, somebody stick a fork in this premise---it's dead already!" Join us next week for a salute to people who eat chocolate chips on their pizza---or something better if he thinks of

Shame on you

To the Editor:

Recently, North Ridgeville Kindergarten PTA sent home a letter explaining of a family that has had some terrible misfortunes, and explained that a fund-raiser was going to be done on their behalf. Since that time, candy has been sent home with the children to sell, with the profits going into this memorial fund.

I recently heard that people were calling the president of the PTA and shaming her for sending candy home with their children and stating that she must "know" the family. Well, I just have one thing to say to those people. Shame on you! I should only hope that you never need the generosity and thoughtfulness that is being displayed by the North Ridgeville Kindergarten PTA.

We as parents are supposed to be setting positive examples for our children. I am asking these people to have a change of heart, and spend an hour, hand in hand with your child, and make this family's life just a little better, by giving a little bit of your time and yourself. Rachel Jalowiec North Ridgeville

Thank vou To the Editor:

I would like to thank the business, school and community leaders who donated funds to purchase and install a main, border and wing curtains on the stage in the community room at the Education Center. Whether you are using the stage for a concert, theater production or community forum the curtain will

be a useful and welcomed addition.

The donations were greatly appreciated for this worthwhile effort and were received from the following: North Ridgeville City Schools, North Ridgeville Band Boosters, North Ridgeville Education Center PTA, High School Ranger Parent Club, Liberty Elementary School PTA, Middle School PTA, Wilcox Elementary School PTA, Invacare Foundation, Senator Jeffry Armbruster, R. W. Beckett, First Merit Bank, Jeffrey Manning, Media One, Nino's North Ridgeville Arts Council, North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce, Northview Animal Clinic, Dr. Casey O'Connor, The Sweeney Group.

We appreciate the generosity of those who contributed their support. Lee Armbruster North Ridgeville

Resents Hill's remarks

Citizens owed an apology

To the Editor: On April 3, the citizens of North Ridgeville, represented by John C. Prajzner and attorney Gerald Phillips, presented Jim White, clerk of council, with 908 signatures on petitions, which will afford taxpayers the opportunity to vote for or against the Kingston Place re-zoning ordinance recently adopted by City Council. I am appalled to realize that North Ridgeville mayor, Deanna Hill, as reported in the April 4 edition of the Chronicle

Telegram, stated that she thinks those who signed the petition were given false information and did not understand the ordinance. In the same article, first ward councilman, Jim Johnson, was quoted as saying, "most of the people who signed it don't know what they were signing." Those statements are personal insults to each and every circulator who volunteered their time in a concerted effort to aid the citizens of North Ridgeville. They are personal insults to every registered voter who made the decision to sign the petition based on his or her own opinion on how they will be impacted by the ordinance.

The perceived arrogance behind those statements demonstrates apathy and disregard for the real concerns (which have been voiced at city meetings) of the people who reside in this city. In petitioning for and filing for a referendum vote, the residents have found a legal way to have their stifled voices heard while exercising their Constitutional rights in a democracy.

I believe the Mayor and Mr. Johnson owe the citizens of North Ridgeville a public

Nancy J. Buescher North Ridgeville

I resent the remarks made recently by Mayor Hill that people collecting signatures on the referendum petition for the re-zoning of the Kingston PCD "were given false information." I challenge the Mayor to verify that statement. Residents were calling to inquire where they could sign a petition! The favorable responses were overwhelming. What isn't being told by the administration is that Council members who voted for the re-zoning ignored major thoroughfare plans, the Master Plan, ordinances (along with the city planner's findings) all existed before this PCD re-zoning was proposed. They aren't being told that if this PCD is built, the possibility of extending Mills Road to Case Road will be lost forever. By her statement is the Mayor implying that the voters aren't capable of making intelligent decisions when told all the facts? None of the Council members who voted

for the PCD re-zoning were heard saying, with 908 signatures, maybe we should listen to the people and re-think this." Instead we hear from Councilman Johnson, "most of the people who signed it don't know what they were signing." What kind of remark is that? This administration infers that only the mayor and certain council members know what's best for the people in North Ridgeville. Everyone who signed the petitions should be outraged - not at the circulators, but at this administration!

It appears the hallmark of this administration is to impose their beliefs by introducing legislation and encouraging passage without considering the wishes of the taxpayers, who will ultimately be impacted by these careless decisions.

The petition signers and circulators are

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to be commended for their overwhelming interest and response on a very important issue that will impact our city forever.

Gail Minnick, Councilwoman, Ward 4

itizens well-informed

To the Editor: I circulated a petition in my neighborhood to put the PCD issue to a vote of North Ridgeville voters. Contrary to Mayor Hill's comment in the April 5 Chronicle that "those who signed the petitions were given false information and did not understand the ordinance," I found the citizens well informed and eager to sign. It appears developers are interested in making as much money as they can and at the least cost to them. They leave behind (at least in North Ridgeville) congested roads and eventually higher taxes for schools, roads, and city services. Other cities receive amenities from these developers in return for doing business in their cities. Maybe Mayor Hill should learn how to negotiate with these developers. She also should get out and talk to the residents and listen to their concerns. The same goes for our rubber stamp Council. Seems most are afraid to have a different opinion than the Mayor.

We also had people ask why something ouldn't have been done about the new housing development on Opal and we had many negative comments on the huge, ugly building going up on Center Ridge and Emerald. Haven't we got enough empty buildings in North Ridgeville. Here's a thought - maybe we should fill the empty ones before building more new ones. June Lanning

No false information given

To the Editor:

I was one of the North Ridgeville residents who collected signatures for the Kingston Place referendum. In no way did I give false or misleading information to any person. I resent the implication (from Mayor Hill) that an impropriety was done.

This petition was circulated to give the voters the opportunity to approve or disapprove the ordinance. If informing the public of their rights is wrong then I am guilty.

Yes Mayor Hill, it is time to educate the public. We must inform them of their rights! If anyone in the administration thinks otherwise, maybe it is the administration that needs the education.

Mary Ann Miles North Ridgeville

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

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

ZONING BOARD MEETING, 7 p.m. Council Chambers. N.R. LIBRARY, 7 p.m. Preschool Story Time.

N. RIDGEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 7 p.m. The Weigh Down Workshop Orientation. 5400 N. Lear Nagle Rd. 327-

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

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

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

Multi-Purpose Room. \$7/class. 353-0860/info. ROTARY CLUB, noon at the Office For Older Adults. SATURDAY

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

SANDY RIDGE WETLAND CENTER, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Ohio Salamanders (HSP).

SUNDAY

VFW #9871, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Retirees/Honor Guard Pancake Breakfast at the post.

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

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

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

Bldg. 125 E. Broad St., Elvria. N.R. ARTS COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m. First Congregational UCC Church.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers.

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

N.R. PARKS & REC. DEPT., 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults. \$7/class. 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Ongoing Body Sculpting class. \$40/month. Both classes held at the Sr. Center Multi-Purpose Room. 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Ongoing Fencing class for children and adults at the Middle School. 353-0860/info.

N.R. LIBRARY, 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. Preschool Story Time. LIBERTY ELEMENTARY, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner, Adults \$4.50 advance/\$5 door, children \$3 advance/\$3.50 door, \$15/family (5 people), Auction/Raffle 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit Playground 2000. LIONS CLUB, 6:30 p.m. Webster's Restaurant.

TOPS CLUB #656, 7 p.m. Fields UM Church, Lorain Rd. VFW #9871, 7:30 p.m. Dads of Foreign Service Veterans at

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, 7:30 p.m. Education Cen-WEDNESDAY

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

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

WEIGHT WATCHERS, 6:30 p.m. First Congreg. Church, 36363 Center Ridge Rd.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m. Council MINI RANGERS FOOTBALL BOOSTERS, 7 p.m. South

Central Park Community Cabin.

PCD from pg. 1

of the signers really understand what PCDs are, stressing, "It's difficult to follow issues day-to-day. That's why we have representative government...the representatives you elected are there to promote your best interest."

Hill said she feels Council did its job in studying the issue of planned community developments, as did the Planning Commission, "a non-political, non-paid" group. Now that there is the possibility of a referendum, people must be informed. The public has not had the same opportunity to work on issues for months, and much of the data that the legislators have does not always go to the public, which is why the city has elected representatives, she said.

The Mayor said that there is a misunderstanding about

Either the property has a gridwork of homes, or the other choice of PCDs and open space. You can't have it both ways, said Hill and ultimately, "the developer owns the property...I don't fault people for signing, they didn't have the information."

On another issue of concern, Hill said that extending Mills Road, as many people want, is not just a North Ridgeville decision. "Half of that belongs to Avon," she said.

Attorney Gerald W. Phillips, who represents the citizens group, was pleased with the petition effort and said that too often such groups "don't know what rights they have. They have to be educated," he said, "all power comes from the



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or enjoy this spacious country home on 2.19 acres w/creek. Newer roof, carpeting, and aeration system, Large kitchen and formal dining room, 2nd kitchen for canling and utility. \$189,900. Rick Metera at 327-6511 on #993291.



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Obituaries:

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

DANIEL M. GLOWACKI

Daniel M. Glowacki, 22, formerly of North Ridgeville, died April 1 at Palos Community Hospital in Crestwood, Ill., after injuries from an automobile accident.

Born in Dubois, Pa., he grew up and lived in North Ridgeville. He moved to Crestwood, Ill. in 1999.

Mr. Glowacki was a 1996 graduate of North Ridgeville High School and formerly was an assistant manager at BP Pro-Care at Crocker-Bassett and Detroit Roads in Westlake. He worked at Trane Chicago Service as a heating and air conditioning service technician.

He enjoyed hunting, shooting pool and motorcycles.

Survivors include his father, Frank Glowacki of Crestwood, Ill.; mother and step-father, Cyndy and James Sas of North Ridgeville; step-others, Steve Sas of Homerville, and James Sas of North Ridgeville; step-sister, Laura McKenna of Olmsted Falls; and paternal grandmother, Helen Glowacki of Dubois, Pa.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents; and paternal grandfather. Services were held at the David Bogner Family Funeral Home, with the Rev. Michael Gibson, pastor of Fields United Methodist Church officiating.

Further services and burial were in Pennsylvania.

VICTORIA A. DEBA

Victoria A. Deba (nee Zehel), 80, of Sheffield Lake died April 2 at the New Life Hospice Center of St. Joseph after a brief ill-

Born in Leemont Furnace, Pa., she moved from Lorain to Sheffield Lake in

Mrs. Deba was a graduate of Clearview High School. She was a waitress at the Aquamarine Restaurant and Banquet Center in Avon Lake, for more than 20 years, retiring in 1980.

She was a parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Sheffield Lake, where she was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society. She was also a member of the First Slovak Catholic Union, Branch No. 228.

She enjoyed playing bingo, reading, current events and the company of her grandchildren.

Survivors include sons, Joseph R. of Denver, Colo., David J. of Sheffield Lake; daughters, Mary Ann Elmore of North Ridgeville and Rosemarie Cowie of Florence Twp.; seven grandchildren; a brother and two sisters.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph J. Deba in 1985; parents; a brother and three sisters.

Services and burial were in Lorain. Memorials may be made to the St. Thomas Scholarship Fund, 715 Harris Rd., Sheffield Lake 44054.

DOROTHY I. MEHNE Dorothy I. Mehne (nee Dickson), 76, of North Ridgeville died April 2, at the North-

ridge Health Center after a short illness. Born in While Oak, Ind., formerly of Pike County, Ind., she moved to North Ridgeville nine months ago.

Mrs. Mehne was a member of Otwell United Methodist Church, Ind. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, quilting and

Survivors include her husband of 59 years, Amos; daughters, Juanita Kennett of

Investigation from pg. 1

struck a tree, after she reportedly attempted to pass another vehicle while traveling west on Sugar Ridge.

Sending the data to the prosecutor's office is part of procedure, said Thomas, and it will be two weeks or more before a final report is handed down by county officials.

He declined to detail any findings made by the North Ridgeville Police Department.

North Ridgeville, Sharon Knight of Peachtree City, Ga., and Judy Goff of Vincennes, Ind.; five grandchildren; two greatgrandchildren; one brother and a sister.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister; and one brother. Services and burial were in Indiana.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fields United Methodist Church, 34077 Lorain Rd.

The David Bogner Family Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Wanda Glowinski

Wanda Glowinski (nee Tarski), 84, of Sheffield Township died April 3 at Allen Memorial Hospital in Oberlin following a

brief illness. Born in Lorain, she had been an area resident her entire life.

Mrs. Glowinski was a member of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Lorain for more than 54 years and formerly was active with the church's Altar and Rosary Soci-

Her hobbies included gardening and baking.

Survivors include daughters, Marcella Majzun and Barbara Nagy, both of Lorain and Marie Urbanik of North Ridgeville; a son, David Glowinski of Wellington; 14 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren;

She was preceded in death by her husband, Theodore E. in 1990; a son; her parents; and three sisters.

Services and burial were in Lorain. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 12200 Fairhill Rd., Cleveland 44120 or to the Welcome Nursing Home Patient Fund, 417 South

Main St., Oberlin 44074.

HENRY W. WALJAKKA

Henry W. Waljakka, 81, of Elyria, died April 5 at St. John West Shore Hospital, Westlake, following a long illness.

He was born in Cleveland. He was a resident of Elyria the past eight years moving



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from Bay Village where he lived for 43 years. Mr. Waljakka was an inspector for Ford Motor Company in Brookpark retiring in 1980 after 261/2 years of service.

He as a member of Bethesda on the By Lutheran Church in Bay Village. He was a former member of United Auto Workers Union Local 1250. He was a life member of Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 9340, Columbia Station, AMVETS Elyria Post 32. American Legion Post 211, Avon Lake, North Olmsted Masonic Lodge 741 and was a 32nd Degree with the Valley of Cleveland Scottish Rite.

Mr. Waljakka was a WWII US Army veteran serving from 1942 to 1945 with the 409th Infantry. He received a good conduct medal American Theater Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with five Bronze Stars.

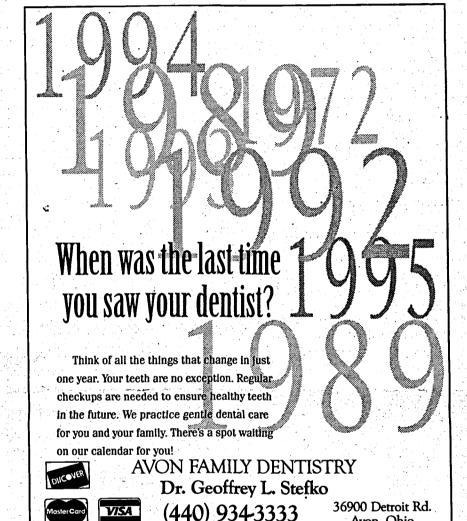
He enjoyed playing golf. He is survived by one daughter, Mrs.

Robert (Cheryl) Roy of North Ridgeville; one son, Bruce Waljakka of Elyria; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Miriam in 1984; one son and his parents.

Funeral services were held in the David Bogner Family Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dennis Stylski, pastor of Bethesda on the Bay Church officiating. Burial was in Elmhurst Park Cemetery,

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 43099 North Ridge Rd., Elyria, Ohio 44035-1051.



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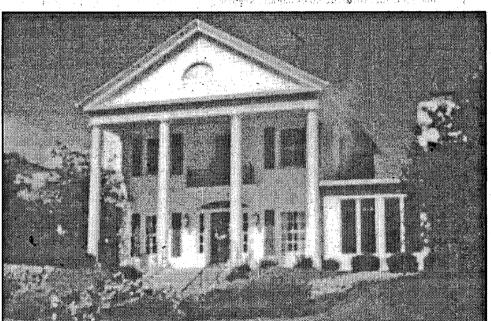
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Financial Focus: Is a 401 (k) plan appropriate for your business?

By Mike Powers

No business owner would argue against the importance of planning for the future. However, the reality is that with the daily demands of running a business, long-term goals are often put on the back burner.

Failure to plan for retirement can be devastating. That's just one reason it's so important for business owners to establish and maintain a retirement savings program. In addition to providing a nest egg for business owners, retirement plans also can help reduce business taxes and enable employers to attract and retain quality employees.

Business owners today have a variety of choices when it comes to retirement plans. One of the most popular is the

A 401(k) plan is a deferred compensation plan that allows employees to put a portion of their salary into a retirement plan. The contributions are exempt from federal and state taxation (in most states); however, they do not avoid Social Security (FICA) tax. The employer also has the option of making matching or profit-sharing contributions

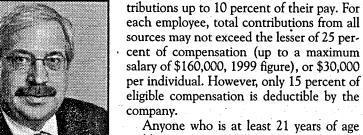
that are tax-deductible to the business.

Many business owners think retirement plans such as 401(k)s are expensive and difficult to administer; however, this is not necessarily true. With 401(k) plans, employers are required to file form 5500 each year and pass certain anti-discrimination tests at least annually. As for the costs, increased demand for these plans has fueled competition among retirement-plan providers, resulting in lower costs to busi-

The 401(k) is most appropriate for the business owner with more than 25 employees who wants to encourage employees to

fund part of their own retirement plan. Any organization, such as a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, Scorporation or non-profit group can have a 401(k).

For 2000, employees may contribute up to \$10,500 before taxes. (This amount is subject to cost-of-living adjustments.) They also may make voluntary after-tax con-



Anyone who is at least 21 years of age and has one year of full-time service is eligible to participate in the 401(k) plan. One year of full-time service equals 1,000 hours; employees who work less than 1,000 hours may be excluded.

Employers can choose from a wide range

of investments for 401(k) assets, including mutual funds, stocks and bonds. The most popular choice is mutual funds, which offer diversification in one investment. Often, businesses will offer several investments, enabling employees to choose how their contributions are invested. In addition, business owners may set up a vesting schedule, helping retain employees and reduce costly turnover.

If you're considering offering a 401(k) plan, do your homework. Consult your tax adviser, and look for a retirement-plan provider who is well-versed in the regulations. Your provider should be willing to come to your business, work with you face-to-face and explain all the options to you and your employees. Choose someone who is interested in setting up a plan that meets your needs and will be there for the long term - in other words, someone who won't put you on the back burner.





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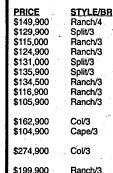
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NRHS student to play his way across Europe

By Carol Klear

A North Ridgeville High School musician will be traveling to Europe shortly after graduation for a three-week band tour, 20 years after-his father made the same trip, with the same band and under the same

On June 26 Erik von Hoch will head to Washington for a three-day stop and then on to Europe with the American Musical Ambassadors Band, a select group of outstanding students from all over the United States, who will play in a number of European countries for three weeks.

This is the second year Erik has been chosen for the honor, but last year he opted to postpone the experience until 2000, so he could gather some funds for the trip. And in less than three months, Erik will be on his way

Erik, who has played trumpet with the North Ridgeville High School Symphonic Band for two years and the marching band ting some good advice from his father, Gary von Hoch, who also plays the trumpet and surprisingly took the same European Band Tour 20 years ago, and under the same director, while a student at East Moline High School in Illinois.

Erik said his place with this year's band came after an instructor visited NRHS to watch students perform, and learned that

though he will audition for a chair while in Washington, he may well earn one of the first, or "highest seated" chairs in the band.

The 17-year-old said he has been playing the trumpet since he was in seventh grade and was a percussionist in fifth and six grades. Although he is confident he will be first chair, others, he said, "have a leg up on me," because they have been taking lessons longer.

Erik said that presently he takes trumpet lessons after school from Noe Fernandez, and at home he and his father play an occasional duet together. Looking back on his own European Band Tour, Erik said his father told him, "it was the best thing he

As he prepares to go overseas, Erik said his father also clued him in on some ways to enjoy the trip, and not waste money. "He told me, 'don't go to a lot of restaurants, they're fairly expensive," and that it is easier and cheaper to pick up a loaf of bread and some meat and make sandwiches. "You for four, is excited about the trip, and is get- can sight-see and eat on the bus," his father

> One thing his father had wanted to do and didn't get to, when he was in Paris was to go up on the Eiffel Tower, and though Erik said he might seem like "a nudgey little tourist," he hopes to get there.

> The American Musical Ambassadors have taken more 6,000 young musicians to Europe for 28 consecutive years and

Erik von Hoch

according to the itinerary, the tour will take students to many places such as Lucerne, Milan, Verona, Salzburg, Belgium, Germany and London, where they'll play concerts in concert halls and major parks or Europe and visit many sites of musical importance along with popular attractions.

Erik said the plan is to give three performances each day. And as for the music to be played, he hasn't received that yet, but

he's not too concerned because he adept at sight-reading.

Though Erik hasn't met the other teenage musicians who will be making the tour personally, he has been talking to some of them via the Internet in the states of Texas, California and Idaho.

Before the youngsters ever leave home they must purchase uniforms for the tour, which will include dress slacks and royal blue polo shirts. "They give you a wind breaker," he said. Though he's used to pants like Dockers, he'll have to forgo them this trip because they wrinkle too easily and the students must look sharp as United States ambassadors.

As for other clothes, the directions were to "pack light," said Erik, noting no more than nine shirts.

The cost of this experience-of-a-lifetime is not inexpensive, but Erik said his parents have promised to pay the \$2,000 for the trip, itself, and he has to come up with the remaining \$3,000 or so, he'll need for food or souvenirs.

Last year when he was asked to join the group, his father also provided a little financial advice on saving the money he needed. In addition to working at Chi Chi's and Chuckie Cheese, Erik's father suggested he set up a mutual fund. "Dad told me I could get a 30 percent return," he said, so he has turned his initial investment of \$600 into around \$2,000 so far.

Besides visiting many places he may only have read about, what is Erik looking forward to the most? /

"Being away from home for three weeks," he answered quickly. In the fall he plans to go to The Ohio State University, which is just a couple of hours away, so the European Band Tour will be a special expe-

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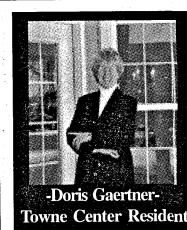
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Forum from pg. 1

Addressing allegations that proficiency tests force teachers to teach to the test, rather than to the prescribed curriculum, Zelman said "There is nothing wrong with teaching to the test, if it's a good test."

Students must have good reading skills and comprehend what they read and it is developmentally appropriate to expect those skills, she said.

Armbruster agreed that proficiency testing is a "hot issue," and said he feels accountability is necessary.

Wise explained that the first proficiency test appeared in 1990, and acknowledged that mistakes were made. By correcting the errors the system can be better, she said, and agreed with Armbruster's demand for accountability.

When asked if proficiency testing is the only yardstick with which to measure the quality of education, Armbruster said that Gov. Bob Taft is working with leaders in the Department of Education, the superintendents, and the Boards of Education. "It's a wake-up call for a lot of us," he said. "If we believe in public education and this investment, we'll make it work."

The Senator said that the educational system requires parental involvement, though some parents feel children are too pressured by proficiency tests. "I was not a good test-taker," he said, "what kind of help are we giving to them?"

Help is needed, but Zelman said that

April Tune-Up Specia

\$130 Incl.

tests are part of life. Passing tests are necessary to get into college, Civil Service jobs require testing, and even kids in little league are under pressure when they make bad

Zelman evidenced her strong support for "investing in teachers." She said it is paramount that teachers have the necessary background for their profession. "I believe that teachers are the key to improvement," she said, adding that teacher recruitment is another issue that must be addressed.

"We want Ohio to be a world-class education system," said the Superintendent.

The business community must be convinced that a financial investment will pay dividends later, she said. "If we're asking for money," she said, "we must show how we're aligning better."

Discussing children with behavior problems who disrupt class, Zelman said she agrees with Taft that children who are denying others an education should not be in class, however, she said, "alternative schools should not a dumping ground."

The State of Ohio has done much to improve school safety, said the Superintendent. "We're working with the Emergency Management Office and we have software to develop a school safety plan," she said, "Ohio has done a lot of good work."

Wise does not think helping to fund education through property taxes will be eliminated in the near future. She said, "It is such

MAPLE GROVE

MARINA & PARK

a political issue, it's unlikely we will have changes in local property taxes."

Ninety minutes after the lively classroom discussions began, participants adjourned to the center to hear summaries of the focus issues which included the following:

• Fourth Grade Reading Guarantee Begin reading at age-appropriate, including preschool; add all-day kindergarten insist on improved and expanded reading curricu-

• Standards and Testing - Realistic standards needed; concern expressed about design of tests, as well as for what they measure; Ohio Proficiency Tests should not be relied on for grades.

 School Accountability - A call to return to IOWA tests and eliminate proficiency tests; support for removing problem children from classroom setting; recommendation to hire staff to keep parents informed of child's progress; releasing school district report regarded as fair.

 School Funding - Formula for state funding viewed as flawed; legislators called upon to make education higher priority.

• Professional Development - Periodic, multi-faceted evaluation mandated for all educators; professional development mandatory; funding to parallel all mandates. • Character Education - Treat others

involve parents and community. School Safety - Conduct assessment to define what makes schools safe and review continuously; students and staff must feel

with respect; establish code of ethics;

 State Department of Education's Role Proactive role in supporting local districts; primary customer is local district, specifically administrators and teachers; ODE to be proactive advocates for local districts in funding issues, especially unfunded man-

Several persons who attended last week's session shared their reactions to the forum.

Barb Clough of Olmsted Falls, who had participated in the group discussing the role of the Ohio Department of Education said she thought the evening was good. "There was a lot of information recorded to go to the state," she said. The department should help school districts with the curriculum. 'There should be a level playing field," she

Clough commended Larry Bowersox, director of curriculum and student services and Middle School Principal John Komperda, who had made presentations at a PTA conference last fall. "They gave a presentation on proficiency tests," she said. "It was the first time I heard people be positive about it. I was very impressed. It made me think about it."

Barbara Becker of the Firelands District had been part of the 4th grade reading guarantee and said she felt the forum was good. "Everyone's concerned," she said.

Stan Fairchild, a member of the Rocky River School Board, insisted that he was speaking for himself and not for the board, and said he thought the session on the State Department of Education was good and the discussion flowed freely.

North Ridgeville's Joe Kasinec said that his group on character education, though small, was good.

On Thursday, North Ridgeville Superintendent Thomas Rockwell said that he was pleased with the event.

Miller from pg. 1

that though the situations were separate, "one came about because of the other." Although Miller is back at his desk, there

remains a mystery at the fire station - who stole Miller's personnel file. "They're (police) still conducting an

investigation," said Miller. He said shortly after the new year began,

he discovered that the file was missing. On Jan. 14, Miller said he posted a notice, stating that whoever took the file "had 10 days to return it to my office."

By Jan. 24 he turned the situation over to the police. "It's city property," he said, "taking it is a criminal offense." If police do locate who took the file, the

person could face discipline, and possible termination, said Miller.

"It's an internal problem, but I offered an amnesty program," he said, adding, "I said put it (file) in a manila envelope and mail it back - no questions asked."

Miller speculates that the file's disappear- not keep duplicate copies.

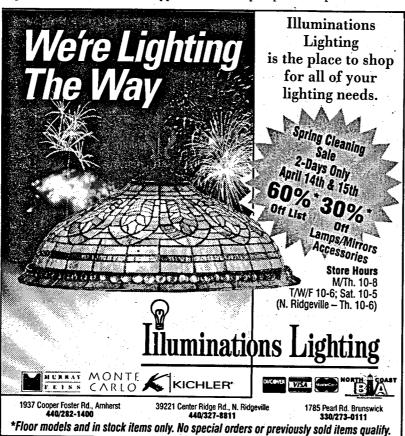
ance may stem from actions of a disgruntled employee. Miller was sworn in as fire chief on Jan. 6, 1997, a few days after a new contract had been put in place. Though there were things Miller wanted to implement as chief, he said, "My hands were tied."

Under the new contract approved recently, there were changes that were enforced "overnight," he said, and may have led to dissatisfaction.

The fire chief said that Zirzow would like all personnel files to be housed in one location. "I disagree with that," said Miller. Presently personnel files are kept in the department in which the employee works.

Miller said that the amount of paperwork in an employee's file is vast, and "stuff is put in on a daily basis - that is part of his (employee) career." To constantly put data into an off-site file, would be difficult.

Due to the confidentiality of the information in the personnel files, the city does





Police Dept. Reports:

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Two teenagers charged with burglary of Forest Ridge Apartments

By Mary Swindell

A 14-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl were charged with burglary April 1 after they allegedly broke into a suite in the Forest Ridge Apartments on Jaycox Road.

Hearing glass shatter at about 8 p.m., a neighbor went out to the parking lot, thinking somebody was breaking into a car. Seeing nothing amiss, he returned to his apartment. Once inside, he heard glass breaking again.

Again he went outside to investigate and found a window in a neighboring building broken. He called the police. The dispatchhe went back outside and over to the other

Walking into the building, he spotted the boy knocking on the door of the apartment with the broken window. The witness gave the dispatcher the apartment number and told the boy to stay put. Later the girl joined her alleged confederate, but both ran off before the police arrived.

Officers later found both at the girl's home and took them in. They said they decided to break into the apartment because the girl knew, from having babysat there, that the residents keep money in a coffeecan. The girl kicked the window in, er asked him for the apartment number, so crawled inside and was about to let her boyfriend in when she heard a warning wouldn't leave when asked.

Dickens Circle resident who didn't have a

permit for open burning, this on April 1 at

fire three feet by three feet and a foot and a

half high. They drenched it with the con-

A beeping carbon monoxide sensor in a

home on Avon Belden Road prompted a

visit from the Fire Department April 6 at

Their portable detector showed 31 parts

per million in the house, but nothing amiss

with the appliances. The source of the gas

was determined to be cars that had been

Anything between 10 and 100 ppms is

considered potentially dangerous with

immediate evacuation recommended.

On arrival, they found a clean-burning

knock on the door from him, according to reports. She exited via the broken window.

When police noticed the aroma of alcohol on her breath, the girl admitted to drinking brandy although she wouldn't say where she had gotten it. She also was referred to Juvenile Court for attempted theft and underage consumption. The boy also was referred for complicity to theft.

Members of the Shepherd of the Ridge Church on Center Ridge Road blew the whistle on a man, evidently drunk, who walked in during services on April 2 and

Police arrived to find the man slouched in a chair in the church lobby. He was incoherent and unsteady on his feet, according

Officers found the 39-year-old Grafton resident's car in the lot equipped with an ignition interlock device that will lock down the car if it detects alcohol on the driver's breath. The man insisted he was sober when he drove to the church and that he consumed liquor in the parking lot after he arrived.

Puzzled police, however, could find no booze bottles in or around the car. The man does not have a driver's license, only a state ID. He was charged with disorderly conduct while intoxicated.

Fire Dept. Reports:

Power surge at apartment causes damage to lights, microwave oven

about 2:30 p.m.

tents of a watercan.

about 9:50 p.m.

idling in the driveway.

By Mary Swindell

A power surge surged through a Sugar Ridge Road home April 5, causing damage to the lights and microwave oven. The homeowner had shut the power off at the breaker box before firefighters arrived at 11:45 a.m. Ohio Edison was notified of the sudden electrical burst.

Firemen jumped into their truck shortly after midnight on April 1 and raced to Stony ridge Road where two big piles of trees and stumps were reported afire.

The bonfires were about 150 feet apart in a field a half-mile off the road. Firemen tried to douse the blazes by emptying watercans on them, but that didn't do much good. Because of the distance they'd have had to drag hoses and the fact that there was no wind, they allowed the fires to burn out.

Keep the home fires burning

An Avon Belden road homeowner had a permit for a recreational fire for the weekend, but the blaze he had going during the evening hours of March 31 prompted a visit by the fire brigade.

Firemen advised the residents to clear the area around the firepit and make sure the fire wasn't higher than three feet.

Firefighters issued a written warning to

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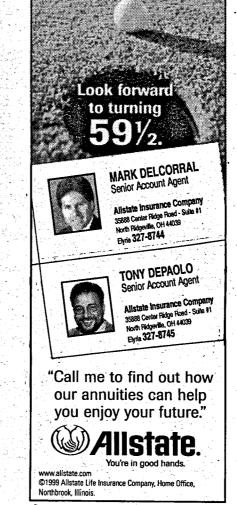
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Sexton joins Gilfether Homes as sales and marketing manager

March 27, as its sales and marketing

"We are delighted to have Bob join our company," said Casey Gilfether, president of the firm. "His previous experience in the building industry, along with his skill in sales and marketing will be a great asset to our growing company." -

12 years, beginning December 1987 when he replaced Carmine Torio. NCBIA is a trade association representing the building industry for more than 56 years and has more than 670 member companies representing over 27,000 employees.

While at NCBIA he worked with the OHBA and the parks departments to form the first of its kind wetlands mitiga-

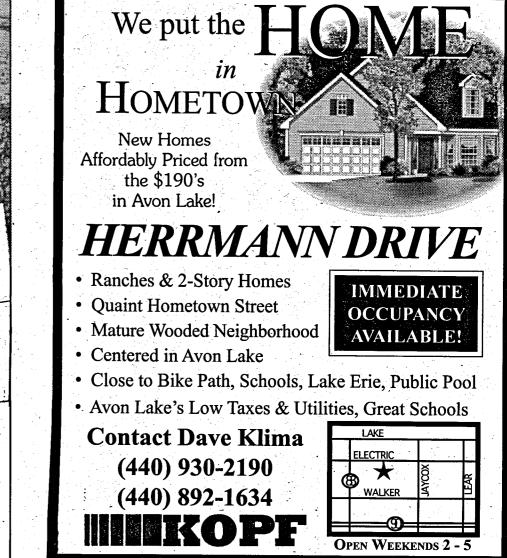
Bob Sexton joined Gilfether Homes, tion site at Sandy Ridge, one of the Lorain County Metro Parks in North Ridgeville.

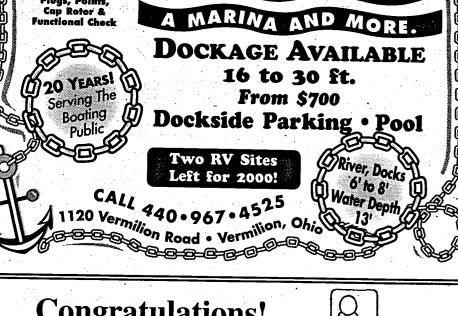
While he was with NCBIA he saw the construction of an observation deck at Cascade Park, the 24-hour construction and sale of a model home for charity, as well as numerous home shows, Parade of Homes, Homearama and more.

In announcing his departure from Prior to joining Gilfether Homes, Sex- NCBIA, Association President Kenny ton was an executive officer of the North Oswald called Sexton a "very dedicated Coast Building Industry Association for person, who helped the association make great strides.

In joining Gilfether, Sexton said, "I wanted to join a company that had a reputation of building quality homes an provided outstanding customer service, I believe Gilfether Homes meets that cri-

Gilfether Homes was formed in 1988 and is currently building homes in Elyria, North Ridgeville and Oberlin.





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tured church organizations were not established for almost a dozen years after they set down their new roots, however, some observed the Sabbath and held regular services at various homes and later at a school house located at the intersection of what is now Center Ridge Road and Rt. 83..

The very first church in North Ridgeville was set up on Dec. 20, 1822, with Rev. Alfred H. Betts, of Brownhelm and Rev. Lot R. Sullivan officiating. From the school house, members began holding services in a barn owned by Joseph Humphrey. The first organization was known as First Presbyterian Church of Ridgeville and boasted just six members, Chester Beebe and his wife, Marcia; Hezekiah Case, Samuel Eldred, Seth R. Alcott and Lucinda Cahoon, with Alcott appointed as the church clerk. Four more people joined the following Sunday — Hezekiah Case, Marcus Case and his wife, Laura and Ora Case.

Church meetings were held in the school house, but as time went on the church struggled and almost failed. In 1825 the school house burned, forcing the congregation to move to a site where the middle school is presently, and on June 25 the Rev. B. W. Lathrop was installed as the first res-

1833 saw the construction of a building made of logs where the Old Town Hall stands, and in 1855 a frame building was erected on the site of the First Congregational Church. Eighteen years later it was moved across the road, just west of Stoney Ridge Road and was turned into a house,

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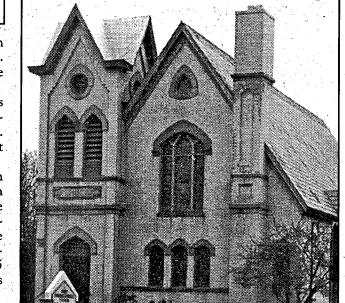
and the historic brick church was built. The first service in the new church was held on Christmas, 1875 and on Jan. 12, 1876 the house of worship was dedicated and named the first Congregational Church of North Ridgeville.

The south end of the community was not without its own church and in 1825 the Methodist-Episcopal Congregation was formed on Butternut Ridge Road by the Rev. Harry O. Sheldon, who was recognized as one of the earliest circuit preachers of the area.

Meetings initially were held in Wilson Blain's log cabin and then in a school house located across the road from the present Methodist Church building. By 1843 there were more than 40 members. The group purchased property on Butternut Ridge Road, and constructed a frame church two years later. But the climate was not harmonious among all members of the congregation and in 1875 some were expelled for not attending services, and others

Those that severed their ties organized another class in 1876 and called themselves the Free Methodists and began meeting at a school house, as well as in Henry Dickson's home, until the church was constructed on Butternut Ridge near Island. According to information in "The Elm Tree Talks," by the late Frances Smith, the church "flourished until around 1930."

The Methodist Church, erected in 1850 was burned in 1881 and was eventually remodeled.



The First Congregational United Church of Christ located on Center Ridge Road across from Stoney Ridge Road.

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

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

Springs of Life Church. 31860 Bagley Rd. N. Ridgeville. Family worship and children's church. Sun. 10:30 am; Sun, eve 6 p.m.; Wed, eve 7 pm Springs of Life Bible College and Shalom Seminary Tue, and Fri. at 7 pm., Sat. at 9 am.

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

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

Fields United Methodis Church. 34077 Lorain Rd. C. Michael Gibson, Pastor. Sunday Worship Service 9 & 11 a.m.; Church School for all ages at 10:00 a.m.; Crib and toddler room avail-

Harvest Ridge Assembly of 327-0024, Fax: (440) 327-7808. Sunday School - 9:30 am. Morning Worship & Children's Church -10:30 am. Sunday Evening Worship - 6:30 pm. Wednesday at 7 pm -Prayer Service, Reality Youth Ministry, Missionettes & Royal

Hosanna Christian Fellowship, 34425 Lorain Rd., Suite 2. (Located just west of Root Rd.) N. Ridgeville. Jim Neece, Pastor. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Home Groups Thurs. 7:00 PM. (Call for locations). Timothy House Aces 8. locations.) Timothy House, Ages 8-11, Wed. 6 to 7 pm. Teen M.A.D. House (*Teens Making A Difference*) Ages 12-18, Wed. 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. The evenings include free arcades, pool, air hockey and radical truth, God's Word. Youth Ministries meet at: 6890 Avon Beldon Rd. (N.W. cor-ner of Rt. 83 & Center Ridge Rd.) Call 440-327-7723

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

Sugar Ridge Baptist Church. 36600 Sugar Ridge Rd. Rev. Bill Shomo, Pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Sunday & Wednesday Evening Services 6 p.m.

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

New Life Pentecostal Church of God. 6001 Lear Nagle. (440) 353-3593. Rev. David Kradlak. Sunday Christian Education 10:00 a.m.; Sunday evening service 7:00 p.m.; Second Wed. Women Ministry 7:00 p.m.; Wed. Bible Study 7:00

North Ridgeville Baptist Church. 5400 Lear Nagle Rd. Rev. Gerald Flury, Pastor. Sunday Services - Sunday - Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am; Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:45 am; Children's Church 11:00 am Children's Church 11:00 am; Evening Service 6:00 pm; Wednesday Evenings 7:00 pm.

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

St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church, 5500 Lear Nagle Rd. North Ridgeville, Oh 44039. Phone: 327-1978. (Located between Center Ridge and Mills Road; on the north side of Lear North Elementary School) Saturday Mass 5 p.m.; Sunday Worshis Schodyle Masses. Sunday Worship Schedule: Masses Morning 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Saturday Confession 3-4 p.m. in Chapel or by appointment. Father ichard Gonser, pastor.

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

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

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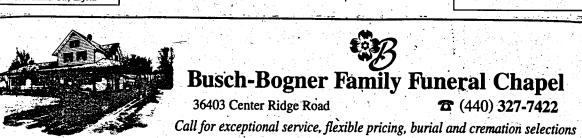
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A study of church and community in growth of Lorain County

Commission and St. Julie Billiart nonpartisan foundation established in Parish will continue to study the citizen's role in local growth trends in munities is designed to help particithe county with a study circle program at St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church, 5500 Lear Nagle Rd. The group discussions. The opportunity to first session was April 10 at 7 p.m. gather and dialogue growth is presentwith others to follow, April 24, May ed to remind us that each of us are to make a difference in how they view 8 and May 22.

The program is titled, "Smart Talk for Growing Communities" from the Study Circles Resource Center of tion, "How is growth changing our Sharon Kleppel, Catholic Action Connecticut, a project of the Tops-community?" Session 2 will focus on

Lorain County Catholic Action field Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit, 1982. Smart Talk for Growing Compants effectively address the communities' growing pains, through small for our county.

The first session addressed the ques-

about child and adult immunizations.

The celebration will include dancers

Standen from Sensational Sounds.

"Why is our community experiencing these changes?". The topic for session 3 is "What are our options for addressing growth issues?" and Session 4 will be "Shaping the future. What can we do in our community?" All "busy citizens" are invited to

attend and take just a couple hours out affected by the decisions made today growth and their role in their own

Infant immunization awareness party set for April 22 Health District Public Health Nurs-

Midway Mall will be the site for an Infant Immunization Awareness Party on April 22, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. This celebration is part of a national effort to increase the number of children ages two and younger that are vaccinated against preventable illnesses. The event will be sponsored by the Lorain County General Health District.

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> AVON LAKE: Open Sunday 2:00pm-4:00pm. 33010 Redwood Blvd., 3BDRM, 1.5BA Ranch. LR,DR,FR. 4season room. \$159.900.

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Children need 80 percent of their vaccinations or "shots" in the first two AVON LAKE: 122 Brookfield. For sale by owner. 3BDRM Bungalow. New windows, furnace, C/A. Hardwood floors. 1260sqft plus finished basement. Beautifully landscaped in super location. Move-in Condition! \$124,900. 440-933–9535

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years of life to protect against disease es will be available to answer questions disability and even death. In Lorain County, childhood immunization rates exceed state rates. "We must push this number even higher," says Health from Dance Time Studios, Inc., and Commissioner Kenneth Pearce.

music by DJ's Loren and Kathy For more information contact the Lorain County General Health District at (440) 322-6367, 244-2209 or 236-

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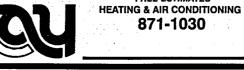
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