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See page 7B

Visitors bureau announces award recipients



Staff photo/Michelle Stein
 Jacquie Amstutz, Kathy Sovinski and Kim Nation accept the Stahr Award at the visitors bureau's annual luncheon.

By MICHELLE STEIN
 Staff Writer

CELINA — Announcing the recipients of two esteemed awards, the Auglaize & Mercer Counties Convention & Visitors Bureau held its annual awards luncheon April 10. The event — held at Romer's Catering in Celina — featured a program called, "Appreciating the Great Outdoors," provided by Heritage Trails Park District Director Allison Brady. She highlighted the geographical features that allows the Auglaize and Mercer county area.

Following Brady's talk, Donna Grube provided the 2013 local tourism report. Last year, the total tourism income amounted to \$48,575,598, which supported 2,551 jobs. In the past five years, tourism spending by hotel guests has contributed more than \$269,391,366 to the economies of Auglaize and Mercer counties. Brian Miller was also honored with the Past President's Award. President Larry Stelzer went on to announced this year's Stahr Award recipient.

a group, organization, or tourist industry company, honored and recognized for outstanding contributions to the development of tourism in the two-county area and/or for working with the CVB to carry out the mission of the bureau," Stelzer said. "This year's winner is a group that works hard to give travelers that reason to visit us, locally — to have a good time in every season. The Taste of Celina, farmers markets in the summer, the Art

"The Stahr Award is given to

See VISITORS Page 2A

Minster honored for electric system

MINSTER — The Village of Minster was recently honored by the American Public Power Association for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service.



Harrod

Minster is one of 184 of the nation's more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation from the American Public Power Association. This marks the ninth year that Minster has been honored with the designation.

"We are honored to receive the RP3 designation for the third consecutive time," said Minster Village Administrator Don Harrod.

"Our electric department staff puts in a lot of hard work to service the community. RP3 represents a much appreciated recognition of this hard work."

Brent McKinney, manager of electric transmis-

sion and distribution at City Utilities of Springfield, Mo., and chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel, presented the designees on April 7 during the association's annual Engineering and Operations Technical Conference held in Oklahoma, City, Okla.

The RP3 designation recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: Reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement.

Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. The RP3 des-

See VILLAGE Page 2A

Easter egg hunt held in Minster



Photo by Tasha Langenkamp
 Aiden Olberding, son of Adam and Tricia Olberding, and Sofia Luebke, daughter of Tony and Jenna Luebke, search for frisbees, candy, and Easter eggs..

By MICHELLE STEIN
 Staff Writer

MINSTER — A local holiday event had area children hopping for bags of candy and brightly-colored eggs in hopes of taking home the big prize — a giant chocolate Easter bunny. The Minster Journeyman's Club held its com-

munity Easter egg hunt April 13 at Four Seasons Park, inviting kids up to age 8 to join in on the fun.

Last year, weather conditions ended up postponing the event. This year, however, the sun was shining

See EASTER Page 2A

Minster baseball team raises money for hospice



Staff photo/Dean Eversole
 On April 12, a triple-header baseball game involving Fort Loramie, Springfield Local and Minster was held at Minster. Proceeds from concessions and raffles were donated to Grand Lake Hospice.

By DEAN EVERSOLE
 Staff Writer

MINSTER — Last Saturday afternoon, the Minster Wildcats fell 9-3 to Springfield Local, but the purpose of the day was more about giving back than playing baseball.

The triple-header event, which involved Fort Loramie, Springfield Local and Minster, was also a fundraising event for Grand Lake Hospice. All proceeds raised through concession stand sales and raffles was donated to the organization. The crowd enjoyed 25-cent hot dogs and 50-cent mets, grilled by a team of volunteers under a warm sun.

The Cats have done this in past, but this year was special for Minster Coach Mike Wiss.

Giving back to hospice came to life

this past November as Wiss's father, George, passed away.

"When dad was sick last November, I learned first-hand exactly what hospice is and what it does. I decided even before dad passed away that this game was what I was going to do," said Wiss.

The hospice organization works with families and individuals as life comes to an end. They provide medical care for the individuals, offering physician and nursing care, along with massage therapy.

For family members, hospice provides a social worker, helping families ensure all affairs are in place. They also coordinate spiritual support with the family's spiritual counselor, pastor or priest.

All of the services are covered through

See TEAM Page 2A



Visitors

From Page 1A

walk in the fall and the new Whining for Winter were just a few attractions made possible by this year's Stahr Award recipient — the Celina Downtown Merchant Association.

"We have been very hard-working for the past 10 years to get this merchant group up and running again," said Kim Nation, on behalf of the merchant association. "If you ever drive through Celina, you can tell the town has changed a little bit and revitalization as occurred. We've revitalized our buildings, our sidewalks, and most importantly, our attitude."

Pam Buschur, 2012 Ambassador Award Winner, was next to podium to announce the 2013 winner.

"The Ambassador Award is dedicated to an individual, honored for significant contribution to the tourism industry and/or the support of the Convention and Visitors Bureau," Buschur said. "This year's Ambassador is not a native of Auglaize or Mercer counties, but our winner puts in countless hours to improve our area

for visitors."

Buschur noted this year's winner was elected president of the Lake Improvement Association in 2010 and is currently in his second term. Among the attractions made possible by the LIA, which are aimed to bring more people to Grand Lake St. Marys, are the Barstool Open, the LIA Golf Outing, the Zombie Walk and the Luau on the Lake.

"This year's ambassador is determined to move forward with the important work of improving the lake's water quality," Buschur said.

"He promotes a solutions-oriented approach to solving problems. He has served on the Lake Restoration Commission since its inception in 2010 and has spend many; hours working for the LRC — meeting, lobbying, strategizing and working with law makers, policy makers, donors and critics."

Tim Lovett was named the winner of the 2013 Ambassador Award. While humbly accepting the award, Lovett explained that his passion for Grand Lake St. Marys stems from his desire for the next generation to enjoy the fun and beauty it has offered him.

"It's like anything else — I get the award, but it's not



Staff photo/Michelle Stein
Tim Lovett was named the recipient of the 2013 Ambassador Award.

me. It's the people I work with," Lovett said. "It's the board that I work with at the LIA, it's the membership, it's the guys that work at the LRC, Brian and his group — those are the people who make all of this happen."

Easter

From Page 1A

and temperatures were in the 70s.

For the past few decades, the Journeyman's Club egg hunt has remained a tradition in the Minster community.

Volunteers helped prepare 75 dozen — that's 900 — real eggs for the hunt, said Brian Westersheide, organizer of the event.

Additionally, it took 25 boxes of dye to color all of the eggs.

The Easter egg hunt was comprised of four different age groups: Ages 0-2, 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8.

Each age group was designated to a ball diamond where bags of candy and eggs were dispersed.

Numbers were written on three eggs in each age category, indicat-



Photo by Tasha Langenkamp
Cole and Elisa enjoy Easter pose with their parents, Kurt and Mandy Albers.

ing that a child would receive a big chocolate bunny.

This year's big prize

winners for the Easter Egg hunt were:

• Ages 0-2

1. Landon Mescher



Photo by Tasha Langenkamp
Leanne, daughter of Tom and Rose Wendeln, Jace, son of Mitch and Leah Knapke, and Dawson, son of Scott and Lisa Sextro claimed their chocolate Easter bunny after Turning in their winning eggs

2. Dawson Sextro
3. Jace Knapke
• Ages 3-4
1. Campelle Bergman

2. Carson Kaylor
3. Christian Fry
• Age 5-6
1. Kalani Brown
2. Unclaimed

3. Luke Bornhorst
• Age 7-8
1. Owen Bergman
2. Leanne Wendeln
3. Lewis Magato.

Village

From Page 1A

ignation lasts for three

years, meaning the 94 utilities that earned the designation this year join the 90 that received it last year.

"RP3 utilities are providing a high level of service to communities all over the country," said McKinney.

"These 94 designees stand out as models of safe, reliable and forward-thinking utility operations."

This is the ninth year that RP3 recognition has been offered. APPA is the national organization representing more

than 2,000 not-for-profit, community and state owned electric utilities. It is located in Washington, D.C.

Team

From Page 1A

Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurers.

But beyond what their fliers or websites declare, the true value of hospice is the comfort and ease they bring to family members.

"I am 43 years old and really didn't know what hospice was. It is something you have no idea until you experience it and you are just so happy that someone is there to do what they did," said Wiss.

Using a baseball game to raise funds for hospice could not be more fitting for the Wiss family.

When George Wiss passed away, the Cats lost one of its biggest fans and

supporters.

Anyone who ever spent time at Hanover Street Park knew George and had seen him working at the park, supporting Cats baseball.

"Dad grilled everyday here and for every tournament when he could. When things were going good, dad was always there to shake your hand and when things went bad, he was first to say what needed done," said Wiss.

"And that's what dads do. Right now, he's up there, somewhere telling us what's wrong."

After a long, cold winter and a spring that has been less than ideal, Saturday was a near perfect weather day. It was just like George would have

wanted it — a perfect day and baseball.

The sky shone bright blue and the sunshine warmed the air. It was a fitting day to honor an organization that offers unconditional care for those in their greatest time of need.

"Jane Steinemann, who is the director of (Grand Lake) Hospice was instrumental in what they did for dad and she is here today," said Wiss.

As for the game, things were going well for the Cats until the fourth inning. Minster went up 2-0 in the second inning when Brandon Hoying doubled, putting runners on second and third.

The first run scored on Clay Brown's fielder choice and J.R. Nixon made it 2-0 with a single. Minster went up 3-0



Staff photo/Dean Eversole
Spectators look on as a baseball game unfolds during the triple-header event held April 12 in Minster.

when Josh Nixon scored on a wild pitch, but then things went down hill.

Springfield Local scored nine unanswered

runs, building a 9-3 lead going into the sixth inning. There was no scoring in the sixth or seventh inning and the Cats fell 9-3.

"We did some good things and I really think

we are moving forward," said Wiss.

The Cats bounced back to down Fort Loramie 4-3 in the day's third day. Overall, it was a successful day for everyone involved.

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Minster legion auxiliary sets chicken fry

The Minster American Legion Auxiliary is sponsoring a chicken fry on Sunday, April 27.

This will be held at the Minster American Legion Hall, located on South Cleveland Street. It will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m....

Chicken dinners are \$6.50 each and include four pieces of chicken, applesauce and a dinner roll.

This is pick-up only, and

the chicken is prepared by the St. Marys K of C, at Minster Legion Hall.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from any Auxiliary member or by calling:

- Diane Timmerman at 419-628-3662

- Deb Meyer at 419-628-3339

- Diana Hausfeld at 419-628-2433

Proceeds will benefit the Buckeye Girl State delegates.

News from Osgood

Osgood Legion will have an Easter egg hunt for area youth who are in preschool through third-grade. This event is scheduled for Saturday, April 19 at 1 p.m.

On April 18, the Goat Farmers are having a fish fry from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., eat in or drive through.

On May 3, the Osgood Legion will sponsor a dance with Tom Benner and Fred Bruns. The dance will be held from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Mother Daughter Banquet on May 4 will begin at noon, and lunch will begin at 12:30 p.m. There are sign-up sheets in the churches' entrances. Please sign up before April 27. Please bring a cover dish. Meat and drinks will be provided. Spittin Image will provide the entertainment. If there is anyone who wishes to donate a prize for entertainment or prizes, please call Tonia at 419-582-5018.

St. Nicholas Parish is in need of adult babysitters during the weekend Mass-

es. Can you help? Call the pastoral office or email them.

First Communion is at St. Nicholas and St. Louis on Sunday, April 27 at both Masses.

St. Nicholas Parish will have May Crowning on May 7.

Vacation Bible School at St. Nicholas will have the theme, "Treasure Hunt." There will be Bible stories, songs crafts and games. This event will be from June 9-12. This is for preschool-aged kids through fourth-grade. Please register by May 15. Please also pick up a form and fill it out and return to the pastoral office. For any questions, call Amy at 419-582-2150.

The Osgood Legion euchre tournament winners on April 10 were: Craig Homan, Elsie Winner, Tom Feldman, Dennis Homan, Barb Bohman and Bob Grieshop.

Betty's Natural Foods has moved to 35 W. Main St., right between Winners Store and The Spur.

Opinion 'Genetic Testing': An essay

By Kelly Turner
Fort Loramie High School student

One may ask, "what is genetic testing?" Genetic testing consist of many different factors, all dealing with pregnancy. Testing can start with genetically implanting embryos in the women's uterus, or it can consist of testing the baby for a disease. It is a very wide spectrum that has a lot of controversy within it. However, a lot of the focus stays on genetically testing the baby when it is in the womb, and parents choosing In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF).

When expecting parents want to test their baby for a disability, what do we consider a true disability? In the past when people had to get glasses, it was seen as unnatural and was viewed as a disability. Now when we look back we can see that this is a disability one can live with, and many Americans do today. Therefore, when the parents test their babies for disabilities, how much must the impairment have to hinder their life to be considered a disability? There is a big difference between a disability like vision impairment and a disability that is life threatening. Thus, there needs to be a law enforced to protect the baby.

Within the United States and the U.K. there are laws on protecting babies, however they are not enforced enough. Every child deserves the right to an "open future." As time advances, so does technology. As a result, if the child is found to have a disability it should be based upon the child's best interest. A pregnancy should not be terminated if the child can live a healthy life along with some help. A baby deserves to live if the disability is not worse than living. For example, if expecting parents find out that their child has a chance of being handicap, is it worse to live with that, or not live at all? About 99% of people would agree that being handicap is better than not existing. In this case, there should be a lot less pregnancies that are terminated. A child has the right to live if their condition is better than not existing at all. Since more disabilities are being researched, more discoveries are being made to help those with disabilities. So, if a baby is born with a disability they have greater chances of getting help every day.

As mentioned before a baby also deserves the right to an open future. Every time somebody, like the parents or doctors, interfere with the baby while it is in the womb, it is taking away from its' open future. The idea of a baby having an open future is to protect it from inconsiderate adults that do not think the baby has a right of choice. The baby deserves to be thought about in terms of "what if" he/she would want this? Due to the idea of an open culture one must also think about the type of culture the baby will be brought into.

In some cultures (like the Deafs') they have set up their own ways of living and they do not mind their condition. In fact the Deaf capitalize the D because they do not consider themselves disabled. They have come up with alternative ways to communicate which ensure also have many things that they do to ensure they can live life

as normal as anyone else. This same view can be made on other disabilities. Instead of looking at it as holding a person back, people need to make the best of it and let their child excel. An example of this is the Special Olympics. Although the people may have a classified disability, they excel at something, and they embrace what they have.

Have you ever thought about people's jobs? One may wonder how genetic testing would affect the jobs of Americans and think it isn't possible, it is. When parents genetically test their babies and decide to terminate the pregnancy, that child with the disability doesn't need help anymore. So, the people who devote their life to helping people with special needs, now may find themselves without a job. These people devote their lives to making other people's lives better by finding new technology, new research, and using these to help the disabled. Therefore, it is not fair to allow these pregnancies to be terminated, when there is help out there for them.

Genetic testing, finding out the results, and terminating the pregnancy should be illegal; unless living with the disability would be worse than not living at all. By terminating any pregnancy that does not follow this guideline will: erase the diversity in society, does not give the baby a right to an open future, can take away jobs from those who devote their life to helping the disabled, and could do endless damage to the already existing people with a disability. If genetic testing would not be stopped many more babies would be killed because of a disability. Allowing genetic testing and then terminating the pregnancy is not healthy for those involved. Once one culture adapts this idea it will spread like wildfire and be impossible to contain.

Under only this circumstance should the pregnancy be reviewed for terminating the baby: living with the disability would be worse than living at all. When this does not apply to the baby it should be illegal to terminate the baby at the hospital or any abortion clinic. People can go to abortion clinics for more reasons than just genetic testing, however; genetic testing is concerned with abortion. Therefore, it ties into the abortion clinics. Once the parents test their baby and find out that it cannot be terminated, their names should be sent to all abortion clinics so they cannot abort the baby. Thus, abortion clinics need to be registered within the United States and highly taxed so that they would have a hard time staying open. If the clinics could not afford to stay open then they would close and fewer clinics would be available for those to terminate their babies. However, this idea does not apply to those who want to terminate their babies without being tested. This is a whole different issue that is not involved with genetic testing.

In conclusion genetic testing needs to be monitored very heavily. This technology is not harmful to society, what comes with genetic testing is the harmful part. Every child is special in their own way and that is how diversity in society is created. Every child has their right to an open future and to get the chance to live their life.



Photo provided
Pictured above are golfer carts lined up for last year's State of the Heart Hospice memorial golf outing.

Hospice plans golf outing

State of the Heart Hospice will hold the non-profit agency's nineteenth annual Ohio Memorial Golf Outing on June 6 at the Mercer County Elks Golf Club, 3242 U.S. 127 in Celina.

Proceeds from the fund raiser will go to the agency's Care Center at Wayne Health Care in Greenville, and to a newly established State of the Heart wish granting entity called "Corynna's Wish."

For the second year in a row Integrity Ambulance Service, headquartered in Greenville, is the present-

ing sponsor. "Once again, we are grateful to Integrity for taking a leadership role in helping raise funds that will benefit State of the Heart in two ways," said Ryan Gathard, fund development director for State of the Heart. Last year, the outing raised \$23,000 with funds directed to establishing the Care Center which has served approximately 150 patients since it opened last July.

Gathard said that 75 percent of the proceeds will be directed to supporting the Care Center while 25 percent will go to "Corynna's Wish."

The new wish-granting program is dedicated to fulfilling wishes of State of the Heart patients that they could not otherwise do. It is dedicated in honor and in memory of Corynna Strawser, a 16-year-old State of the Heart patient who died of Mitochondrial Disease and was cared for by State of the Heart before her passing in 2013. "We have had tremendously suc-

cessful golf outings and we greatly appreciate this support as it enables us to meet the needs of our patients," Gathard said.

The Care Center is located on the fourth floor of Wayne HealthCare and can be used by patients from all areas served by State of the Heart. There are five patient beds and a family lounge in an inviting, homelike setting. Families can visit loved ones seven days a week and 24 hours a day. It is the only care center of its kind in the area served by State of the Heart. The afternoon session of the golf outing is already sold out, but golfers still have the opportunity to play in the 8 a.m. morning round at the cost of \$300 per team. Gathard said there are a variety of sponsorship levels and under 10 team slots available. For more information about having a team or sponsoring, contact him at 1-800-417-7535, or email him at rgathard@stateoftheheartcare.org.

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The Community Post welcomes letters to the editor and submissions on relevant topics that concern our communities.

All submissions must be submitted no later than noon on Monday the week of publication. Any submissions received after that deadline will not be printed until the subsequent issue. Submissions may be edited for content, grammar and length.



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Fort Loramie celebrates 'Right to Read Week'

Books Fair Fiesta! That was the theme for Fort Loramie Elementary School's Right to Read Week, March 31-April 4.

Students celebrated the week with a book fair and many Mexican and book-related activities. They kicked off the week by announcing the poster contest winners. Each poster contest winner received a book.

On Thursday, Mark Rothstein, who was elected into The National Fitness Hall of Fame, led students in an inspirational and enjoyable workout. Then that evening at Family Fun Night, students and their families enjoyed punch and cookies, had a family picture taken, browsed the book fair, and watched Mark perform a different show. Family Fun Night was sponsored by ACE.

Throughout the week, students dressed up according to the daily theme, and visited the book fair. Students were also challenged to read 100,000 minutes (as a school). Each night, each student filled out a reading slip to record the number of minutes the student read. The following day, the slips were entered into a classroom drawing for book prizes. Students were motivated by the fact that their principal would become a human pinata if they read 100,000 minutes.

The week before Right to Read Week, the students raised money for All for Books, which raised money for the school library. For each dollar the school collected, Scholastic Books donated a dollar to give a book to those in need. The students were

encouraged to bring in money by purchasing a ticket for a dollar, each ticket bought a piece of duct tape which could be used to duct tape the principal to the wall.

On Friday, the assembly began by the students who purchased a ticket were able to put their piece of duct tape on Mr. Rodeheffer. As a school, the elementary raised \$458. While the students were putting the tape on him, more prizes were raffled using the reading slips from the entire week. Students were rewarded for reading 106,322 minutes by watching Mr. Rodeheffer turn into a human pinata. Mrs. Griesdorn's class, which read a total of 10,075 were the ones who were able to "crack" him open. It was a fiesta of a week at Fort Loramie Elementary School.



Ask the Professional

Concealed carry permit and your homeowners policy

With all the concerns and number of people looking into and obtaining their concealed carry permit, it may be a good time to talk a little about where coverage for the guns use may be found.

The standard homeowners policy may provide coverage. However, the policy states that any intended or expected result of the use of the gun would be excluded UNLESS it is resulting from the use of reasonable force to protect person or property. HOWEVER, reasonable force is not defined in the policy.

One definition states that it is force that is not excessive and that is appropriate for protecting oneself or one's property. If deemed reasonable the policy may pay for defense costs. Probably no payment could be made for the inju-

ry caused as it was expected or intended.

Coverage for self defense would depend on the action and if you could fulfill the requirements of "self-defense". A person must be able to show that they did not prolong or escalate the situation, (b) had reasonable grounds and belief that they were in imminent danger and (c) used lethal force as a last resort.

A person does have a duty to retreat unless the danger is in your home or in your car.

This may all be changed as well if Ohio enacts a "stand your ground" law.

In light of the above information if you wish to carry a weapon please contact your agent to review your coverage as well as any options for coverage.



Ted Bertke

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The cultural paths from Budapest to Berlin

The "Queen of the Danube" possesses a calming landscape, with the majestic River Danube flowing through the center of the city and the rolling hills to the west. Budapest has a prevalence of thermal springs — a total of 118 springs and boreholes that supply the city's spas and baths. Visit the Király Baths and Rudas Medicinal Baths, two of the oldest baths dating back to the 1500s, where you'll find an abundance of medicinal waters and grand Turkish architecture. Traditionally, only men were allowed to enjoy the baths, but since 2005, female bathers have received the same privilege.

Take a stroll down the Culture Avenue, which takes you from the Castle District to the City Park. Along the way, you'll come across the Hungarian National State Opera House, a work of art on the inside and out. On the roof of the building is an incredible display of sculptures of the distinguished opera composers. Next, you'll set sights on the Post Museum, Fashion Hall and the Mai Manó House, one of Europe's most interesting exhibitions of applied and fine art. At first, you'll be bewildered as you notice the Time Wheel, a peculiar 24-foot hour glass contained in a granite and steel wheel. A proud Hungarian tradition, its sand flows downward all year and is ceremonially turned over each New Year at midnight.

Traveling in Budapest's Castle District, you'll have panoramic views of the River Danube and the iconic Chain Bridge. Visit the Buda Castle, a famous UNESCO World Heritage location with several attractions, museums, reminiscent streets and squares. Characteristic of the city's past in war and industrialization, the Royal Palace and Sándor Palace

have been restored close to its original grandeur after the liberating siege against their Turkish rulers. Modern Budapest owes much of its success to the diligence of its Jewish community, which you can learn about at the Grand Synagogue and Jewish Museum. You can get a glimpse of their religious and artistic heritage, or partake in a traditional meal at a kosher restaurant.

Vienna — this Austrian capital is romantic, elegant and filled with a supreme zest for the cultural experience on every conceivable level. It's hard not to get lost in your own imagination as you wander down medieval alleyways and imperial squares, and gaze out at illustrious palaces, museums, culturally refined cafes and performance halls stretching out for miles. Don't miss taking part in a special Viennese High Noon at the Ankeruhr Clock, a mosaic ornamented clock that forms a bridge between two parts of the Anker Insurance building. During 12 hours, 12 historical characters march on the bridge in a musical parade.

For centuries, Vienna has maintained a strong association with world-famous artists. Whether you know your classical musicians well or not, you easily recognize names such as Mozart, Beethoven and Strauss, whose legendary songs will continue to live forever. Thanks to the demanding tastes of art-loving rulers and monarchs, Vienna became the heart of artistic excellence in Europe. The Vienna Opera House has put on first-class operas such as Mozart's "Magic Flute," and is the home of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

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It's time for this family discussion

If the prospect of asking your aging parents about the way they handle their household finances—or how they'd feel about moving to a nursing home—fills you with apprehension, you are not alone.

However, it's the kind of conversation you can't afford to delay indefinitely. As your parents get older, it's critical to sit down with them and talk about their health and financial well-being—before urgent decisions are forced on you.

"The consequence of not having these discussions is that you aren't prepared to make sound medical and financial choices when Mom or Dad has an emergency," says Deborah Eickhoff, Vice President of Wells Fargo Advisors' high-net-worth planning group.

Fortunately, there are ways to make this process easier. The most important is to plan ahead. Starting these discussions early and revisiting them regularly will help you and your family handle lifestyle-changing issues concerning your parents.

How to start the conversation

If only there was a uniformly effortless way to speak to Mom and Dad about their health and finances. No such protocol exists, but you might broach the topic around the time the older parent turns 70, Eickhoff recommends. "Once you've started the dialogue, you'll have laid the groundwork to continue it in the future," she says, "And 70 is still a relatively young age to begin having these talks."

On the medical side, you might ask your

parents what they'd like to happen if their health starts to fail. Do they want to stay in their home, or are they open to moving to an assisted living or long-term care facility? If acute care becomes necessary, is there a hospital they prefer? How much medical intervention do they want if their condition becomes dire? How would they like to handle end-of-life issues? The answers to these questions will play a critical role in helping you create a realistic and well-thought-out plan.

Conversations about finances can be just as challenging, especially for families not used to discussing money. At some point, parents may need help with day-to-day financial tasks such as paying bills and balancing the checkbook, or with larger issues like investing. It's important to clearly understand your parents' goals for their wealth, from being able to afford the retirement lifestyle they envision to supporting charities they care about.

Having these discussions as early as possible helps establish the rationale for estate planning decisions, Eickhoff notes. For example, if the parents have spent more on one child's education or provided funds to help start a business, they might decide to compensate the other siblings later on with larger shares of the estate.



Kerri A. Bergman

Brought to you by: Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, 518 W. Main St., Troy, OH 45373 * 937-335-6646

From Out of Our Past

By GARY OLDIGES
Minster Historical Society

Note: This column is created from the archives of the Minster Community Post by Minster Historical Society volunteers for your enjoyment. Larry Prenger edits and translates the 100 Years Ago.

100 years ago

On Tuesday afternoon a whole truckload of fish arrived here on the Lake Erie Railway. They were intended for the Loramie Reservoir and came directly out of the lake from Sandusky. Upon their arrival the fish were loaded into troughs and then driven to Loramie and incorporated into the reservoir. The fish are supplied by the State Fish and Game Commission to improve the fishing sport in the lake. The shipment contained 5000 perch, 1000 rock bass, and 500 black bass weighing about a pound apiece.

In very strong language the grand jury expressed a sincere desire to construct a new county jail and sheriff's residence. Yes, the relevant opinion was literally, "We believe and speak of it, that the current county jail and sheriff's residence are a disgrace to a civilized community. We recommend that the Board of County Commissioners take immediate steps for the creation of a new county jail.

Charles J. Laufersweiler, R. Laut, and Louis Bornhorst went to Wapakoneta on Wednesday to attend a meeting of the saloon owners of this county.

The Star Brewing Co. has considered it necessary to provide a 'run-about' car to meet the needs of their business. A car of Ford design was obtained. Mr. Fred Goeke,

the traveling representative of the brewery used the car for the first time this week. We hope the vehicle opens the way to new business. A new apparatus to clean the beer bottles, a so-called "soaker", was recently bought and set up last week in the bottling department. It will be put into action along with an automatic machine for filling bottles.

75 years ago

Despite an unremitting downpour of rain that had fallen all day, more than 1200 persons were attracted to the Eagle park pavilion here last Sunday night for the second dance of the season. And members of the lodge, to show their appreciation to this huge crowd which braved the elements to be on hand, almost outdid themselves in the way of courtesy. They obtained a team of horses and detailed a man for duty during the entire evening to "pull out" any and all automobiles found mired in the spacious but soft parking field. More than 30 motorists were aided in this manner, it was reported.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brian of Detroit visited in Minster during last week end as guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woehrmyer and family.

Clarence Busse of Minster and Ray Busse of New Bremen have leased a gasoline service station at Monroe and Walnut streets in New Bremen. Harold Ahlers, who had charge of the business for the past year, will accept employment with the Busse brothers for the present. Roger Busse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Busse, will operate the station after graduating from New Bremen high school next

month. **50 years ago** John Lammers, airman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Lammers of Minster, has graduated from the Aviation Mechanical Fundamentals School at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Memphis.

Baptized Sunday in St. Augustine's Church was Roger Steinemann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steinemann (Rose Ungruhn), born March 23 in Joint Township Hospital at St. Marys. Sponsors were Sylvester Ungruhn and Ann Steinemann.

Mrs. Gerald Shenk and Mrs. Norb Meyer are spending Wednesday and Thursday this week in Columbus attending the summer women's and children's apparel market at the Deshler Hilton Hotel.

Baptized April 5 at Holy Redeemer Church in New Bremen was Lori Zimmerer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zimmerer (Ruth Schmiesing), born March 28 at the St. Marys Hospital. Sponsors were Jeanette Schmiesing and Mark Scherzinger of Dayton.

Mrs. Frank Schmuecker and daughters Paula and Carol spent Monday in Dayton.

Current news

The Minster Historical museum invites you in for a visit. There is no charge and a wonderful way to learn more about the community. The exhibit, "Life and Times on 4th Street," will continue through June.

Do you have something special or some time to share with us? We are always looking for volunteers: Your time, your pace, your talent.



Pictured above is the Mendon 6th grade basketball team 1940. Front row: Jack Miller, Stanley Emans, Charlie Hole, George Hansel, Charlie Dotson, and Coach Bill Albright. Back row: Ned Baltzell and Donald Dudgeon.

Our Old Book Case

By JOYCE ALIG
President, Mercer County Historical Society

Mercer countians follow their local basketball teams. Team members and/or family members and friends collect the history of their local basketball games.

Last month, when I was seeking information about local high school basketball teams in the 1920s and 1930s. I called Mendon Library, and other Mendon Citizens, about the Mendon School's basketball history.

Jeanne Sprague sent this photograph of the sixth grade team, dated 1940. If these boys were in the sixth grade in 1940, and were about 12 years old at the time, they must have been born about 1928.

If they played basketball in the 6th grade in 1940, perhaps, they may have played on Mendon's High School basketball team, in the early 1940's? The players, who still live in Mercer County, would be in their mid-eighties this year.

Mendon, Ohio's local history book, "Our Heritage — A Time to Remember, Mendon, Ohio, 1834-1984," has a

wealth of historical information about the community of Mendon. On page 59, the story is told about the two story, eight classroom school, with a full basement, which was built in 1910. By 1984, that building was used for the Mendon Union Elementary School, K-6. In 1937, an annex was added to the 1910 building.

The addition included a basketball court, auditorium, stage, farm shop, and restroom. When completed the gym was one of the largest in the State of Ohio, and the Mercer County tournament was held at that gymnasium.

This same history book, tells about Mendon's first girls' basketball team. "According to some of the original players, the first girls' High School Basketball team was organized in 1925. Ruth Michaels Dantz, Wilma Ziegler Heffner, Jessie Krugh Hill, Nelva Lawrence McGillvary and Maxine Clover Putman were in that first group. The first year, they followed the boys' rules with five on the team. Later the team used girls' team rules. Team Members included Amy Maurer, Verna Watts, Jessie Snyder, Jean Murlin, Nelva

Snyder, Helen Dick and Helen Thomas. The girls played in the hall, which [in 1984] was above the Drakes' Car and Service Store."

Would any of these Mendon athletes or their families or friends have photographs, old high school yearbooks, newspaper articles, etc. about the Mendon High School basketball team? Where are the historians in Mendon who collect this basketball history? Mendon has a library, which would be a wonderful place to preserve Mendon's local history. Mendon's village hall may also have local history stored in its building.

I have to ask the question, so many times, "If local citizens do not preserve their local history, who will preserve their local history for future generations?" The Mercer County Historical Society encourages Mercer Countians and former Mercer Countians of all ages to help preserve Mercer County's rich heritage.

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

Radio Maria raises funds

Radio Maria held a spaghetti dinner on April 6, with more than 300 dinners served. Radio Maria would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets and all of those who helped with the dinner.

Radio Maria is a non-profit organization that operates solely on the support of its listeners and is operated by volunteers dedicated to bringing "A Christian Voice in your home" The studio of Radio Maria — 88.7 FM — is located at 191 E. Fourth St. in Minster.

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Agriculture

Fertilizer bill moves to the Senate

By DEAN EVERSOLE
Staff Writer

MINSTER — Ohio Senate Bill 150 is being endorsed by the Ohio Farm Bureau as a positive step in the continued attempt to project Ohio's water.

The bill will serve to address specifically the nutrient run off state wide and algae growth in Grand Lake St. Marys and Lake Erie. Toxic algae growth has been a problem for Grand Lake St. Marys and is now threatening Lake Erie and its lucrative walleye fishing reserve.

"The legislation's reasonable approach shows that a clean environment and profitable farming can go hand in hand," said John Fisher, executive vice president of Ohio Farm Bureau.

The bill would require farmers applying chemically-based fertilizers to receive a certificate of training by a state sponsored training course.

Opposition revolves mainly on the omission of manure from the definition

of fertilizer. The bill defines all fertilizers as containing nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium or any recognized plant nutrient element or compound that is used for its plant nutrient content or for compounding mixed fertilizers. Any product fitting this definition will require a certificate to be applied.

Run-off from manure application is a major concern for St. Marys watershed area. The build up of manure runoff has been identified as a cause of the toxic algae growth in Grand Lake St. Marys.

But according to the Farm Bureau the bill is a positive step and will allow for farming and conservation efforts to work hand in hand.

"The provisions of this law will only add an impressive list of voluntary actions already being taken," said Fisher.

A major program touted by Fisher is the 4R nutrient reduction strategy. The program emphasizes correct source, rate, timing and

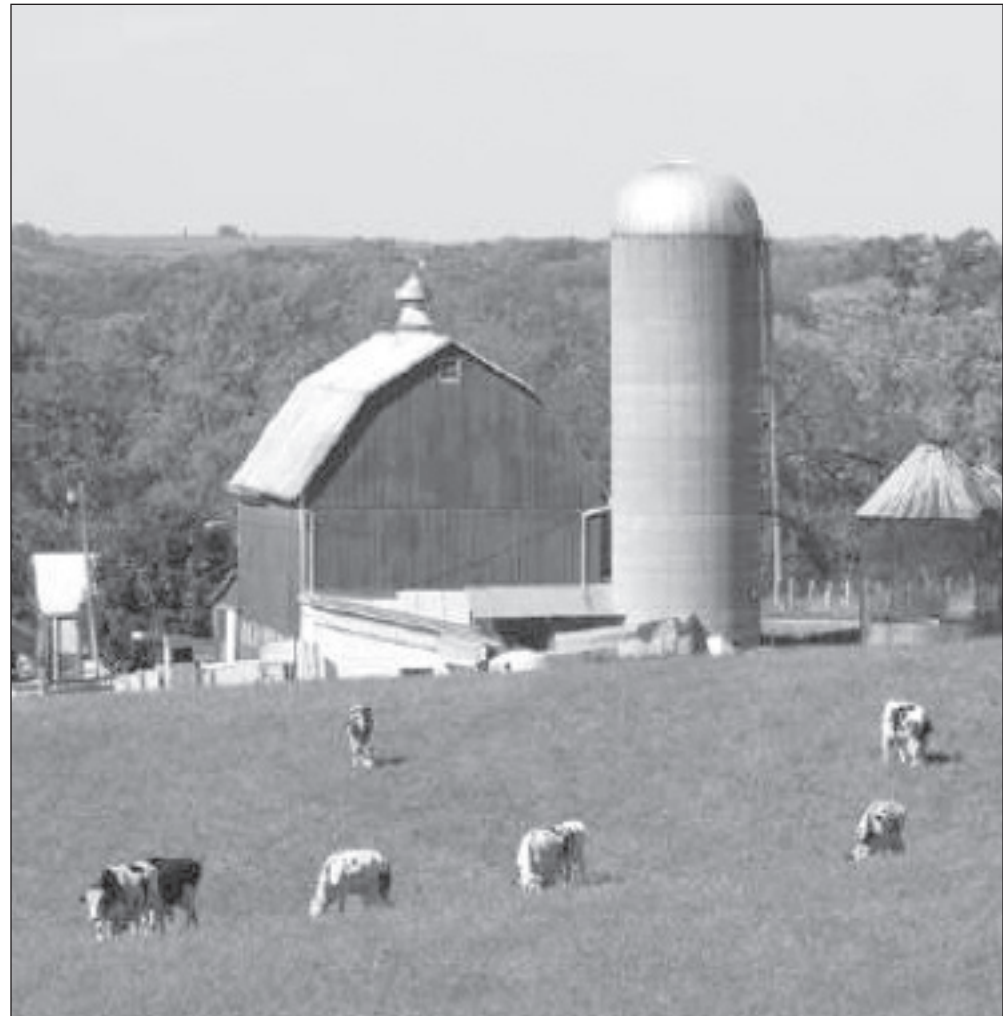
placement fertilizer. Fisher also noted farmers have adopted helpful practices and technologies including cover crops, variable rate applications and controlled drainage structures.

The bill has been an ongoing process with the House of Representatives holding a number of hearings. There still remains a large gap between pro-agricultural and environmental groups.

Even when the bill is passed by the Ohio Senate, a lot of work remains to be done.

"There's still a lot to be done in terms of meeting everyone's expectations regarding Ohio's water, but this new law will help" Fisher said. "Farmers are committed to accepting responsibility and acting responsibly."

There was no timetable set as for when the bill would be passed by the Senate, but most expect it to happen soon. The hope is the new regulations will take effect on September 2014.



Fly fishing clinic in Xenia

XENIA — Three "Passport to Fishing" workshops will be offered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Wildlife.

The workshops will take place at Wildlife District Five Headquarters in Xenia. Classes are scheduled for June 11 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., July 16 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Aug. 6 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

All sessions are free. Fishing supplies will be provided for the day; please do not bring your

own fishing gear. Space is limited and interested individuals must pre-register. All participants must be accompanied by an adult. Please dress for the weather. Sunscreen, hats and sunglasses are also recommended. Youth are welcome to stay and fish after the training is completed.

"Passport to Fishing" is sponsored in part by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation. Fishing fundamentals are taught including casting, knots and rigging, habitat and handling. Passport is

geared towards youth ages 4-17, and is an easy way to learn the basics of angling, get kids outdoors and on the road to a lifetime of recreational activity.

To register for a workshop, call Wildlife Communications Specialist Brant Fulks, at 937-347-0929 or email brant.fulks@dnr.state.oh.us. For additional information on educational opportunities, visit www.wildohio.com.

The Wildlife District Five Headquarters is located at 1076 Old Springfield Pike, Xenia, OH 45385.

Horstman elected to Hall of Fame

COLUMBUS — Katie Horstman, a native of Minster, Ohio, who coached teams at her alma mater to nine state championships, has been named to the 2014 induction class into the National High School Hall of Fame. Katie was an athletic pioneer who opened the door for women in sports, beginning with her playing days in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) in the early 1950s.

Katie taught and coached at Minster for 25 years and started the school's sports program for girls. While there, she coached the Wildcats to nine Ohio High School Athletic Association state championships, including eight in track and field and one in cross country. Her track and field teams won five consecutive OHSAA state titles from 1976 through 1980. Her teams also finished as state runner-up eight times (three in cross country, one in volleyball and four in track and field). Individually, 34 of her athletes won state track and field

championships and one was the top placer in the state cross country finals. Katie also coached softball, basketball and gymnastics at Minster.

Katie was a standout in softball and baseball prior to the days of organized school sports programs for girls. Her talent was such that in 1951, at the age of 15, she began a four-year career in the AAGPBL with the Fort Wayne Daisies. While in the league, she played virtually every position, excelling as a pitcher, catcher and at third base, and was selected as an All-Star at third base in 1953. She ranks sixth in batting average (.286) and 11th in home runs (23) in AAGPBL history and was 29-11 in her career as a pitcher. Katie was present in Cooperstown, N.Y., in 1988 when the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum honored the AAGPBL with the opening of a permanent display. The league's pioneering efforts led to the 1992 movie "A League of Their Own." Katie was in a scene of the movie and she continues to partici-

pate in clinics and raise funds for charities in the Los Angeles area and also returns to Minster each summer.

After her playing days, Katie graduated from St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Records Librarian School in Danville, Ill., and then joined the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Joliet, Ill., where she taught for five years and became the first nun in the United States to graduate from DePaul University. Katie then earned a master's degree from Miami University and taught for six more years before returning home to Minster in 1972.

Katie has been inducted into five halls of fame in baseball and track and field, along with the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame.

Minster Aux. to host spring card party

The Minster Auxiliary 1391 Spring Card Party April 30 at the old Eagles building. Doors open at 6 p.m. A dessert smorgasbord starts at 7 p.m., and there will be door prizes, baked goods, a raffle and a 50/50. The cost is \$3 at the door, and all proceeds go to Grand Lake Hospice.

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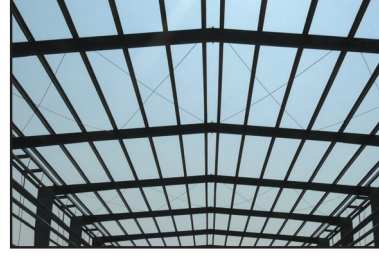
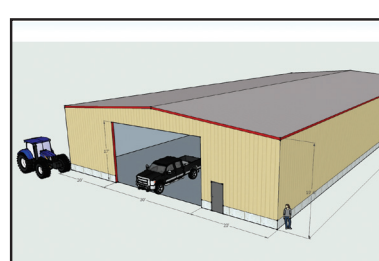


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Agriculture

Minster FFA holds banquet

More than 158 members, parents and distinguished guests were present for the 74th Annual Parent/Member Banquet held at the K of C hall in Minster.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hackemoeller were awarded this year's Honorary FFA Degree recipients for their service to the local chapter.

The six members receiving their State FFA Degree were recognized, which will take place at the 86th State FFA Convention May 2 in Columbus.

Those individuals include: Prater Otting, Andy Albers, Peter

Morse, Michael Bruns, Jake Winner and Sam Dues. Halie Byers was also recognized as being our American FFA Degree recipient.

Andy Albers, Mark Hackemoeller and Jon Tipton were awarded money for being the top three fruit salesman this past year.

Members of various Career Development Event Teams were also recognized for their accomplishments during this past year.

Some of these teams included: Public Speaking Events, Cooperative Education Team, Urban and Rural Land

Judging Teams and the Ag Engineering Team members.

New FFA officers were also announced at the banquet.

The 2014-2015 officer Team consist of:

- President — Jake Winner
- Vice president — Sam Dues
- Secretaries — Michael Bruns/Loren Schmidt
- Treasurers — Jon Tipton/Cole Garrett
- Reporters — Logan Pack/Derek Grieshop
- Sentinel — Jon Faushey
- Student advisor — Ryan Brown.



Pictured above are Halie Byers and advisor, Paul Winglewich. Byers won the American Degree Plaque at the annual banquet.

Ohio turkey hunt opens April 21

COLUMBUS — For many hunters, spring in Ohio brings the unmistakable sound of gobbling wild turkeys and Ohio's annual hunt of this popular game bird. The 2014 Ohio spring hunting season opens Monday, April 21, with the youth wild turkey season on Saturday and Sunday, April 19-20, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

Wild turkeys have benefited from good spring weather in 2012 and 2013, and Ohio has experienced two above average hatch years. This should result in many 2-year-old toms (male turkeys) and jakes (1-year-old male turkeys) in the woods. Past Ohio wild turkey hunting seasons have seen increased harvests with greater numbers of 2-year-old toms.

Hunters harvested 18,391 wild turkeys during the 2013 youth and spring turkey seasons. The total checked in 2012 was 17,657 wild turkeys.

The ODNR Division of Wildlife anticipates approximately 70,000

licensed hunters, not counting exempt landowners hunting on their own property, will enjoy Ohio's popular spring wild turkey season before it ends on Sunday, May 18. The spring and youth turkey seasons are open statewide with the exception of Lake La Su An Wildlife Area in Williams County, which requires a special hunting permit.

Hunters will need to make their own game tag to attach to a wild turkey. Game tags can be made of any material (cardboard, plastic, paper, etc.) as long as it contains the hunter's name, date, time and county of the kill. Hunters also need to write this information on the wild turkey permit immediately after harvesting a bird.

Go to the Turkey Hunting Resources page at wildohio.com for more information on changes to the game check process.

All hunters must report their turkey harvest using the automated game-check system.

Hunters have three options to complete the game check:

Online at ohiogamecheck.com. This website is mobile-friendly;

Call 877-TAG-ITOH (824-4864);

Visit a license agent. A list of agents can be found at wildohio.com or by calling 800-WILDLIFE (945-3543).

Game-check transactions are available online and by telephone seven days a week and during holidays. Landowners exempt from purchasing a turkey permit, and any other person not required to purchase a turkey permit, cannot use the phone-in option.

Hunters are required to have a hunting license and a spring turkey hunting permit. The spring season bag limit is two bearded turkeys. Hunters can harvest one bearded turkey per day, and a second spring turkey permit can be purchased at any time throughout the spring turkey season. Turkeys must be checked by 11:30 p.m. the day of harvest.

Dept. announces pest control program

WASHINGTON — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced recently the allocation of \$48.1 million, provided by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (the 2014 Farm Bill), to projects across the country that will help to prevent the introduction or spread of plant pests and diseases that threaten America's agriculture economy and the environment. The economic stakes for stopping invasive species are high, with scientists estimating the total economic cost of all invasive species to be approximately \$120 billion annually.

"Invasive pests cause billions of dollars in damage each year and endanger our nation's food security," said Vilsack. "The funds USDA is making available today will help partners and stakehold-

ers develop strategies, products and treatments to safeguard our farms and natural resources from invasive threats."

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) sought project suggestions from states and U.S. territories, universities, federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, private companies and tribal organizations that would provide a direct impact in managing pests and diseases, as well as disaster prevention. APHIS is funding 383 projects in 49 states, as well as Guam and Puerto Rico. The projects approved for allocation will help states and other partners continue providing and strengthening protections against agricultural threats and could also allow the reallocation of resources to other critical programs.

Inspiring outdoor learning

School students clamor off the bus headed to their outdoor classroom, a wetland in a nature park. After receiving instructions, they wade knee-deep into the water with sieves and kick seines to capture and identify the organisms that thrive within these murky spaces. The children are in for an unforgettable lesson about the life cycle of micro-invertebrates and the importance of wetland habitat.

Observing from shore, the teacher is astounded when the Classroom Rascal is transformed into Peer Leader. Faced with this soggy opportunity, Rascal, does his/her best work while physically engaged in the learning process. Scooping up "swamp muck" is just the ticket to inspire discovery in this child.

Schools and parks can establish strong alliances to serve educational needs in Auglaize County. Heritage Trails Park District seeks

to establish parks that will serve as outdoor classrooms, designed to provide hands-on learning experiences.

Maybe you know a classroom rascal or even were one yourself-- the child who learns by doing rather than hearing or reading; finds traditional classroom learning difficult; can't sit still; is labeled "disruptive". This one, when allowed to explore with hands his or her senses, become engaged in the learning process.

The goal of our park district is to develop a variety of natural habitats, then create curriculum and opportunity for school groups, families, elders, and grandchildren to gather, observe and learn. These parks become outdoor classrooms where people can engage with nature and enrich their lives.

To make such natural parks possible in Auglaize County, funding is needed. Look for the Heritage Trails Park District on the spring

ballot with a 0.6 mill levy for seven years. If passed, parks representing a variety of habitat and natural history will be established county wide for education and recreation.

Currently most students leave the County to receive these valuable open-air education lessons. Offering outdoor education close to home and school will save both money and time. Investing in Heritage Trails Park District can reap benefits right where you live.

Events Calendar

May 1 — Gardeners Swap & Share. If you like to dig in the dirt and are itching to get out and garden join us at the St. Marys Community Public Library from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dig in and share your garden extras, plant divisions, starts, transplants and seeds. Emily Poe will share her secrets for planting Eye-catching Containers.

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Agriculture

Tips to guarantee a garden starts off on the right foot

As winter slowly winds down, many gardeners cannot wait to soak up the springtime sun and get their hands dirty in the garden. Such excitement is not just good for gardeners, but can benefit the garden in the months to come as well.

Late winter or early spring is a great time to get a head start on the gardening season. Even if gardening season is still around the corner, completing the following projects can ensure your garden gets off on the right foot.

Clear debris: One of the best things you can do for your garden as winter winds down is to clear it of debris. Winter can be especially harsh on a landscape, and gardens left to the elements are often filled with debris once spring arrives. Dead leaves, fallen branches, rocks that surfaced during the winter frost, and even garbage that might have blown about in winter winds can all pile up in a garden over a typical winter. Clearing such debris likely won't take long, but it's a great first step toward restoring the garden before the time comes to plant and grow the garden once again.

Examine the soil: Soil plays a significant role in whether a garden thrives or struggles. Examining the soil before the season starts can help gardeners address any issues before they plant. Ignoring the soil until a problem arises can turn the upcoming gardening season into a lost opportunity, so test the soil to determine if it has any nutrient or mineral deficiencies. This may require the help of a professional, but if a problem arises, you might be able to adjust the acidity or alkalinity of the soil and still enjoy a successful gardening season.

Another way to examine the soil is less complex but can shed light on when it would be a good time to get back to work. Reach into the soil and dig out a handful. If the soil quickly crumbles, you can start preparing for gardening seasoning. But if the soil is still clumped together, it needs more time to dry out before you can begin your prep work.

Initiate edging: Edging is another task gardeners can begin as they get



ready for the season. Edge plant and flower beds, but be sure to use a spade with a flat blade or an edger designed to edge flower beds. Such tools will cut deep enough so grass roots that may eventually grow into the flower bed are severed. Depending on how large a garden is, edging can be a time-consuming task, so getting a head start allows homeowners to spend more time planting and tending to their gardens once the season hits full swing.

Fight weeds: Though weeds likely have not survived the winter, that does not mean they won't return once the weather starts to heat up. But as inevitable as weeds may seem, homeowners can take steps to prevent them from turning beautiful gardens into battlegrounds where plants, flowers and vegetables are pitted against unsightly and potentially harmful weeds. Spring is a good time to apply a pre-emergent weed preventer, which can stop weeds before they grow. Though such solutions are not always foolproof, they can drastically reduce the likelihood of weed growth.

Though gardeners might not be able to start planting their gardens in late winter or early spring, they can still get outside and take steps to ensure their gardens thrive once planting season begins.

Minster Livestock 4-H Club convenes

The Minster Livestock 4-H Club held its third meeting April 6, at the Minster Elementary School, project and medical forms were due this evening.

The president called the meeting to order. Pledges were said and roll call was taken.

The secretary's report and the treasurer's report were given and approved.

New business was tended to. The club moved and passed to purchase of trophies handed out at the fair for \$94.

The club also donated \$200 to the 4-H Committee of Auglaize County.

The Minster Livestock 4-H Club changed its by-laws for the payment of Camp Wilson, capping the amount the club pays

per member at \$85. With a stipulation, starting in 2015 the member must work at the prior Oktoberfest, not including members for the new 4-H year.

The Minster FCCLA grouped joined the club to show and talk about the proper parliamentary procedure of a meeting.

A mock meeting was held by Kayla Richard, Nicole Brandewie, Megan Kaiser, Katie Thienman, and Kara Kitzmiller. Peggy Kelly is the Minster FCCLA advisor.

The next meeting will be held April 27 at 7 p.m., in the Minster Elementary School building.

Dues are now set at \$10 per member, with the Cloverbuds remaining at \$5.

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- (2) '13 JD 9410R, 450+ HRS.....\$266,400 & UP (B & W)
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- '02 JD 9520, 710/38, RADAR, WTS, 3,390 HRS.....\$159,500 (H)
- '09 CIH MAGNUM 180, 1,410 HRS., MFWD, 3 PT.....\$129,200 (B)

- '12 JD 6330, 18.4X38, DLS, P/Q, 24 SPD., HI CAP HYD., R/WTS, 100 HRS.....\$67,500 (B)
- '04 JD 9420, 710X42, DLS, 4 SCV, WT, DIFF LOCK, 3,270 HRS.....\$169,500 (W)
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- '11 JD 318D, 76" BKT, FOOT CNTRL, SUSP. ST., 400 HRS.....\$26,195 (B)

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Couple to celebrate 50th wedding anniversary



Robert and Teresa (Borchers) Puthoff, of 2480 Wells Drive, Sidney, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on May 2.

The Puthoffs will have an anniversary celebration, hosted by their children, from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. April 27 at the Minster Knights of Columbus Hall in Minster. There will be an open house from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. that day.

The former Teresa Borchers is the daughter of Frank and Eileen Borchers, who are both deceased. Bob is the son of Ben and Bertha Puthoff, who are also deceased.

The couple was united in marriage on May 2, 1964, at 9 a.m.. The Rev. Clement Borchers officiated the ceremony, which was held at St. Michael Catholic Church in Fort Loramie, on a beautiful, warm, sunny day. Mass servers were Henry Borchers, Lawrence Borchers and Jerome Borchers, all brothers of the bride.

The maid of honor was Irene (Borchers) Sherman, sister of the bride. The best man was Donald Puthoff, brother of the groom. Other members of the wedding party were Bonnie (Puthoff) Turner, twin sister of the groom; Phyllis (Borchers) Salyers, sister of the bride; Frank Turner, brother-in-law of the groom; James Sherman, brother-in-law of the bride.

Bob and Teresa met on Friday, April 7, 1961, at Eagle's Park in Minster, where they danced together for the first time. Bob asked Teresa if he could take her home. They dated and danced together ever since.

The Puthoffs have five children. Their three daughters are Kathy (Puthoff) Cavinder of Sidney; Brenda (Puthoff) McIver of Sidney; Amy (Puthoff) and Kurt Hilgefert of Minster. Their two sons are David and Anne (Prenger) Puthoff of Minster; Mark and Jennifer (Ondera) Puthoff of Troy. The Puthoffs also have 27 grandchildren.

Teresa is a retired teacher of 25 years, having taught the last 15 years at Fort Loramie Elementary School.

Bob is a retired teacher of 35 years from Upper Valley Joint Vocational School in Piqua. Prior to teaching, he was a tool maker at Wayne Trail Tool and Die Company for 11 years.

The Puthoffs lived in Fort Loramie for the first 10 years of their marriage. They moved to Sidney when they took a job at the Shelby County Children's Home from 1974 to 1976, where they were the "parents" of 18 teenagers, as well as their five young children, who ranged in age from 2 to 9.

The Puthoffs are members of the Holy Angels Catholic Church in Sidney.

Bob and Teresa enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren. They have a lot of parties and sleep-overs. Bob and Teresa go to Mass every day Holy Angels Catholic Church, followed by breakfast at Bob Evan's with friends. They also enjoy traveling. They have traveled to most of the states, as well as to Europe several times. Teresa volunteers at the Women's (Elizabeth's New Life) Center in Sidney and the Right to Life Center in Sidney. Bob enjoys fishing and gardening.

Bernhold named to insurance company President's Club

Bruce Bernhold, M.C. Bernhold Insurance Agency, Inc., Minster, earned the number 14 position in Auto-Owners Life Insurance Company's 2013 President's Club.

The President's Club honors the top 25 agents for Auto-Owners whose life, health and annuity insurance production is the highest for the company in a calendar year.

Auto-Owners, a Fortune 500 company, currently has more than

19,000 agents authorized to produce life and life-related business in 26 states.

This is the 14th time Mr. Bernhold has been a President's Club member.

Mr. Bernhold's agency, M.C. Bernhold Insurance Agency, Inc., has represented Auto-Owners Insurance Company for over 77 years.

This has been a winning partnership for Auto-Owners, the agency and the many customers Bruce serves.

Minster Boy Scout troop takes a hike

Minster's Boy Scout Troop 44 went hiking at John Bryon State Park on March 30.

This was a 5 or 6-mile hike from the campgrounds at John Bryon State Park, to Clifton Mills and back along the rim of the Little Miami River.

The troop met two other Boy Scout troops, which came from Michigan to hike this trail, as well as many other hikers and trail runners. The day stated cool, about 30 degrees, with wet trails from rain the day before, but was warm, about 45 degrees and dry at the end.

Attending were: Dane Dahlinghaus, Aaron Kitzmiller, Cory Schulze,

Nicholas Clune, Brock Schulte, Isaac Heuker, Alex Heuker, Daniel Gottschalk, Drew Perryman, Ethan Huwer, Forrest Kitzmiller, Craig Monnin, Carter Pohl; as well as adults, Steve Kitzmiller, David Heuker and Greg Bergman.

Note from Boy Scouts: Be watchful as you are driving on the township and county roads this spring as you will be seeing the Minster Scouts helping to clean up the trash and debris that has accumulated since last fall. This is a yearly service project which makes it easier for the county and township to maintain the ditches in the summer.

Stricker, Hofele to unite in marriage



Mike and Marge Stricker, of Minster, have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Michelle Ann Stricker, to Benjamin William Hofele, the son of Bill and Kim Hofele, of Sugar Creek Township.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Minster High School and a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, having earned a Bachelor of Administra-

tion in Accounting. She is currently employed as an assistant controller with the Cincinnati/Dayton division of the Kroger Co.

The prospective groom is a graduate of Bellbrook High School. He is currently employed at the Warren County Sheriff's Office.

The couple will exchange vows at 1:30 p.m. on May 21, 2014, at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Minster.



Pictured above are members of the Minster Boy Scout Troop 44, who went hiking at John Bryon State Park on March 30.

HOLY WEEK

**Holy Thursday
April 17, 2014**

7:00 pm St. Augustine
7:00 pm St. Joseph

**Good Friday
April 18, 2014**

12:30 pm St. Augustine
12:30 pm St. Joseph

**Easter Vigil
April 19, 2014**

9:00 pm St. Augustine
9:00 pm St. Joseph

**Easter Sunday
April 20, 2014**

7:00 am St. Augustine
8:45 am St. Joseph
9:00 am St. Augustine
11:00 am St. Augustine

Thursday, April 17 2014

Minster Bank celebrates 100 years

For 100 years, Minster Bank has been meeting the financial needs of individuals, families and business owners.

While the substantial assets and global reach of the nation's largest banks can indeed be impressive, Minster Bank has concentrated on growth and development within the villages, towns and cities that it serves.

Minster Bank's commitment to quality, personal service and constant technological advancement, have made the Bank a resource in the region.

Since the Great Depression, many banks have failed or merged and the number of banks in the United States has declined from over 25,000 to less than 7,000 today.

Minster Bank has not only survived but also thrived during shifting economic times and conditions.

Through the last 100 years, it has experienced measured growth and success by staying true to its commitment to helping people achieve financial success.

Guided by the principles of the German heritage of the region, Minster Bank has prospered because of the integrity, honesty, strong work ethic, and faith of the people who live and work here.

Through conservative management, great foresight

and carefully planned expansion, Minster Bank has met the challenges of the economic roller coaster of the last century.

In keeping with the conservative philosophy of the bank, the idea of expanding into neighboring communities has been undertaken with great care and foresight.

We are proud to call seven communities within our footprint as home: New Bremen — 1977; St. Marys — 1988; Wapakoneta — 1992; Sidney — 1995; Minster (inside Wagner's IGA) — 1997; Troy — 2006; Vandalia Loan Production Office — 2011.

Throughout 2014, several initiatives are underway to give thanks to the many groups who helped Minster Bank survive and thrive for 100 years.

In January, a kickoff with employees began the celebration.

On March 20, a Business Open House was held to give thanks to the business community for supporting us over the years.

Throughout May through September each branch will be hosting a customer appreciation week with a cookout and includes a traveling display, which showcases our history.

Minster Bank will also have a parade float



in each of the communities we have an office with fun giveaways tied into our thanks for 100 celebrations.

Minster Bank's success and longevity is truly a testament to the customers and communities we serve. We are proud of our past and look forward to a promising future.

The First Century

BANK LEADERS - PAST AND PRESENT



John W. Eiting



August (Gus) Schunck



John T. Haverbeck



Leo H. Frericks



Carl F. Eiting



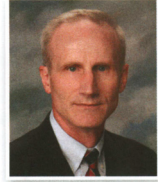
Melvin G. Vallo



John (Jack) R. Eiting



Orval H. Homan



Mark A. Henschen

CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD

(Titled as "President" prior to 1965)

John W. Eiting

1914 - 1935

August (Gus) Schunck

1935 - 1939

John T. Haverbeck

1939 - 1948

Carl F. Eiting

1948 - 1972

John (Jack) R. Eiting

1982 - 1998

Orval H. Homan

1998 - Present

PRESIDENTS

(Titled as "Cashier" prior to 1965)

August (Gus) Schunck

1914 - 1918 & 1919 - 1935

John T. Haverbeck

1918 & 1919

Leo H. Frericks

1935 - 1962

Melvin G. Vallo

1962 - 1982

Orval H. Homan

1982 - 2007

Mark A. Henschen

2008 - Present

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - PAST AND PRESENT



Current Board of Directors: (Front L to R) Mark S. Dominik, Richard G. Knostman, Orval H. Homan, John A. Dunlap, Ronald A. Dorsten, (Back L to R) Lonnie D. Pedersen, Brian T. Holter, Mark A. Henschen, Robin K. Brandt

Bernard Nagel

1914 - 1918

John C. Halsema

1914 - 1918

John T. Haverbeck

1914 - 1921

Joseph E. Schmieder

1914 - 1924

Frank J. Thieman

1914 - 1928

Otis E. Dunan

1914 - 1928

C. H. Dickman

1914 - 1932

John W. Eiting

1914 - 1935

August Schunck

1914 - 1939

Charles F. Herkenhoff

1919 - 1928

Colsten L. Dine

1919 - 1934

John C. Halsema

1922 - 1939

Henry Wendeln

1923 - 1926

Louis G. Fischer

1923 - 1958

J. F. Kramer

1929 - 1931

Frank Eiting

1929 - 1933

John T. Haverbeck

1929 - 1948

William Nagel

1932 - 1937

Oliver F. Morsey

1933 - 1966

Leo H. Frericks

1934 - 1965

Henry Wendeln

1935 - 1937

Carl F. Eiting

1936 - 1972

Frank W. Dine

1938 - 1952

Wilford J. Herkenhoff

1938 - 1981

Alfred B. Fischer

1948 - 1971

Paul E. Dine

1953 - 1957

Charles E. Dine

1958 - 1966

Norbert J. Knostman

1959 - 1975

Melvin G. Vallo

1965 - 1982

Thomas F. Morsey

1966 - 1994

Paul H. Meyer

1966 - 1995

Marvin Huber

1971 - 1995

John R. Eiting

1972 - 1998

Richard G. Knostman

1975 - Present

Harold A. Dorsten

1979 - 1990

Howard H. Fark

1980 - 2000

Dan L. Dunlap

1981 - 2012

Orval H. Homan

1982 - Present

Donald F. Thieman

1990 - 2002

Lonnie D. Pedersen

1995 - Present

Carol A. Jones

1995 - 2007

John A. Dunlap

1995 - Present

Thomas A. Compton

1998 - 2009

Mark S. Dominik

2000 - Present

Ronald A. Dorsten

2002 - Present

Robin K. Brandt

2007 - Present

Mark A. Henschen

2008 - Present

Brian T. Holter

2009 - Present



MINSTER BANK'S
 success and longevity is truly a testament
 to the customers and communities we serve.
 We appreciate your many years of support,
 and we would like to take this opportunity to say
"Thanks for 100"



Celebrating 100 Years of Service.

Minster Bank's success and longevity is truly a testament to the customers and communities we serve. Thank you!



Member FDIC

Hoying talks about history

Rita Fortman Hoying, a local genealogist and Minster historian, worked at The Minster State Bank from her graduation from Minster High School in 1943 until her marriage to Louis A. Hoying in 1955.

"I didn't apply for the job," she said, "Leo Frericks, the cashier, came to our farm and recruited me to work at the bank. I took the bookkeeping classes in school and received A's, so I guess that's why I was picked."

Hoying, who did not speak English until she entered the first grade, could also understand low German, enabling her to communicate with bank customers in their eighties and nineties who spoke only the language of the old country. Nothing was electronic in these days.

"We kept a ledger of cash and coins going in and out, and at the end of the day, we had to balance down to the penny," she said. "Sometimes we counted everything several times to find that lost penny."

Businesses would bring in their deposit books on the last day of the month for the tellers to balance. Individuals would leave their books for balancing at any time. Businesses

had their own printed checks but most individuals only got blank checks if they asked for them.

"Checks drawn on other banks were either sent to Huntington Bank or Fifth Third Bank. The information was recorded in pencil in their respective books in case there was a problem or the mail was lost," said Hoying. "I did that for many years until a machine was purchased that took a picture of the checks."

"When the Eagles had Saturday night dances at the Eagle Park, the treasurer would bring the money back in on Monday at noon," she said. "Co-workers and I would dump it out on the table and count it. I remember it being sticky and smelly."

"There was a door at the end of the hall leading to the basement which we kept open in hot weather. While I was posting, I could hear Bollheimer's chickens. It was several years later that we got air conditioning," said Hoying.

Paper money and coins were ordered from the Federal Reserve Bank and were delivered to the post office. The paper money came in a box and the coins in canvas bags. The coins had to be counted

and put in tubes. Because area organizations, such as the VFW and local church parishes needed a supply of coins for festivals, Hoying remembers one time Alfred Fischer, the assistant cashier, had to borrow a wheelbarrow to carry the bags of money across the street from the post office.

While the country was still in World War II, Fischer took care of the ration stamps for sugar, meat, shoes, gas and other products. "Merchants would bring in their filled sheets with ration stamps glued on and Alfred would have to send the sheets to the Ration Board," said Hoying, "Everyone received ration books, even children. After a certain date, the stamps you didn't use were obsolete and new books were sent out."

There were other several other women who worked with Hoying at the bank until they married. In those days, married women did not work outside the home unless it was on a family farm. When Rita left in 1955, it was to marry Louis Hoying, a man who lived down the road and was a frequent customer of the bank.

"It was certainly a different time, simpler in so many ways," said Hoying.

Minster Bank names branch manager

Minster Bank Names Cavinder Branch Manager

Minster Bank has named Brenda Cavinder as Branch Manager of their Minster office. In this position, Cavinder is responsible for branch oversight, including lending, financial performance, and daily operations. "Brenda's wealth of lending and banking knowledge brings great value to the bank and her dedication to customer service will be an asset to Minster and surrounding communities," said Dale Luebke,

Executive Vice President of the Bank.

Cavinder is replacing current branch manager, Tim Kuehner, who is retiring after 19 years as

Branch Manager of the Minster office. She previously worked as a senior mortgage originator

for a national bank in Sidney. In addition to Cavinder's years of experience she has completed additional coursework to achieve lending and banking certifications.

Cavinder resides in McCartyville with her husband Mark and two

children. She has been active with Women In Networking, Shelby County Home Builders, Power, MOAR, and the Sacred Heart fund raising committee.

With offices in Minster, New Bremen, St. Marys, Wapakoneta, Sidney, Troy and Vandalia,

Minster Bank has assets totaling more than \$380 million and has been serving the communities

of West Central Ohio since 1914. To find out more about Minster Bank, visit MinsterBank.com.

Thank you! Minster Bank 100 years of service



Customer Appreciation Days

Office	Traveling Display <i>Learn about our history</i>	Customer Appreciation Day <i>Enjoy a Cookout (11 am - 2 pm)</i>
Minster 95 W. Fourth St.	Wed., May 14 - Tues., June 3	Friday, May 30
Troy 1280 Experiment Farm Rd.	Wed., June 4 - Tues., July 1	Monday, June 30
St. Marys 301 W. High St.	Wed., July 2 - Thurs., July 24	Friday, July 18
New Bremen 443 S. Washington St.	Fri., July 25 - Thurs., Aug. 14	Friday, August 1
Sidney 117 W. Russell Rd.	Fri., Aug. 15 - Thurs., Sept. 4	Friday, August 29
Wapakoneta 607 N. Defiance St.	Fri., Sept. 5 - Tues., Sept. 30	Friday, September 12



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Minster Bank celebrating 100 years of service



Photo provided
Pictured above is August Schunk at a teller window. Shown is the interior of the 1924 bank building located at Fourth and Frankfort Streets. August Schunk, the first cashier and chief operation officer of The Minster State Bank, He is at the center teller's window and Leo Frericks is at the window to the left. In the foreground, brass spittoons were placed on the floor for the convenience of the bank's customers.



Photo provided
Pictured above are Mark Henschen, president and CEO of Minster Bank, and Scott Frey, director of the Southwestern Auglaize County Chamber of Commerce.

This Day 100 Years Ago
The Minster State Bank Opened For Business

1914 - 1924 - The Minster Bank opened its doors for business on February 10, 1914. The original bank building was located on the north side of West Fourth Street near Frankfort Street in Minster.

1924 - 1932 - A new building was constructed at 18 West Fourth Street, immediately west of the old building. The doors were opened for business on February 9, 1924, and The Minster State Bank moved its customers there for the next 22 years.

1932 - 1950 - Due to growth, a new building was constructed at the corner of Fourth and Frankfort streets, Minster, and the old building was sold to The Minster Machine Company. Just 25 years later in 1957, The Minster State Bank bought the old bank building from The Minster Machine Company. Renovations to give the two buildings, were completed in the spring of 1959 and the bank moved its customers there for the next 52 years.

In 2010, Minster Bank moved into its current building directly across the street from the bank's previous home office. The facility contains a total of 22,000 square feet of interior floor space and more to the corporate headquarters as well as a banking center for the Minster community.

Photo provided

Pictured left: "This Day 100 Years Ago" — shows pictures of Minster buildings throughout the years.

Visit us online at www.minstercommunitypost.com

Happy 100th Birthday Minster Bank

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Leugers Insurance celebrates 100 years of service

Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. is celebrating 100 Years of Service to the community. Throughout the years, the consistency of putting the customer first and providing excellent customer service has remained at the heart of the agency.

Dating back to 1914, Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. has had two longstanding relationships with The National Mutual Company (now Celina Insurance Group) and Columbus Mutual Life Insurance (now Columbus Life Insurance). It all began when Herman Leugers, a country school teacher in Maria Stein, OH and his wife drove their horse and buggy to Celina, OH to meet with E.J. Brookhart from The National Mutual Company to sign an insurance agent agreement to sell automobile insurance as a way to supplement his teaching income. In that same year, Herman met a life insurance salesperson at the train station in Maria Stein, OH. He bought a life insurance policy with a \$500 death benefit in the morning; they had lunch and was signed up as an agent for Columbus Mutual Life Insurance by that afternoon.

Herman continued to teach school and sell insurance on the side until 1935 when he committed himself to selling insurance full time. In 1946, Herman's son Henry joined the family business after serving in the Army Aircorp. Henry became a licensed agent for both The National Mutual Company and Columbus Mutual Life Insurance. In 1948, they built the first Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. office building in Maria Stein. Although it has been renovated many times, Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. main office is still at

the same location as it was in 1948.

In 1954, Henry qualified to become a General Agent with the Columbus Mutual Life Insurance Company. Leugers Insurance Agency is still a leading General Agency with Columbus Life today. Also in 1954, Henry enlisted a young man named Kenneth Kremer to join the agency to sell Property and Casualty Insurance. Kenny was a partner of the agency until his retirement in 1997 although he can still be found at the office preparing tax returns for clients today.

In 1965, Henry recruited Virgil Moorman, a life insurance agent to join the agency and assist with the recruitment and growth of the life insurance portion of the agency. Virg became a General Agent for Columbus Life and took over the life agency in 1981 when Henry retired. He held this position until his death in 1991. His daughter, Jean Bergman, is still with the agency selling life and health insurance.

Ted Bertke joined the agency in 1974 after graduating from Defiance College. Through the years, he became a successful producer, Agency Principal and General Agent— titles he still holds today. A short time later in 1978, Robert (Bob) Leugers, Henry's son and 3rd generation of Leugers, started in the agency. A Bowling Green State University graduate, Bob also became a successful producer, Agency Principal and General Agent with Columbus Life Insurance. Ted and Bob also prepare tax returns for clients and have both earned various designations to assist clients with financial planning.

Over the years the Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc.

was fortunate to be able to recruit wonderful agents and merge with some of the other great agencies in the area. In the 1970's and early 1980's Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. purchased The Raterman Agency, The Ruschau Agency, The Menchoffer Agency and The Aufdahaar Agency. In 1987 Leugers Insurance Agency merged with Richard Ike and the Ike-Stout Agency in St Marys, OH. Two years later The Edgar Mackenbach Agency was also purchased. In 1989 another Columbus Life Agency, the Jim Stechsculte Agency in Columbus Grove, OH merged with us. In 2007, Mike Gant of the Celina Office of Bruns, Gant & Toms Agency merged with Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc.

Today, Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. continues to be an independent insurance agency offering complete insurance programs for individuals and businesses as well as a comprehensive line-up of financial services. We are committed to protecting your personal and business assets, while also helping you achieve your financial goal. To accomplish this, we partner with a select group of reputable insurance companies enabling us to offer clients the best coverage at the most competitive prices.

In 2014, after 100 Years of Service, Leugers Insurance Agency, Inc. has three locations and twenty seven employees in Maria Stein, Celina and St. Marys, Ohio. With the continued dedication of agency employees and commitment of providing the best coverage to our clients, we look forward to serving the communities for another 100 years.

Leugers Insurance through the years



Photo provided

The original Leugers Insurance office was built in 1948. The site was the Ed Harting Blacksmith Shop, Bill Budde Barbershop and Leugers Insurance shared the lot.

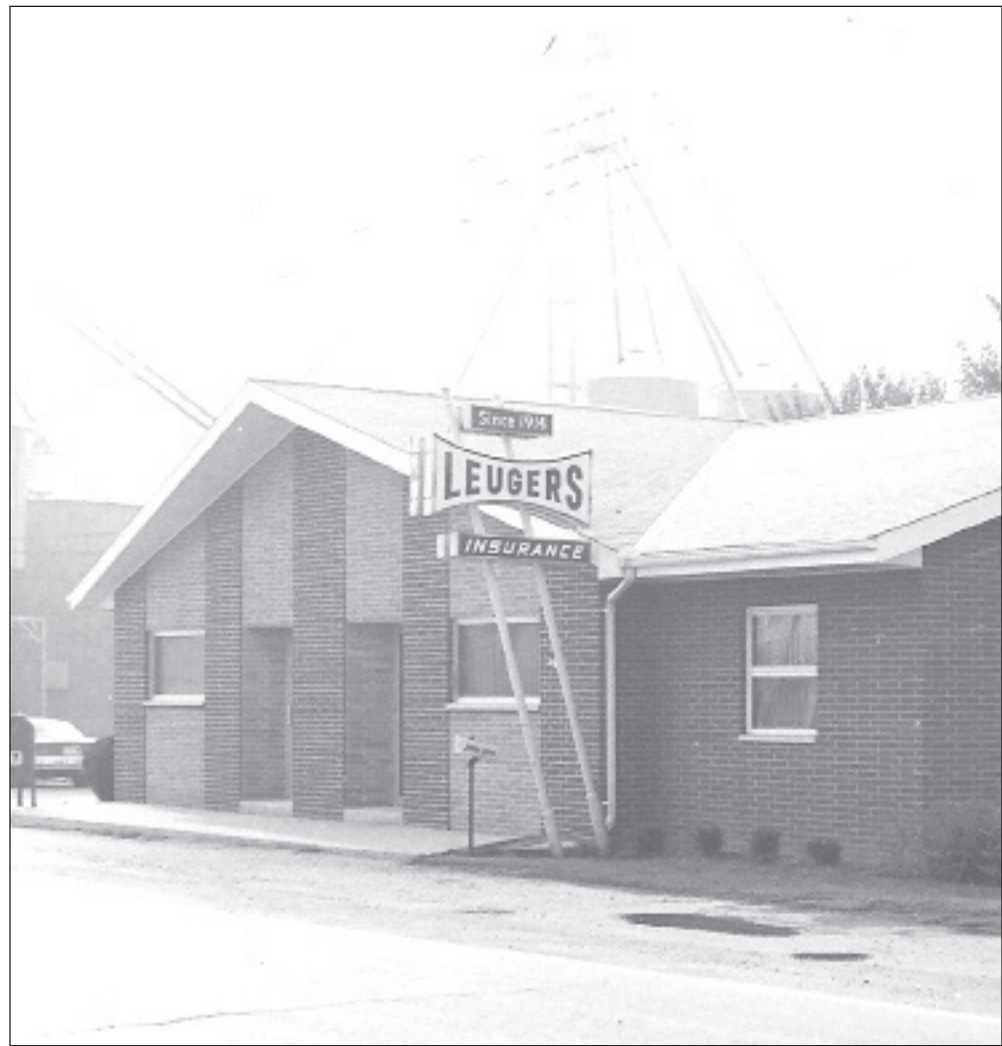


Photo provided

Pictured above is the Leugers Insurance building in 1978.

History of Leugers Insurance

Our story began in 1914, the year Herman Leugers started selling insurance in western Ohio. Employed as a country school teacher, Leugers initially sold insurance as a way to supplement his family's income. His strong work ethic and commitment to the client eventually made it possible for Leugers to devote all of his time to the insurance business. His son, Henry, joined the company after serving in World War II. Henry developed a philosophy for the Agency that included a complete financial service operation. He offered all types of financial services to the Agency clients including property and casualty coverages, life insurance, annuities and health coverages.

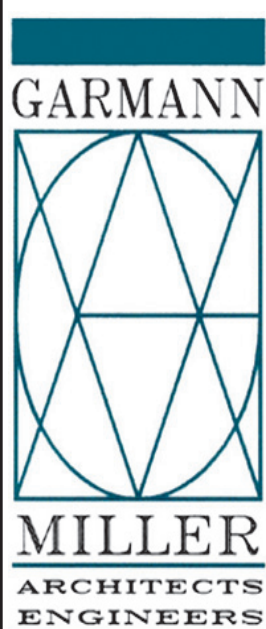
At Leugers Insurance, we truly believe that this is a people business. Beginning with Herman Leugers, a powerful work ethic has been passed down through the generations, one that clearly places the emphasis on how much we can help the client. So even as the company continues to grow and embrace modern-day practices, the client will always come first. Quite simply, we value our clients' work, their families—and their future.

This is the way we've been conducting business in western Ohio for nearly a century. And it's the way we will continue to do business as we expand our services and channel our expertise into other geographic areas. Please take a few minutes to learn how we can help you achieve your personal, business and financial goals.

Happy 100th

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The faces behind Leugers Insurance and 100 years of service



Pictured above is Herman Leugers.

Photo provided



Pictured above is Henry Leugers.

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Pictured above is Bob Leugers.
Pictured below is Virgl Moorman.

Photo provided



Photo Provided
Pictured right is Ted Berke.

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Pictured above is Kenny Kremer.

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Eldora

Opening weekend of Eldora Speedway

ROSSBURG — At only 17 years of age, second generation driver Bobby Pierce used Saturday's UMP DIRTcar Spring Nationals win to propel him into his second century of Late Model wins. Joining the Oakwood, IL speedster on Eldora's coveted stage to celebrate win number 101 was fellow Prairie State hotshoe Matt Mevert who earlier in the program captured the Modified leg of the doubleheader on a night presented by Allstar Performance. The victories marked the first-ever Eldora wins for both drivers.

With frost still emerging as a tell-tale reminder of the brutal winter, and winds gusting at 30 MPH, the track proved itself to be tricky while remaining lightning fast. Pierce's run to the front found the Late Model front-runners lapping steadily in the 16.0 second range around the .500-mile mile clay oval.

Dogged determination and commanding restarts played key ingredients for Pierce, who was greeted in victory lane by the man who had captured this event 21 years ago in 1993, Bob Pierce. Bobby had no recollection of that ceremony as he hadn't even been born yet.

By virtue of his win in the second heat race, Pierce started on the outside pole of the 24-car, \$5,000-to-win 25-lap chase, with heat one winner Dona Marcoullier to the inside. As the green flag dropped, Pierce took it right to the limit by running full-throttle within inches of Eldora's oft-intimidating concrete walls and stealing the top spot away from Marcoullier.

Several minor caution periods slowed the pace and the double-file restart rule would put the entire field back within the shadows of Pierce. His restart approach let the field know that at 17 he was already a veteran in his own right. He would choose the outside lane and when the green flag was unfurled to resume racing, he would shoot off of turn 4 right down in front of the field to shut off their momentum.

Marcoullier remained in contention as the field approached lapped traffic, but behind them Ryan VanderVeen, Brian Ruhlman, Jeep VanWormer and Duane Chamberlain were engaging in a see-saw battle for positioning among the top five. VanderVeen and VanWormer eventually fell victim to crashes which allowed Ruhlman and Chamberlain to take on their own battle while Matt Miller soon entered the scene.

Through it all, Pierce remained undaunted and charged to his second feature win of the weekend. Saturday's win came at the expense of Chamberlain, Ruhlman, Marcoullier and Miller who completed the top five.

Ruhlman was trying to salvage a disappointing run in the Modified A-feature just moments before, where he appeared to be locked into the \$5,000 victory.

His pole starting position was to his liking and he made the most of it by enduring three attempts by the 32-car field to get under green flag conditions and opened nearly a straight-

away lead over the field. Devin Gilpin was the first to try and reel him in, but had his hands full fending off Mevert and Jonathan Taylor and host of others including Eldora stalwarts Jeff Babcock and Jerry Bowersock.

Ruhlman's vast Eldora experience played right into his hand to make it look like the balance of the 31 cars were merely racing to determine an order behind him. Yet Mevert and Taylor had other thoughts, with Mevert learning the Eldora track more and more with every lap.

A rare lap 16 miscue by Ruhlman and near collision with the concrete wall was all Mevert needed to not only knock on the door, but walk right in. As he rallied to regain his composure, Taylor took advantage to advance forward as well.

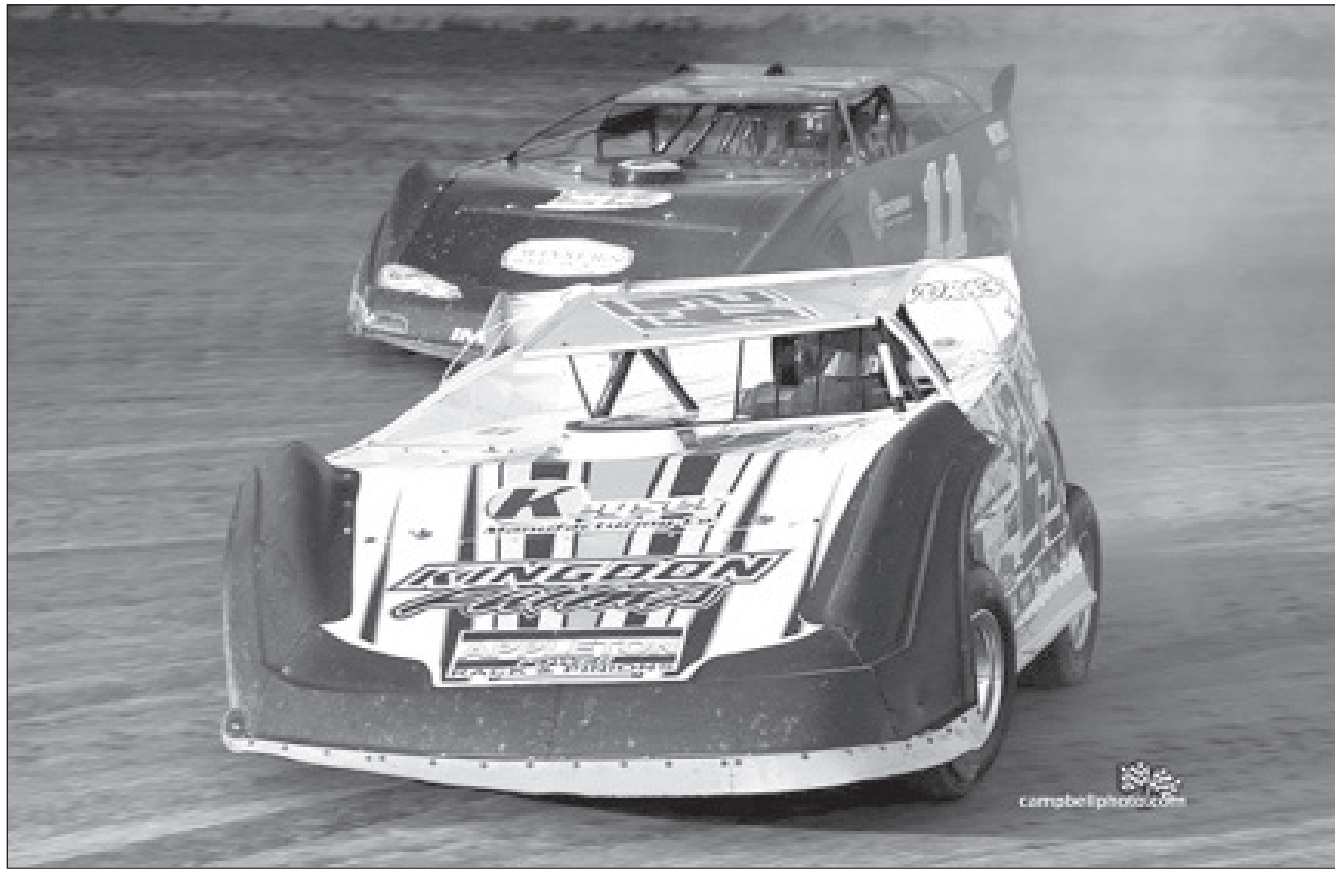
The slight contact was enough to drop Ruhlman somewhat off the pace being enjoyed by Mevert and Taylor, and found teammates Matt Westfall and Jeff Babcock now looking towards the checkered flag. Mevert wasn't about to be denied and took advantage of a long green-flag run in the closing stages to score the win. Taylor, Westfall and Babcock waged a battle to the end and finished in that order, while Chad Kinder slid up into fifth.

Eldora's entry into its 61st season of racing will be followed by an invasion of the USAC National Sprint Car series this Saturday night (April 19) along with the UMP DIRTcar Modifieds and Eldora Stock Cars.



Bobby Pierce celebrates his victory at Eldora Speedway on the opening weekend of racing season.

Photo provided



The race cars are back at Eldora for another big season. Although the weather has been cold and rainy there was racing this past weekend.

Photo provided



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MAC Baseball Scores

Celina 6 Minster 0	Fort Loramie 7 New Bremen 2	Parkway 11 Shawnee 1
Coldwater 8 Van Wert 5	Versailles 5 Greenville 0	Allen East 10 New Knoxville 4
Shawnee 12 Delphos St. John's 4	Parkway 12 Columbus Grove 1	New Knoxville 8 Allen East 0
New Knoxville 19 Waynesfield 4	Springfield 16 Minster 6	Marion Local 6 Anna 4
Sidney 10 Marion Local 8	St. Henry 7 Covington 6	Russia 2 Marion Local 1
New Bremen 8 Jackson Center 1	St. Marys 6 Versailles 2	Minster 4 Fort Loramie 3
St. Henry 14 Greenville 6	St. Marys 4 Versailles 1	Springfield 9 Minster 3
Coldwater 15 Marion Local 0, 5 inn.	Shawnee 5 Parkway 2	St. Henry 8 Anna 0 St. Henry 8 Russia 3



A Botkins player slides back into second base in a softball action against Marion Local. Staff photo/John Kremer

MAC Softball Scores

Celina 5 Marion Local 3, 12 inn.	Minster 8 St. Marys 0	Anna 3 New Bremen 2
Elida 9 Parkway 7	Van Wert 13 Fort Recovery 3	Anna 3 New Bremen 0
Coldwater 6 Kenton 5	Van Wert 11 Fort Recovery 1	
Van Wert 4 St. Henry 2	Marion Local 17 Botkins 0	
Wapakoneta 10 New Bremen 4	Marion Local 21 Botkins 2	
Milton-Union 5 Minster 4	Archbld 21 Parkway 8	
Columbus Grove 6 Marion Local 4	Parkway 10 Evergreen 2	



A Marion player slides into second as the ball comes loose. Marion rolled to a double header sweep of Botkins last Saturday afternoon. Staff photo/Fred Kremer

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A Marion Local player slaps the ball last Saturday against Botkins. The Flyers rolled to a double header sweep over the visiting Trojans. It was a much needed day as the Flyers dropped consecutive games earlier in the week to Columbus Grove and Celina. Staff photo/John Kremer

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Lady Cards drop doubleheader

By **RANDY WILKER**
Sports Correspondent

NEW BREMEN —

Throughout the day the New Bremen Lady Cardinals softball team put the bat on the ball but they couldn't find a gap and the Anna Rockets found a couple gaps and were able to sweep a doubleheader Saturday afternoon 3-2 and 3-0 at New Bremen.

"It was a good game by both teams," Cardinals head coach Craig Griesdorn said. "We made a couple of mistakes but they made plays when they needed to. At the end we had a play at the plate and they had to make a good throw and they made it. Rachel (Parker) did a good job trying to get around her and it was bang-bang at the plate."

Kylie Keener pitched both games for the Rockets giving up only two runs in the first game. She gave up seven hits in the first game and only one hit in the second game. Combined she had 10 strikeouts and seven walks.

Sophie Fox pitched the first game for New Bremen giving up all three runs on eight hits. She struck out 14 and walked one. In the second game Jenna Bertke pitched the complete game giving up all three runs on five hits and she struck out four and walked five.

"I thought both pitchers threw strikes for us," Griesdorn said. "Jenna had the one bad inning and Sophie pitched seven strong innings."

The first game came right down to the wire including a play at the plate.

Trailing 3-2 in the bottom of the seventh Rachel

Parker led off the inning with a single to left. She promptly stole second. Alyse Clune flied out to left. Julie Brown grounded out to first as Parker moved on to the third and then she attempted to score but was tagged out at the plate on a close play to end the game.

"The girls battled back," Griesdorn said. "They scored two runs and we came back and scored two runs. We maybe could have made some plays that we didn't but we came back to tie the game and had a chance to tie the game at the end."

New Bremen broke on the scoreboard first with a run in the second inning. Melissa Thieman drew a walk to begin the inning and advanced to third on a ground out by Victoria Wente. Thieman scored on a ground out to short by Sophie Fox to make the score 1-0.

The Rockets came back to tie the game and grab a 2-1 lead in the fifth inning. Paige Richard led off with a bunt single and went to second on a single to left by Julie Gephart. Richard and Gephart stole second and third. Courtney Esser struck out swinging but a throw trying to get Richard at third went over the head of the third baseman allowing Richard to score and Gephart to move to third. After a strikeout, Ashley Dentinger singled between short and third allowing Gephart to score the go ahead run. Amanda Reichert struck out to end the inning.

The Cardinals answered with the tying run in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Janelle Elking led off

with a double to left. Parker tried to reach on a bunt but it was right to the third baseman and Elking was out at third. Clune singled to shortstop with Parker going to third where she scored on a sacrifice fly to right by Julie Brown to tie the game at 2-2.

Anna regained the lead in the top of the seventh on singles from Courtney Esser, Ashley Dentinger and Amanda Reichert to score Esser.

In the second game it came down to a pitcher's duel between Kylie Keener and Jenna Bertke. For the first four innings neither team could get the big hit to break the scoreboard.

In the fifth inning Anna found the right combination. With one out, Ashley Dentinger singled to center and went to second on a passed ball. Amanda Reichert drew a walk. With two outs, Cloie Egbert loaded the bases when she was hit by a pitch. A walk to Haley Steinbrunner forced home Dentinger and Paige Richard singled to left to score Reichert but Egbert was tagged out at home to end the inning.

Anna scored their final run in the seventh inning on a walk to Reichert, a stolen base and an error that allowed Alexis Phillips to reach and Reichert to score.

"Both games were good games," Griesdorn said. "We had some opportunities and on a non-windy day we get some more hits. Every time we hit the ball it was right at them. The third baseman had a heck of a game defensively and nothing got by her."



Staff photo/Ellen Wehrman
Pictured above and below is the Fort Loramie softball team. The Skins rolled over Fairlawn 17-0 last Saturday afternoon.



Skins down New Bremen on diamond

By **RANDY WILKER**
Sports Correspondent

FORT LORAMIE— A change in fields still didn't help the New Bremen Cardinals baseball team Friday night. Because of field conditions the game against the Ft. Loramie Redskins was moved to Ft. Loramie and the Redskins took advantage with four runs in the first inning to defeat the Cardinals 7-2.

"Every time somebody hits we have to make the routine plays and that was the difference between us and Ft. Loramie tonight," Cardinals head coach Josh Bowersock said. "When we hit the ball they made the routine plays and they hit the ball to us a few times and we didn't."

James Kronenberger III took the loss for the Cardi-

nals giving up seven runs, six earned, on seven on seven hits, but the Cardinals committed six errors.

"Travis pitched a heck of a game," Bowersock said. "He threw strikes but you need the defense to make plays behind you."

The Redskins got on the board right off the bat with four runs in the top of the first inning.

The inning began with a double to center by Aaron Boerger and he scored when Devin Braun reached on an error and went to third on a ground out by Grant Olberding. He scored on a fielder's choice by Luke Gephart.

Gephart stole second and third and scored on a sacrifice fly to left by Jack Koppin. Blake Geier drew a walk and stole second before scoring the fourth

run on a single by Brad Pleiman. Pleiman was out at second trying to steal to end the inning.

Ft. Loramie added a pair of runs in the top of the fourth inning.

Tanner Rittenhouse began the inning with a double down the left field line and he advanced to third on a wild pitch. Boerger hit a sacrifice fly to center that scored Rittenhouse. After a fly out, Olberding reached on an error at shortstop. Gephart and Pleiman both singled to score Olberding and increase the lead to 6-0.

In the bottom of the fourth inning New Bremen broke the shutout with a run and added another run in the fifth inning.

"We put the ball in play tonight and we didn't

strike out much," Bowersock said. "We put the ball in play hard a couple of times but you have to give Ft. Loramie credit. If the ball was within their reach they made the play."

After a leadoff strikeout, Nick Gusching singled to center but Nolan Fox grounded into a fielder's choice. Gusching advanced to third on a passed ball and scored on a single to left by Jacob Gilberg.

In the fifth inning, with one out, Troy Siegel drew a walk and went to second on a single to left by James Kronenberger. Both runners advanced on a wild pitch and Siegel scored on a ground out by Trey Naylor to make the score 6-2. Ft. Loramie added an unearned run in the top of the seventh inning for the 7-2 final.



Staff photo/Ellen Wehrman
Pictured above is the Fort Loramie baseball team. The Redskins downed New Bremen last Friday.



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