NEW ALBANY NEWS

May 7, 2009 Volume 17, No. 5 50 cents

columbuslocalnews.com

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News photo by Jeffry Konczal

Still got it!

Emmy Award winner Martin Short keeps the audience laughing as he performs skits from his hourlong show "If I'd Saved, I Wouldn't Be Here" April 29 at the Jeanne B. McCoy Center for the Arts. The event was a part of the center's fundraiser, the Center Stage Gala, which will help fund the upcoming season.

Founders Day fete aims to connect community

By SARA R. JOHNSON

Suburban News Publications

To celebrate the establishment of New Albany and Plain Township, a slew of activities are planned for the upcoming Founders Day.

For one afternoon, residents are invited to gather for the 33rd annual Founders Day.

The day-long celebration will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 16. This year's theme is Connecting the Fun.

A parade will kick off the day. Afterwards residents are invited to stop by New Albany's 2-5 Elementary School, 87 N. High St., for family friendly activities.

Admission is free as well as a few activities, but some entertainment comes at a minimal cost. No matter the cost the day's event is all about community, said Beckie Knore, a member of the Founder's Day Committee

"People need to feel connected with their community. It's coming out to meet your friends. People like being out with one another, meeting new people and having fun. I hope they take pride in their community," she said.

> ***People like being out with one another, meeting new people and having fun. I hope they take pride in their community."***
>
> **–Beckie Knore**
> Founders Day committee member

Residents can gather at 11 a.m. at the New Albany Church of Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, to view the parade.

About 60 floats are expected to be in the parade. Participants include local businesses, youth groups, politicians and clubs. Wilber and Janet Kindler will serve as the grand marshals.

With the parade route a mile long, the parade will travel on

See **AIMS,** *Page 2*

Summer projects won't hold up traffic, officials say

■ *The village will rely on federal stimulus funds to complete two of its five construction projects.*

By SARA R. JOHNSON

Suburban News Publications

As the weather continues to warm up, it's one indicator that it's time for the construction season to start.

New Albany is no exception. The village has a handful of projects planned to begin later this year, with the first to start around August. But this year, New Albany has found some financial relief as it has received about $686,000 from the federal government's stimulus package to help pay for two of the five slated projects.

New Albany Public Service Department had originally applied for $1.4 million in stimulus money, but Mark Nemec, the village's public service department director, said he is happy with what the village received.

"We are certainly appreciative of the stimulus money, and it helps us to do more things that we didn't anticipate doing," Nemec said.

The village received $500,000 to completely pay a project that involves the installation of a signal at the intersection of state Route 605 and Walton Parkway. The stimulus dollars also will pay for about 2,500 lineal feet of Route 605 that will be repaved.

"We already had that project slated to be completed this year, so basically we are saving $500,000. That money can then go to some other project that we have on our list," he said.

The plan is for the village to go out to bid in October, with the construction to tentatively take place in November and end in May 2010.

"In the peak hours in the morning, there is a lot of congestion at the intersection. If you are on Route 605, you don't have to stop, but if you are on Walton Parkway, people are sitting, and waiting for cars to pass. It's a long wait time," Nemec said. "The signal is going to help alleviate that issue."

The remaining $168,000 in

See **TRAFFIC,** *Page 2*

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20 ea. (1/4 lb) Beef Patties
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Family Value #2
3 ea. Cut-up Chickens
40 ea. (1/4 lb) Beef Patties
3 lbs Top Rump Roast
5 lbs Bulk Sausage
10 ea. Chopped Sirloins
2 lbs. Sliced #1 Bacon
20 ea. Split Chicken Breasts
16 Avg. Meals
ALL FOR $129.00
Family Value #3
10 Beef Rib Steaks
10 Beef T-Bone Steaks
6 lbs Beef Rump Roast
20 Pork Loin Chops
10 lbs Ground Beef
6 ea. Cut-up Chickens
16 Avg. Meals
ALL FOR $219.00 1/2 pkg. $119.00
Family Value #4
2 ea. Bnls Beef Chuck Roast
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10 ea. Loin Pork Chops
10 ea. Split Chicken Breasts
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3 lbs Italian Sausage
10 Avg. Meals
ALL FOR $119.00
Steak Value #5
5 each Rib Eye Steaks
5 each T-Bone Steaks
5 each Chopped Sirloins
10 each Beef Cubed Steaks
5 each Filet Mignon Steaks
5 each Boston Strips
5 each Bnls Sirloins
15 Avg. Meals
ALL FOR $199.00
Grill Party #6
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10 lbs. Italian Sausage
10 lbs. Beef Patties (40 each)
10 lbs. Boneless Chicken Breast
10 lbs. Pork Country Ribs
50 lbs. of Meat
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Family Value #9
3 lbs. Top Rump Roast
1 each Beef Chuck Roast
10 each Loin Pork Chops
3 lbs. Italian Sausage
5 lbs. Beef Ground Chuck
3 each Cut-up Chickens
10 each Split Chicken Breasts
3 lbs. Chicken Tenders
10 each Beef Chopped Sirloins
3 lbs Beef Stew Tips
10 Beef Cubed Steaks
ALL FOR $159.00
Family Value #10
3 lbs. Top Rump Roast
8 each Loin Pork Chops
4 each Rib Eye Steaks
3 each Cut-up Chickens
8 each Split Chicken Breasts
2 lbs. Sliced #1 Bacon
2 lbs. Bratwurst Links
2 lbs. Italian Sausage
10 lbs. Beef Patties (40 each)
ALL FOR $139.00
Family Value #11
3 lbs. Top Rump Roast
1 ea. Beef Chuck Roast
2 lbs. Beef Stew Tips
3 lbs. Pork Country Ribs
8 ea. Loin Pork Chops
8 ea. Beef Cubed Steaks
8 ea. Beef Chopped Sirloins
3 ea. Cut-up Chickens
5 lbs. Ground Chuck
ALL FOR $129.00
Family Value #15
8 T-Bone Steaks
8 Filet Mignon Steaks
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AIMS

Continued from Page 1

Market Street, U.S. Route and state Route 605, ending up at the elementary school building.

The event will feature amusement rides, as well as a children's area with face painting and a large Under the Sea-themed obstacle course.

New this year will be a photo booth and a mechanical bull.

The children will also meet various dressed-up characters, such as Winnie the Pooh, Elmo and Columbus Crew cat.

Attendees will be able to participate in a silent auction, with items from local businesses, as well as a Columbus Crew package.

Food vendors, as well as local churches, will sell an assortment of food, ranging from chicken sandwiches, hamburgers, waffle fries, funnel cakes and ice cream.

In addition, the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society will display many of its antique items in the elementary school's gym from noon to 5 p.m.

Blacksmith tools, wood work, toys, buttons and dolls are just a few articles that will be showcased, said Marilyn Saveson, society board member.

The society will also have boutique-type items for sale in the gym, and will also offer a craft corner where children can make ragdolls, beaded bracelets and sticker art.

To benefit the organization, the society will also have a bake sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that will be stationed near the other food vendors.

Also, New Albany's 2-5 Elementary School students will have their art on display with the Founders Day Art Show from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

With every student represented, about 1,400 works will be showcased inside the school.

"The kids really worked toward doing their best work. It (art show) gives them something to aim for, and they really do put a lot of hard work and effort into their work," said Pam McDowell, New Albany elementary art teacher.

Visitors will see an array of art mediums, including pencil drawings, oil pastels, acrylics, collages and ceramic pieces.

This weekend, McDowell and Kristen Howell, another New Albany elementary art teacher, will each pick 35 works of art to receive masterpiece ribbons.

Both teachers will select one student per grade – a total of eight students – to receive the Best of Show award. The works will be framed and displayed in the school's permanent collection.

"They are really proud of what they do and I am really proud to show it off to the community because it's really amazing work," McDowell said.

The historical society started Founders Day in 1976 in conjunction with the country's bicentennial.

For more information visit newalbanyfoundersday.com.

TRAFFIC

Continued from Page 1

stimulus money could fund a Kitzmiller Road pavement project.

Costing about $550,000, the project includes the repavement of 5.7 miles of Kitzmiller Road. Any road deficiencies will be fixed.

The road will be paved just north of Smith's Mill Road and south of Dublin-Granville Road.

The bid is scheduled to go out in July, and construction would most likely occur from August to October.

Along with the Kitzmiller Road project, the village plans to attach two more projects in the bid.

That includes the installation of turn lanes on state Route 161 and U.S. Route 62. An additional left-turn lane will be installed for the Route 161 east bound exit ramp at U.S. 62. Also, village officials plan to have a right-turn lane install on U.S. 62, at the Smith's Mill Road intersection. It will all cost about $90,000.

New Albany will repave five streets within the Cedar Brook subdivision, which will cost about $325,000, that will be included in the bid. The roads that will be repaved are Cedar Glen Court, Doran Drive, Cedar Brook Glen, Cedar Brook Drive and Cedar Brook Place.

None of the road projects this year will require any road closures, he said.

Lastly, the Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road Leisure Trail will see a trail extension at Hawksmoor subdivision to Brandon Road, a project that is estimated at $94,000.

Construction is expected to begin in September, as the bid date will be sometime in August.

All bid proposals are subject New Albany Village Council approval.

Dinner of Champions to honor football coach

The Columbus Dinner of Champions Gala is set for 6 p.m. May 21 at the Hilton Columbus-Polaris.

The evening begins with a silent auction and cocktail reception, followed by dinner and the program at 7:30 p.m.

The gala's honoree is Jim Tressel, head football coach at Ohio State University. He will be receiving the Norman Cohn Hope Award, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's most prestigious award.

In addition to being the guest of honor, Tressel has teamed up with the society to establish the Jim Tressel MS Fund. The fund will help address the challenges of those living with multiple sclerosis and enable

Paul Keels will serve as master of ceremonies.

All proceeds will be used to provide programs and services for Ohioans who have been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

For tickets, at $275 per person, call Wanda Scott at 1-800-667-7131.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

New Albany area students who were named to the winter quarter dean's list at Ohio University's Athens campus include:

Andrea Blamble, Jillian Bowers, Patrick Chantharangsy, Erin Derosa, Mary Eller, Erin Laviola, Whitney McLellan, Erin Phillips, Nicole Smith and Timothy Thompson.

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Founders Day declared NAWN's official day

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

New Albany Village Council members declared this year's Founders Day the official day for the New Albany Women's Network Tuesday night at their first May meeting.

Mayor Nancy Ferguson read a proclamation alongside members of the Founders Day committee and representatives of NAWN.

The Founders Day committee awarded the group its annual Community Connection Award.

"There can be no doubt what wonderful service the New Albany Women's Network does for the community," Ferguson said.

Council members also honored Janet and Wilbur Kindler as the grand marshals of this year's Founders Day parade on May 16.

"You have such a wonderful reputation in the community," Ferguson said.

Village administrator Joe Stefanov also asked council to waive the fees for the spring Easter egg hunt in the amount of $369 and for Founders Day in the amount of $6,994.25.

Stefanov said these would be considered in-kind donations to the respective organizations.

Most of the fees were for police officers and service department workers.

Metro Parks

Continued from page A1

The levy is expected to generate about $21.5-million annually for Metro Parks.

John O'Meara, Metro Parks executive director, said the levy will help fund the creation of three new parks: Rocky Fork Headwaters Metro Park in Plain Township, near New Albany; Scioto South, along the Scioto River in Grove City and Jackson Township; and Little Walnut, near Canal Winchester.

"We are excited to start working on the trails and expanding programs," he said.

The Plain Township park tentatively is scheduled to open in 2012, after the Metro Parks board acquires more land to make it the planned 1,200-acre area. It currently owns about 300 acres.

Steve Studenmund, the strategic-planning manager for Metro Parks and a member of Friends of Metro Parks, has said it takes about $10-million to open a Metro Park.

He said the parks system has about 100 acres donated from Grove City for the Scioto South park and has purchased 480 acres for about $4-million from the Eastside Nursery for the Little Walnut park.

He said the expectation is that each park would be about 500 acres to 600 acres.

Studenmund said the first goal now is to continue land acquisition.

"I hope that after tonight, we can continue like we have in 2009," he said.

He said Metro Parks officials like to open one new park each year. The Little Walnut and Scioto South parks likely would open around 2013-14.

In addition to the three new parks, Metro Parks leadership also plans to create more than 50 miles of new trails, increase educational opportunities for children and senior citizens and maintain the 15 existing parks over the next 10 years, he said.

Since passage of Metro Parks' 0.65-mill levy, the parks system has created five new parks, including Three Creeks, Glacier Ridge and Prairie Oaks, has paved 80 miles of new trails and has formed 34 miles of greenway trails.

The system has a total of about 24,000 acres, 130 miles of trails and 2,300 species of plants and animals and sees more than 6-million visitors each year, according to Metro Parks information.

Metro Parks spokesperson Peg Hanley said the biggest concern was in making sure Franklin County residents went to the polls to vote.

O'Meara said he is pleased that the parks system is able to move forward.

"We are grateful to the voters of Franklin County," he said.

Racing for the Symphony

(Above) Runners take off at the start of the New Albany Symphony 4-Miler at Market Square. The event is a fundraiser for the New Albany Symphony Orchestra.
(Below) At Market Square, Dane Youtz of Gahanna pins a number on the shirt of Brandon Coudon, also of Gahanna, before taking part in the race.

Photos by Ann Tormet/*ThisWeek*

Idol

Continued from page A1

than 600 people attended Eagle Idol Friday night.

Remy said she and other teachers are currently working to bring in author Patricia Polacco.

They are also working on a K-8 initiative through a New Albany Foundation grant.

"Those details are still being finalized," she said.

Kandi Murdock, a math intervention specialist in the middle school, said she thought the event was a great way for kids to showcase their talents in a way that is beneficial to the school district.

"I love seeing the kids out there in a different light," Murdock said.

Katie Macchi, a seventh-grader who performed "Stand by Me" with classmate Alex Savakinas, said she had been practicing for her duet for weeks.

Last year, Macchi said she performed "Just Breathe" at the square at Easton.

"It's a fun way for kids to interact with their talents," she said.

Remy said she thought the event went on without a hitch — or a real tornado.

"It was fabulous," she said. "The kids were excited, and they were supportive of one another. I just think it was a great evening that was centered around kids."

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Women's Network nabs community award

By SARA R. JOHNSON
Suburban News Publications

New Albany Village Council recognized a local organization for its contributions to the community, during its regular board meeting Tuesday, May 5.

The New Albany Founders Day Committee presented the New Albany Women's Network with the 2009 Community Connection Award at the meeting.

The committee established the award last year as a way to recognize local nonprofit and service organizations that contribute to the community.

The women's network focuses on women and children's issues.

The organization has raised more than $623,000 for local organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity and The Rosemont Center, and also gives a scholarship to two New Albany High School students a year.

The Founders Day Committee also gave Wilbur and Janet Kindler with the Grand Marshal Award. The Kindler's will be the grand marshal's in the Founders Day parade on May 16.

In other news, the New Albany Symphony Orchestra asked council for a $5,000 grant. If they receive the money, it would pay for the group's lease at the Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts.

Organizing last year, the symphony used 75 percent of its $80,000 budget to pay for its services and to bring in professional musicians, said Ann Sproule, symphony executive vice president.

About 20 percent of the group's revenue comes from ticket sales, with the rest from private donations, sponsorships and fundraising efforts, she said.

Recently, council allotted money to local nonprofit organizations, like the Community Events Board and the Founders Day Committee.

Council members told the Community Events Board in a past meeting that they would consider giving the group more money after they got a better look at the village's finances in July.

Council members also decided to also consider a grant to the symphony in July.

In other business, Council approved an ordinance to purchase six automated external defibrillators for about $10,000. Two will be given to the New Albany Police Department, as the remaining four will be used by the Joint Parks District.

FOCUS GROUPS

Wild Ones

The Wild Ones will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 9 at Inniswood Metro Park, 940 S. Hempstead Road.

Dave Marsolo will present a Native Plant Propagation workshop.

Marsolo will share methods for seed planting, plant divisions and cuttings. Plant material and seeds will be available.

LIBRARY NOTES

Upcoming programs and events at the New Albany branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, 200 Market St., are listed below. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information call 614-645-2275.

BOOK SALE

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New Albany gearing for 34th Founders Day

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

For the past 33 years, the residents of New Albany and Plain Township have been celebrating their heritage with a big festival in May.

This year will be no different.

Stacy Adkins, a member of the Founders Day planning committee, said the May 16 event, titled "Connecting the Fun," will host favorites like carnival rides, vendors and performers.

Founders Day will kick off at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Resurrection on Dublin-Granville Road and will roll down Market Street through the village center.

The rest of the day's festivities will be held at the New Albany K-1 building on Swickard Woods Boulevard until 5 p.m.

A few new things also will be part of this year's Founders Day celebration.

Adkins said the event will feature more inflatable rides, a bigger children's area, a photo booth, balloon twisters and face painters.

She also said cartoon characters would walk in the parade and would be available for photos during the day.

Players from the Columbus Crew, along with Crew Cat, also will be at the event.

She said a few other things would be added to the lineup, but they aren't set in stone yet.

For now, Adkins said, she and the other committee members are looking for nominations for a grand marshal. They will accept nominations until April 13.

Last year, residents Jim and Kathy Mayhorn served in the honorary position.

"We have not received any (nominations) yet," Adkins said.

She said they hope to announce the grand marshal by April 15, adding that the grand marshal would be honored during a May New Albany council meeting, along with the New Albany Women's Network, which is being honored with the committee's community-connection award.

Those who want to submit a grand-marshal nomination should send an e-mail to nafoundersday@aol.com or visit www.newalbanyfoundersday.com.

"The grand marshal is really just a kind of way to recognize an individual that has been active in the community," Adkins said. "There is a proclamation that will be read by the mayor. They walk around the event and talk to people."

Adkins said her favorite part of the event is in seeing the community come together.

"I love getting everyone together," she said. "My favorite part is just walking around and seeing the kids. It's definitely fun."

Community brief

'Women Helping Women' slated April 18

The women's group at the Church of the Resurrection will host its second annual "Women Helping Women" event April 18.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Church of the Resurrection Ministry Center on Dublin-Granville Road and will feature up to 70 local vendors.

Women helping Women is designed to provide a networking opportunity for the local businesses and to provide a "unique shopping experience for the ladies of the community," women's group member Julianne Lodrick said.

Admission is free and open to the public. The money raised will benefit the Dominican Learning Center of Columbus.

McCoy CENTER

Continued from page A3

Tickets also could be purchased online.

DeDee said about 50 percent of the 765 tickets already have been sold for the event.

"They need to buy their tickets before they are all gone," he said. "We've got a very good response thus far."

Craig Mohre, executive director of the New Albany Foundation, said the New Albany Co. and a donation from the Wexner family to the foundation are helping to underwrite the gala.

According to a press release about the event, more than $8-million has been pledged and gifted to the foundation in support of the McCoy center.

"Basically through the Signature Series, the foundation is able to support the gala last year and this year," Mohre said. "I think it will be a lot of fun."

He said his favorite part of the event is in seeing the community come together for a good cause.

"It's always fun to see all the folks in the community," Mohre said. "I will imagine it will be a very entertaining evening."

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NEW ALBANY NEWS

May 14, 2009 Volume 17, No. 6 50 cents

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There's no place like home, parade marshals say

SNP photo by Ben French

Janet and Wilbur Kindler of New Albany will be this year's grand marshals for the 2009 Founders Day Parade being held on Saturday, May 16. The parade kicks off at 11 a.m. at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

By SARA R. JOHNSON

Suburban News Publications

Lifelong New Albany resident Wilbur Kindler doesn't want to be anywhere other than New Albany, he said.

At 81 years old, he has seen both the village and Plain Township develop its businesses and school system in his time. But one thing has remained the same – his love for the community.

His admiration for the community hasn't gone unnoticed. In celebration of Founders Day on Saturday, May 16, Kindler and his wife Janet, 71, have been named grand marshals of the celebration that started 33 years ago.

The Kindler's will take the lead, as they ride in a convertible during the event's parade, which begins at 11 a.m. at the New Albany Church of Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

> ***"Really, there is no place I would rather be than right where I am."***
>
> **–Wilbur Kindler**
> Founders Day parade marshal

"I was very flattered and very pleased. I really don't know how to explain it. I had hoped that over the years that we (Janet and I) had contributed a lot to the community," he said. "It came as quite as a surprise."

Born on Harlem Road, Kindler graduated from New Albany High School in 1945. Also, all four of his children graduated from New Albany's high school.

"I found New Albany to be a very attractive area," he said. "I enjoyed my experience in high school. I felt it was a great place to bring up a family."

"I feel even better about it today," he added. "I love what has transpired in New Albany over the last 20 years. Really, there is no place I would rather be than right where I am."

Through the years, he has seen tremendous growth in the schools, as well as the community, he said.

"There was really no businesses in New Albany, other than a filling station and a grocery store. That was just about the extent of any business that was in New Albany. And, of course, Plain Township was primarily a farming community."

He had a stint with the U.S. Navy, and then started The Kindler Compa-

See MARSHALS, *Page 2*

Location of resident's barn has county investigating

■ *County engineers and FEMA will have to determine whether a resident's year-old barn lies in the floodway of Sugar Run Creek.*

By SARA R. JOHNSON

Suburban News Publications

Plain Township Zoning Officer J.B. Bowe has his hands full when it comes to a 60 by 130 square-foot barn that has some residents upset.

Bowe addressed the Plain Township Board of Trustees at its May 6 meeting about the barn usage, an issue previously brought before the trustees at a April 14 meeting.

Frustrated residents had approached the trustees about the use of the barn built on resident Dan Smucker's property on Bevelhymer Road.

Since then, Bowe has met with Bill Stehle, Franklin County's assistant prosecuting attorney. Stehle suggested Bowe send a letter to Smucker, after Bowe found Smucker in violation of the township's zoning codes.

He sent the letter April 30.

"We would like him (Smucker) to be able to come into compliance without any major problems, so I have written him a letter telling him what the violations are and asking him to respond to that," Bowe said.

On Tuesday, May 12, Smucker said he has responded and plans to meet with Bowe, along with legal representation, though a date has yet to be set.

"I do cooperate. I am still cooperating," Smucker said. "We are in communications."

Smucker's barn sits on land zoned agricultural, but some residents have said they are outraged Smucker uses the barn to house a community basketball court. Residents have even circulated a petition.

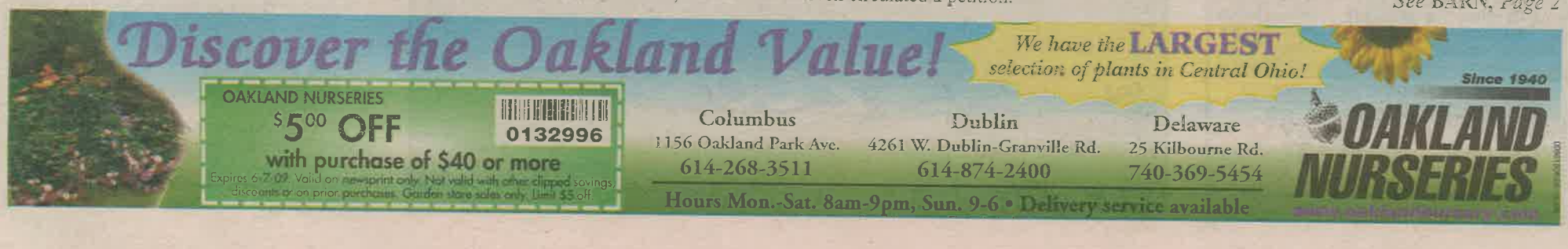
Smucker confirms the barn includes portable basketball hoops and a portable wooden basketball court.

"I have no kids. I thought it would be nice to do something for the community. It's just a place where they can shoot and work to get better," Smucker said.

Smucker, who already had a barn on his property, failed to secure the permit that is required to build a second structure more than 1,400 square feet, Bowe said.

Bowe said he can't confirm whether or not Smucker asked the township's zoning office

See BARN, *Page 2*



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20 ea. Split Chicken Breasts
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Family Value #3
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10 Beef T-Bone Steaks
6 lbs Beef Rump Roast
20 Pork Loin Chops
10 lbs Ground Beef
6 ea. Cut-up Chickens
16 Avg. Meals
ALL FOR $219.99 1/2 pkg. $119.99
Family Value #4
2 ea. Bnls Beef Chuck Roast
5 ea. Rib Eye Steaks
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10 ea. Split Chicken Breasts
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3 lbs Italian Sausage
10 Avg. Meals
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Steak Value #5
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5 each T-Bone Steaks
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3 each Cut-up Chickens
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2 lbs. Bratwurst Links
2 lbs. Italian Sausage
10 lbs. Beef Patties (40 each)
ALL FOR $139.99
Family Value #11
3 lbs. Top Rump Roast
1 ea. Beef Chuck Roast
2 lbs. Beef Stew Tips
3 lbs. Pork Country Ribs
8 ea. Loin Pork Chops
8 ea. Beef Cubed Steaks
8 ea. Beef Chopped Sirloins
3 ea. Cut-up Chickens
5 lbs. Ground Chuck
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Family Value #15
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MARSHALS

Continued from Page 1

ny, a New Albany-based business that has existed for about 40 years. His company sells women's apparel and accessories through local retailers.

Kindler served on the New Albany Board of Education for four years, as well as the school's parent-teacher organization. He also helped to run the community's Little League baseball organization for many years.

He and his wife now reside in New Albany on Bevelhymer Road.

Although thrilled to be a grand marshal, Mrs. Kindler is more excited about her husband's recognition, she said.

"I was excited for Wib because he's never lived anywhere but New Albany. It was exciting (for me), but I was more pleased for him. It's been his home. New Albany means a lot to him," Mrs. Kindler said.

The Kindlers have been married for five years. Both had spouses who died and after some time, they got together. They've known each other for the past 40 years, she said.

Born in Columbus, Mrs. Kindler moved to New Albany as a young girl and graduated in 1956 from New Albany High School.

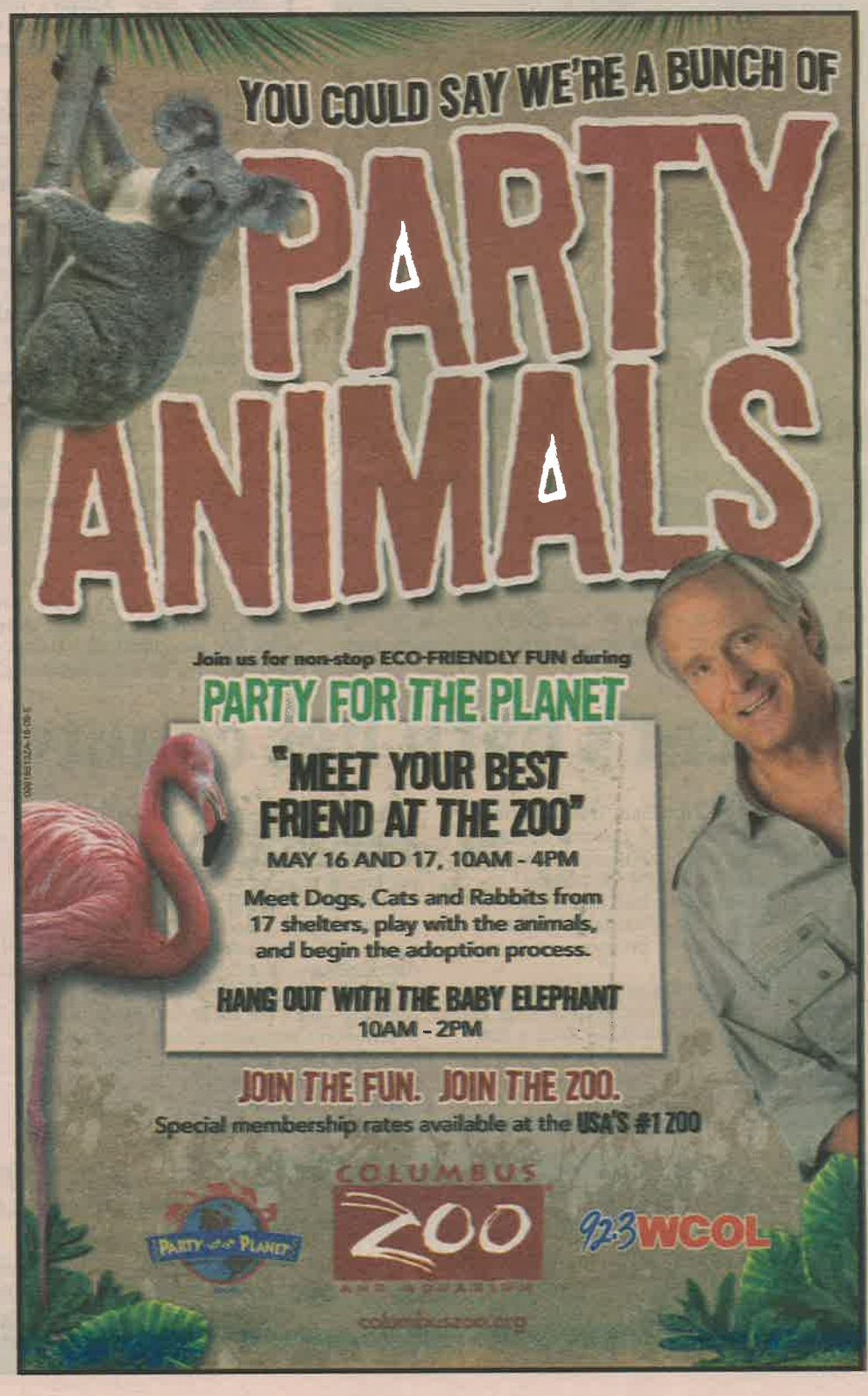
She worked as a stay-at-home mother as she had two children.

The Founders Day Committee selected the Kindlers as the grand marshals after they reviewed nominations from the community.

"From our standpoint, a lot of it was from just how active both Wilbur and Janet are in the community. It is how they are active now, and how they have been (in the past) active in the community," said Stacy Adkins, a committee member.

"We are definitely excited that we chose them," she added. "They have been such a great and vital part of the community that they deserve some recognition."

Founders Day festivities run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 16. Family-friendly activities will be held at New Albany's 2-5 Elementary School, 87 N. High St. throughout the event.



BARN

Continued from Page 1

if he needed a permit before he built the barn which has been up since April last year.

"It's all hearsay. The only thing I can do is notify him of any zoning violations and ask him to correct those," Bowe said.

The second violation involves the zoning of the land the barn sits on. Smucker needs a conditional use permit to operate the barn as a community basketball court. He would have to obtain that from the township's Board of Zoning Appeals, Bowe said.

A conditional use permit allows an owner to use a building for another use other than the intended use, Bowe said.

Bowe said that he has been in contact with many of the concerned residents.

"They know that we are working through the legal channels to get it corrected. They are waiting patiently for us to see that he follows the zoning," Bowe said.

In addition, some residents have said Smucker built his barn in a floodway that falls outside Plain Township. This issue falls under the responsibility of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners Economic Development and Planning Department.

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has also been notified of the situation.

"They (other entities) are staying in touch with me very adamantly and I made it very clear to them that my job was to enforce the zoning and try to make everyone comply with it," Bowe said, at the meeting.

If a building is built on a floodway, it can restrict the flow of floodwater, which can impact how much flooding nearby properties can get, said Matt Brown, a planner and flood plain administrator with the department.

A floodway spot is an area that includes a stream – in this case, Sugar Run Creek – and adjacent land that needs to be reserved.

The barn is located on a floodway, according to a flood insurance rate map put out by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Building in a floodway is a violation of the department's special resolution national flood insurance program regulation.

However, Smucker had relocated the creek earlier, which changed the boundaries of the floodway. Smucker's only intention in moving a portion of the creek was to remove dead trees and get rid of stagnant water, he said.

Smucker needs to have an engineer analyze the stream to show what the new boundaries should be, Brown said.

Then, FEMA would review the analysis and decide whether to approve the changes to the boundaries.

If it's determined that the barn is still in a floodway, it would need to be removed, Brown said.

Brown said the department is reviewing the matter with Smucker.

ThisWeek Community Newspapers

NEW ALBANY

50¢ Updated daily: www.ThisWeekNews.com May 21, 2009

Board rethinking need for fall levy

$16M carryover projected; Castle says options are renew, replace, let expire

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

The expiration of New Albany-Plain Local School District's permanent-improvement levy at the end of the year is not coming as a surprise to school board members.

With a recent bond-rating upgrade and a $16-million balance carryover projected for the end of the year, board members might look at options other than renewing the expiring 1.72-mill levy, though.

The original PI levy, which was voted on as a 2-mill levy in 1984, has been renewed every five years since 1989. It is now collected at about 1.72 mills.

Superintendent Steve Castle on Monday updated the board about the impending expiration.

"The board has three options: renew at the current 1.72 mills, which means no new taxes, replace, or the third option is to let it expire," Castle said. "If you let it expire, it would be under the condition that it could be absorbed into the operating fund and/or a future bond issue."

Castle said if the levy were renewed, the district would continue to collect at the 1.72 mills. If replaced, the levy would return to collecting at the full 2 mills.

Castle said the board would need to decide by the beginning of August. He said keeping the PI levy off the November ballot could help ease ballot fatigue.

"If the board decided not to place it before voters in 2009, it would allow us to stay off the ballot in 2009 and concentrate on the most critical need in the district today — facilities," Castle said.

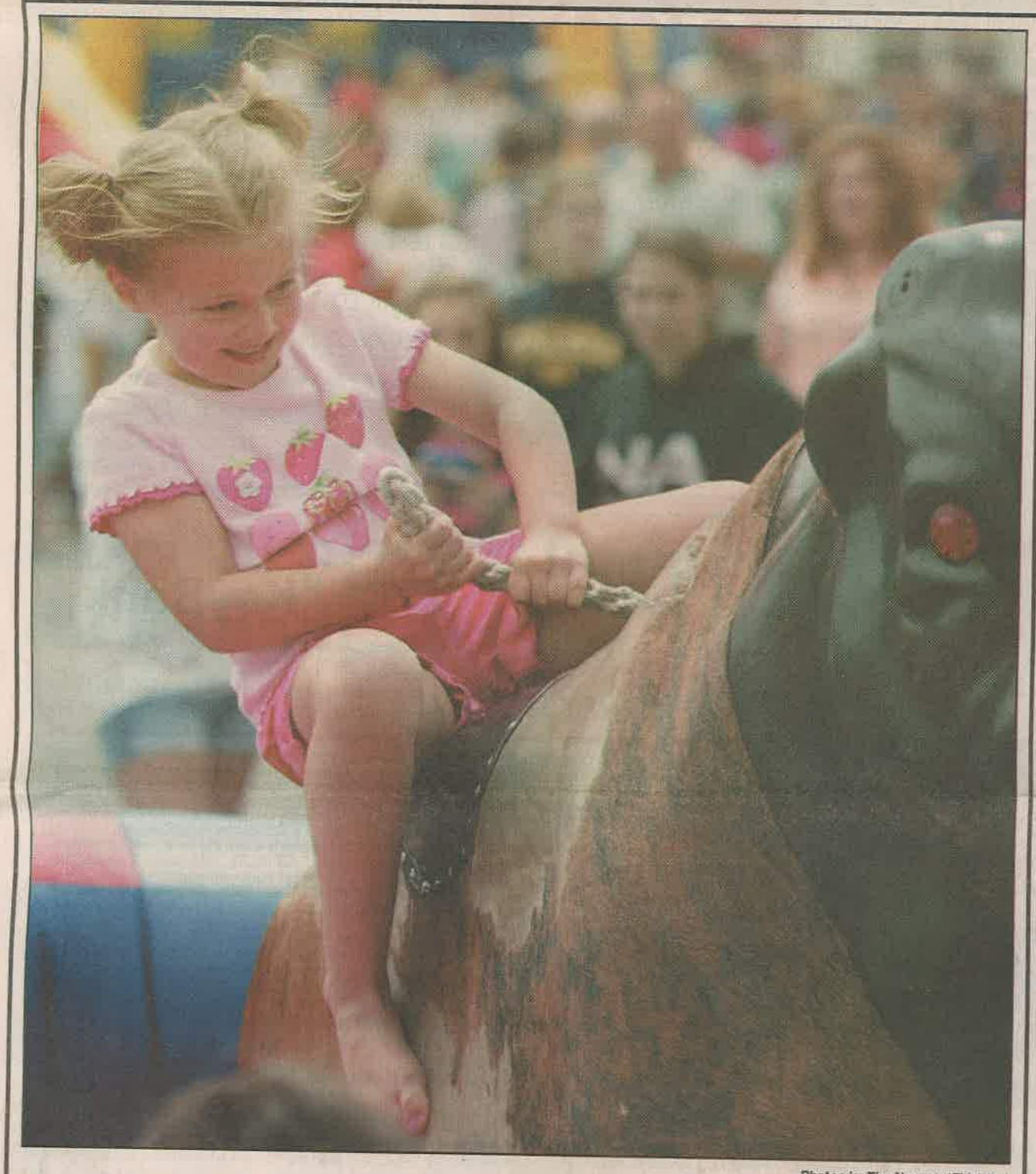
"After the three years, there is no other place to go," Castle said. "We have to make sure that nothing gets in the way of the bond issue."

Board member Mark Ryan said he thinks the district should form a group to look at levy options and future spending with the PI money.

"I think we should explore some of those types of questions in a similar finance committee," he said. "I think it could be useful and a good process for the district to undertake. I would like to see us move down that path."

Ryan said he sees the group as a hybrid between the former 70-member finance committee that worked on the November levy and the recent five-member com-

See **SCHOOL BOARD**, *page A2*



Photos by Tim Norman/*ThisWeek*

— 2009 —
New Albany Founders Day

Hundreds turned out for New Albany's annual Founders Day celebration Saturday, enjoying games, rides, the parade and other features. Above: Six-year-old Madison Briggs holds tightly to the reins while challenging a mechanical bull. At right: Six-year-old Presley Doss tosses a Hollywood Imprints T-shirt to people along the parade route, which traveled along Market

18K-square-foot data center
Insurance firm eyes New Albany for data center

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

The Motorists Insurance Group announced plans on May 13 to build an 18,000-square foot data center in the New Albany Research and Information District.

The project, which village council officially will consider in June, would be completed by 2010 and could provide the New Albany-Plain Local School District with a minimum of $850,000 by the end of the first 15-year period — the proposed length of village tax incentives.

Village spokesman Scott McAfee said council members would vote to offer the company a 75-percent property-tax abatement for the first 10 years and a 65-percent abatement for the following four years.

Scott McAfee

After that, the company would pay 100 percent of the property taxes.

The village also would collect income tax on the 14 jobs that the company has committed to create at the data center.

McAfee said the motion likely would be on council's June 2 agenda.

"There is really a lot of good news," McAfee said. "They are making a significant investment in the community."

He said the insurance group is looking to purchase seven acres.

See **DATA CENTER**, *page A5*

Village going online to auction surplus

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Bidders, be ready.

The New Albany service department is auctioning off surplus items to the highest bidder — online.

The village will open its inaugural online auction Monday, May 25, at www.asset-acutions.com, a Web-based company in Warrendale, Pa., that specializes in surplus, industrial and construction equipment from the public and private sectors.

Public-service director Mark Nemec said the village plans to sell 67 items on AssetAuctions.

"There is a list of items that are considered surplus now, and we want to get rid of them," he said. "It seems like this online auction is one of the best avenues to get rid of the things we don't need anymore and get a pretty good response from the community."

Some of the items include a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria with 90,387 miles, a 1986 Ford Econoline van with aerial lift and 94,536 miles, a log splitter, wooden book shelves and a wireless keyboard.

Items come from the service, information/technology, police and administrative departments.

See **VILLAGE**, *page A2*

NAHS seniors sign off on high school careers

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Each student signed two copies of a letter-of-intent certificate — one to be placed throughout the

Photos by Tim Norman/*ThisWeek*

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More New Albany Founders Day pictures are on page B4.

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See **VILLAGE**, *page A2*

NAHS seniors sign off on high school careers

By GAIL MARTINEAU
ThisWeek Staff Writer

Seated around circular tables in the high school cafeteria, jittery on their last day of school, nearly 240 New Albany High School seniors jointly committed to move onto life's next step.

Jeff Stahlman, NAHS college counselor, organized Monday's first senior signing day, which allowed all graduating seniors heading onto college, jobs and the military to officially — and publicly — commit to their post-graduation plans.

Each student signed two copies of a letter-of-intent certificate — one to be placed throughout the NAHS hallways and the other to be used to send the students' final transcripts later and to be returned as souvenirs.

Stahlman prefaced the event with a few statistics about the New Albany class of 2009.

Nearly 96 percent of graduating seniors are attending 86 different colleges and universities across the United States.

Those nearly 240 graduates

See **SENIORS**, *page A5*

Transparency • Fiscal Responsibility • Accountability

The mission of *Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility & Accountability* is to be a watchdog for the taxpayers of the New Albany-Plain Local School District by providing facts about, and shedding light on, the Board of Education and Administration's spending policies to ensure transparency, fiscal responsibility and accountability. Only then can we achieve true academic excellence for our children and our community.

Disappointed • Frustrated • Concerned

We are parents, school volunteers, accountants, secretaries, doctors, coaches, lawyers, business owners, retirees, empty nesters, independents, democrats and republicans. We are district taxpayers. We are passionate supporters of our schools. We supported the levy last November. And, yes, like you, we are disappointed, frustrated, and very concerned. But that doesn't mean we are any less supportive of our schools. We simply care too much to sit on the sidelines any longer. To learn how your tax dollars are being spent, and how this impacts excellence in the classroom go to **www.FiscalResponsibilityNow.com.**

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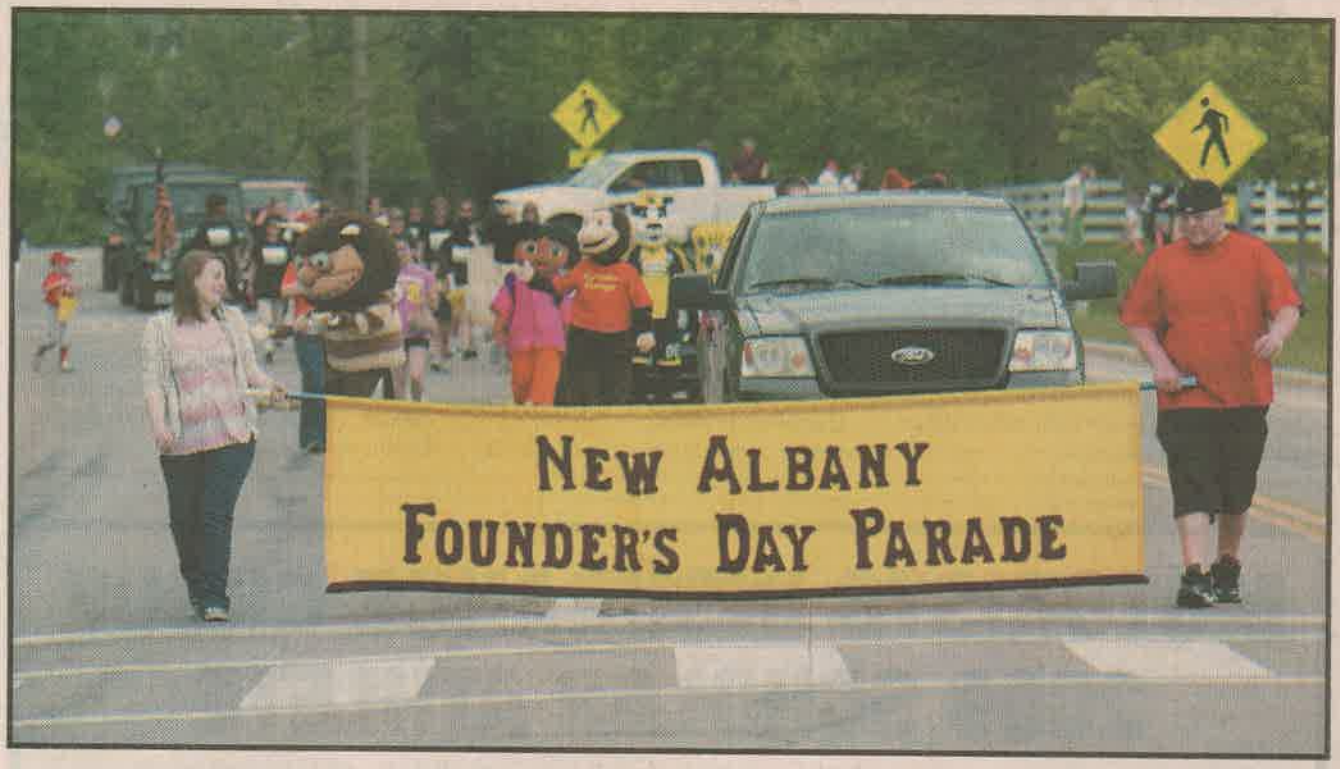

Photos by Tim Norman/ *ThisWeek*

Above: Meredith Frees and Ron Ramey hold the "New Albany Founders Day Parade" sign as they follow the emergency vehicles to start the parade along Dublin-Granville Road on Saturday.
At right: Eight-year-old Austin Nobile (left) and his brother, Shane, 11, hold on as they are spun around in the Round-Up ride at the New Albany 2-5 school building on North High Street.

Above: Tom and Nancy Mavasek drive a 1929 Model A Ford along U.S. Route 62, with their grandson, Alex Mavasek, standing on the car's passenger-side runner. A string of antique automobiles followed along in the Founders Day parade.
At left: Ten-year-olds Ana Schroeder (right) and Emma Guirlinger scream as they flip in the Rock-O-Plane ride at the New Albany 2-5 elementary school building.

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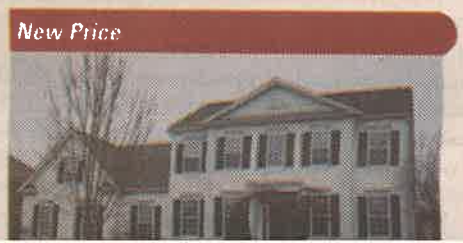

NEW ALBANY NEWS

May 21, 2009 Volume 17, No. 7 50 cents

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Council considers new traffic signal plan

■ *Planners want to add a traffic light at Johnstown and Central College roads and block left turns from Kitzmiller Road onto Central College.*

By SARA R. JOHNSON
Suburban News Publications

New Albany Village Council got a mixed reaction from residents at its May 19 meeting in regards to the revamping of a highly congested intersection.

Village Engineer Edward Ferris presented to Council and a small audience the village's plan to add a traffic signal at Johnstown and Central College roads. In the past four of five years, that area has seen about 40 accidents, Ferris said.

Along with the traffic signal, the plan includes a turning lane to be constructed on Central College and Johnstown roads in both directions. The estimated cost is $2.1 million.

"We have huge amounts of traffic that tries to get through that intersection every day. I

See COUNCIL, *Page 2*

News photo byTim Johnson

A ride on the wild side

Cailtine Smith, 10, holds on while riding the mechanical bull at the New Albany Founders Day event Saturday May, 16 at the school district's 2-5 elementary building. Smith was at the event with her father Mike Smith. The Smiths are from New Albany.

Layoffs and all tax base is still strong, officials say

By SARA R. JOHNSON
Suburban News Publications

Despite job layoffs in New Albany – most recently, Discover Financial Services – a couple of New Albany development experts said they remain positive.

Last week, Discover Financial Services announced it would layoff 4 percent of its 12,000 employees. With that decision came the loss of 50 jobs within the call center on New Albany Road.

It follows the layoff in late April of about 170 employees at Abercrombie & Fitch Co.'s home office, which is also based in New Albany. The company previously laid off 50 employees in January.

Despite the losses, the village has positioned itself to have a stream of businesses continue to settle in New Albany, said Jennifer Chrysler, New Albany's community development director.

"We are as busy as we have ever been with development prospects and that's all due to the planning efforts that have been in place over the years," she said.

The Motorists Insurance Group announced last week that it plans to build an 18,000-square-foot primary data center in the New Albany Research and Information District, a

See LAYOFFS, *Page 2*

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New Albany Founders Day

www.newalbanyfoundersday.com