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FORECAST PAGE 2

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2013

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BASKETBALL » Wells nets 19, becomes Hayes' all-time leading scorer Page 14

Study to gauge Sawmill Parkway's benefits

PAUL COMSTOCK
Staff Writer

No date has been set for the construction that will bring Sawmill Parkway to the city of Delaware, but the project is inching its way through the

preparations that ultimately will bring it north to U.S. 42.

The city has received funding to study and identify the economic benefits for Delaware County and the city once the route is extended from its current northern end

at Hyatts Road.

The city this week announced it received a \$5,000 Local Economic Assistance Program grant award from AEP Ohio, and \$5,000 from Consolidated Electric to fund the study.

"We would like to see (the

northern section of the parkway) under construction sooner, not later," said city Community Affairs Coordinator Lee Yoakum, "because we believe it will provide a great economic boost to the county and the region."

Chief Deputy County Engineer Robert Riley said the county has acquired all property needed to extend the parkway north to Bunty Station Road.

Once construction resumes,

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PASSING ON DR. KING'S LEGACY



GAZETTE | PAUL COMSTOCK

Francine Butler gestures with arms apart as she describes segregation to Liberty Community Center preschool students during a Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance Friday.

LCC preschoolers observe King Day

PAUL COMSTOCK
Staff Writer

Liberty Community Center's preschool students got some serious lessons about equality and inclusion during a Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance Friday morning.

The guest speaker was Francine Butler, an intervention specialist with Delaware City Schools.

Butler was assisted in her program by three students from Hayes High School's African-American Student Coalition, a group focusing on

multicultural diversity and open to all students. They were seniors Kierra Mayfield and Keaire Mitchell, and sophomore Olivia Johnson. Butler is the group's co-adviser.

With most of the center's 61 youngsters assembled in the gymnasium, Butler and the

Hayes students selected six preschoolers, three African-American and three white. With the children standing in separate groups, Butler explained that at one time, the two races were not allowed to

Please see **LCC**, Page 3

BV board member calls district-wide survey biased

DUSTIN ENSINGER
Staff Writer

A Buckeye Valley school board member said a planned district-wide survey is perceived by many residents to be driven by the "personal agendas" of other district officials.

Tom Kaelber criticized the direction the survey is taking after a sampling of the preliminary questions were unveiled Monday at a communications committee meeting.

"We need to slow down and develop a really fair and unbiased survey," he said. "We need to find out what a majority of voters desire for future elementary facilities."

Based on what he has heard about the question, Kaelber said he does not

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Trial set for Delaware man charged with thefts

KATE LIEBERS
Staff Writer

A Delaware City man accused of stealing from multiple victims had his first court appearance Friday following his Jan. 15 arrest.

Robert A. Chapin II, 31, was charged with one count of burglary, seven counts of theft, four counts of receiving stolen property, two counts of forgery, and one count each of identity theft and misusing a credit card.

The reported crimes span from July 11 to Aug. 31, many of which involve thefts from vehicles, and involve at least seven victims.

Between July 11 and 12, Chapin allegedly stole a Dublin Road resident's car and other property valued at

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CITY ART CENTER

Delaware artist seeks to demystify abstract art

KATE LIEBERS
Staff Writer

"Whatever, I don't get it," and "My kid could do that," are phrases Delaware resident David Senecal said he hears too often from people in abstract art galleries.

These misconceptions inspired him to initiate a different kind of abstract exhibit. He wanted to dissect an artistic work into its basic components: color, line, shape, texture, form and space.

He wanted the exhibit, aptly named "Color, Line and Shape," to "demystify" the genre.

Senecal recruited four

other artists to participate. Each artist's collection strives to highlight two or three of those artistic basics. Senecal's work, for example, focuses on texture and color, while another artist's package is a study in color and shape.

In essence, the gallery, as a whole, encompasses all the standard elements of art.

The project was meant to primarily be an educational experience for the gallery's visitors, Senecal said. The artists involved are not ones who necessarily specialize in abstract art — Senecal is a

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GAZETTE | KATE LIEBERS

Delaware artist Dave Senecal's work is part of the 'Color, Line and Shape' exhibit on display at the City Art Center through Feb. 23.

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YOUTH

Big Walnut's Abigail Painter is the Columbus State Community College Teen of the Week. Read her story on page 4.

WEATHER



PAGE 2

ONLINE POLL at delgazette.com

If you were a member of Congress would you have voted for the "fiscal cliff" bill approved Jan. 1?
 Yes No Undecided

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS
Should laws establishing more regulation of assault weapons be considered?
 Yes 53% No 45% Undecided 2%

LCC

Continued from Page 1

attend the same school, live near each other or even socialize together.

Bringing the children together, Butler next described how the end of segregation, allowing the children to be together and be friends, is a legacy

of Dr. King.

Butler also told the children about Ruby Bridges, who as a 6-year-old was the first student to integrate the all-white William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans in 1960.

Bridges was, Butler told the children, "Your age or a little bit older."

The students helped

create artwork, based on themes related to Dr. King's messages, that was used to decorate a "Unity Tree" created for the event. Painted hearts were on the branch for infants, "friendship bells" were on the branch for toddlers and 2-year-olds, hand and footprints were on the branch for 3-year-olds, and peace doves

were on the branch for the bridge-to-kindergarten class.

The LCC childcare center is a nonprofit preschool at 207 London Road. It accepts children from ages 6 weeks to 6 years, and emphasizes cognitive and language development, music and movement, motor and creativity skills, and creative

arts. The center provides meals and snacks for the children.

The center's rates are based on income, with discounts available for up to 300 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

The center's teachers are Sue Bame and Jennifer Button, infant 1 class; Mary Gould, infant 2; Yolanda Gill, toddlers;

Mellisa Mulligan, 2-year-olds; Marci Young and Ann McKenzie, preschool; and Katherine Grashel, Stella Eufrazio and Mary Lewis, bridge to kindergarten. Marshal Hammon conducts special programs and Eufrazio is the Spanish teacher.

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STUDY

Continued from Page 1

he said, it will continue until the parkway reaches U.S. 42. The final phase of the plan would take the road west to Section Line Road.

The current planning phase, Riley said, involves negotiations between the county and city, focusing on financing of the parkway once it enters the city.

The parkway is expected to make more than 1,600 acres near the existing industrial park available for development, creating 2,500 jobs, the city said in a written release.

The study will begin this month and should be completed by March. It

also will examine how the parkway can improve north-south travel.

A Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce joint task force on business attraction, expansion and retention recommended the study. The task force included industrial park executives, plus Chamber and city officials.

AEP Ohio's Local Economic Assistance Program grants support projects "that promote the retention and attraction of manufacturing jobs and investment," the release said. Such projects are expected to pave the way for additional funds and provide benefits to an area or region.

"We are pleased to be able to provide financial

support to help facilitate economic development projects that help to bring jobs and prosperity to local communities," Pablo Vegas, AEP Ohio president and chief operating officer, said in the release.

Since 2005, AEP Ohio has awarded 165 grants totaling \$403,875 to support projects in communities and counties in its service territory.

"Moving Sawmill Parkway forward will strengthen the county and the region and we are pleased to help with this study," Dan Boysel, Consolidated Electric's director for economic development, said in the release.

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SURVEY

Continued from Page 1

believe district residents are being presented with enough options for elementary schools. He feels the questions should be designed to gauge the interest of residents in a centralized elementary school, renovating or building new community elementary buildings.

"We do need to address elementary facilities," he said. "But our BV residents must be involved. The survey has to have all options."

Kaelber has been pushing for a district-wide survey for months, but now says he may ask to not have his name attached to the final product.

"The board is funding this survey and I feel it's my responsibility to see that final survey," he said. "I do not want my name attached to some survey I haven't even seen."

District resident DeDe Houchard, a Radnor-area resident that has publicly supported the district's efforts to create a centralized elementary school,

also said some of the questions seemed off the mark.

"I think what the community is looking for is what are people willing to pay for," she said.

"They need to put it on hold and look at the questions a little more," she said.

District officials plan to do just that. The survey was originally scheduled to be conducted next week. However, after gathering feedback from the community on Monday, Interim Superintendent Mark Tingley said it may be pushed back to the end of the month while questions are reviewed and revised.

"Folks thought there were a lot of questions about a one-building setup," he said. "I think people had really good feedback and really good comments."

Board president Tom Sheppard said the accusations of personal agendas driving the scope and shape of the questions is unfounded. The creation of the questions has been left entirely up to Fallon Research and Communications, the company tapped to conduct the survey.

"We wanted the professionals to do the job that they were hired to do," he said.

To avoid injecting bias into the survey, Sheppard said it is unlikely board members will have the opportunity to review the finalized questions.

"To try to keep the survey as unbiased as possible, we may not see the final questions," he said. "That way it is truly done by an outside firm without the bias of board members."

The criticism came as no surprise, Sheppard said. But he will not let that deter him from doing what he feels is in the district's best interest, he said.

"As with a lot of things, you can't make everybody happy," he said. "We're trying to do the right thing for the entire district."

The survey is expected to cost the district \$12,500. It will have a sample size of 400 and a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percent.

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SENECAL

Continued from Page 1

professional multimedia designer — but those who supported Senecal's determination to offer art spectators a new perspective of this often misunderstood style.

For this reason, the artists were asked to set their own personal statements aside while completing the pieces for this exhibit, Senecal said.

He characterized the gallery as formalism, or "art for art's sake."

While the artists share the same mission statement, their individual styles are clearly evident in the collection.

Senecal, for instance, manipulated his canvas into a three-dimensional landscape of ridges and valleys. The coiled strands of textiles swirl like

exposed veins in a sea of blue, green and pink hues.

Senecal's work is accompanied by that of Jay Moffett, Peggy Mintun, Michael Bush, and Tom Dewey — all pieces harmonizing as one abstract work, spliced open and spilling onto the walls of the gallery.

The artists do more than show, they will also tell abstract-curious spectators about their work.

An Artists Talk forum is scheduled for 4 to 6 p.m. today at the City Art Center, 22 E. Winter St. The public is invited to this informal discussion, in which all five artists in the exhibit plan to be available to answer questions about the pieces.

Senecal, who works in Columbus but lives in Delaware, praised the gallery. Just as the "Color, Line and Shape" exhibit aims to make abstract art

more approachable, the gallery itself aspires to make art, in general, more accessible.

He said many people have the misconception of art being an elitist industry, where its creators and consumers are found only in the most metropolitan, high-fashion cities.

The location, Senecal said, is not what makes art "art."

"I really believe art belongs to everyone," he said.

The gallery is open to the public between 6 and 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and by appointment. The exhibit is to be featured until Feb. 23 at the City Art Center, located near the Strand Theatre.

More information is available online at cityart-center.org.

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CHAPIN

Continued from Page 1

more than \$1,000, as well as property valued at less than \$1,000 from another Dublin Road resident.

Inside the stolen car, which was ditched at a dead end, was a cigarette butt with evidence linking Chapin to the crime, Delaware County assistant prosecutor Brian Walter said.

Chapin is also charged with committing a fifth-degree felony and first-degree misdemeanor theft at a Moore Road residence on July 13 and, the next day, committing a first-degree misdemeanor theft from another residence.

The burglary charge, as well as one of the misdemeanor charges, stem from an Aug. 9 incident, during which Chapin allegedly entered an unlocked vehicle, used the controller within the car to open the garage door, then stole items from the garage as well as the car parked within it.

The receiving stolen property, forgery, misuse of a credit card and identity theft charges stem from an Aug. 24 incident, when Chapin refused to show his ID when attempting to purchase

an iPad with a credit card, Walter said.

Chapin was found to have three stolen credit cards in his possession at that time, Walter said. The forgery charges stem from signing receipts for purchases made with stolen credit cards, he added.

The last crime included on Chapin's indictment took place on Aug. 31, when he allegedly received stolen property.

Walter said his mother notified law enforcement in August, when she found a box in Chapin's room containing items she believed to be stolen.

He faces one second-degree felony charge, one fourth-degree felony charge, nine fifth-degree felony charges, and five first-degree misdemeanor charges.

The second-degree felony burglary carries a charge of three to eight years in prison and fines of up to \$15,000. The 11 charges of fourth- and fifth-degree penalties carry charges of six to 12 or 18 months in prison and fines of up to \$2,500 and \$5,000. The five misdemeanor charges carry up to 180 days in prison and a maximum fine of \$1,000.

Chapin pleaded not guilty to all counts Friday at the Delaware Common

Pleas Court.

Judge Everett Krueger set his bond at \$75,000 after prosecutors requested a high cash bond.

Chapin's trial was scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. April 9 in Krueger's courtroom.

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