

OPEN

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should be opened back up for now. He said the docks will only be used at certain times of the year while the issue could be revisited in 9-10 months when the docks are in operation.

He also suggested the installation of pedestrian crossing signs at West Fort and Clinton as well as a portable sign displaying motorists' speeds. This might encourage them to comply with the 25-mile-per-hour limit.

"I'm guessing a lot of people are not driving 25," he said.

Just before the commission agreed to reopen West Fort, Leonard said he hadn't heard "a strong position one way or another" on keeping the street closed.

As for the docks, resident Bill Meek said their location is a "terrible area"

cluttered with river bottom debris. Meek asked why they aren't being installed in Kingsbury Park or a more favorable spot.

On another topic, Leonard said the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit on East Second Street, from the Auglaize River bridge to Douglas Street, will increase to 35 miles per hour.

The commission had no decision to make on the matter because, noted Leonard, that section doesn't meet state criteria for a 25-mile-per-hour zone.

He said city traffic manager Dennis Cline surveyed street frontage and discovered that less than 50 percent is used by businesses. A 25-mile-per-hour zone requires that half the frontage be business oriented.

In other business, the commission: — discussed removing some parking time limits on Third and Fourth streets, east of Clinton Street, as

requested by the State Bank and Trust Co. The commission plans to revisit the matter during its next meeting.

— reviewed alternate routes suggested by Rausch to keep trucks out of the downtown. One goal, he indicated, was to prepare trucking companies for the temporary closure of North Clinton Street at U.S. 24 next year. The interchange there will be replaced with a wider structure by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

— discussed solutions for limiting left turns from North Clinton Street into Circle K gas station. Rausch said Circle K officials indicated their willingness to at least discourage delivery trucks from making such turns.

— received a request from resident Del Hammon for restricting parking on the north side of Minneapolis Street. Hammon said there is concern about the impact of parking on snow removal.

Board lauds school for state recognition

Continental Elementary honored for high achievement in studies

CONTINENTAL — The Continental Local Board of Education on Tuesday congratulated its elementary school for being named a School of Promise by the Ohio Department of Education.

The recognition was for high achievement in reading and mathematics for all groups of students despite having more than 40 percent of its student population coming from low-income backgrounds. This selection places the school among an elite group of 134 schools across the state.

"Students, staff parents and our entire community should all be proud of his honor," said Jones.

"It demonstrates our commitment to closing achievement gaps and helping students reach higher levels of achievement. Brian Gerdeman (elementary principal) and the teachers have really worked hard to improve achievement levels for every student," Jones added.

Jones reported that the district has not experienced the high absentee-

ism from the flu that has hit many other area districts.

"We only have 20 students absent today at the elementary school and even fewer at the high school," said Jones. "We have been very fortunate so far."

In other business, the board:

— approved a resolution supporting Vantage Career Center's 1.05-mill bond issue on the Nov. 3 ballot. If approved, the state will contribute \$16.2 million for the building project.

— approved Jennifer Miller as a part-time special needs teacher and Cynthia Brown as custodian.

— approved Tracy Potts (chairman), Lori Recker, Jill Krutsch, Joel Mengerink and Brian Gerdeman for the local professional development committee for the current school year.

— accepted the following donations: \$864 from a community fund-raiser for special education; and \$300 from the Pioneer Days to the band fund.

PAULDING

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"It gives us a chance to showcase our library, which is second to none, as far as history and beauty. We have a great turnout (at the reception) and the fellowship is warm. We're just honored."

Paulding Mayor Greg White said having the justices in town is great.

"I think it is a wonderful opportunity for the village, especially for the students," he said. "It's also good to place a face to a name. You hear about the justices a lot. It makes it more personal to put a name to a face. I'm really looking forward to sitting in on a case, too."

The four cases the court will hear today were selected because of their subject matter and/or proximity to Paulding County. One case, Stammco LLC vs. United Telephone Co. of Ohio, is out of Fulton County.

Man in Toledo terror case sentenced to 20 years in prison

TOLEDO (AP) — A federal judge in Ohio has sentenced a man to 20 years in prison for a terrorist plot that the government said targeted U.S. troops.

Mohammad Amawi had faced up to life in prison.

Amawi is the first defendant to be sentenced in the case. He and two other men were found guilty last year of plotting to recruit and train terrorists to kill American soldiers in Iraq.

Defense lawyers say the three were set up by an undercover FBI informant.

In sentencing Amawi today, U.S. District Judge James Carr said the informant sought the men out and if he had not been involved, it was only slightly likely the trio would have gotten together.

One of the other men, Marwan El-Hindi, was scheduled to begin his sentencing hearing today. He and another man, Wassim Mazloum, also face up to life prison.

Lawyers for all three say the men were manipulated by an undercover FBI informant who recorded the men for approximately two years beginning in 2004 while they talked about training in explosives, guns, and sniper tactics.

A former U.S. Army soldier, Darren Griffin, was the key witness against the three men at their trial in 2007, testifying he won their trust by posing as a disgruntled soldier who converted to Islam.

He secretly recorded his conversations with the men for about two years until they were arrested.

Northeastern board reviews flu outbreak, after-school program

JEWELL — Updates on flu absenteeism and the 21st Century after-school program highlighted Tuesday's meeting of the Northeastern Local Board of Education.

"We continue to be aggressive and proactive to combat the flu outbreak by constantly applying disinfectants to high traffic areas such as desks and door knobs," superintendent Jim Roach said this morning. "We are working with the local health department and state health department.

"We also encourage parents to keep their children home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without medication."

Roach said board members were pleased to hear that the 21st Century program, which offers tutoring and social activities after school hours, was off to a good start and has been well-received by students and parents.

"We have 93 elementary students participating and 32 at the junior high, and those numbers are grow-

ing," said Roach.

"This is a high-impact effort which benefits students academically and socially."

Turning to action items, the board approved an updated five-year financial forecast as presented by treasurer Sue Garmyn. The district projects general fund cash balances of \$2.9 million on June 30, 2010; and \$2.3 million on June 30, 2011.

"Our state revenue is actually down this year compared to last year," said

Roach.

"We will continue to be conservative with our tax dollars and tighten our belts. The entire state is feeling the pinch, including families and businesses," he said.

In other business, the board:

— approved supplemental contracts for Brad Hurst, seventh-grade boys basketball; Jacci Bergman, freshman girls basketball; Rich Thiel, elementary girls basketball; Tim Greear, assistant wrestling; Rusty

Slattman, elementary wrestling; Connie Higbee, wrestlerettes; and Lisa Maxwell and Brian Wonderly, science fair co-advisers.

— accepted the donation of a new Tinora Elementary activity yard signs from Tinora Elementary PTO, Defiance Area Foundation, Rome Shepherd and Beilharz Architects.

— accepted the donation of material and labor to construct the junior high football storage cabinets from Dr. Brad Pittman.

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Henry commissioners adjust health plan premiums

NAPOLEON — Henry County commissioners on Tuesday made a set of changes to the county employee health insurance package that are designed to lessen the contributions for participants on the single plan.

Commissioner Tom Von Deylen said the total cost of the plan went up 8 percent. He said each department will continue to fund 79 percent of the plan, with the other 21 percent paid by the employee.

Individuals participating in the county's Pro Plus 1500 plan will now pay \$40 per month instead of \$50, while families will pay \$225 instead of \$150.

Individuals participating in the Pro Plus 500 plan will now pay \$75 instead of \$110, while families will pay \$225 instead of \$150.

The county has also made available a health savings account plan, which pays 100 percent of claims after deductibles of \$2,700 for single persons and \$5,400 for families are met.

Turning to other business,

the board approved assessments for three county water line projects for the 2009 tax year.

The Texas water line extension serves 12 parcels of land, and the 2009 tax assessments total \$5,152.

The Grelton water line assessments cover 35 parcels of land and total \$17,664.

Grelton water line extension assessments for the

2009 tax year are placed on three parcels of land and total \$2,850.

In other business, the board:

— approved an agreement with Reiser Realty to handle the county auction on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

— set a public hearing for Nov. 17 at 11:30 a.m. to consider vacating grass streets and alleys in the village of

Pleasant Bend.

— accepted a \$3,000 proposal from Parthemer Communications of Toledo to activate and program the phone system on the third floor of the county courthouse.

On the agenda for Thursday, the board will conduct a planning meeting at 8 a.m. and hold an executive session regarding personnel matters starting at 9:30 a.m.

2009 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

OCTOBER 24, 2009 - 10:00 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

in the West parking lot of Johns Manville located at 925 Carpenter Road, Defiance co-sponsored by Johns Manville, LaFarge Corp., ERG and the Defiance, Fulton, Paulding, Williams County SWD



ITEMS ACCEPTED in original containers with manufacturer's labels: Paint, Thinners, Turpentine, Lighter Fluid, Polishes, Used Oil, Old Gasoline, Kerosene, Antifreeze, Florescent Bulbs, Mercury & Mercury Containing Devices, electronics, computers, TVs (limit: 1 TV per vehicle), Batteries (vehicle batteries, Ni-CD, Lithium Ion and Alkaline household batteries).

For residents of the Four County Solid Waste District ONLY.

No materials accepted from businesses.

For more information call the Solid Waste District Office at (419) 782-5442.



Jeff Heitz
Retired Television Journalist
Honorary Chairperson
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SPEAKING OUT
A 'Perfect Storm' In Health Care

"The wave of Baby-Boomers approaching retirement age and the rapidly changing long-term care regulatory landscape will challenge every long-term care provider.

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'Everyone Deserves A Home' Campaign of Caring, I am proud to lend my support.

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seniors and disadvantaged children.

"I ask you to generously support this \$5 million 'Everyone Deserves A Home' Campaign of Caring. You can make your gift online by visiting the Lutheran Homes Society web site at www.LHSOH.org or by calling 1-866-371-0807."

You are cordially invited

to an Open House Highlighting Our Private Rehabilitation Suites and Garden Unit

Wednesday, October 28th, 2009
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The afternoon will feature food, light refreshments and guided tours

You'll also have the opportunity to:

Meet Earle Bruce
former OSU Football Coach



In 1979, Bruce went to The Ohio State University, succeeding his friend Woody Hayes. In his first year he posted an undefeated regular season, a Big Ten title and a trip to the Rose Bowl. Bruce was named National Coach of the Year by both the Football Writers and Coaches Associations. In 2002, Bruce received one of sport's highest honors when he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

We hope you will join us in the celebration at Brookview Healthcare Center

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