2008 New Albany Founders Day
Saturday, May 17, 2008

Organizers bet Vegas-themed Founders Day will be a success

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

It's unlikely anyone will lose thousands of dollars on blackjack or be married by an Elvis-like justice of the peace at this year's Viva Las Vegas-themed Founders Day celebration.

With new activities such as Plinko, water wars and human hamster-ball races, however, Founders Day organizers took a "what happens in New Albany stays in New Albany" attitude when planning for the May 17 celebration.

"When we have a meeting, everyone brings ideas," committee member Beckie Knore said. "All of a sudden, it's Viva Las Vegas; it's anything goes."

Knore said the addition of a mechanical bull came about from the personal experience of a few committee members in Vegas. "They rode a mechanical bull when they were there," she said.

With a car show, jail and bail, cash cube, rides and the Plain Township Fire Department's fire-safety house planned for the annual celebration, Knore said.

Day celebration, the parade will kick off at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Resurrection, 6300 Dublin Granville Road.

The parade can be viewed from anywhere along the route that runs from Dublin Granville to Market Street and then east on Main Street. The parade will head north on High Street and end at the New Albany 2-5 building, 87 N. High St.

In addition to rides, games and other activities, the Ethel Schleppi Memorial Art Show will be going on in the school's gym, and Vegas-themed music will be featured at 4 p.m.

With a growing community, the committee expects as many as 5,000 at this year's Founders Day celebration.

"On a great sunny, beautiful day, which we have had, there could be anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000 people, and if it's rainy, probably 2,000 to 4,000," Knore said. "We focus on New Albany and Plain Township, but anyone can come. Because the community has been growing, attendance has been growing."

The New Albany Chorus will kick off Founders Day at 10:30 a.m. with a concert downtown. The parade follows at 11 a.m.

On the stage in front of the school, Mayor Nancy Ferguson will give a proclamation at 12:30 p.m., with cash cube following at 1 p.m.

The Broadway Bound Dance Studio will perform at 1:30 p.m., followed by Plinko at 2 and cash cube at 2:30.

Music will start at 4 p.m.

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it will be a fun day for all."

"Last year, we had a Superman obstacle course that will come back this year," she said. "We have another obstacle course, and for the most part, thanks to our sponsors, those are free, but there will be a nominal fee for the mechanical bull. Michael's Rides has been with us for years, and they're from Newark. They'll bring new rides this year."

The Founders Day committee finds sponsors to fund the community event each year but also brings in some funding via a silent auction. Knore said movie tickets, restaurant gift certificates and items from such local companies as Bath & Body Works will be available at the silent auction.

"We've been very blessed to have bigger sponsors like EMH&T, the New Albany Co., the village and the township," Knore said.

While new and old activities will be plentiful at the Founders

New Albany Founder's Day
Thursday, May 15, 2008

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Parade Registration:
Call Jeff Steckman at
(614) 747-2029 or email at
NAFoundersDay@aol.com

The excitement kicks off at 11AM with the "Viva Las Vegas" Parade followed by the Vegas Celebration at the New Albany 2-5 Elementary School.

Viva Las Vegas

~SCHEDULED EVENTS~

11:00	Parade starts
12:00	Rides/Vendors Open
12:30	Mayor's Proclamation
1:00	$500 Cash Cube
1:30	Broadway Bound
2:00	Plinko
2:30	$500 Cash Cube
3:00	Dynamic Self Defense Demo
3:30	Plinko
4:00	Vegas Music

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6 An appeal to frugality may help boost environmental awareness

8 Jewish Day School officials are ready to place new head of school

20 The tennis Eagles cruise to an OCC Capital Division title

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Komen race is 'a many speckled thing' for some

SNP photo by Jeffry Konczal

New Albany Middle School teachers (form left): Suzie Cooper, Melissa Withers, Michele Oldenquist, Amy Glenn, Katelin Javorek, Kristen Zollweg, Debbie Hall and Patty Randall will be participating in the Race for a Cure together Saturday, May 17 in downtown Columbus. Teachers Susan Woodmansee, Shannon May and Carrie Fuller (not pictured) also are participating.

By MEREDITH SOMERS
Suburban News Publications

What started as a New Year's resolution has turned into a good cause on a national scale – albeit a polka-dotted pink one.

Fourteen seventh-grade teachers at the New Albany Middle School will be participating in this weekend's Susan G. Komen Columbus Race for the Cure.

"I wanted to get in shape, and I needed an end goal," said intervention teacher Amy Glenn. "So I enlisted the help of my teaching friends, and now it's one big team!"

"We wanted to be able to spot each other in a crowd of 40,000 so we picked bright, pink, spotted socks to wear."

–Amy Glenn
New Albany teacher

Her love for close friends was the reason Patty Randall signed on to participate with Glenn.

As the language arts teacher explained, she's read enough facts and figures about breast cancer to knowthat one in eight women will be affected by the disease.

"I'm very fortunate. I'm at a job where I teach with my best friends," Randall said.

Looking around at her race teammates, Randall said she didn't want to wait around to see who of the group would be the "one."

"It made sense to me to be proactive," Randall said.

See **KOMEN**, *Page 2*

Founders Day marshals hint at parade 'surprise'

■ *Known for their Founders Day costumes, Kathy and Jim Mayhorn may have a few tricks up their sleeves come May 17.*

By MERYL WILLIAMS
Suburban News Publications

Kathy and Jim Mayhorn have seen New Albany throughout the years. Soon they'll have a totally new vantage point as they take on grand marshal duties during the Founders Day parade Saturday, May 17.

The parade steps off at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Resurrection at 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road. Founders Day festivities will continue at the parade route's end at the New Albany Elementary 2-5, 87 N. High St.

"Pretty much everybody in the community comes," said Mrs. Mayhorn.

She was born and raised in Plain Township, and is in the second of four family generations to graduate from New Albany High School. Mr. Mayhorn is a Gahanna native, and he and his wife resided in New Albany after they married in 1969 until they built a new home in southern Delaware County six years ago.

Their community involvement started in local scouting programs in the mid 1970s, first with Cub Scout Pack 150, where Mrs. Mayhorn was a committee chairwoman and Mr. Mayhorn was Webelos leader. Mr. Mayhorn continued with the scouting program for many years thereafter and was scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 450 during the 1980s.

See **PARADE**, *Page 3*

Former residents Jim and Kathy Mayhorn are the 2008 Founders Day parade grand marshalls.

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PARADE

Continued from Page 1

Founders Day was started by the New Albany Plain Township Historical Society in 1976. Now president of the New Albany Arts Council, Mrs. Mayhorn remembered that in earlier years of the annual event, themes used to be more historically-based. Early themes followed decades like the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s and on.

"They stopped doing the decades when we got to the 70s, because it seemed like it was too close to tell," she said. "But it would probably be a hoot to go back and do the 70s now."

The couple still holds dear their favorite Founders Days memories.

"My favorite was the 50s theme, when Phil Dirt and the Dozers came in," said Mr. Mayhorn. "They actually came twice."

Mrs. Mayhorn said she fondly remembered the 1993 Founders Day, when the village honored the Plain Township Fire Department with a musical program.

"That actually started the New Albany Chorus," said Mrs. Mayhorn, who is an active member with the chorus. She'll be performing in a concert with the chorus at 10:30 a.m. May 17 right before the parade starts at 11a.m.

"We're going to do a pre-parade concert to get everyone excited," she said.

Mrs. Mayhorn is a second generation grand marshal. Her parents, Evelyn and the late Clark Cubbage, had the honor in 1990.

As for this year, the Mayhorns said they are looking forward to the Viva! Las Vegas theme.

"We've been known to costume ourselves," Mrs. Mayhorn said. "We have a surprise for people, but we're not going to do anything too crazy."

The couple was surprised when asked to serve as grand marshals, but they felt very honored, they said.

"It's our hometown," said Mrs. Mayhorn. "We've lived here our whole married life."

The Mayhorns once lived in a house that is now the location of Champion Shooter's Supply on North High Street, Mr. Mayhorn remembers. Before then, it had been New Albany's first funeral home.

"We watched many a Founders Day parade from our front porch there with our son," said Mrs. Mayhorn.

The Mayhorns have seen many changes in the village during their years there.

"New Albany used to be a really small town," said Mr. Mayhorn. "It has grown well."

Mrs. Mayhorn said she still feels New Albany has a small-town feel.

"There's always someone you know around," she said. "You always have special feelings about your hometown."

ON THE MOVE

Will Matt

Ron Whitacre, with New Albany Elementary School, has been named the winner of the K-5 *Rising Above* award from Panera Bread and the Ohio PTA in recognition of being an "outstanding teacher."

Will Matt of New Albany has been named chief administrative director for Victoria's Secret Direct.

Matt holds a master's degree from Columbia Business School and a bachelor's degree from Colgate University.

Jewish Family Services issues call for nominees

Jewish Family Services will accept nominations for the Janice B. Ballas Award for Community Service through May 30.

This award is presented to an individual who has made significant contributions to the mental health or social services fields, either for Jewish Family Services or for the general community.

An award ceremony will take place at 7:30 p.m. June 18 at Jewish Family Services' Installation Meeting at Wexner Heritage Village, 1151 College Ave.

To obtain nomination forms call Bobbie Shkolnik at 614-559-0127 or e-mail bshkolnik@jfscolumbus.org.

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ThisWeek Community Newspapers

NEW ALBANY

March 6, 2008 www.ThisWeekNews.com 50¢

Village mulls ways to fund $2.5M for park

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

With the agreement that will bring a park to northern Plain Township signed, entities involved will begin the search for money.

New Albany has pledged $2.5-million for the park, and village council Tuesday night briefly discussed options for funding.

The village will donate 107 acres to Metro Parks as part of its portion of the money.

Village administrator Joe Stefanov said the land has been valued at $650,000.

"We need to work with the New Albany Co. to get the 107 acres of wetlands to transfer to the Metro Parks," he told council.

Per the agreement, Columbus will give $7.5-million and Metro Parks will contribute $3-million for the park that could be as large as 1,200 acres.

Although Mayor Nancy Ferguson said she'd like the village to be involved in the process of creating of the park, Stefanov mentioned both long- and short-term funding for the village's portion.

"We worked out an arrangement with Metro Parks that would allow us to apply the (107 acres) to the $2.5-million," he said. "The balance will have to be provided by some sort of debt, long term through a bond or short term."

Stefanov said the village soon will look into funding for its portion of the park money.

Now that the park agreement has been signed by New Albany, Plain Township, Columbus and Metro Parks representatives, the lengthy process of acquiring land bordered Schott Road, Walnut Street, Peter Hoover Road and the Delaware-Franklin county line will begin.

"They are acquiring land as it's made available by land owners," Stefanov said.

Council also approved a resolution reflecting a salary increase for Stefanov that previously was agreed upon by council.

Stefanov will receive a 7-percent wage increase

See **COUNCIL**, *page A2*

20th district

New Albany's Garland wins House-seat bid

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

For more election coverage, see A4.

Nancy Garland

New Albany resident Nancy Garland netted the Democratic nomination for the 20th district Ohio House of Representatives in Tuesday's primary.

With 82 percent of precincts reporting, unofficial results from the Franklin County Board of elections showed Garland taking 57 percent of the votes over challenger Bev Campbell.

"I know that several of the stations have called the race and we feel that it looks good for us," Garland said Tuesday night.

The 20th house dis-

Franklin County Board of Elections said.

With 82 percent of the precincts in, unofficial results showed Campbell, of Gahanna, received 5,701 votes or 43 percent.

With the Democratic nomination in hand, Garland will face Republican incumbent Jim McGregor in the general election in

By Lorrie Cecil/*ThisWeek*

Airborne at the Arnold

Eight-year-old Abbi Dicenso of New Albany performs during the gymnastics-challenge opening celebration of the Arnold Sports Festival on Saturday at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. *For coverage of the annual event, see Sports, page B2.*

Gahanna, Bexley, Whitehall, Reynoldsburg, Westerville, New Albany and parts of East Columbus, gave Garland 7,481 votes with 89 of 109 precincts reporting, the

for more election coverage

Garland, a 55-year-old mother of two, boasts previous political experi-

See **20TH DISTRICT**, *page A2*

New Albany planning a Vegas-style Founders Day

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

With a "Viva! Las Vegas" theme established, New Albany Founders Day organizers have begun the search for a grand marshal.

The community event, slated for May 17, will celebrate the founding of New Albany and Plain Township.

"Our theme for Founders Day 2008 is 'Viva Las Vegas.' The parade is where the theme plays the largest role," event organizer Stacy Honiker said. "Parade participants decorate floats and perform using the event theme and are judged and awarded prizes."

Parade participants could win the Viva! Las Vegas award, the imagination award or the enthusiasm award.

Event organizers are taking nominations from the community for grand marshal, who will ride at the front of the parade.

"Last year, we started the tradition of having the community choose the grand marshal," Honiker said.

Nominations should be e-mailed to nafoundersday@aol.com or mailed to 6890 Cedarbrook Glen, New Albany, 43054.

Honiker said the grand marshal may be a single person, couple or group.

"There really are no boundaries with the grand marshal," she said. "We are just looking for people that have a positive relationship with New Albany."

The 2007 Founders Day grand marshals were residents Tom and Nancy Meresek.

Although planning is ongoing, Honiker said, Founders Day will include rides, games, food, inflatable rides, an art show, entertainment and more.

"This year, we are incorporating the Columbus Zoo, which will be bringing a number of animals, an Elvis look-alike contest and many more activities for all ages," she said.

For more information on Founders Day festivities, visit newalbany-foundersday.com.

jnoblit@thisweeknews.com

NAWN gearing for fashion fundraiser

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

The New Albany Women's Network will roll out the red carpet for its annual spring fundraiser.

The ninth annual fashion show and charity luncheon, scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, March 15, at the New Albany Country Club, will have a Hollywood theme and will benefit the Child and Adolescent Bipolar Foundation.

"We're doing an old Hollywood theme and will have music based on that, too," event chair Marsha Nash said. "We're rolling out the red carpet — literally, The models will be walking up the red carpet."

Fashion show chairs Nash, Laura Scholten and Heather Buchanan have been working since January on the fundraiser that will feature spring fashions.

"There's a lot going on," Buchanan said. "We have a silent auction … with a variety of items, from clothing and accessories, gift certificates, certificates to restaurants, beauty products, all kinds of things. There is a sit-down lunch and during the lunch is a live fashion show."

Models walking the red carpet won't be from Paris or Milan, though. The group recruited local residents of all ages to model the clothes, including teachers from the New Albany-Plain Local Schools.

"We usually don't have too much trouble finding models," Buchanan said. "I think we have a couple teachers, and as always, we have a lot of kids doing it."

The models will sport clothes from Nordstrom, Abercrombie, Saks Fifth Avenue, The Limited, Caché and the Tween Brands, Nash said.

"We have some awesome spring fashions," she said.

See **FASHION SHOW**, *page A2*

By Megan Nadolski/*ThisWeek*

Senior project

New Albany High School senior Ashton Franks takes her grandfather, Mount Vernon resident Larry Franks, to his car after the Walk for Parkinson's event Saturday. Franks organized a walk that will benefit the Central Ohio Parkinson's Society for her senior project. Her grandfather has Parkinson's disease.

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Sports

New Albany High School's Molly Dengler finished third in the 200-yard individual medley Feb. 22 during the Division II girls state swimming and diving meet in Canton. The junior is expected to return for the Eagles, who finished fifth (113 points) at state behind champion Gates Mills Hawken (358). **See Sports, page B1.**

Video

Go to ThisWeekNews.com to take a video tour of the Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts. Arts center executive director Ted DeDee talks to *ThisWeek*'s Jennifer Noblit about the partnership among New Albany, Plain Township, New Albany-Plain Local Schools and the New Albany Community Foundation and the 750-seat proscenium theatre.

6 Unexpected lessons can be easy to retain, Garth Bishop says

8 Revising the district's schedule is a balancing act, officials say

22 The track Eagles return from Bexley with impressive times

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News photo by Jeffry Konczal

Up close and personal

New Albany kindergarten students (from left) Doug Potts, Scarlett Tischer and Avery Butterfield inspect a redtailed boa constrictor that the Columbus Zoo's outreach presentors showed Kirsty Venne's art class on Tuesday, April 29.

Returning relay links neighbors for a cure

By MERYL WILLIAMS

Suburban News Publications

New Albany and Gahanna are teaming up to beat cancer May 9 and 10.

The two municipalities are holding a joint Relay For Life starting at 6 p.m. at Gahanna Middle School West, 350 N. Stygler Road.

The event kicks off with an opening ceremony, with a New Albany High School a cappella group singing the national anthem.

Before then participants can stake out the perfect spot from which to enjoy the event.

"People can start getting there around four," said Cherie Shuba, events chairwoman for the event. "People bring their camping stuff and pick out a spot on the field.

"It's a great cause," said New Albany

■ WHAT: Relay For Life
■ WHEN: May 9-10
■ WHERE: Gahanna Middle School West, 350 N. Styler Road

See **RETURNING,** *Page 2*

Founders Day revelers to celebrate 'Vegas style'

■ *This year's event features time-honored traditions and a few surprises, organizers say.*

By MERYL WILLIAMS

Suburban News Publications

It's a traditional that's gone on since 1976, more than a century after New Albany's humble beginnings.

This year, Founders Day in New Albany kicks off at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 17 and participants are planning a Viva! Las Vegas theme.

The Founders Day parade will start at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road. The parade route includes Market, Main and High streets and ends at the New Albany Elementary 2-5 building, where the remainder of the festivities will continue through 5 p.m.

"The parade is still being formed together," said Jeff Steckman, parade chairman. "We currently have 30 entrants. Last year we had 71, but we got half the entrants the week before."

Steckman said visitors can expect some mainstays as well as a few new faces at this year's parade.

"We have a couple stand-bys like the New Albany (High School) marching band, and the grand marshals, who are Kathy and Jim Mayhorn this year," he said.

"The Community Connections Award is something new, where we will honor a group in New Albany," he added. "This year it will be the New Albany Lions Club. They were chosen due to their generosity within New Albany, through their fundraising and donations."

Some new parade participants will include Giant Eagle, the Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts, and the Hilton at Easton. Weatherman Jym Ganahl of NBC Channel 4 will be the parade's master of ceremonies.

Businesses and groups interested in entering a float into the parade, can fill out an application online at newalbanyfoundersday.com and submit a $25 entrance fee. Line up for the parade begins at 9:30 a.m.

There are three prizes up for grabs for float winners. Prizes include, the Viva! Las Vegas Award, which goes to the float-building team whose float best exemplifies the theme.

Participants will also compete for the En-

See **FOUNDERS,** *Page 2*

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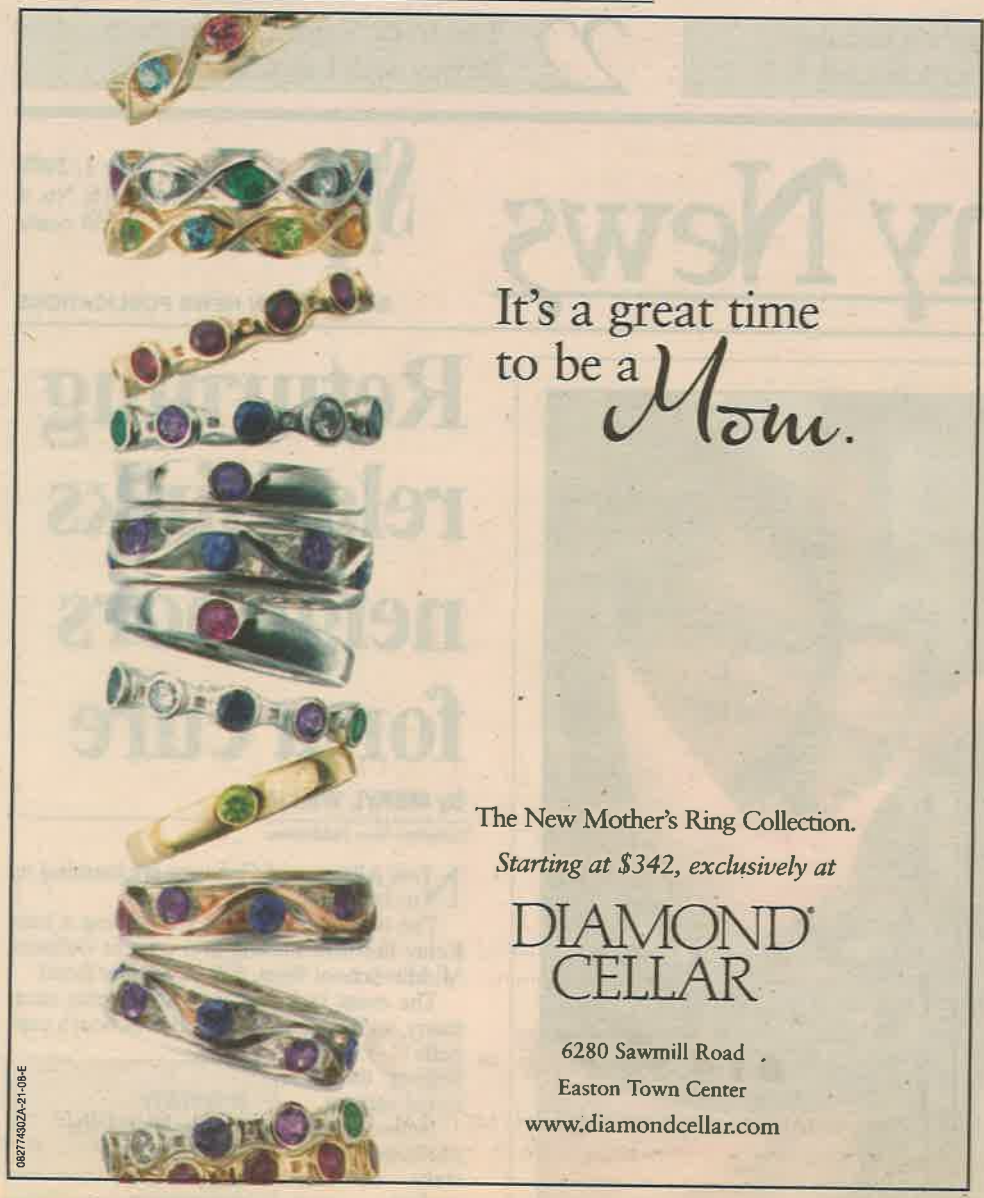

RETURNING

Continued from Page 1

Mayor Nancy Ferguson. "Different groups will form a team and any group can have a team for the relay. They pitch a little tent and have a tailgating setup."

At last year's opening ceremony, both Gahanna Mayor Becky Stinchcomb and Ferguson talked about why they chose to relay. However, this year, Ferguson will be out of town the weekend of the event.

"Both Becky and I spoke briefly last year, to get people motivated," she said. "There's so many enthusiastic people out there, they don't need encouragement. A lot of New Albany people get involved."

With the opening ceremony, there will also be a survivor's ceremony and reception.

"We're trying to recruit some survivors for that," said Shuba. "All the survivors take a lap, and then there's a reception. There will be two speakers, and appetizers and cake."

Friday night's events also will include a Miss Relay pageant, where one man from each team will dress as a woman.

"You get a guy on your team to dress up as a girl, and have them walk around with a purse and try to collect the most money," said Shuba.

Also on Friday night, race car driver and Gahanna Lincoln High School graduate Mike Shank will be there with his crew for pictures with the public. There will also be a Guitar Hero and Rock Band game party on a projector, and a bouncy house for children.

A luminaria ceremony will start around 9:30, once it is dark. At this, a luminaria will be lit in honor or in memory of someone who has experienced cancer.

"It's a way to remember those that we've lost to cancer, or honor those that survived," said Shuba. "A student from New Albany High School will be singing during that."

Girl Scouts dressed as Scholastic storybook characters will be there to read to children at the event.

On Saturday, a yard sale will take place. All proceeds will go directly to the American Cancer Society.

"It starts at 7 a.m.," said Shuba. "We start bright and early."

Later that morning, the local fire department will host a "foam party."

"It's a slip and slide," said Shuba. "It's a good time. We encourage teams to tell their kids to bring bathing suits if they want to participate."

The event will wind down at 11:30 p.m. May 10 with a raffle.

"A lot of local businesses have contributed," said Shuba. One item being auctioned is a pair of OSU-Michigan tickets. Bids start at $550 prior to the event.

The final event will be the Fight Back ceremony, during which everyone present can make a pledge to help fight cancer in their own way.

"This gives everyone a way to participate," said Shuba. "Everyone can take an action against cancer. You can pledge to get a mammogram, eat healthier, or just some kind of pledge to fight back."

FOUNDERS

Continued from Page 1

thusiasm Award, which goes to the most energetic and excited float-building crew. The Imagination Award will be awarded to the team with the most creative float.

Concession and vendor registration forms are also available online, and they are due Thursday, May 1. Space is allotted on a first come, first served basis.

3 Village's resident weatherman headed for Ohio hall of fame

6 Learn whether your school board is spending its time wisely

18 New Albany's baseball season ends at the hands of Watterson

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SNP photo by Cassandra Bergman

Founders Day fun

Charley Kuhl, of Kuhl Balloons, fashions balloon animals and other creations for visitors at New Albany's Founders Day celebration. The event, which was held May 17 at the 2-5 Elementary School, honors the history of the village and township alike. More photos, page 8.

Nickelodeon star to headline weekend 'Kids for Kids' event

By MERYL WILLIAMS
Suburban News Publications

Ron Sykes values the importance of children learning compassion at an early age, and he's bringing in a Nickelodeon "tween" star to help.

The New Albany resident and retired senior vice president at Tween Brands is teaming up with Madisons Foundation to raise money to benefit children diagnosed with rare diseases, and help their families find support.

Nickelodeon television star Aria Wallace, who portrays tween super sleuth, Roxy Hunter, will host the Kids for Kids fundraiser, which runs from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, May 24 at the Plain Township Aquatic Center, 7650 Swickward Woods Blvd.

Wallace will be introducing her latest movie, *Roxy Hunter and the Myth of the Mermaid* at 9:30 p.m.

This event is a joint effort by Madisons Foundation and Tween Brands, Inc. with proceeds also benefitting Nationwide Children's Hospital's pediatric rare disease research.

Aria Wallace

"Madisons Foundation is an acronym," explained Sykes. "It's 'Moms And Dads In Search Of Needed Support.' Madison's mother had a hard time (finding) someone who could help her situation. She finally found help and started the Web site for parents (madisonsfoundation.org). It gets between 90,000 and 120,000 hits a week."

See **KIDS,** *Page 2*

Aquatic center opens just in time for holiday

The local pool celebrates its fifth anniversary this year too.

By MERYL WILLIAMS
Suburban News Publications

The Plain Township Aquatic Center will open Saturday, May 24 in time for Memorial Day weekend, five years to the day after it first opened in 2003.

"We have a big fundraiser at the pool this Saturday, they're expecting quite a few people at that," said Bonnie Reife, pool operations coordinator. "We rent the pool out for graduation parties, birthday parties, patient appreciation days, etc. We just do that on Saturdays (throughout the summer)."

The pool will close at 7 p.m. on Saturday evenings and is available at 7:30 p.m. for parties. Renters are welcome to bring their own entertaiment such as a band, karaoke machines, clowns, or CDs for a private pool party.

Meanwhile, pool season passes and daily rates are the same cost they were last year.

Cost information varies depending on factors like residency, age, and quantity. More information can be found online at plaintownship.org, or by calling the pool during seasonal hours at 614-775-9430. The cost depends on the size of a family, and whether or not they're township residents. A single membership is $140 for someone living in New Albany or Plain Township. For someone who just goes to school there, cost is $170. Those outside the area will pay $195.

The pool's hours are: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday; and 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday for swim lessons and swim team.

The pool offers three sessions of swim

See **AQUATIC,** *Page 2*

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Madeline Divine (left) and Julia Scriban, both 10, enjoy a carnival ride.

Founders Day 2008

New Albany celebrates its history with a parade and events Saturday, May 17

ABOVE: Kross Nastase, 2, enjoys his sucker while he watches the parade. In addition to the parade, visitors enjoyed games, food and rides at the New Albany 2-5 Elementary School.

RIGHT: Lorelei Moulin, 8, calls out for candy while at the parade.

Photos by Cassandra Bergman

ABOVE: Parade goers line the street to see the fire trucks and other parade entries.

LEFT: New Albany High School's bald eagle mascot rides a Segway along the parade route.

BELOW: Divot the dog takes part in the parade.

ThisWeek Community Newspapers

NEW ALBANY

May 22, 2008 www.ThisWeekNews.com 50¢

26.83-mill emergency levy

Subcommittee finds way to shave 2.5 mills

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

A finance subcommittee last week submitted recommendations that could save the district more than 2 mills in a likely operating levy.

The New Albany-Plain Local School District has been looking into options to replace a 20.7-mill emergency operating levy that expires at the end of 2009.

District treasurer Brian Ramsay has said a 26.83-mill emergency operating levy would allow the district to maintain current operations, but a finance subcommittee has found some savings.

According to a report released by the subcommittee during a finance committee meeting last Thursday, the district could ask for an emergency operating levy of 24.27-mills — a possible savings of 2.56 mills for district taxpayers,

See **SUBCOMMITTEE**, *page A5*

Analyst shares thoughts on expenditures

The New Albany-Plain Local School District's finance committee soon will have one more report to use in its quest for funding recommendations.

See **ANALYST**, *page A5*

Entities on board with most growth-management ideas

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Local public officials seemed amenable to recommendations from the Smart Growth Coalition last

development.

Public officials were able to comment on the plan during a May 14 meeting, and the reception was generally positive.

New Albany Mayor Nancy Fer-

Photos by Ann Tormet/*ThisWeek*

The 2008 New Albany Founders Day parade along Market Street on Saturday included a line of tractors. The parade ended at the New Albany-Plain Local Schools campus, where the celebration was held.

2008
Founders Day

Left: Four-year-old Andy Dunn of New Albany looks down from the top of one of the obstacle courses for children during Saturday's Founders Day event. The celebration included numerous attractions for adults and children, including a human hamster-ball race, a mechanical bull and rides.
Below: Five-year-old Alek Jacoby of New Albany and his sister, 2-year-old Katia Jacoby, go for a spin on one of the rides during the Founders Day event at the New Albany-Plain Local Schools campus.

The group invited the entities that created it — New Albany Village Council, the New Albany Board of Education and Plain Township trustees — to a meeting for questions and comments on recommendations that took over a year to complete.

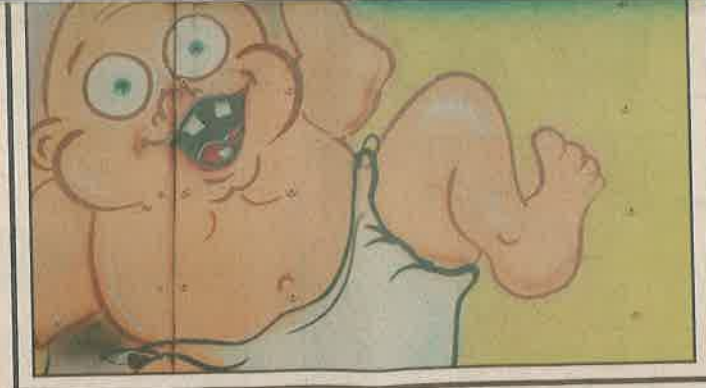
The Smart Growth Coalition, which received no funding for its work, released a report earlier this month, with recommendations ranging from ways to increase open space to attracting commercial the work the group has done.

"I knew we chose this committee well. … We had no idea you would commit this kind of time," she said.

Ferguson said the village will compare recommendations from the Smart Growth Coalition with the village's strategic plan and make the needed changes.

"We will see where the differences are and make changes to that,"

See **ENTITIES**, *page A2*



DI team heads to globals in Tennessee

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
ThisWeek Staff Writer

By Chris Parker/*ThisWeek*

Members of New Albany's Destination ImagiNation team are (front row, from left) Cameron Fachman, Emma Jones, Clair Klodell, Columbus School for Girls student Ryan O'Hara, (back row) Marshall Budin, Abby Wootton and Jacob Budin.

Seven New Albany students are in Tennessee instead of the classroom this week, but they aren't playing hooky.

Members of one of New Albany's 2-5 elementary school Destination ImagiNation teams is in Knoxville this week to compete against teams from all over the world in global competition.

In Destination ImagiNation teams of seven elementary students use creativity and imagination to solve challenges placed before them in competition.

The team of New Albany-Plain Local students Jacob and Marshall Budin, Cameron Fachman, Emma Jones, Claire Klodell and Abby Wootton and Columbus School for Girls student Ryan O'Hara will face teams from throughout the United States, as well as from Turkey, Brazil, China, England and Korea, among others.

The global competition was scheduled to start Wednesday (May 21) at the University of Tennessee and end Saturday, giving the team three days away from school.

That isn't what the fourth- and fifth-graders are most looking forward to, though.

"It's a new state with new people," Klodell said.

"I'm excited for competition — the instant challenge and pin trading," Jones said.

Pin trading is a big thing at the global competition. Coach Alice Fachman said students trade pins at the event, trying to snag one from every state and country they can.

Others are excited about spending time with teammates they have come to know so well since the season began last fall.

"I'm looking forward to hanging out," Marshall Budin said. "We're all good friends now."

For one team member, this won't be the first time to global competition. Wootton's brother was on the only other New Albany team to make it to globals, and the family went along.

See **DESTINATION IMAGINATION**, *page A2*

Despite PUCO approval for rate flexibility, AT&T isn't planning rate hike

By JENNIFER NOBLIT
This Week Staff Writer

AT&T recently received approval to raise telephone rates in New Albany, but the company said no price increases currently are planned.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio recently approved rate flexibility, allowing AT&T to raise prices annually without approval, for telephone exchanges in three central Ohio communities including New Albany, Canal Winchester and Groveport.

According to a news release from the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, AT&T could raise its monthly basic service rate by as much as $1.25 and could do so each year. The price of basic caller ID also could increase by as much as 50 cents.

"It's the maximum they can raise monthly rates per year, and they don't have to go back to the (PUCO) and justify rates," said Ryan Lippe, spokesman for the Ohio Consumers' Counsel.

According to a release from PUCO, AT&T must notify customers 30 days before any rate increases and rates for low-income customers who qualify for Lifeline assistance will not change.

New Albany residents shouldn't expect notice of rate change in the near future, though.

Caryn Candisky, director of public affairs for AT&T Ohio, said rates haven't changed in about 20 years and that no changes are planned.

"Another important thing to note is, AT&T basic exchange rate has not changed for about 20 years," she said. "We have no plans to change basic-level exchange at this time. We have not changed rates in other

See **AT&T**, *page A2*

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Inside

The New Albany-Plain Local School District was a major benefactor in the latest round of grants from the New Albany Community Foundation. The foundation, which strives to aid the community in education, health and wellness, the arts and the environment, gave five of eight grants totaling $13,300 to the school district. **See story, page A6.**

Sports

New Albany High School's Julia Lampson competes in the shot put for New Albany last Saturday during the finals of the OCC-Capital Division track and field meet at Franklin Heights. The girls won the league title with 159 points as Olentangy Liberty was runner-up with 106. The New Albany boys were fifth with 46 points behind champion Watkins Memorial (143). **See Sports, page B1.**