SNP

New Albany News

Recycled Paper

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It's the top event of the year for Central Ohio builders. The Parade of Homes is the chance for builders to show off their best.

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New Albany's Sean Sweeny took first place in the 3,200 at the MSL meet last Friday and has his eye on the state prize in the Horseshoe.

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SNP/Paul Vernon

Saving lives

Tiffany Conway of Columbus practices a cardiopulmonary resuscitation breathing technique on an infant mannequin under the watchful eye of Julie Smith, a Riverside Heart Institute CPR instructor during one of the four free CPR classes sponsored by Riverside Heart Institute, the American Heart Institute, Suburban News Publications and WBNS-TV (Channel 10). A spokeswoman said 1,027 people who took part in the free classes at the Columbus Convention Center Saturday.

Village to celebrate groovy '60s Saturday

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

Hot stepping, cool music and a whole bunch of fun will finish Founders Day with a flourish.

The New Albany Community Chorus, practicing since March, gathered about 90 residents in preparation for the grandest of grand finales 8 p.m. Saturday at New Albany Middle School's gym, 79 N. High St.

Celebrating the theme of Founders Day, "Songs of the Sixties," the 45-member chorus along with dancers, musicians, actors and crews will present a wide variety of entertainment from the era.

Kathy Mayhorn, executive director of the production, said the show will wow residents of all ages.

founders day

THE CAST reflects a diversity as well with participants ranging in age from about 5 to 75 years old.

"There is something for everyone. The songs were picked to cover the songs of the 1960s. It ranges from the Beach Boys to Bob Dylan,"

(Continued on page 18)

Schedule of events

The schedule of events for Founders Day includes:

8 a.m. to noon: Pancake breakfast at New Albany United Methodist Church, 20 S. Third St. Tickets are $3.50 for adults, $2 for children 4 through 10 years old and free for children 3 and under.

9 a.m.: Fun run and 5K run, sponsored by the New Albany Athletic Boosters. Registration is at the elementary school, 97 N. High St.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Seventh annual Ethel Schleppi Memorial Art Show, high school gymnasium, 85 N. High St. Featured artists include Iva and Edie Sammons, quilt display, kindergarten through grade 12 art display, caricaturist Jason Hays and an art auction.

At 10:30 a.m., tie dye demonstration; 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., flower arranging demonstration; 3 p.m., story telling by Katerina Wittel.

(Continued on page 18)

Bike path will be called NA Community Trail

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

The bike paths gained a new name but not much else at Monday's special meeting of the New Albany Planning Commission.

Members decided to call the proposed path system the New Albany Community Trail.

"I think the first step is to design our policies and procedures," Chairman Keith Morris said.

Discussion about extending the trail system from the New Albany

planning commission

Co. development into the rest of the village began about a year ago.

Assistant Village Planner Pat Bowman said when NA Co. officials asked if the village would like to be part of the trails, village officials thought it would be a good idea to offer pedestrian and bike paths to the rest of the residents as well as connecting NA Co. residents to other areas.

BUT, WHEN officials began to ask residents about constructing paths on their yards along Johnstown Road they hit a roadblock.

About 10 residents said they do not want trails in their yards.

Village officials then were asked by NA Co. development residents to hurry up the process.

At Monday's meeting commission members said before they can begin extending the trail they need a plan.

Ben Hale, NA Co. attorney, said officials shouldn't bypass the Johnstown Road residents without setting a policy because down the line there would be similar cases.

"If someone comes in and you've adopted policies you have the right to enforce them. Sooner or later you will want to make a link," he said.

BOWMAN SAID members need

(Continued on page 18)

• EVENTS

(Continued from page 1)

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Concessions, crafts bazaar and flea market.

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Opening ceremony at Doran Gazebo with an invocation by the Rev. Andrew Hoover, patriotic medley by Heather Rinaldi, recognition of school board, township and village officials from the 1960s, salute to the grand marshals Dr. Glyde and Margaret Marsh and crowning of Little Miss, Junior Miss and Miss Founders Day.

1 to 2 p.m.: Parade from Zarley Street to Plain Local School campus.

1:30 to 6:30 p.m.: PTO Elementary School Carnival. Cost is 25 cents to 50 cents a game, including duck pond, pee wee pin ball, bumper car, poster toss, roller bowler, prize wheel, tip the cat, William Tell crossbow, shooting gallery, five-pin bowling, launch the lobster and pitch.

2 to 6 p.m.: Pony rides costing $1.50 a ride or $5 for a ride and picture. A petting zoo costing 50 cents will also be held.

2 p.m.: New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society Auction. Auctioneer is Henry Reeb, Plain Township trustee.

It will be at the elementary school multi-purpose room.

2:30 to 5:30 p.m.: Free entertainment at the Doran Gazebo including School Choir under the direction of Melodie Green at 2:30 p.m.; The Band with Chris Alley, 3 p.m.; Praise Team from Joy Christian Fellowship, 3:30 p.m.; Terry Keith, vocalist and guitarist, 4 p.m.; Heather Rinaldi, vocalist, 4:30 p.m., and New Albany First Christian Church of the Nazarene Sanctuary Choir, 5 p.m.

4:30 to 6 p.m.: 1860s baseball game behind New Albany High School. The Muffins from the Ohio Historical Society versus a team of New Albany personalities will be played.

6:30 to 9 p.m.: Closing program, middle school gymnasium, will feature music, drama and dance from the 1960s. Admission is free.

• GROOVY

(Continued from page 1)

she said.

The show is centered around parents explaining to their daughter what life was like in the 1960s.

"It is sort of a continuation of last year. The characters are the same but they are telling a different story," she said.

Mayhorn said the 1960s were different from today, but not all that much.

"YES IT was different but a lot alike. There was more to the 1960s than Woodstock and protests," she said.

The community chorus formed last year and has grown considerably since then, Mayhorn said.

"It's bigger. The cast is bigger," she said.

Mayhorn said the way to cap off the events is attending the musical grand finale.

"We're saving the best for last. It is a good show people should come out and see it," she said.

THE CHORUS is directed by Parsons and is sponsored by the New Albany Arts Council.

Founders Day celebrates Noble Landon and William Yantis who first platted New Albany in 1837.

The event, largely centered on the Plain Local School District campus, offers a wide variety of activities for the whole day and the whole family.

The morning events include a fun run, a 5-kilometer run and a pancake breakfast.

Afternoon events include the parade from Zarley Street to the campus and an 1800s game of baseball pitting the Ohio Historical Society Muffins against local players in addition to the crowning of the three Miss Founders Day winners.

Throughout the day the Ethel Schleppi Memorial Art show, a flea market, games and rides will be on hand as well as a full palate of different types of food.

For more information about the celebration in general, call 855-1759.

news briefs

D-Day anniversary dinner planned

Reservations are still being accepted for the June 6 50-year commemoration of D-Day, to be held at the Berwick Manor Restaurant, 3100 Refugee Road.

The dinner is sponsored by the Air Force Association's Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Chapter 265 and the Ohio Air National Guard's 121st Air Refueling Wing.

Allan Millett, professor of military history at Ohio State University, will give the evening's main address, "Operation Overlord."

Operation Overlord was the military code name used for the D-Day invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Tickets for the commemoration dinner are $20 each. Paid reservations are due by May 31. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Reservations may be made by contacting the 121st Air Refueling Wing at 492-3400 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, or by sending a check or money order payable to the Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker Chapter AFA at Box 28, Groveport 43125.

—Dianne Schultz

Haulers sought for road-kill deer

It's not exactly the thrill of the chase, but at least hunters don't have to wear neon clothing to bag these deer.

The Reynoldsburg Division of Police is looking for people to haul away deer that have been killed by motor vehicles.

Those interested in hauling deer should visit the Reynoldsburg Division of Police, 7240 E. Main St., and give name, phone number and hours available, said Sgt. Harry Reid.

Reid said anywhere from eight to 12 deer are hit each year in the city.

He said the city's list of deer haulers is outdated.

Haulers will be given a deer tag to show the animal was obtained legally, he said.

—Gary Seman Jr.

• BIKE

(Continued from page 1)

to begin from scratch to make policies to include input from all residents about the paths.

Members tentatively set some policies including placing the trail on developing land when possible.

Hale said when residents move into houses that have the trails they don't question them and appreciate them.

He also said it doesn't matter who it is, but most people object to placing trails on their property if they haven't been there before.

"If the path can be done on vacant land maybe it should be," Hale said.

Members said they need to begin with basic concepts and work their way up to mapping where the trails would go.

"If the path can be done on vacant land maybe it should be."
—Ben Hale

BEFORE AN actual plan of placement is put into affect, members said they need to figure out where the trails should go.

"The mapping is really the last of the problems," Bowman said.

Member Glenn Johns said the commission needs to examine all aspects before the system is begun and concepts needed to be discussed "before we draw a final line."

Members expect to discuss the matter further at their June 6 meeting.

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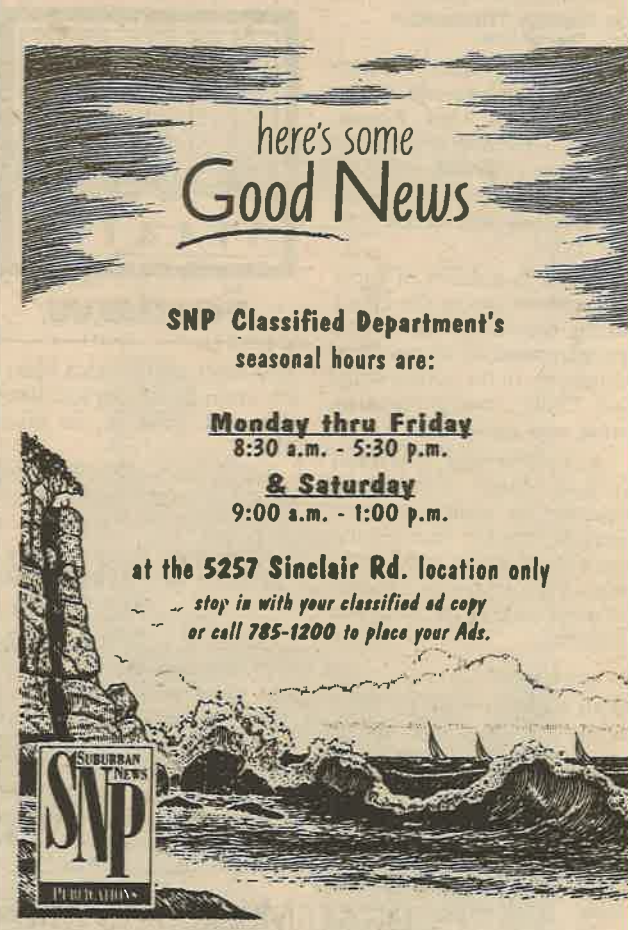

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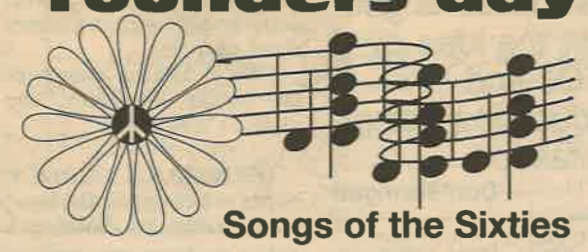
Marshes named grand marshals of parade May 21

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

founders day

Founders Day will take a 30-year leap back into time this year and honor area leaders from the 1960s, such as parade Grand Marshals Glyde and Margaret Marsh.

Councilman Marsh, who moved to the area with his wife about 40 years ago, was a school board member during the 1960s and he said the turbulent time did not affect the community.

"We didn't really have the turbulence a lot of people did. Of course we had a few people killed in Vietnam and that was sad. But this area wasn't really affected.

"Our people were relatively conservative," he said.

Mrs. Marsh said the community was still largely rural and social change was slow coming because many residents were farming and the political upheavals didn't affect their daily lives.

"They just weren't really concerned, their lives were pretty much the same," she said.

"We were such a small berg nobody wanted to stir the pot much out here," he said.

Mr. Marsh is a former veterinary professor at Ohio State University and is a poultry consultant. The couple have two children, Glyde and Mary Margaret, who grew up in the 1960s.

The theme of Founders Day, which will be held on May 21, is "Songs of the Sixties," but Mr. and Mrs. Marsh say they don't plan to sing at the event.

"I've got a tin ear. I can't tell if music is from the 1960s or the 1940s," he said.

The two said the biggest change in the area since the 1960s is "the white fences everywhere."

"Up until (New Albany Co. owner Les Wexner) came in there really hadn't been any changes," she said.

Mr. Marsh said at one point both he and Mrs. Marsh thought the community would end up with upscale development or low-income housing.

"We were fortunate it went the way of Bexley," he said.

But, they said, the change in the area is hard for residents to adjust to immediately.

"We've got some growing pains right now," Margaret said.

The Founders Day parade will start at Zarley Street and work its way toward the school campus.

There is no fee to participate in the parade but donations are appreciated.

For more information about the parade, call 855-1512.

Margaret and Glyde Marsh are the 1994 grand marshals of the Founders Day parade.

news briefs

Bike path topic of May 16 meeting

The bike path debate will continue another day.

Members of the New Albany Planning Commission set a 7 p.m. May 16 meeting to further discuss where and how bike paths were to be placed in the village.

The New Albany Co. asked members in April to give it some direction on how to connect Planters Grove pedestrians to the New Albany Country Club.

Commission members were asked to consider either a path running largely on the east or west sides of Johnstown Road.

Commission members said they would discuss the possibilities of either creating a short-term solution of completing pieces of the path or a long-term solution addressing the whole pedestrian access issue as a whole.

—Leigh Roessler

Speaker to discuss farm women

The New Albany Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 6 of the high school, 85 N. High St.

Speakers Robert and Jennie McCormick will discuss architecture and women in farm society.

For more information, call Pat Zarley at 855-7749.

—Leigh Roessler

Grant workshop planned

The Columbus Foundation will hold a social services grant application workshop from 3 to 5 p.m. May 11 at the foundation, 1234 E. Broad St.

The workshop is free and will cover general eligibility guidelines, proposal preparation and the application review process.

The Foundation has awarded more than $150 million to charitable organizations.

Proposals must be submitted to the social services field by 5 p.m. July 1.

To register call Beth Hicks at 251-4000.

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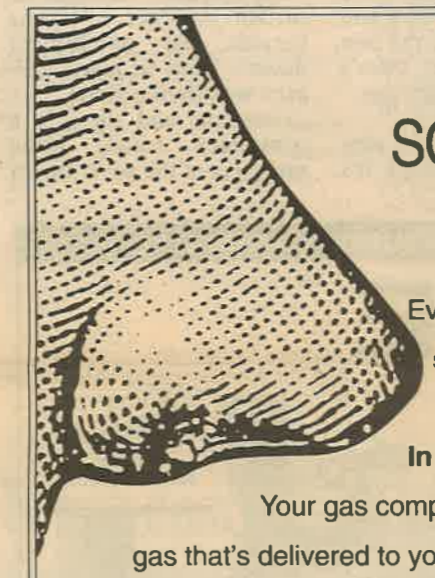

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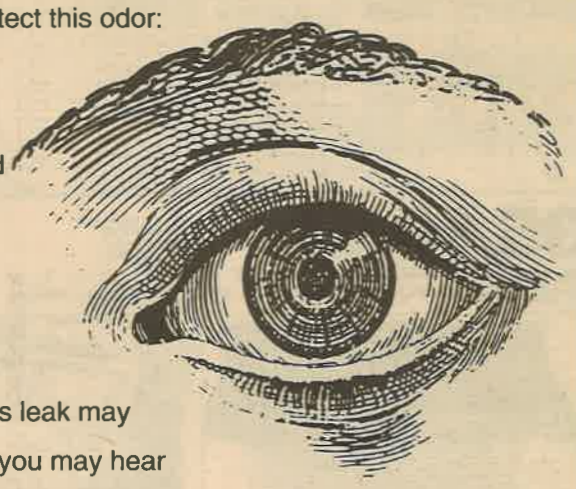

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- Call the gas company and the police and fire departments.
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Florist's love for flower arranging featured at event

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

Founders Day doesn't only celebrate the settling of New Albany, but revels in the artistic talents of its residents.

May 21 on the Plain Local School campus the event will also celebrate the artistic capability of residents including those of Wayside Florist's Edie Sammons-Vermaathen.

Raised in New Albany, Sammons-Vermaathen works along side parents Iva and Bob Sammons at the shop, 24 E. Main St.

Wayside's floral designs will be the featured art at the seventh annual Ethel Schleppi Memorial Art Show.

Sammons-Vermaathen said working with flowers is a great way to express creativity.

"YOU GET to be creative and every day is different. It's got a lot of variety. You get to work with God's creations," she said.

Wayside opened in the 1970s with Iva starting to work in her home.

"I've just grown up with it," she said.

Sammons-Vermaathen said the shop would have a booth at the Founders Day festivities and would hold presentations on floral arranging.

Most people have flowers even in their own back yards or gardens that can be made into attractive arrangements, she said.

"A LOT of the flowers we use like Queen Ann's Lace grow wild around here," she said.

Sammons-Vermaathen said she could not pick one particular flower as her favorite.

"I don't think I could pick one. They are all so pretty. Once you pick one that you think is pretty there is always another one that's pretty. They are not all the same. Some smell good and some are different-looking," she said.

The theme of Founders Day, sponsored by the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society, is "Songs of Sixties."

The art show is open to kindergarten-aged children through adults.

THERE IS a $1 entry fee per item for participants in fourth grade through adults.

Ribbons and other prizes will be awarded for both arts and crafts entered by May 9.

For more information about the art show, call 855-7229.

Other events slated for Founders Day include Miss Founders Day for girls ages four through 18 who live, work, attend church or school or belong to organizations in the township or village.

Deadline for entry is April 29.

FOR MORE information about Miss Founders Day or Founders Day in general, call 855-1759.

founders day

church events

United Methodist

A rummage sale sponsored by the United Methodist Church in New Albany, 20 S. Third St., will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and 9 a.m. to noon April 27.

Food will be served Monday evening and Tuesday.

Windshield smashed Friday night

police beat

New Albany police said they received a report of a smashed car windshield Friday night.

A woman in the 4100 block of James River Road told police her car was parked in the driveway and the rear windshield was broken possibly with a BB gun.

She estimated the damage to be about $800.

New Albany Police said they made a number of traffic-related arrests including:

• A Gahanna man at 1:56 a.m. Saturday near the intersection of Greensward Road and Yantis Drive for driving his car on the leisure trails.

He was charged with criminal mischief.

• A Columbus man at 11 a.m. April 4 near the intersection of U.S. Route 62 and Zarley Street for driving with a cracked windshield and not having a drivers license.

• A Gahanna man at 3:15 a.m. Sunday near the intersection of state Route 161 and Route 62 for driving while under the influence of alcohol and driving with a suspended license.

• A Newark man at 5:26 a.m. Sunday near the intersection of Route 161 and Kitzmiller Road for driving left of center and driving with a suspended license.

• A Westerville man at 5:50 p.m. Thursday in the 6500 block of state Route 605 for not having a front license plate, driving with a suspended license and driving with an open container of alcohol in the car.

• A Worthington man at 7:04 p.m. March 21 near the intersection of Alpath Road and Route 62 for driving with a loud muffler and driving with a suspended license.

• A Newark man at 8:42 p.m. April 3 near the intersection of Route 161 and Kitzmiller Road for improper license plate display and driving with a suspended license.

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SNP

New Albany News

Recycled Paper

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INSIDE

PAGE 2
Ring that bell
New Albany officials dedicated an old school bell at the Science Hill school Friday.

PAGE 4
Coliseum caravan
Jim Toms says he knows *where we can get an* arena for Columbus.

PAGE 10
One step closer
New Albany track stars Sean Sweeney and Shannon Dunaway are one step closer to their goal ... an appearance in the state championship meet.

PAGE 16
Nixed request
Village Council members heard at their meeting Tuesday McDonald's Restaurants withdrew a proposal for a drive-through.

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SNP/Paul Vernon

Royal wave

Miss Founders Day 1994 Christi Withers, a New Albany eighth grader, waves to the crowd at the parade Saturday. New Albany and Plain Township residents flocked to the Plain Local school campus to celebrate the day honoring the founders of New Albany. Events included a parade, pancake breakfast, art show, 5k run and school carnival. For more photos, see Page 14.

Partial merger idea no longer possible

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

PLAIN TOWNSHIP NEW ALBANY merger

A controversial change to Ohio merger laws that would make partial mergers possible will not be proposed by members of the Ohio General Assembly.

State Rep. Jo Ann Davidson (R-Reynoldsburg) said the proposal was abandoned Tuesday morning.

She said lawmakers discussed the change and an amendment was prepared, but they decided not to propose it, so no vote will be taken.

A Monday press release from New Albany-Plain Township Merger Study Commission Chairman Jack Rogers stated members were approached two weeks ago by New Albany Community Authority attorney Greg Stype about the proposed change.

Rogers said the commission was very much opposed to the amendment because it "was not formed to divide up Plain Township, pick and choose which neighbors would be left to fend for themselves against the onslaught of Columbus."

AS THE situation stands, if New Albany and Plain Township merge the entire township would become part of the village and Columbus would be blocked from annexing any more of the township's land.

Rogers also said the commission would be operating in the dark if a partial merger occurred.

"To commit to the concept of partial merger prior to Columbus disclosing the extent of the 'growth corri-

(Continued on page 17)

New Albany's budget short about $143,000

By Leigh Roessler
SNP Staff Writer

New Albany's budget will be at least $143,000 short if expenses are kept at the current levels, according to Clerk-treasurer Fred Ehrman.

At a May 17 finance committee meeting members said they were surprised to learn of the difference between estimated income tax collection and the actual collection.

• A new police cruiser might be the first victim of budget ax, see story Page 8.

However, at the meeting Ehrman did not have an estimate on the budget shortage, but gave it to the *New Albany News* Friday.

"If this were my household budget I wouldn't sleep at night," said Councilwoman Nancy Curtis.

"Unless our income tax picks up significantly we can't cover what we have now," Ehrman told council.

"WE'RE TO the point where we need to start backing out of appropriations now," Councilman Richard Straughsbaugh said.

"The income tax revenue isn't anywhere near what was estimated," Councilman Glyde Marsh said.

The disparity, Ehrman said Friday, comes from a drop in the estimated income tax revenue growth.

While last year saw a 28 percent growth, according to this year's col-

(Continued on page 17)

FOUNDERS DAY RECALLS FLOWER POWER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL VERNON

Sara Smith, 8, is dressed with the New Albany Founders Day theme, Songs of the '60s, in mind as she marches with the group representing the YMCA school age childcare in the parade through town Saturday.

Above: New Albany resident Cindy Weir watches the parade with her 9-month-old twins Jason (left) and Jordan who are shaded from the sun. Below: Samuel VanFossen, 3, waits for the start of the parade inside his covered toy wagon.

Mary Grace Windle, 5, of Cincinnati, enjoys one of the rides featured at Founders Day held at the Plain Local school campus. Windle was at the event with her aunt Linda Bucknor who is a New Albany resident.

Hanna Kuhn, 4, peers out of the window the New Albany First Church of the Nazarene bus with her puppet. The sanctuary choir performed at the annual event

ThisWeek
Your Community Newspaper
May 30, 1994
in New Albany
Also serving Plain Township

Utilities dispute

Decision expected this week in lawsuit

By CHRISTOPHER BIFANI
ThisWeek Staff Reporter

The moment of truth is coming this week.

Scott Carroll, law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Sandra Beckwith, said Beckwith would "probably decide" the landmark utilities contract dispute between New Albany and Columbus before the weekend.

Attorneys involved with the case had speculated a decision might be forthcoming before the Memorial Day weekend, but a Beckwith docket containing life and death issues reportedly competed for her time and consideration.

Asked if this more definitive time frame was a communication from the judge, Carroll was unclear.

"Let's just say I have a hunch," he said.

Previously, Beckwith's office would committ only to a decision "within two or three weeks."

The litigation involves the "tenfold rate increase" clauses in the 1988 sewer and water contracts between Columbus and New Albany. The contract allows Columbus to raise the water and sewer rates of every customer by 10 times in the event of a Plain Township-New Albany merger.

Faced with a growing merger movement and public threats of litigation from Columbus, New Albany sued Columbus in February to eliminate or invalidate the10-fold clause.

New Albany argues the clause is unconstitutional because it potentially punishes innocent parties and is an excise tax that is triggered by the outcome of a vote.

Columbus argues the clause is valid because the contract was properly executed and signed by the proper authorities, including then-mayors Buck Rinehart for Columbus and Earl Musgrave for New Albany. The contract was also ratified by both municipal Councils.

The litigation, which began as a byproduct of the merger movement, eventually gained a life of its own when the Plain Local School District and the New Albany Community Authority cited the dispute as triggering postponement of the New Albany High School construction project.

Take away the litigation, a recent Plain Local petition to the court indicated, and the construction could begin to get back on track.

There other potential funding impediments, not the least of which is an increasingly costly bond market, and no guarantee an end to litigation will ease investor concerns.

"I'm just looking forward to the judge's decision so we can get on with it," Village Attorney Brent Patterson said. "Then we can proceed to the next scenario."

Merger language deals with gun use

By CHRISTOPHER BIFANI
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Gunsmoke would return to New Albany under merger condition language being considered by the Merger Commission.

The third draft of the merger, expected in June, will likely contain an allowance for the private discharge of firearms in areas with population densities beneath an as-yet-undetermined threshhold, Commission Chairman Jack Rogers said.

"The firearm question will be resolved to everyone's satisfaction," Rogers said. "Obviously, there are some areas of the township where there shouldn't be firearms discharged and others where it's not a threat to safety. It would be tied to population density."

The first and second drafts of the commission's Conditions of Merger, released in April and May, made no mention of how the firearms issue would be addressed.

Private discharge of firearms is allowed in the township but nowhere in the village.

"We still have quite a few people who like to hunt on their property," Plain Township trustees Chairman Dave Curtis said. "I suppose if (a ban on firearms) was a condition of merger, it would lose a few votes in the township."

Village Administrator Ellen Walker said tying firearm use to densities was a condition of the failed Dublin-Washington Township merger movement, and it would be a "logical" route for the New Albany-Plain Township commission to take.

"When an area reached a certain development status, then the regulation (prohibiting discharge of firearms) would kick in," Walker said.

However, in the event of merger, this condition would allow for firearm discharge in some areas of what is now the village — where firearm use is currently restricted.

"We still have a lot of farm fields and so on which would fall into that category," Walker said.

She said it wasn't likely these areas could be grandfathered out of a regulation that would allow firearm use in territories of a like density in the merged territory.

"We would have to go to the legal people for a definitive answer, but obviously, you couldn't treat people in the same situation differently. We would have to apply the law in an even-handed way," Walker said.

However, Rogers said the conditions could be written in a way so that rural village areas remain gunsmoke-free.

At any rate, Rogers said the firearm question is more of "a red herring" than a silver bullet for the merger movement.

"There are far more important considerations before us," he said.

NA police make drug arrest

By GAYLON VICKERS
ThisWeek Staff Writer

A bad license plate tag led New Albany Police Sgt. Gregory Jones to a drug arrest late May 21.

Police have charged Bobby L. Bresett, 21, of the 2500 block of McGuffey Road, with one count of trafficking in marijuana and cited him for driving with improper license plates.

Jones, in a Franklin County Municipal Court affidavit, reported he noticed the plate on a car driven by Bresett about 9:51 p.m. while the car was at East Main and High streets.

Jones wrote that he found seven individually portioned packages of marijuana during a search of Bresett's car.

"The packages were discovered in the left pocket of the subject's (Bresett's) black overcoat," he said. "The coat was found on the passenger seat of the vehicle he (Bresett) was driving during a consensual search of said vehicle."

A drug arrest by New Albany police is not that unusual, said New Albany Police Chief Richard Sellan.

"There have been others," he said. "Most of them are from traffic stops."

In this case, the marijuana was contained in seven individual baggies of less than an ounce each, police said.

It was through Sgt. Jones' investigation that police determined the baggies were intended for resale, Sellan said.

By Kevin K. Groves/ThisWeek

New Albany resident Joshua Burnet, 3, mmakes friends with a cat at the Animals 'R' Special veterinary exhibit at the New Albany Founders Day celebration.

New faces smile on Founders Day

By CHRISTOPHER BIFANI
ThisWeek Staff Writer

What was new at Founders Day, 1994?

Faces — and lots of them.

"I saw lots of people I'd never seen before this time," said Founders Day Chairwoman Nancy Curtis. "And there were just a lot more people in general. The parade route was well-lined."

Founders Day was packed with a list of events almost as long as the parade procession: beauty pageants, an 1860s-era baseball game, art exhibits, musical and other performances, carnival rides, games, a crafts bazaar, races, a pancake breakfast and much more.

Estimating the size of the crowd was impossible, but noticing it was bigger than usual was easy.

"The crowds were larger than I've seen in recent years," said Dave Curtis, husband of Nancy and chairman of Plain Township trustees. "Some were probably new to the community and I suppose others just wanted to come out and see our newly developing area."

Don Shoemaker, also a trustee, said his Founders Day job was to set up electrical connections for the various attractions. He reported no problems in that regard.

Shoemaker also played for the hometeam in the1860s-era baseball game against the Ohio Historical Society Muffins.

"We lost 12-4," said Shoemaker, who scored once and got a base hit in two at-bats. His other time, he made it to base on a fielder's choice.

The rather lopsided score was "not as bad as it sounds," Shoemaker said. "The Muffins scored eight of their runs in the first inning. After that, it was pretty even."

Nancy Curtis said everyone who attended Founders Day this year went home a winner — enjoying good weather, free entertainment and the friendship of neighbors.

> *"The crowds were larger than I've seen in recent years."*
>
> **Dave Curtis**

But there were several winners of specific contests as well.

First place in the Little Miss Founders Day (ages 4-8) pageant went to Malory White, 4. Runners-up were Kelsey Gockenbach, 7, and Catherine Minick, 7.

First place in the Junior Miss Founders Day (ages 9-13) event went to Katie Secor, 10. Runners-up were Jillian Kindler, 9, and Devon Ball, 13.

Miss Founders Day (ages 14-18) for 1994 is Kristi Withers, 14. Heather Rinaldi, 17, and Tandy Roth, 18, were runners-up.

In the parade, Countryside Child Care of Plain Township won Best Overall honors.

"They had a float that saluted the music of the Beach Boys. There were people on it dressed like surfers in the midst of a beach scene," Nancy Curtis said.

The New Albany Masonic Lodge won in the miscellaneous category for its float designed as an open street car. A dixieland band played atop it and marchers followed close behind.

Best animal display went to Betty and Michelle Miller, whose Clydesdale horse, Ike, stole the show pulling a handmade vis-a-vie cart.

The best walking unit was judged to be the New Albany Elementary School fifth grade. The theme was "Just Say No," which was sung in various ways to the tune of '60s hits.

"The Sizzling '60s" was the overall theme of Founders Day this year, with officals from that era returning as specially invited guests.

Glyde Marsh, a '60s school board member — and current New Albany Councilman — was grand marshal.

Now that Founders Day 1994 is history, the next one is less than 51 weeks away. And the first step toward Founders Day 1995 begins next month.

"We'll have a wrap-up meeting in June," Nancy Curtis said.