



Circleville Herald

THURSDAY
February 5, 2009

75 cents



26/20
For weather details
turn to A7



Sports

OCU woman breaks school's
single-game scoring record with 44 points

A7



Sports

Logan Elm girls basketball team
defeats Westfall

A10

City Council questions Berger terms

By DAVID AMEY
EDITOR

Circleville City Council sent its special attorney back to the negotiation table in the proposed conversion of Berger Hospital from a public hospital to a private, not-for-profit hospital to find out answers on

three key issues:

- Amount of the proposed lease,
- Definition of Berger's 600 North Pickaway Street location as an in-patient facility,
- More details on the voting membership population of the proposed Berger Health

System board.

Armed with a long list of questions, these issues surfaced as potential hurdles after council convened a Committee of the Whole meeting Wednesday night to seek answers and assistance from its attorney Donald Antrim of Dinsmore & Shohl.

"It's council's turn to voice their concerns about the terms," said Council President David Crawford, who instructed council members to tell Antrim what they didn't like or understand about the draft document. "His job will be to make the changes."

At the top of the list of City

Council concerns was the proposed lease fee of \$1 per year, which many members felt was alienating public support.

On a suggestion by Patty Fouch, Antrim will negotiate for a significant increase in the yearly lease payment of the multi-million dollar facility. The money would be used by

the city solely to promote health and wellness of its residents.

Also of concern to council was more specific assurances the facility would maintain its presence in the city as an in-patient facility.

"The city would loose a lot

See Berger A2

ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS LEAD TO BLAZE



TRISH BENNETT/Circleville Herald

Captain Eric Edgington, Harrison Township Fire Department, inspects the scene of a house fire Wednesday in Darbyville.

Fire destroys Darbyville home

By TRISH BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

A suspected electrical fire Wednesday destroyed a Darbyville home, according to Chief Bill Welsh, Harrison Township Fire Department.

"It's totally destroyed," Welsh said. "They had some

electrical problems in a panel, and it just went from there."

The residence, located at 16528 East Street, was a mobile home with several room additions covered by an outer shell, Welsh said.

The fire spread quickly from the fuse box where the blaze reportedly began, he said.

No injuries were reported in the incident, according to Deputy Todd Fortner, Pickaway County Sheriff's department.

Units from Harrison Township, Scioto Township, Mt. Sterling and Pleasant Township helped battle the blaze, which began at approx-

imately 11:49 a.m., Fortner said.

Both residents and most of their pets escaped without injury, but one cat remains unaccounted for, he said.

The Pickaway County Red Cross has provided assistance to the residents, according to Chief Welsh.

Pickaway economy near 'stable'

Manufacturers in county learned to operate leaner

By DAVID AMEY
EDITOR

Compared to the decaying world economy, Pickaway County's woes appear miniscule ... according to Nate Green, Pickaway County Economic Development director.

"We bottomed out in the late 1990s and early 2000s, losing 2,500 jobs, before any one else did," he said at the inaugural networking and education round table sponsored by the Pickaway Chamber of Commerce.

"As a result, the local manufacturing sector learned how to succeed after shedding the jobs, and now is working leaner," he said in his State of Pickaway County's Economy. "That makes our local economy almost stable."

Highlights of last year include the March opening of the Norfolk Southern intermodal terminal, purchase of



DAVID AMEY/The Herald
Nate Green, Pickaway County Economic Development director, delivers an address on the state of the local economy.

the former Thomson facility by Circleville Pickaway LLC, leasing of a 167,000 square foot warehouse by Le Gourmet Chef which created 35 new jobs, and the purchase of the former Wal-Mart facility by Grandview Outlets.

Circleville received a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. EPA to perform environmental assessments on properties in the city to turn them into

See ECONOMY A5

Woman declared incompetent

Congrove won't go to trial for shooting husband

By TRISH BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

The woman accused of shooting her husband in his sleep on Aug. 10 was declared currently incompetent to stand trial in the case Wednesday in Pickaway County Common Pleas Court.

Donna Congrove, 46, of Circleville, was ordered held for inpatient treatment at Twin Valley psychiatric hospital in Columbus, according to Judge P. Randall Knece.

According to the Netcare

psychiatric evaluation ordered by the court in October, Congrove may be competent to face the criminal charges following prescribed treatment at the facility. By state statute, Knece said, Congrove can be held up to one year at the facility, at which time she will either be competent to assist in her defense or the case will be reevaluated.

Congrove was arrested following the April 10 shooting, which she originally reported as an accident in a 911 call around 2 a.m.

Her husband, James Congrove, was hospitalized more than a month after the shooting. He continues to recover from the injury, according to Det. John Strawser, Pickaway County Sheriff's office.

Congrove pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to the crime after being indicted Oct. 3 by the Pickaway County Grand Jury.

According to Det. Strawser, James Congrove was granted a five-year civil protection order against his wife.

Open house in Commercial Point



TRISH BENNETT/The Herald

Stacey Sark (left), a Scioto Township trustee, talks with Don Metzler at an open house held Wednesday at the township center. The event has become an annual tradition at the Commercial Point-area facility in celebration of Ohio Township Day.



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Deaths

Philip "Dutch" Andrews, 84
Opal M. Draise, 77
Theodore E. Fox, 62

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News tips

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2 Sections, 10 Pages
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**Good Day,
Charles Pockras**

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THINGS TO DO

Friday
• "Little Johnny Jones," RoundTown Players presentation, 8 p.m., Memorial Hall.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Today
★ Pickaway County District Public Library Board of Trustees, 7 p.m., main library meeting room.
★ South Bloomfield Parks Commission, 7 p.m.
★ SOCOG Board Meeting, 10 a.m., Gallia County Board of MRDD, 77 Mill Creek Road, Gallipolis.
★ Saltcreek Township Trustees, Hocking County, 7 p.m., township house.

Friday
★ Westfall Board of Education, planning meeting, 7:30 a.m., Westfall Elementary computer lab.

ORGANIZATIONS

Today
• Fraternal Order of Eagles 685 Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 p.m., at the lodge home.
• Pickaway Sportsmen's Club Inc. Board of Directors Meeting (closed to public), 7:30 p.m., at the club.
• Goodtime Quilters, 9:30 a.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church.
• Moose Lodge 2440, 7 p.m. officer meeting, 8 p.m. lodge meeting, 2065 Stoneridge Drive.
• Women's Civic Club of Ashville, 7:30 p.m., at the Younkin Branch of the library.
• Westfall Alumni Association, 6:30 p.m., in the Westfall High School conference room.
★ VFW Color Guard, 7:30 p.m., on Tarlton Road.
• Democratic Central and Executive Committee, 7 p.m., 120 W. Main St.
★ Senior Employment Center (mature workers) and Ohio Benefit Bank, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Laurelville Senior Center. Provides info and help applying for benefits. Call for an appointment 1-866-882-9500 or 332-3341 or come to the center.

Friday
★ Vigil for Peace, 4:30 p.m., Pickaway County Courthouse.
• Commercial Point Men's Club, Fish Fry, 5-8 p.m. at Community Center. (thru May)

Event notices marked with star (★) are open to public.

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Deaths and funerals



PHILIP EUGENE ANDREWS SR.
KINGSTON — Philip "Dutch" Andrews Sr. 84, of Kingston, passed away Feb. 3, 2009 at Adena following an extended illness.

He was born Dec. 28, 1924 in Colerain Township the son of the late James and Grace Coffenberger Andrews.

Survivors include his loving wife of 64 years, Anna Bethel; two children, son, Philip (Patricia) Andrews Jr.; and daughter, Maxine (the late Ted) Patterson; sister, Marcella (Loran) Barnhart; grandchildren, Michele (Mike) Lewis, Kimberly (Luke) Arrowood, Kelly (Josh) Cyrus and Jason

(Tonya) Patterson; step-grandchildren, Lisa Young, Jeff Miller, and Mike Smith; great-grandchildren, Akira and Aiden Arrowood, Ryan and Lauren Andrews; step-great-grandchildren, Jay Young, Richard Young and Rosie Young.

He was predeceased by sisters, Beatrice (Harold) Dowden and Virginia Andrews.

Philip was a Mead retiree and a life long farmer, he attended Bethel U. M. Church. Most of all he was a beloved husband, father and grandfather to his family and will be greatly missed.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Hill Funeral Home, Kingston with Rev Patmore officiating. Burial in the Bethel cemetery. Friends may call at Hill's Friday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Bethel U. M. Church, 7595 Dry Run Road, Kingston, OH 45644.

OPAL M. DRAISE
CIRCLEVILLE — Opal M. Draise, 77, of Circleville, died Feb. 4, 2009 at Logan Elm Health Care.

She was born June 13, 1931 in Pickaway County, the daughter of Burt and Elizabeth

(Burchett) Ratcliff. She was a member of the First Church of Christ in Christian Union.

She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Russell E. Parish; second husband, Richard Draise; step-daughter, Patricia Cottrill; sister, Sharon Vickroy; and brother, Glenn Ratcliff.

Opal is survived by sons, Dale (Nancy) Parish of Circleville and David (Krista) Parish of West Chester; step-son, Jerry (Barbara) Parish of Circleville; five grandchildren, Shantina (Tom) Travis, Michael Parish, Matthew (April) Parish, Elizabeth and Sean Parish; four great-grandchildren, Jessica, Sara and Mallory Anderson and Sawyer Parish; and great-great-grandson, Thomas Parson.

Funeral service will be held 10:30 a.m., Sat., Feb. 7, at the Wellman Funeral Home, Circleville, with Rev. Greg Gardner officiating. Burial will be in Hitler-Ludwig Cemetery. Friends may call from 3-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

THEODORE E. FOX
CIRCLEVILLE — Theodore E. Fox, 62, of Circleville, died Jan. 31, 2009 at his residence.

He was born March 6, 1946 in Oak Hill, the son of Theodore and Helen (Saunders) Fox.

He was preceded in death by his parents; step-father, Thomas C. Lambert; sisters, Janet Lambert and Beverly K. Lambert; and brother, Charles Edward Fox.

He is survived by his daughters, Trudy Lynn and Beverly Kay of Oak Hill; step-children, Connie of Charleston, S.C., and William of Cincinnati; special friend, Betty Higgins; three grandchildren, Nathan, Wesley and Robbie; three step-grandchildren, Michael, Dustin and Chase; brothers, Donald Fox of Wellston and Randy Fox of West Virginia; sisters, Joan Moore of North Carolina, Carolyn Murray of Columbus, Rita Malone and Sally Rawlins of Oak Hill.

There will be no services. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Pickaway County.

Arrangements were completed by the Wellman Funeral Home, Circleville.

Economy

Continued from A1

in the city to turn them into job generating properties, and a \$750,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Development for cleanup and demolition of the former Smurfit facility.

In addition, the city implemented a municipal income tax credit to help retain and attract businesses, and the East-West Connector Transportation Study was launched with the intent to begin construction in mid-2011 of the connector between Court Street and U.S. Route 23 in the south end.

Local challenges for the current year include the U.S. recession which began at least six months ago and could stretch through the year, an 8 percent unemployment rate in Pickaway County, and the largest home foreclosure rate since the Great Depression.

This has caused some planned development projects in the county to stall, he said. In addition, money and credit are expected to be tight at least



DAVID AMEY/Circleville Herald
Bill Whitaker, right, of Western & Southern Life, discusses the round table with Amy Elsea and Green.

into the third quarter, and the projected \$7 billion state budget shortfall could trickle down to Pickaway County through smaller jobless benefits and less local government funding.

However, there are opportunities for the area, he said.

The county's three major suppliers to the automotive sector are relatively stable in the face of the sector's steady decline of business. PPG is an OEM supplier of resins to GM and Chrysler, Tri-Mold is a Tier II supplier to Honda, and FPE, which has announced the layoff of 30 employees, is a Tier I supplier to Honda and

Toyota. The outlook for General Electric is very positive, he said. "It was just announced that a new production line will be coming to Circleville from another plant. Additionally, GE announced it would not be spinning off its lighting and industrial units as previously announced," he said.

DuPont Circleville, the area's largest manufacturer, is being considered for potential product investments in the alternative energy market. "These investments will retain and bring new jobs to the Circleville plant," he said.

Lottery

WEDNESDAY'S SELECTIONS

NIGHT DRAWINGS
Classic Lotto
9-23-27-29-33-35
The Classic Lotto jackpot is \$12.5 million.
Rolling Cash 5
11-19-23-35-38
The Rolling Cash 5 jackpot is \$120,000.
Pick 3 Numbers
9-7-5

Pick 4 Numbers

9-7-3-2
Ten-Oh Numbers
Draw No. 1098
12-15-17-18-23-34-38-40-48-54-57-58-64-69-71-72-74-75-76-79
DAY DRAWINGS
Pick 3 Numbers
3-5-8
Pick 4 Numbers
0-5-7-1
Ten-Oh Numbers

Draw No. 1097
2-4-5-6-16-18-24-27-34-45-49-50-55-58-61-65-67-68-75-77

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Market Report

Selected stocks provided by Edward Jones through its Circleville office.					
AEP	32.87	+0.34	JC Penney	15.42	-1.18
ADM	25.54	-2.11	Altria Group	16.75	-0.18
AZO	137.00	-2.08	PPG Inds. Inc.	36.47	-0.53
Bob Evans	17.90	-0.07	Ralcorp Holdings	58.06	-1.12
DuPont	23.28	-0.07	Thomson Multi	1.32	-0.07
Exxon Mobil	77.66	-0.46	United Parcel Serv	45.03	+0.03
Fifth Third Banc	1.54	-0.25	Wal-Mart	46.42	-1.39
US Bancorp	14.17	+0.06	Wendys Intl.	5.36	-0.01
General Electric	11.26	-0.11	Verizon Comms	30.61	-0.95
Huntgtn Bkshr	1.44	-0.37			
Kroger	22.20	-0.49			
Limited	7.86	-0.12			
Lowes	18.41	-0.53			
McDonalds Corp.	57.86	-1.02			
JP Morgan Chase	24.04	-0.01			
PACCAR	27.55	-0.02			

Local grain prices

Prices paid to farmers by Cargill at its Circleville facility:

Corn	3.57
Soybeans	9.33
Wheat	4.52

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