



# Circleville Herald

**THURSDAY**  
March 8, 2007

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## Remodel Laurelville police station



Waylon Strickland/Herald

Laurelville Mayor Chuck Zawacki (left) and Laurelville Police Chief James Taylor are seen in the newly renovated Laurelville Police Station.

By **WAYLON STRICKLAND**  
HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Laurelville Police Station has recently received a major upgrade, and Police Chief James Taylor is confident that Laurelville is making positive progress.

The station, which has been housed in the Laurelville Municipal Building since 2001, was basically an open-plan garage with a desk, according to Taylor. The renovation work began in September and is nearly complete.

"The building was all open, and, literally, we pulled the cruiser right up next to my desk," Taylor said.

Taylor was hired as police chief in September, and made improving the station one of his goals.

"The office is well organized now, it's more professional and relaxed," said Taylor.

Laurelville Mayor Chuck Zawacki is extremely happy with the improvements to the facility.

"We have to be professionals, and I'm proud that we're building a quality department," Zawacki said.

Taylor said the department did all they could to keep costs at a minimum while maximizing available resources.

"We had lots of donations and volunteer work. In all we probably only spent \$1,500, and we have received an anonymous donation to cover our outlay," said Taylor.

New tile and carpet, new storage units, a new partition to separate the office space from the garage space, and a fresh coat of paint have all helped to turn the office into a more desirable work space.

"We used to be ashamed to come in here, but now we actually enjoy coming in," he said.

The project was a group effort, said Taylor, between the police force, mayor, village council and citizens of Laurelville.

"Laurelville deserved a better police station to better protect the citizens of the community," said Taylor.

## Smurfitt site set for demolition

By **WAYLON STRICKLAND**  
HERALD STAFF WRITER

A spokesman for the investment group that recently purchased the former Smurfitt-Stone site gave an update on progress at the site to Circleville City Council Tuesday night.

Michael R. Harris, Vice President of Business Development for Green Investment Group Inc., which recently purchased the former Smurfitt-Stone site, announced that work removing some of the visible structures is expected to begin next week.

"Demolition at the site is scheduled to begin March 12. We're coordinating with crews that will remove selected structures, and also working on cleaning out the interiors of buildings that will remain standing," said Harris.

Circle Green LLC, a subsidiary of Green Investment



Group, will be managing the site. Demolition and clean-up of the site is expected to take up to four months, according to Harris.

"We want to get the site cleaned up as soon as possible but we have to follow some extensive and expensive procedures mandated by Ohio EPA," said Harris. "Once the the clean-up is complete, we hope to get a letter from the Ohio EPA declaring the site clean of environmental hazards," he said.

As part of the demolition plan, several visible structures will be removed, including the outdoor chipper and chutes, old scale house, tall digester building, concrete block garage building, and the large fuel oil tank.

See **DEMOLITION A2**

## Authorities: Suicides at schools in Michigan, Texas

By **DAVID EGGERT**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MIDLAND, Mich. (AP) — A teenager shot his former girlfriend four times outside her high school, then killed himself in one of two fatal U.S. school shootings Wednesday, authorities said.

Jessica Forsyth, 17, was taken to Hurley Medical Center in Flint, where she was upgraded Wednesday evening to fair condition, hospital spokeswoman Christie White said.

Midland Police Chief James St. Louis said the gunman, identified as David Turner, 17, of nearby Coleman, died in the parking lot.

Turner had gone to H.H. Dow High School on Wednesday morning to try to talk to Jessica, but he was turned away by school officials, the police chief said. The boy then called her and asked her to meet him outside the building.

After a conversation in the

parking lot, Turner pulled a gun out of a backpack and shot her four times before turning the gun on himself, St. Louis said.

The girl's mother, who had dropped her daughter off at the school, saw the shooting from her car and drove between the two to try to protect the girl, authorities said.

The school, about 100 miles northwest of Detroit, was locked down after the shooting. Dow High is named after the founder of chemical giant Dow Chemical Co. and has 1,500 students. No school activities were canceled.

"It's kind of confusing," said junior Cory Hearn, who was taking an economics exam at the time. "I don't know what to say about it. People didn't know what to think or what was going on."

In Greenville, Texas, a 16-year-old student fatally shot himself inside the band hall at Greenville High School, police said.

## Goodwill to open store in South Bloomfield

By **DAVID AMEY**  
HERALD STAFF WRITER

Doors will open 10 a.m. Monday on a new Goodwill Industries retail store at 5004 N. Walnut St. in South Bloomfield.

The renovated facility, which will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, features reduced priced merchandise — mostly clothing items — which have been donated to Goodwill Industries of South Central Ohio.

The donated items are inspected by workers at seven retail sites, according to Jan Coon, operations director for Goodwill's eight-county South Central Ohio region.

If the items are clean and without defects, they are immediately priced according to a standard schedule and offered for sale at the local store.

"We're very pleased to be opening the retail store in South Bloomfield," said Coon.



David Amey/Herald

Putting the finishing touches on merchandise for sale at the new Goodwill Industries retail store in South Bloomfield are, from the left, Karen Lee Amey, lead worker at the store; Jan Coon, operations director for Goodwill of South Central Ohio; Mary Graves, manager of the Circleville retail store; and Sherry Blevins, manager of the Chillicothe store.

"We hope to have many good years of service to the people in the northern part of the county, and want to invite them to visit the new location."

The South Bloomfield staff is available to accept donated

items during hours of operation. And, donations are tax deductible, she said.

"When you shop at Goodwill, you get great bargains and help someone find a job," she said.

The money spent in Goodwill stores goes to support job training and placement programs for people with disabilities and other disadvantages.

The South Central Ohio See **GOODWILL A2**

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**Good Day,  
Roger Clark**  
Thank you  
for subscribing  
to The Herald



Matthew Forte/Herald

## JFS replenishes Clearing House pantry

Since the Emergency Clearing House of Pickaway County Community Action (PICCA) is low on food, Pickaway County Jobs and Family Service (JFS) employees helped out. JFS Director Rojanne Woodward made a deal with the 79 JFS employees that if they each brought in five cans of food, they could wear jeans for the day. From left are Woodward, Georgia Furness and Judy Magill, all of JFS.



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**Half-ton Mexican able to leave home**

SAN NICOLAS DE LOS GARZA, Mexico (AP) — A man who once weighed well over a half ton left his house for the first time in five years Wednesday — wheeled outside on his bed to greet neighbors and see a mariachi band.

"The sky is beautiful and blue and what I want is to enjoy the sun," said Manuel Uribe, who had once been certified by doctors as weighing 1,235 pounds.

Though still unable to leave his bed, Uribe has lost 395 pounds since he began a high-protein diet a year ago. He now weighs about 840 pounds.

To celebrate the milestone, six people pushed Uribe's wheel-equipped iron bed out to the street as a mariachi band played and a crowd gathered. Then, a forklift lifted him onto a truck and the 41-year-old rode through the streets of San Nicolas de los Garza, a Monterrey suburb.

With dozens of reporters and photographers in tow, Uribe traveled along, passing the town's plaza and church and waving at clusters of people eager to get a glimpse of him.

**Cleanup begins after Indonesian quake**

By MARGIE MASON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SOLOK, Indonesia (AP) — Okiardi wept and prayed at his daughter's grave Wednesday, a day after a concrete slab dislodged by an earthquake collapsed on top of the 5-year-old in a school playground.

Survivors began cleaning up homes damaged by the temblor, which killed 52 people and was another grim reminder of the powerful seismic forces that lie beneath Indonesia.

Okiardi said he identified his daughter by her earring because her face was smashed beyond recognition when he found her at a hospital.

"I could still feel her heart beating," he recalled, crying quietly. "Moments later, she died."

The 6.3 magnitude quake that struck Sumatra island Tuesday was felt as far away as neighboring Malaysia and Singapore, where some tall buildings were evacuated. Two hours later, a 6.1 aftershock rattled the region.

The quake left at least 52 dead, said Cabinet Secretary Sudi Silalahi, lowering the

death toll by nearly 20. He said some victims had been counted twice.

In Solok, a bustling town close to the epicenter, three members of one family were killed when their collapsed home burst into flames, said police spokesman Supriadi, who like many Indonesians uses only one name. Military and work crews scrambled to clean up the charred remains of the house.

Another woman, Jaini, 71, died early Wednesday after being trapped inside her kitchen when the walls caved in. Her son-in-law dug her out of the rubble, but she refused to go to the hospital saying it was "no use," said her daughter, Kento.

Nursiam, Jaini's cousin, who was sitting with family members beside her dead relative before burial, said she had never felt such a powerful quake. "This was the biggest ever," she said.

The damage varied greatly. Some houses were flattened, with only tin roofs left sitting atop the ground, while others had only slight cracks in walls or porches. Many homes appeared to have escaped damage completely, but jittery resi-

dents were not taking any chances.

Many survivors lounged on straw mats under trees and cooked under plastic canopies in yards. They spent the night outside wrapped in blankets, hovering beside lanterns and fires to escape the cool mountain air.

Indonesia, which straddles one of the world's most seismically active zones, was hardest hit by the 2004 Asian tsunami that killed 160,000 people on Sumatra's northern tip. Since then, two other deadly quakes have occurred, as well as landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions.

Dozens of buildings were destroyed and hundreds others damaged in the latest quake, according to local police chief Lt. Col. Budi Sarwono. A three-story home was flattened, and wide cracks were left in roads.

Heavy machinery was used to knock down some buildings still standing after the quake but too damaged to be salvaged. Backhoes and dump trucks moved mounds of dirt and broken concrete, but many houses remained tilted sideways or perched precariously on cracked support beams.

**Suicide bomber kills 30 in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide attacker blew himself up in a cafe northeast of the capital Wednesday, killing 30 people and wounding dozens, and a powerful bomb killed three American soldiers trying to clear explosives from a highway near Baghdad.

The deadly assaults occurred as Iraqi security forces struggled to protect more than 1 million Shiite pilgrims streaming toward the holy city of Karbala for annual religious rituals — and facing a string of attacks along the way that have claimed more than 150 lives in two days.

They included 22 people — 12 police commandos and 10 civilians — who died Wednesday in a car bombing at a checkpoint in southern Baghdad set up to protect pilgrims, the U.S. military said. An Iraqi TV cameraman working for a Shiite-owned station was among the civilian dead, his station said.

One American soldier was wounded in the attack on the bombing-clearing team on a major highway just north of the capital, the U.S. military said. The names of the victims were withheld until their families are notified.

American troops have stepped up efforts to clear and secure major highways around the capital as part of the Baghdad security crackdown, which began last month.

**Ex-con guilty in Florida girl's slaying**

MIAMI (AP) — A sex offender was found guilty Wednesday of kidnapping and raping a 9-year-old girl and burying her alive in a case that led to a crackdown around the country on people convicted of sex crimes.

Jurors deliberated about four hours before returning the verdict against John Evander Couey in the slaying of Jessica Lunsford, who was snatched from her bedroom in 2005 about 150 yards from the trailer where Couey had been living.

Her body was found in a shallow hole, encased in two black plastic trash bags. She had suffocated, and was found clutching a purple stuffed dolphin.

The jury next must decide whether Couey, 48, should get death by injection or life in prison.

Couey admitted to investigators shortly after his arrest that he committed the crime, but the confession was thrown out because he did not have a lawyer present as he had requested.

**Neglect of troops will not be tolerated**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Wednesday the bipartisan panel he named to investigate problems at the nation's military and veterans hospitals would work to restore confidence in the system of caring for wounded troops.

"Any report of medical neglect will be taken seriously by this administration," Bush said in an Oval Office meeting with the co-chairmen of the panel, former Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., and Donna Shalala, who was secretary of health and human services during the Clinton administration.

"I'm confident that this commission will bring forth the truth," Bush said.

The president announced last Friday he had ordered a comprehensive review of conditions at military and veterans hospitals, which have been overwhelmed by injured troops from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The review came in the wake of disclosures of shoddy outpatient health care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, one of the nation's premier facilities for the wars' wounded.

"Obviously, it's a tragedy," Dole told reporters outside the West Wing. He said the other seven members of the commission would be named later this week or early next week.

**Taliban ready to rebuff offensive**

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — A top Taliban commander said Wednesday the group has 4,000 fighters bracing to rebuff NATO's largest-ever offensive in northern Afghanistan, now in its second day. Suicide bombers are ready, land mines have been planted and helicopters will be targeted, Mullah Abdul Qassim, the top Taliban commander in Helmand province told The Associated Press.

NATO, meanwhile, announced the capture of a senior Taliban fighter who had eluded authorities by wearing a woman's burqa. Mullah Mahmood, who is accused of helping Taliban fighters rig suicide bomb attacks, was seized by Afghan soldiers at a checkpoint near Kandahar, the alliance said.

Speaking by satellite telephone from an undisclosed location, Qassim said the Taliban has 8,000 to 9,000 fighters in Helmand province, including some 4,000 in the north, where NATO launched its largest-ever offensive Tuesday. He said all the fighters were Afghan, denying reports of hundreds of foreign fighters in the region.

"All of them are well-equipped and we have the weapons to target helicopters," Qassim said. "The Taliban are able to fight for 15 or 20 years against NATO and the Americans."

New mines have been planted, and suicide bombers — a growing threat in Afghanistan — are ready to attack, said Qassim, whose voice was recognized by an AP reporter who has spoken with him before.

**Trucker claims half of lottery jackpot**

DALTON, Ga. (AP) — A Georgia truck driver stepped forward Wednesday to claim half of a \$390 million jackpot, the richest lottery prize in U.S. history. "I'm going to do a lot of fishing," Ed Nabors, 52, of Rocky Face, Ga., about 90 miles north of Atlanta, said in a deep Southern drawl.

The other winning ticket in Tuesday night's Mega Millions drawing was sold at a liquor store in New Jersey, and the holder did not immediately come forward.

Nabors bought his ticket at a convenience store in Dalton — the self-proclaimed "Carpet Capital of the World" — near a carpet mill run by his employer, Mohawk Industries. Asking if he will keep working, he said: "Well, at least for a couple more days."


He elected to take his winnings in a lump sum instead of annual installments, and will get \$116.5 million before taxes, or more than \$80 million after.

**Astronaut charged with kidnapping**

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Astronaut Lisa Nowak was fired from NASA on Wednesday, a month after she was charged with trying to kidnap a woman she regarded as her romantic rival for the affections of a space shuttle pilot.

Nowak's dismissal did not reflect the space agency's belief in her guilt or innocence, NASA officials said. The agency said it lacked an administrative system to handle the allegations because Nowak is a naval officer on assignment to NASA, rather than a NASA civil servant.

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**Goodwill**

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headquarters, located in Chillicothe, supports a sheltered workshop where handicapped adults work to fulfill contract jobs. The workshop will also become operational in Circleville at the organization's warehouse.

It also operates a work force development program in conjunction with the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation to find jobs for disabled citizens, and with Pickaway-Ross Joint Vocational School to find summer employment for students.

To assist with transportation, Goodwill's transportation services division works with the Ross County Consortium and Job and Family Services to transport citizens to medical appointments. Last year, more than 2,000 Ross County residents took advantage of the program.

In addition to the retail store operations, Chillicothe Goodwill also operates Good and Clean Janitorial Services in its eight-county area.

On the retail side, Goodwill stores feature gently-used and new items that are bargains for smart shoppers. The 2,000 Goodwill stores in North America are independently owned and operated, but most Goodwills offer basic items that guarantee great finds — jeans, business attire, baby and children's clothing, house-

wares and appliances, furniture and more.

Some Goodwills also operate upscale boutique and specialty stores that feature name-brand designer fashions, jewelry, wedding gowns, computers, antiques and other amazing finds.

Goodwill is one of the world's largest nonprofit providers of education, training, and career services for people with disadvantages, such as welfare dependency, homelessness, and lack of education or work experience, as well as those with physical, mental and emotional disabilities.

Last year, local Goodwills collectively provided employment and training services to more than 846,000 individuals.

Its mission: Goodwill Industries will enhance the quality and dignity of life for individuals, families, and communities on a global basis, through the power of work, by eliminating barriers to opportunity for people with special needs, and by facilitating empowerment, self-help, and service through dedicated, autonomous local organizations.

Its vision: We at Goodwill Industries will be satisfied only when every person in the global community has the opportunity to achieve his/her fullest potential as an individual and to participate and contribute fully in all aspects of a productive life.

**Demolition**

Continued from A1

"We're going to take down some of the ugly things, including most of the structures at the south end of the property," Harris said.

Circle Green and Green Investment have signed a memorandum of understanding with Firm Green, LLC, a California green energy business, to build a bio-diesel plant in Circleville, which, according to Harris, would create 15 to 20 jobs, once the plant is running at full capacity.

Harris also said his company hopes to attract salvage and resale operations to fill vacant portions of site not required by the planned bio-diesel plant.

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