Sale-ing Saturdays
Bill Melville sees the value and fun in Saturday morning garage sale-ing

10 **You don't say**
Middle school foreign languages classes not offered to all students

16 **Worth the wait**
The game was postponed twice, but the baseball Eagles beat Big Walnut

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New Albany News

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News photo by Jef Vidmar

Stephen Pinkos, deputy under secretary of intellectual property and deputy director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, spoke to third-graders at New Albany Elementary School about intellectual property, piracy and patents.

National expert speaks to 'future inventors'

By BRITTINY DUNLAP
New Albany News Reporter

Third-graders at New Albany 2-5 Elementary heard a lesson in intellectual property Monday by one of the nation's foremost authorities.

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Stephen Pinkos spoke with students on the importance of respecting the work and ideas created by others.

"If you think of an invention or come up with a new name for something or a song or story, these things are yours," Pinkos said. "Because you came up with the ideas from your brain, they are yours."

> ***"You're never to young to think about inventing. You probably don't realize it, but some of you are going to invent a new refrigerator or car or something."***
>
> **–Stephen Pinkos**
> of the U.S. Patent and Trademark office

Pinkos started by explaining a patent to students. "Intellectual property is something you created, so you own it," Pinkos said. "Intellectual property is patented."

To convey the idea to students, Pinkos showed students a Ohio State University T-shirt. "OSU gets a trademark for their name and this little 'r' signifies they went to the Patent and Trademark Office," Pinkos said. "It's very important the Buckeyes be protected."

Students shouted out other examples of items that would receive a patent includ-

See EXPERT, *Page 2*

Council sees AEP vision, limits truck parking

y SCOTT TAKAC
w Albany News Reporter

Council put the breaks on some overnight parking and gave a green ght to American Electric Power's plans to pen up shop in New Albany.

AEP's go ahead came early at Tuesday's eeting and came in Village Council's nanimous decision to rezone 35 acres in icking County located on the north side of mith's Mill Road and west of Beech Road.

The rezoning from agricultural allows for general employment at the site.

Officials said when the first phase of construction in completed, 110 employees will work in an 85,000-square-foot transmission center.

A shipping and receiving department will be built in the second phase.

Henry Butch Belszek of URS Corporation, one of the project's consultants, showed detailed renderings of the completed facilities that he said will feature brick-clad patterning on grounds with a man-made water feature spanned by rust-colored foot bridges and iron fencing.

While the renderings reveal plans for a striking campus, Belszek said few who don't work there will see it.

The preservation of tall trees around the periphery of the site and plans for extensive planting will provide virtual zero-visibility

See COUNCIL, *Page 2*

Celebration marks village founding

■ *Founder's Day is Saturday.*

By SCOTT TAKAC
New Albany News Reporter

When participants in the New Albany Founder's Day parade step off Saturday, it will mark the 31st time for the event commemorating the village's founding.

The start of village history in 1837 occurred when William Yantis and Noble Landon each platted a side of Main Street in what is now the old Village Center, said John Saveson of the New Albany Plain Historical Society.

"Yantis had land on the west side and Noble Landon had land on the east side," Saveson said. "They just got together and platted a number of lots."

Saveson co-published a biography on the two founding fathers with Yantis' descendent and Otterbein College professor Richard P. Yantis.

The document can be purchased through the New Albany Historical Society.

Saveson said Landon had already built a tavern at Main and High Streets and that reselling parcels for development was one of many hats he wore. Saveson said he was a carpenter, owned a hotel and was Johnstown's first postmaster.

"Yantis was pretty much a farmer I believe," Saveson said. "He had some tie-ins on the side."

Saveson said it wasn't until almost 20 years later in 1856 that New Albany was incorporated as a village.

The community-building spirit of Yantis and Landon has been celebrated with a Founder's Day celebration since 1976.

Linda Honnaker, who has been planning the event for the last 12 years, said over the years it has evolved as a vehicle to build on that spirit.

"The actual planning of the event, we really have a good time," Honnaker said. "But the actual event itself, it's nice to see the neighbors you haven't seen for a while. I always see members of my class from high school."

Honnaker and Jeff Steckman are two on a historical society of committee of 15 who plan the event each year.

Honnaker said specialization by members, each planning an assigned area, helps keep everything under control.

"It's going to go no matter what, so you can't fret about it all," she said, predicting the best Founder's Day to date if one key variable falls into place. "I hope the weather cooperates with us. That'll be nice."

The official start to Founder's Day activities come immediately following this year's parade.

The parade steps off at 11:30 a.m. from Church of the Resurrection. It will proceed to

See VILLAGE, *Page 2*

Biddie's is back in business; book is next

By KATHLEEN L. RADCLIFF
Suburban News Reporter

Now that Biddie's Coach House is back open for business, there is a book in the works about the Historic Dublin gathering place.

"It's only taken me 24 years, but I've been making notes," said Biddie's co-owner Mary Marsalka.

Those notes now are about 100 pages, with the working title, "Biddie's Coach House Over The Years," Marsalka said.

Included in the book are letters people have written over the years, Biddie's 176-year history and events that have happened at the Dublin landmark, including the Feb. 21 fire that left it with $50,000 in property damage, $25,000 in damage to the contents and having to close its doors for repairs until April 28.

"We even have cartoons in it," Marsalka said. The art is drawn by a Dayton man who is a frequent patron along with his elderly mother.

For more information or to make reservations at Biddie's, call 614-764-9359 or visit online at biddies.com.

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EXPERT

Continued from Page 1

ing McDonalds' golden arches, Nike's "Just Do It" slogan and the names of bands and movies.

"Patents have been around for as long as our country has been and is actually in the U.S. Constitution," Pinkos said.

The first patent was examined by Thomas Jefferson and signed by George Washington, he said. It was approved in 1790 for a new fertilizer.

Pinkos also discussed copyrighted material. "The good thing about copyright is that it lasts for a really long time," he said. "It lasts 70 to 90 years past the time the person died."

Examples discussed by Pinkos and students were songs, movies and video games.

In addition to discussing the rights of intellectual property, Pinkos reminded students that while they are young, they too have rights to their intellectual property.

"You guys are the future when it comes to inventing things," Pinkos said. "You're never to young to think about inventing. You probably don't realize it, but some of you are going to invent a new refrigerator or car or something."

Speaking to students while they are still young is key to getting the message about piracy and intellectual property out, Pinkos said. He advocates talking to children at a younger age before they develop bad habits and not waiting until the student is in high school or college. "You got to get them while they're young, so to speak," he said.

Pinkos' visit coincides with the district hosting Camp Invention this summer, open to children entering first through sixth grades. The program is scheduled for the week of June 19 at New Albany 2-5 Elementary.

Camp Invention fosters creativity, teamwork, inventive-thinking skills and science literacy. The program was created in 1990 by the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation and is supported by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The $199 registration fee is due before May 31 and includes daily snack T-shirt. A $20 disco child is offered w Bring-a-Buddy pr Registrations receive May 31 require an tional $10 for late p ing. Each progra limited to 110 childr

For more informa to register go to c vention.org or call 968-4332.

VILLAGE

Continued from Page 1

the New Albany Elementary 2-5 building parking lot where the rest of the events will occur.

Iva and Bob Sammons will serve as this year's grand marshals. The two are longtime New Albany residents and the owners of Wayside Flowers.

Other people of interest in this year's parade will be Ronald McDonald, members of several area youth leagues and members of the New Albany High School Marching Band.

Honnaker said one of the prime activities of Founder's Day is eating – and some might find a bit of irony in where vendors will be set up.

"The food is going to be sold in front of the Wellness Center," Honnaker said. "It's just all festival food. Anything you can think of should be there – corn dogs, ice cream..."

In the K-5 Elementary School gymnasium, the historical society will be offering a large historical display. The elementary school's art show will run concurrently in the school's cafeteria.

Outdoor games including frisbee golf will be offered in the grassy courtyard area outside the school and also in the vicinity, anyone looking to make a cash grab before the day is done should have a chance.

If walking away with a better sense of New Albany's history isn't enough, participants who sign up at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. to enter the Founder's Day cash cube stocked with $1,500, and walk away with all they can hold onto.

Founder's Day highlights:
- **11:30 a.m., Parade begins Church of the Resurrection.**
- **Historical display to view the K-5 Elementary School gym**
- **Elementary a show in the cafeteria**
- **Outdoor game in the grassy courtyard outsi the elementary school**
- **1:30, 2:30 an 3:30 p.m., Cash Grab sign up at the elementary school.**

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

of the facilities, he said.

By the middle of next month, drivers of commercial vehicles who have long found New Albany to be accommodating when it comes to parking overnight on residential streets might be looking for some screening of their own from police with ticket books in hand.

Village Attorney Mitch Banchefsky reported an ordinance passed by council last year meant to curtail overnight commercial overnight truck parking was not producing its intended results.

"We tried to take a light hand on the issue...unfortunately the restriction was not successful in reaching the goals that council wanted," Banchefsky said.

"We tried to take a light hand on the issue...unfortunately the restriction was successful in reaching the goals that cou wanted."

–Mitch Banch
village attorney on commercial trucks parking on residential

Where that ordinance only cracked down on commercial vehicles with a gross weight of more than 14,000 pounds, the amended ordinance, besides defining commercial vehicles by weight, also defines them by purpose, irrespective of the weight.

"Commercial vehicle means any vehicle, er...designed or use carrying mercha freight, professional m als and/or equipment definition in the am ordinance reads in par

Banchefsky said the nance would take eff 30 days and a gauge amended ordinance's tiveness is expected after.

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U10 - Boys & Girls	8/1/96 to 7/31/97	Monday 5/22 & Thursday 5/25
U11 - Boys & Girls	8/1/95 to 7/31/96	Tuesday 5/30 & Thursday 6/01
U12 - Boys & Girls	8/1/94 to 7/31/95	Tuesday 5/30 & Thursday 6/01
U13 - Boys & Girls	8/1/93 to 7/31/94	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08
U14 - Boys & Girls	8/1/92 to 7/31/93	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08
U15 - Boys & Girls	8/1/91 to 7/31/92	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08
U16 - Boys & Girls	8/1/90 to 7/31/91	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08
U17 - Boys & Girls	8/1/89 to 7/31/90	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08
U18 - Boys & Girls	8/1/88 to 7/31/89	Monday 6/05 & Thursday 6/08

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Founders Day a birthday celebration this year

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

The 31st Founders Day celebration, which honors the founding of New Albany, has a birthday theme this year and organizers will be serving pieces of the area's largest birthday cake at this year's event.

"It's about nine full-size sheet cakes and 10 gallons of frosting," said event organizer Jeff Steckman. The cake was partially donated by Kroger of Westerville, he said, and will be put together Friday night, the evening before the event.

Linda Honaker, another Founders Day organizer, said the cake is expected to be about 20 feet long.

Organizers will begin cutting the cake around 12:45 p.m. Steckman said it will be handed out to all people on the grounds.

Along with cake, Honaker said the celebration includes a lot of offerings to satisfy hungry stomachs. New this year is a Texas smoked, pulled brisket. Like the cake, it will be prepared the night before. Honaker said the person will set up Friday night and smoke the beef all night long.

The usual funnel cakes, ice cream, bratwurst, hamburgers and French fries will be available.

This year's celebration features some new events as well, including a corn hole tournament, which will be held at 1 p.m.

A cash cube that will be opened at 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. will give people the chance to enter the cube and grab as much money as they can while the money is being blown around them. Honaker said the cube will contain $1,500 at the start.

Four clowns will be wandering the site this year — a juggler, balloon-twister, face-painter and a magician.

In lieu of local entertainment, 97.1-FM will provide music for the event.

"The average age of the Founders Day committee is younger," Honaker said. "They're a lot younger and they're coming up with a lot of these really neat ideas."

Honaker and Beckie Knore got involved with Founders Day in 1995. Honaker blames Knore for getting her started.

The first Founders Day celebration was organized by the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society. It celebrates William Yantes and Noble Landon's founding of the village in 1837.

Eventually, a Founders Day committee was formed and made up of people other than historical society members.

The society is still involved in the celebration. Member Marilyn Saveson said the society is having several historical displays in the elementary gymnasium this year. She will be braiding rugs and displaying rugs already completed.

> *"When I started with the committee, everything was different. The town was a lot smaller then. We're still trying to keep the same type of atmosphere, encouraging people to come and meet new people and to celebrate with their neighbors, to have fun. I think that's what the first Founders Day committee meant to do, is keep it fun and uplifting.*
>
> **LINDA HONAKER**
> a Founders Day organizer

Saveson's daughter, Catherine, will show family quilts. She has three that were made by her father's relative, John Saveson's great-great-grandmother. Three other quilts were made by relatives of Marilyn Saveson and Catherine will display three of her own.

The society also hopes to display its heritage quilt, which has been worked on for several years by society members. It features blocks that detail historic sites in New Albany and Plain Township.

Founders Day currently is organized by an 11-member committee. Honaker said it includes her daughter and Knore's daughter and other recent New Albany High School graduates, such as Steckman.

"When I started with the committee, everything was different. The town was a lot smaller then," Honaker said. "We're still trying to keep the same type of atmosphere, encouraging people to come and meet new people and to celebrate with their neighbors, to have fun. I think that's what the first Founders Day committee meant to do, is keep it fun and uplifting."

"Anytime you can get a town out together for a big party, that's great," Steckman added.

The event happens rain or shine from noon to 5 p.m. on the grounds of the New Albany Intermediate Elementary School.

"We had great weather last year," Steckman said. "It was 80 degrees and sunny. We're hoping for that again this year."

Founders Day is funded by proceeds of the silent auction held from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. that day, and by presenting sponsors: Abercrombie & Fitch; Too, Inc.; Justice; Plain Township trustees; the village of New Albany; and the New Albany Area Chamber of Commerce.

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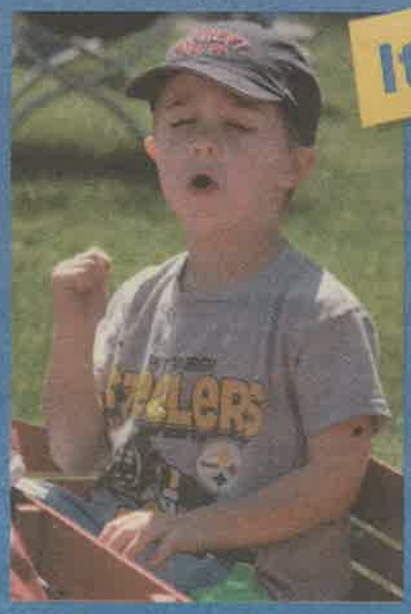

It's our Birthday!

1976-2006

New Albany Founders Day

Saturday, May 20, 2006

Celebrating 31 Years

A special advertising supplement to *ThisWeek Community Newspapers*

By Lori Wince/*ThisWeek*

Robert Sammons, left, and his wife, Iva, shown in the back yard of their home in New Albany, are this year's parade grand marshals for Founders Day. They will be riding in the parade, which kicks off at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 20.

Grand Marshals

Iva and Robert Sammons built their life in New Albany

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Iva Sammons will carry a dozen roses and her husband, Robert, will wear a flower in the New Albany Founders Day parade, a tradition started in 1971 after they opened the Wayside Flower Shoppe in New Albany.

"I started the flower shop in 1971 and retired in 1996," Iva said.

Robert said when they bought their farm on Bevelhymer Road, between Central College Road and Walnut Street, he decided to plant an acre of the land.

"I needed someone to stay at home and take care of it," he said.

He joked that Iva wasn't the consummate gardener at the time. "I don't think she knew then that a pickle was a cucumber," he recalled, laughing.

Iva, who says there's never been a dull moment since she married Robert in 1951, said that the "big farm garden" got her interested in flowers and flower arrangements.

"I've always been, I'll say, modestly creative," she said. "I love to play with flowers."

She started putting arrangements together for friends, family and members of the local church, and when she started her business she said those were the people who bought her flowers.

The shop was at the farm house for several years before the two decided to buy a house in New Albany and renovate it for the shop. It was February 1978, just after their youngest son, Richard, had died as a result of heart problems. "We needed a projeet after our son died," Iva said, "so we bought the house and we've been there ever since."

Though Iva is now retired, she still keeps fresh flowers on her kitchen table and signs of her floral passion are everywhere. A pillow in the den tells guests "A mother's heart is a garden of love" and her mother's day present this year — a new variety of hydrangea – is waiting for Robert to

See **IVA AND ROBERT**, *page 4*

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Iva and Robert Sammons built their life in New Albany

Continued from page 2

plant in the yard.

The couple remains close to the business: Wayside is actually now managed by their youngest daughter, Edie Steffan.

Iva is a native of Gahanna who met Robert Sammons when he left his coal mining roots in West Virginia and headed west.

"My senior year in school they taught us reading and writing and Route 23 North," Robert laughed.

He said he settled in New Albany after he left the service.

"When I got out of the service, I didn't want to go back to the coal mine," he said.

He met Iva through family. Once they were married, the couple settled in Columbus closer to downtown, where Robert worked a series of jobs before starting at Ohio Bell.

The Sammonses had four children: Douglas, Crystal Elaine, Richard and Edie. Richard had heart trouble from the start, and they moved to New Albany — to a more rural environment — so that Richard could have a pony and the kids could grow up on a farm.

"We used a pony cart to go to the neighbor's," Robert laughed.

"It was really country then," Iva remembered. "We had farm animals and all of our kids were in 4-H."

The two have seen a great many changes in the village. When they started Wayside, Iva decided to call it that because it was out of town, or by the wayside.

"There was hardly anything out here then," Robert said.

The business changed over the years, too. "It used to be we couldn't make enough corsages for Easter Sunday. Now, we're down to nobody wearing flowers to church on Easter," Robert said.

The rural area they moved into is now gone. "You used to see cows driving down the road," Robert said. Iva agreed: "The pastoral scene is gone."

But neither grumbles much about area development.

"It's beautiful, isn't it?" Robert said. "They built us a nice town. The old town was pretty bleak."

The family didn't stay in the farm house, eventually selling it and moving into a house next door, where Iva and Robert currently live. But they did keep 15 acres around them.

"It took me two years and seven or eight months to build this (house) because I was working a full-time job while I was doing it," Robert said of the house.

"Nobody has ever lived in this house but us," Iva said.

The couple went to Florida this past winter, but they haven't yet decided to move out of New Albany. Their home currently is populated by many grandchildren and their friends. Both of Edie's children, Andy and Allison Vermaaten, are graduates of New Albany High School. Allison is an Ohio State University graduate who works at the flower shop with her mother, and Andy is attending the Columbus College of Art and Design.

On a recent visit, Andy was in the basement completing an art project, and a friend of the grandchildren stopped by to spend some time with Iva and Robert. "It's the kids' home too, and we enjoy them," Iva said.

The rest of the family is spread out. Douglas and his wife Joyce and their seven children live in St. Louis, Crystal and her husband Kirk Miller live in Fairfax, Va., with their daughter, and Edie and her husband Steve Steffan live in Madison, Ohio, though Edie continues to manage Wayside.

Iva said she remembers attending the first Founders Day celebrations, dressing up in old clothes and celebrating the area's history. Though the celebration has changed, just as the area has, the couple usually attends Founders Day.

"We usually go over to the shop and watch the parade ... We get a brat and watch the talent or whatever they have going on," Iva said.

This year, the two will be riding in the parade before trying to find the brat stand. "I never ever thought I would be riding up there," Iva said.

Though they are not sure how long they will remain in New Albany — both are in their 70s — they still find it a good place to live.

"It's been a good life," Iva said.

Parade to kick off at 11:30 a.m.

Route will continue to elementary and then end at Swickard Woods

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

The annual Founders Day parade will kick off at 11:30 a.m. from the New Albany Church of the Resurrection on Dublin-Granville Road.

This year's grand marshals are Iva and Robert Sammons, who have spent 56 years in the village. They will be recognized by announcers at both of the grandstands along the parade route.

Parade organizer Jeff Steckman said that, as of last week, the committee had more entries scheduled for the parade than last year.

The route is very similar to last year. The parade will move east on Dublin-Granville to Market Street, turning southeast and passing the first grandstand at Market Square. Steckman said Bob Nunley of WCMH-TV will be at that grandstand.

The parade will continue to U.S. Route 62, turning north on 62 and heading to state Route 605. The parade will then turn west on 605, passing the second grandstand at Eagle's Villa Pizza. The parade will continue on past the New Albany Intermediate Elementary to Swickard Woods Park, to allow floats and entries to file off the street more easily.

Steckman said there are several parade entries local people will recognize, including the New Albany Marching Band, New Albany Youth Leagues and Ronald McDonald.

Congressman Pat Tiberi and other political officials are expected to be involved. At a recent meeting, members of New Albany Village Council were trying to decide what type of vehicle to ride in.

Steckman said last year's parade attracted 70 entries. He said he expects this year's parade to end by 12:30 p.m. at the latest.

The Founders Day Celebration continues after the parade from noon to 5 p.m. on the grounds of the New Albany Intermediate Elementary School.

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Moments from the 2005 Founders Day

Danielle Mormol, 11, of New Albany plays on the Fun House ride during Founders Day Saturday, May 21, 2005.

By Paul Vernon/*ThisWeek*

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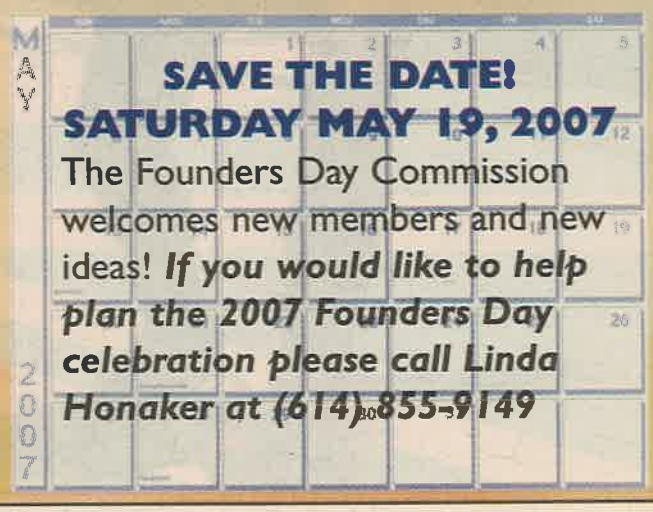

SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY MAY 19, 2007

The Founders Day Commission welcomes new members and new ideas! ***If you would like to help plan the 2007 Founders Day celebration please call Linda Honaker at (614) 855-9149***

Photos by Paul Vernon/*ThisWeek*

Moments from the 2005 Founders Day

(Above) Eileen Leuby of the New Albany Chamber of Commerce casts out a bag of snacks to the crowd from the group's float in the Founders Day parade Saturday, May 21, 2005. (Left) 12-year-old Mia McKown, a member of the dance group Broadway Bound in New Albany, dances along side the organization's float in the parade.

Paul Vernon, *ThisWeek Community Newspapers*

Rich Courter is reflected in the mirror of an old fire truck as he drives the float for OSU Family Practice at New Albany during the 2005 Founders Day Parade.

Founders Day Calendar of Events

■ **11:30 a.m.**
Founders Day parade kicks off and winds through the streets of New Albany before ending at New Albany Intermediate Elementary on Route 605 around noon.

■ **12:30 to 3 p.m.**
Silent auction

■ **12:45 p.m.**
The cutting of the largest birthday cake that will celebrate the 31st birthday of New Albany Founders Day.

■ **1 p.m.**
Corn hole tournament

■ **1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.**
Cash box opens for one contestant to get in and collect as much of the $1,500 inside as they can while the money is being blown around them.

■ **Noon to 5 p.m.**
More activities and events will be held throughout the day.

Entertainment this year will be provided by 97.1 FM.

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Photos by Paul Vernon/ *ThisWeek*

Moments from the 2005 Founders Day

(Above) 3-year-old Peyton Henze of New Albany learns the difficulty of eating ice cream with a football helmet on at Founders Day. (Right) 7-year-old Christian Anderson of New Albany gets a closer look a Kisa, a Siberian lynx, on display by Butternut Farm Wildcat Sanctuary during the endangered species fund-raiser at the New Albany Mill.

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ThisWeek
NEW ALBANY
May 25, 2006 Also serving Plain Township

Accord favors Canini applicatio

Nearby residents get some concessions before panel's revie

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Residents of the Plain View subdivision may get a few of the things they wanted when it comes to a 52-acre zoning that abuts their back yards.

Five minutes before a May 18 zoning hearing by the Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord Implementation Panel, developer Larry Canini agreed to increase open space near Plain View and reduce the height of office buildings that would be built near the neighborhood.

Canini also agreed to move one of the buildings to the northwest and reduce parking behind the homes.

The accord panel gave the proposal a favorable recommendation with conditional approval regarding the changes presented.

Jeff Washburn of Pine Ridge Court said the Plain View residents were pleased the developer was willing to work with them. He couldn't say whether they will favor the proposal as presented that night, however, since they had only five minutes to review the changes.

"We are optimistic that we can get closer to where we need it (the zoning) to be," he said.

Larry Canini of Canini and Pellechia has applied to rezone 52 acres east of U.S. Route 62 and north of Smith's Mill Road, eliminating residential use on the site.

The land is currently zoned in a comprehensive planned unit development and an infill planned unit development for 250,000 square feet of retail and commercial space and 144 homes. Under the proposed change to a comprehensive planned unit development, the land would be developed with 176,000 square feet of office space behind Plain View and 171,000 square feet of retail development along U.S. 62.

During the May 18 accord meeti
and his attorneys agreed to:

• Reduce office parking to help
more of the eight-acre open spa
Plain View homes. More landsca
be added in the area, but will not
on the 50-foot buffer zone that w
to the residents in 1999 through a
zoning.

See **ACCORD FAVORS**

IN YOUR FACE

By Lorrie Cecil/*ThisWeek*

The Founders Day celebration started with parade, followed by a festival in front of the intermediate elementary school May 20. Here, high school Spanish teacher Julia Bertheaud takes a pie in the face at the Pie-A-Teacher booth. It was a fund-raiser for the high school's In The Know team. ***For more pictures, see page B1.***

Trustees consider creating park land

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Plain Township trustees are considering re
ing wetlands and planting trees and prairie g
about 30 acres north of Walnut Street.

The land is part of the former 32.8-acre Ga
at 5770 Walnut St. purchased by the townshi
Earlier this year, the trustees split off the piec
home and demolished the existing house. No
considering putting part of the property wit
servation easement, which means it cannot b

On May 17, trustees heard a proposal from
Core, a district conservationist with the U.S
ment of Agriculture's Natural Resources an
vation Service, about ways to restore the pro
natural habitat for wildlife.

She said her office studied the topography
and determined there is a 2.5-acre piece of gr
ducive to establishing wetlands. Another
could be used as a prairie meadow and 8.3 a
be planted with native hardwoods. The rem
acres would be preserved to protect the Ro
Creek, which runs along the eastern edge of

Core said the agency, through a program call
Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), could
$11,367 of the estimated cost of $15,000 for th
ments.

Trustee Don Cameron questioned whether
ship could sign a contract for WHIP funding ar
the site when it is considering selling the land t
County Metro Parks to be developed as part
acre metropolitan park.

Core said the contract with WHIP is a five-y
ment. The land could be sold during the con
but any improvements that had been made w
to be maintained.

The problem, Cameron said, is that the M
system is considering adding a park entranc
Walnut Street if the acreage is purchased. Co
that if Metro Parks damaged any WHIP imp
it would have to pay WHIP back the money u
part of the land.

In most cases it is a nominal fee, she said.

See **TRUSTEES**

State Route 161 widening

Area officials cautioned to plan for change

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Western Licking County is going to see an increase in residential demand and New Albany will become an employment corridor in the next 10 to 15 years as the result of the widening of state Route 161 between New Albany and Granville, government and business leaders heard last week.

Keith Myers, of Myers Schmalenberger MSI of Columbus, spoke May 18 at a joint meeting of the New Albany, Licking County and Granville chambers of commerce.

Myers said the expansion of 161 is a catalyst for change, which will help delineate business districts and the potential for new employee homes.

"Change is not about to happen," he said. "It actually is happening."

Myers, a resident of Granville whose office is in downtown Columbus, said he estimates he has spent 3,000 hours of his life driving on 161. The widening planned by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), to start this year, will cause change and affect the way the area develops, he said, warning that now is the time for all involved to unite and begin planning for the growth that is coming.

He identified five potential demands on the area within the next 10 to 15 years:

• Housing will be needed for new employees who will want to locate near water and sewer services and good schools.

• Office space will be built in New Albany. Myers said businesses may not

See **SR 161**, *page A2*

Police, fire chiefs address concerns about fire lanes

Council asked to consider designating tow-away zones

By LORI WINCE

solution to this," he said. "The current fines are not a

Revised ordinance keeps truc from parking in residential are

By LORI WINCE
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Within the next 30 days, residents

Photos by Lorrie Cecil/*ThisWeek*

Phyllis Sage helps cut "New Albany's Largest Birthday Cake." She was there to assist her daughter, Jenny, who was on the Founders Day committee.

Happy 30th birthday Founders Day

(Above) Nine-year-old Ryan Dunn, facing, and eight-year-old Nathanael Henry take a turn on the "Joust" game. (Right) Four-year-old Isabelle Campbell sits on her mother, Megan's, lap and waves to the fire trucks as the parade starts. The Founders Day celebration started with parade which was followed by a festival in front of the intermediate elementary school May 20.

(Above) 14-year-old Teresa Chamberlin, 13-year-old Kayleigh Helten, Cindy Eyestone and her daughter, 13-year-old Olivia, ride the Round-up at the Founders Day celebration at the intermediate elementary school. (Left) Two-year-old Kyle enjoys an ice cream cone in the sun while hanging out with his father, Dave.

(Above)Three-year-old Maddie Gull has her bag out and is ready to start collecting candy as the Plain Township fire trucks roll by in the parade. (Left) The Founders Day parade literally goes to the dogs as the Animals "R" Special Veterinarian Hospital marches.

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The 315 corridor could give us a global identity, Bill Melville says

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Headstones are overturned and weeds thrive at a local cemetery

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The baseball Eagles drop a 6-4 decision to DeSales in the finals

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Council to consider 10 more TIFs

by SCOTT TAKAC
New Albany News Reporter

New Albany Village Council might divert tax revenue from 10 more subdivisions to pay for future infrastructure improvements.

Council read an ordinance last week that would establish the new subdivisions as tax increment financing districts.

A public hearing will be held on the matter June 6 at the meeting of Village Council, held at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

The TIF districtwould include the following subdivisions: Upper Clarenton, Tidewater I and II, Wentworth Crossing, Clarenton, the Enclave at New Albany, Ealy Crossing, Richmond Square, Hawksmoor and Balfour Green.

A public hearing on the TIFs will be held at 6:30 p.m. June 6 at Village Hall.

Tax increment financing, or TIF, is an economic development tool that allows a municipality to use expected increases in property values from development to pay for permanent improvements.

Last year council declared three other subdivisions 30-year TIF districts to pay for New Albany and Plain Township's $8 million portion of the new performing arts center. The revenue from those TIFs is expected to also pay for infrastructure improvements

See TIFS, *Page 2*

News Photo by Jeffry Konczal

What a day for a parade

Maxwell Malo, 4, of New Albany takes a look a fire truck as it passes by during the New Albany Founder's Day Parade Saturday. New Albany's annual Founder's Day activities attracted thousands for the celebration of the village's heritage. The annual Founder's Day parade stepped off from Church of the Resurrection at 11:30 a.m. and proceeded to the New Albany 2-5 Elementary, where family events and activities were scheduled. Additional photos, Page 12

Route 161 upgrades will bring jobs, planner says

by MELISSA FIALA
New Albany News Editor

If New Albany, Granville and Licking County officials join forces, state Route 161 could help New Albany become a major employment center.

A long-term plan for the corridor between the neighboring communities should be a priority, said Keith Myers, co-founder and principal of planning and urban design firm MSI, in an address at the New Albany Chamber of Commerce luncheon last week.

Myers helped plan and design the Arena District in downtown Columbus and had a hand in drafting the Big Darby Accord. As a planning consultant in New Albany for more than 12 years, the Granville resident estimated he has spent at least 3,000 hours traveling the Route 161 corridor in the last several years.

"The ultimate success or failure of the corridor is contingent on working together and creating a long-term plan," said Myers.

New Albany has changed dramatically in recent years, and the corridor must change too, he said. The catalysts for change – time, population growth, new infrastructure and transportation improvements – are all in place, and politicians, developers and landowners are ready to improve the development along the

See UPGRADES, *Page 2*

Township to save $100,000 on health-insurance costs

by SCOTT TAKAC
New Albany News Reporter

Bucking a trend of increases in health insurance costs, Plain Township Trustees are finding that a little shopping around can pay off.

The trustees voted last Wednesday to move forward with an insurance plan that is expected to save $100,000 over the township's current premium for employee health insurance.

Bud Zappitelli, chairman of the the board of trustees, said Plain Township employees can expect the same coverage they've grown accustomed to.

"I think that we've done a very good job with the taxpayers' dollars," Zappitelli said. "We just have to do everything we can in the community to find ways to save...dollars."

Zappitelli said the township was quoted a 3 percent increase from last year's premium, which he identified as one many municipalities would be happy with, especially when it's not uncommon to see premiums increase as high as 20 percent.

"The township, instead of jumping for joy, decided to continue to look for ways we could save money," he said.

Zappitelli said the savings came from changing the deductible in the employee plan

See COSTS, *Page 2*

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