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"A Day in the Life of..."

Community Reflections 2016 | March 26 | Section A

Faith, family and tradition drives Glockner

By Wayne Allen
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In the greater Portsmouth region the Glockner name can be associated with the automobile industry. Tim Glockner said he intends to keep and enhance the Glockner name as the company evolves to meet the needs of consumers.

Glockner said his catholic education lasted 16 years when he attended Notre Dame High School and Xavier University in Cincinnati.

While at Xavier he received a Bachelor's Degree in Entrepreneurial Studies.

Glockner said he met the love of his life, Monica, while in high school and they've been together for 24 years.

Glockner returned to the area in June of 1998 and went to work for the family business.

"My dad (Andy) encouraged me to do whatever made me happy and he would support me in whatever I did," Glockner said.

With that in mind Glockner said he felt a sense of obligation to carry on a legacy business.

"My mom tells the story, when I was 12 I announced to the family, I was going to take over the family business," Glockner said.

He said if there's one constant thing in the automobile industry it's change.

"When I was in college, there was no internet or email. I actually went to the library to study," Glockner said. "I got to see the evolution of the car business and developed our first website."

He said technology has taken car dealerships from a historic model to being a digital dealer.

Going digital has allowed Glockner to expand their market area and it's added a new level of transparency to the car buying process.

"The whole car buying process (that came with the digital age) is much more customer friendly and that serves us well," Glockner said.

He said with the rate of speed technology changes, employees of Glockner Enterprises are constantly being trained in the latest technology.

"When I started in 1998, we had at the Honda Toyota Store six computers," he said. "Now, every single employee has their own computer, including the technicians. Most of our employees have multiple screens, they will have their own smart phone, they'll have tablets and other diagnostic tools," Glockner said.

Over the course of any given work week Glockner travels between five different locations, visiting with customers and employees.

"I have a routine schedule, I'll spend one day, per week at each of our stores," Glockner said. "On Mondays I'll start at the Honda Toyota Store, which is kind of home base for me and it's where I started in 1998."

He said while at the locations he will meeting with key people and talk about defining the Glockner Way.

"We find industry best practices and implement those across all the stores, so when a customer visits any of our stores they can expect the same process and the same treatment," Glockner said.

Glockner said he spends a great deal

See GLOCKNER | 6A

Courtesy photo

In the greater Portsmouth region the Glockner name can be associated with the automobile industry. Tim Glockner said he intends to keep and enhance the Glockner name as the company evolves to meet the needs of consumers.

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Evolving, expanding in more ways than one

By Portia Williams
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PORTSMOUTH — Trinity Business Group (TBG), LLC located at 613 Chillicothe Street in Portsmouth, continues both evolve and expand in more ways than one.

Sean Boldman, President/CEO of TBG, LLC is a native of Rosemount who graduated from Clay High School, and Shawnee State University. Boldman and his wife Shelly have been married for 11 years.

"While in high school I started working at Radio Shack, and then went Shawnee State, graduated and then went into the insurance business for myself," he said. "My upbringing was Boy Scouts, went up through the Boy Scouts and became an Eagle, which is the highest rank in Scouting community, and then went on to become an honor member within the Scouting community, and that definitely has played a major role in my development of leadership and things like that. It is the foundation of my business mindedness.

TBG gives businesses that are housed in the downtown facility the freedom to operate their business without being preoccupied with other concerns.

"It is Trinity Business Group, so we have all of these business oriented goals, providing corporate office spaces, and allowing the business owners to do what they do best, which is to run a business, and not run the building," he said. "We had all of these ideas, and the same time we have a goal of being the light of Christ in the community, so the base of the company is a Christian perspective. We don't go out there and preach on the streets, or anything like that, but at the same time it is the underlying goal of everything."

"We do a lot of things, a lot of outreach things. We work with a lot of different communities." - Sean Boldman

In addition to the seven businesses that operate out of TBG, a cluster of small groups meet there as well, utilizing the fully-equipped, state of the art conference rooms.

"We do a lot of things, a lot of outreach things. We work with a lot of different communities. LifePoint Church has their office in this building," he said. "Because of the building, and because of the ability of the building with all of the technology that we have there is anywhere between six or seven small groups that meet in the building throughout the week. And so, that has kind of been a positive thing, and a lot of fun to be able to do that."

Boldman said his work day transcends the typical work day.

"There is no typical day here at Trinity, it depends on the day. I am a member of the Rotary Club, a past president, and assistant district governor of the Portsmouth Rotary Club, so depending on what Rotary has going on that definitely depicts my day," he said. "On Mondays from 11:45 to one we have a meeting at Shawnee State University unless the University is closed, so that is always right there in the middle of my Mondays. Where most business owners, managers, most anybody, Monday is a critical day to not leave the office, I am already out of it, but I love being involved with the Rotary Club."

In addition to TBG, he also operates American Family Insurance out of the building, as well as.

"I usually walk into the building at about 7:30 in the morning, and I sit down and start doing the work. We are still a small business, so maybe I am the president and CEO of Trinity Business Group, and the agent/owner of American Family Insurance, but I still have to do all of the little things that no business owner necessarily wants to do," he said. "I normally try to get through some paper work in the mornings. Some days as early as eight o'clock there's a Master Mind Program that happens here at Trinity. It is a focused study group through Reach Success Coaching of business owners, and managers and people come and they go through an in depth study of a leadership style book. Those sessions happen until about 9 a.m.

Rendering hospitality to those who come TBG is something that is important to Boldman.

"So there are people coming in going to the conference room and I am typically kind of the host of the building, so when people come in I am usually around to greet them and say hello, and to make sure they're acquainted with the facility," he said. "After they have been here a lot they have an idea of how everything works, and they will come in and grab coffee or water, or maybe chit-chat a bit before they go up to their meeting."

He describes the work flow of TBG as, "organized chaos."

"Then the day just kinds of turns into an organized chaos, because there are so many businesses. They are able to work independently, and they really have no concern of how Trinity is running, but just like a major hotel, they're are a lot of little pieces and a lot of little things that are constantly moving around in order to make sure that people constantly have good experiences, and I am kind of that orchestrator of going through and making sure that the building is clean as it should be," he said. "I am fortunate that we have a very good staff. We are very task oriented, and everybody knows their tasks."

Portia Williams | Daily Times

Sean Boldman, President/CEO of Trinity Business Group, LLC on the second floor of his building which houses the offices of seven other local businesses.

Having multiple businesses operate out of one building has created an atmosphere of warmth, and connection.

"We are really like a family, and a lot of it is due to the fact that we are that type of live-in style office," he said. "We have sort of built a community within a community by simply being in the same building and having the opportunity to connect, communicate and collaborate with one another, and it has turned out to be a lot of fun."

TBG was established nearly two and a half years ago, and Boldman decided to pursue projects that focused on business enhancement.

"As time progressed, we are about two and half years in, I wanted to go out and start doing some business enhancement type projects for the community for anyone that was interested," he said. "And so we took a lot of great people in the building, we have multiple companies and one of them does success coaching, Zack Sims. I started working with him and we came up with these coffee education type things. We did them for free, and did two of them last year and basically it was a business enhancement, early morning educational type class, early networking."

From the educational classes the BE Conferences were birthed.

"This led to our BE Conferences, which we just finished the first one. Our B Conference originally stood for Business Enhancement, but then we realized that a lot of the people that were coming to our events weren't necessarily business owners, but they may have been managers or employees, people that are just active in the community, and so forth," he said. "We realized that business enhancement wasn't necessarily going to be the hardcore focus, that we needed to broaden what the conferences were going to target."

Sean Boldman, President/CEO of Trinity Business Group, LLC interacting with office manager, Anna Brickey.

The BE Conference featured three innovative speakers, and was well-received by the participants.

"I was simply the MC for the event, if you will and we had Bryan Davis VP of Sole Choice, and Scioto County Commissioner were speaker of the BE Conference. Two other featured speakers will be Matt Seifert of TownCal.org, Zack Sims of Reach Success Coaching," he said. "The event went very well, we had a lot of positive feedback from the people that attended. And so that is another thing that came out of Trinity Business Group was these conferences.

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An ordinary man doing extraordinary work

By Frank Lewis
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In Detective Sergeant Jim Charles' office in the Detective Bureau of the Portsmouth Police Department, there is a blue futon, born out of necessity.

"The longest I have ever worked continuously is 36 hours and I've actually done that twice," Charles said. "That's why there's a futon in my office and all the guys know that they're welcome to use it whenever they need it."

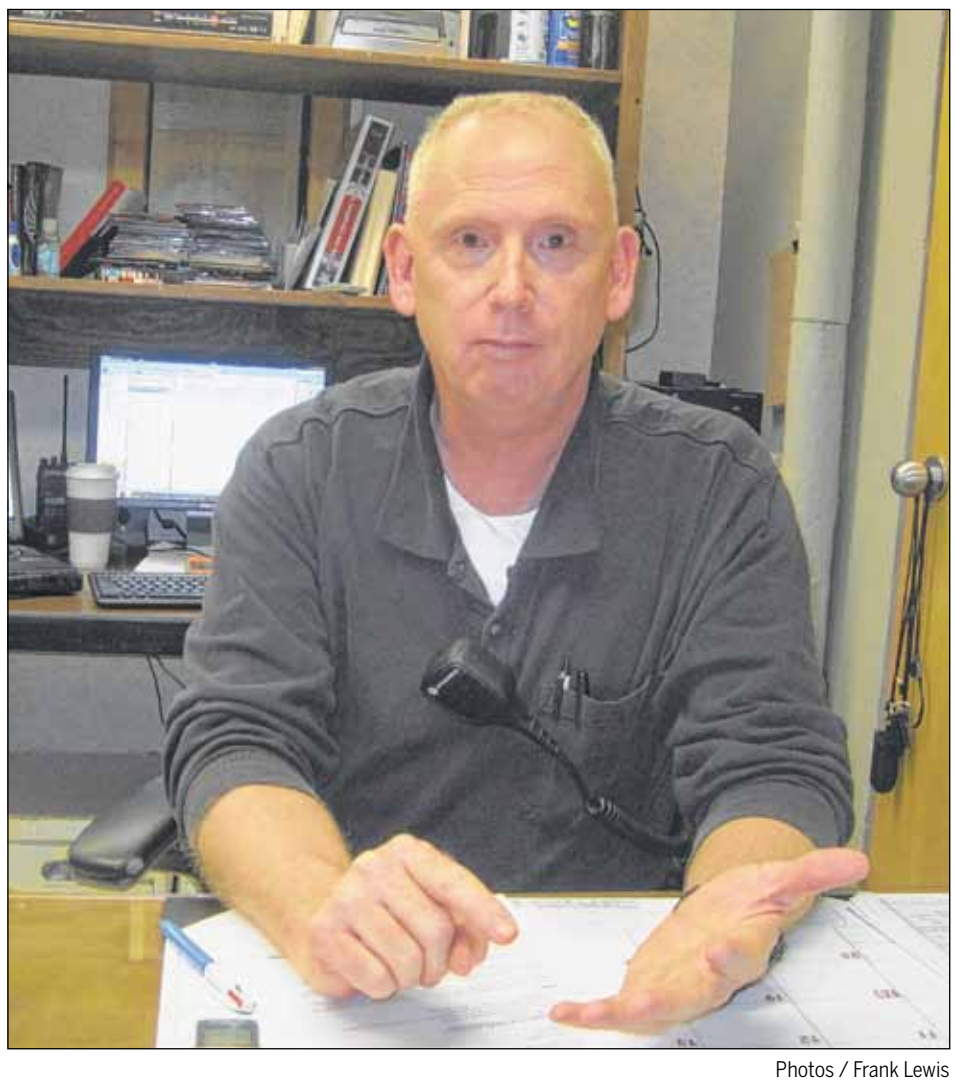
In the same office is a plant he cherishes. It was a gift from the grandmother of a murder victim whose case got a lot of attention from Charles.

The young woman was missing for a long time before her body was found. Charles said he became overwhelmed with the case because of something he is not sure he really experienced.

"When I hear the word detective, I automatically think of Jimmy." - Sergeant Andy Dawes of the Portsmouth Police Department on Detective Sergeant Jim Charles

"I think I saw her standing on the street corner once when I was on my way into work," Charles said. "I can picture her standing on the street corner, but I can't say if I actually ever saw her. I think that's the reason that kind of stuck with me the way it did because of the grandmother."

As he plans his soon retirement and the beginning of his new job in the office of Scioto County Prosecutor Mark Kuhn, he says there are cases that he still wants to be a part of. One is the murder of Brian Peters. The other is the Fred Rowles murder. Each happened years ago and still need work done on them - again, it's a matter of having the time.



Photos / Frank Lewis

Detective Sergeant Jim Charles of the Portsmouth Police Department in his office.

"I think that all of my unsolved murders are solveable," Charles said.

Charles said he had an admission he had to make 20 years ago when he was being interviewed by Joe McKinnon for his job.

"If there is one thing that bothers me it is knowing that something has to be done and not having the time to do it," Charles said. "He looked at me and said - 'you don't want to be a detective then.'"

While his day-to-day routine starts exactly the same every day, that soon gets adjusted and downright changed based on events from the night before or in the early morning hours.

"We have interviews set up with either suspects or victims or witnesses," Charles said. "Usually we like to have a good idea of what we're going to be doing each day, but very seldom does that actually work. The best laid plans fall apart quickly when you get a call from another agency asking for help."

Charles said the detectives at the Portsmouth Police Department are fortunate because they have a working relationship with other agencies such as the Scioto County Sheriff's Office, the New Boston Police Department and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

You arrive at the office, go over the cases and the first thing you hear is you have a homicide that occurred the night before. That changes things.

"Normally I'll kind of know what the day is looking like even before I get here," Charles said. "I get in my police car at about 7 o'clock each morning and I fire up my laptop and look at the reports from that night, so I have a pretty good idea of what I need to investigate."

Charles arrives at his office at 7:30 a.m. and gets the paperwork ready for the morning briefing.

"Normally, when we get here and we do our briefing, the cases are assigned and normally those are the ones we're going to follow up on first," Charles said. "I have a handful of cases I still have to submit to the (Scioto) County Prosecutor's Office so they can be sent

See SERGEANT | 6A

Military flight experience turns into aviation career

By Fred Pace
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PORTSMOUTH — Portsmouth native and 1996 Notre Dame High School graduate Chris Wallace really didn't even consider flying helicopters until he was accepted into flight school while in the U.S. Army in the fall of 2000.

"I guess like any young kid, I always wanted to fly, but I went into the service without any thoughts of pursuing flying," Wallace said. "An opportunity came along and I took advantage of it."

Wallace, 38, was trained to fly helicopters in the Army at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

"I flew a OH-58D Kiowa Warrior Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter," Wallace said. "The primary mission of the helicopter is in the scout attack role."

He did two tours of duty in Iraq and left the military after 10 years of service in 2008. He had decided to make aviation his career.

Today, Wallace is an Emergency Management Services (EMS) lead pilot for HealthNet Aeromedical Services base in Portsmouth.

"I have been an EMS pilot flying for the past seven years," Wallace said.

Wallace's day on the job consists of 12 hour shifts and seven day rotations.

Since HealthNet Aeromedical Services operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Wallace works both days and nights, depending on which shift he has during a particular week.

"My day starts with paperwork," Wallace said.

He does risk assessments and flight evaluations. He is constantly checking the weather and assessing environmental factors.

"There is a template we use to mitigate the risk of each flight," he said. "There are several tools we use to look at the risk value assigned to each potential flight."

Wallace checks weather conditions, ceilings, visibility and the forecast.

"We have a really good idea on what the weather is before we fly," he said. "Medium to low risk is good, and when high risk is found, I see what might be done to mitigate the risk, if possible."

Wallace does pre-flight inspection of his helicopter each flight.

"We look at mechanical components, equipment components and perform other inspections before each flight," he explained.

When a call comes in requesting services, it could be a hospital or at the scene of an emergency.

"I have landed on hospital landing pads and I have landed at the scene of an emergency," he said.

Wallace said when responding to the scene of an emergency, he normally orbits around where the landing zone has been set up looking for hazards.

"I look for anything that could impede my progress to land," he said. "I have landed in a farmer's field, on a road and in someone's back yard."

Wallace said that all emergency scenes are different, but his guideline clearance rules are the same.

"Our safety record is perfect and our commitment to making a difference in the lives we touch is undaunted," Wallace said. "We continue to seek new ways to positively impact the communities we serve."

The use of helicopters in West Virginia is rooted firmly with the military. The West Virginia National Guard sent their helicopters around the state during the 1970s to transport patients from local communities to large medical centers. The inherent problem was a lack of dedicated crews on duty. Significant delays resulted from crews being called in from home to respond on missions.

By 1978, the West Virginia State Police began exploring the use of their law enforcement helicopters in an aeromedical role. This philosophy had reaped major benefits for other states, most notably Maryland. The State Police developed a plan to provide this service with two aircraft, the first based near Charleston while the second ship flew from Morgantown.

The program, which was called MedEvac, used pilots provided by the State Police and paramedics from local EMS agencies. The program promised a thirty-minute or less lift-off time and was well received throughout the state.

Unfortunately the service was constantly under the watchful eye of legislative cost-cutters. They did not recognize the benefits versus the cost of the service, and West Virginia MedEvac faced an uncertain future each time the Legislature met.

Photos / Fred Pace

Chris Wallace is an Emergency Management Services (EMS) lead pilot for HealthNet Aeromedical Services base in Portsmouth.

Chris Wallace checks mechanical components, equipment components and performs other inspections before each flight.

By 1986, government officials were planning to cut MedEvac's funding. The loss of helicopter service in this mountainous state would have had serious consequences to residents who had come to rely on emergency medical helicopter transport.

Realizing the importance, officials from West Virginia University Hospitals (WVUH) in Morgantown and Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) in Charleston met to devise a plan to continue this essential service and not long after in the summer of 1986, HealthNet Aeromedical Services was born.

Base 1 was assigned to WVUH while Base 2 was assigned to CAMC.

Soon after, Base 3 was assigned to Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) in Huntington in 1987.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services continued to grow, expanding its service area.

Base 5 was assigned to Beckley in 2005; Base 4 was assigned to Portsmouth, Ohio, in 2006; Base 6 was assigned to Buckhannon, W.Va., in 2008; and in 2009 Base 7 was assigned to Martin County, Ky.

"At the Portsmouth base we have four pilots, a number of paramedics and nurses," Wallace said.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services' newest base, located in Martinsburg, W. Va, was introduced in 2011 with the addition of Base 8.

In July 2015, Base 9 opened in Lewisburg, W.Va.

"HelicopterHealthNet Aeromedical Services is one of the few statewide hospital-based air medical services in the United States," Wallace said. "In fact, our operation serves as a model for cost effective, cooperative aeromedical services in a rural environment."

The ten helicopters serve West Virginia and significant portions of Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Tennessee.

Each helicopter base is responsible for providing service in a 150-nautical-mile radius, according to Wallace.

The strategic locations of the bases improve HealthNet Aeromedical Services' operational capabilities by reducing response time to emergencies. Aircraft, manufactured by Airbus are used exclusively throughout the HealthNet Aeromedical Services' system.

The fleet includes one EC-145 (Morgantown, WV), three EC-135s (Buckhannon, Beckley,and Lewisburg, WV) and six EC-130s (Martinsburg, Ripley and Huntington, WV; Martin County, KY, Portsmouth, Ohio and a system-wide spare).

"They are jet-powered and cruise at 130 miles per hour," according to Wallace.

Agencies utilizing HealthNet Aeromedical Services have grown to rely on their aircraft and crews to respond to their call and make a difference, when minutes matter.

The flight teams of HealthNet Aeromedical Services consistently strive for excellence in patient care and flight operations.

"This commitment is reflected in our standing with the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS)," Wallace said. "This nationally-recognized group inspects flight programs for adherence to accepted standards. Less than thirty percent of flight programs in the United States have been recognized through this difficult process."

HealthNet Aeromedical Services can look back over 28 years and over 70,000 patients with pride.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services mission is "Striving to deliver the safety that our customers and patients deserve with the quality that they have come to expect and the experience that matters when caring for critically-ill or injured patients."

Wallace said being an EMS pilot might not be for everyone, but thinks young people achieve their dreams.

"If it's your passion, then put everything into it and you can achieve anything," he said. "I am an example of just that, I gave it everything and I put my all into it every single day."

Reach Fred Pace at 740-353-3101, ext. 1927, and follow him on Twitter @ fcpace62.

Chris Wallace has landed on hospital landing pads, as well as at the scenes of emergencies.

Chris Wallace does risk assessments and flight evaluations. He is constantly checking the weather and assessing environmental factors.

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Glockner Family of Business

Glockner

We make it easy.

More than 160 years experience and 6 generations in our community.

1847

A buggy salesman, W.C. Durant founded General Motors Corporation and awarded a Chevrolet franchise to Alex Glockner. When potential customers wanted to know what to do with their horse and buggy if they bought a new car, Glockner would take them in as trade. Thus, we became the first horse traders in automotive history. We remain the oldest continuously owned and operated franchise today.

1871

Bernard's sons Alex, Frank and Adolph purchased the store. The three brothers continued to grow their father's business until the day a buggy salesman named W.C. Durant came calling.

1912

Bernard Glockner emigrated from Germany and began selling bicycles at a hardware store on Market Street.

1919

As the growth of the automotive business seemed inevitable, Mr. Glockner separated the automobile and hardware business and purchased property at Second and Chillicothe Streets. The Glockner family tradition continued beyond the passing of Alex when his son, Edward A., and daughter, Helen operated the business. After their retirement, Edward's son "Ebby" Glockner took the operation.

1959

Glockner FINANCE Since 1959

1965

In 1965, Ebby expanded the family of dealerships to include heavy truck and trailer sales, oil distributorship and leasing agency. Quality Car & Truck Leasing with over 50 years in business is the oldest lease company in the state.

1968

Founded in 1968, Glockner Oil Company, has expanded from Piketon, Ohio into Columbus and Cincinnati.

1969

Ebby constructed a much larger showroom and service center just north of Portsmouth at its current location. The dealership will undergo another remodel this Summer.

1974

Andy established Rosemount City Insurance Agency in 1974,which became known as Glockner Insurance in 2014.

1975

Andy began Glockner Auto Credit in order to help good people facing bad situations reestablish their credit while driving a nicer, newer car. Always a forward thinker, the Glockner Auto Credit slogan reads: "We finance your future, not your past".

Glockner AUTOCREDIT *We make it easy.*

1982

Ebby retires in 1982 and turns over the enterprise to Andy who continued to grow the family business and develop its people and culture.

1989

Andy Glockner came into the business in 1975 and converted a failed Porsche, Audi, VW store into a successful Honda Toyota dealership.

2013

The sixth generation of Glockner active in the business, Tim, Joe and Mike are poised for the future to grow the enterprise. Starting with our expansion into the Greater Ironton Area. Glockner of Ironton was acquired in August of 2015.

Glockner IRONTON Chevrolet | Buick | GMC

Present

The Glockner Family added the Ford brand to their already impressive line up when they acquired South Point Ford.

Glockner

Buick · Cadillac · Chevrolet · Ford · GMC · Honda · Toyota

www.glockner.com

Sparks manages communications

By Wayne Allen
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Captain Shawn Sparks at work at his computer. Wayne Allen | Daily Times

There are several things that are important to everyone's and general welfare, one of which includes being able to reach law enforcement when in need or in the case of an emergency.

Captain Shawn Sparks, with the Scioto County Sheriff's Office, manages the communications systems and employees of the department.

When asked about his career Sparks said, "I started (in the Scioto County Sheriff's Department) as a deputy. On April 1, 2006 I became a jail sergeant. I worked in the jail for about a year before I became a Captain over the jail. I was there until 2008 and in 2008 I made a transition over here as 911/dispatch coordinator."

He said the technology has changed in a lot of ways over the years, but the technology that runs 911 and other systems have not been upgraded in several years.

"Sometimes we have money (to upgrade) and sometimes we don't," Sparks said."The 911 system is through Frontier Communications, it's a very old system. We are currently talking with Frontier on estimates for a new generation system."

He said Scioto County Sheriff Marty Donini is working with the Scioto County Commissioners on ways to finance the new system.

"There's a lot that goes into that, it's not just the phone call itself and it's also the mapping. When a call comes in a general location is given. It's old technology so it pings off a cell tower and shows us a close address," Sparks said.

He said the 911 system currently in use was moved from the Scioto County Courthouse when the new county jail was built in 2006. The system is so old it's mapping is in black and white.

"When a call comes in, it will give us a ping of where they could be. It also tells us where they live their address and a phone number to call back," Sparks said.

He said the current system provides its own set of unique challenges.

"We always ask them their (caller) address, sometimes it may be a different address all together. Sometimes when people move they'll keep the same phone number and the phone company has not updated the information," Sparks said.

"If a dispatcher gets a 911 call, they stop every other call, they're involved with and it could be a life or death situation." - Shawn Sparks

He and his staff will make changes to people's addresses and phone numbers in the system as they are aware of them.

When asked if there was such a thing as a typical day for him Sparks said, "if dispatch gets busy, I try to go in there to help them out. If someone calls and we find out they have a warrant out for their arrest, we make sure it's still active."

He said this time of year dispatch will receive a lot of calls about the weather inquiring about the snow emergency levels. With the sheriff's blessing, Sparks is the one to declare various snow emergency levels.

Sparks said he calls a hand full of people to help determine the appropriate snow emergency level.

There are six full time dispatchers that work in the sheriff's office, that deal with various issues and circumstances.

"If a dispatcher gets a 911 call, they stop every other call, they're involved with and it could be a life or death situation," Sparks said.

He said there are laws in Ohio that could make calling 911 for a non-emergency issue illegal.

"We have had instances where kids would be playing on the phone and we we're able to call back and have mom or dad take care of the issue or we've had to go out. A lot of times when mom or dad takes care of the issue, it does not happen again," Sparks said.

He acknowledged an issue like that has the potential to mean life or death.

"If we have two 911 lines open and we don't answer, the call with get kicked over to the police department so someone will answer the line," Sparks said. "Any cell phone (calls) will come to us; any landlines will go to the jurisdiction of the area."

He said if they receive an emergency call that's not mean for them, they will transfer the call to the appropriate responding agency.

Sparks said if the department gets a next generation 911 system, people could possibly send text messages to dispatchers. Dispatchers would also have the capability to better pinpoint a caller's location.

"In supervising the six dispatchers, they have life and death decisions to make every time they pick up that phone. I do believe that everyone of them give 110 percent on any kind of emergency call to get the person or persons the help or assistance they need," Sparks said.

Sparks has been married to his wife Tiffany for 17 years.

"We have no children, but we have five dogs. We're very dog loving people, tow of the (five) dogs I found on patrol and took it home," Sparks said.

Reach Wayne Allen at 740-353-3101 ext. 1993 or @ WayneAllenPDT

Glockner

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of time looking at ways to grown the Glockner Enterprises both organically and through acquisitions.

"The rest of my time I spend, sharing our (Glockner Enterprises) vision, over and over. We'll share what our vision is and I'll share how we're going to get there. I'll motivate people to take action and I'll also talk a lot about culture. Our culture is in service to other people, that's a way of life for us," Glockner said.

On Tuesdays Glockner travels to the dealership in Ironton. On Wednesdays he's at Glockner GM in Portsmouth, on Thursday he's typically at the South Point Ford location and on Friday he's back at the Toyota Store.

He said the Glockner Family is Catholic.

"We have crucifixes in everyone one of our showrooms. That's an outward sign, to remind all of us to serve other people. That's what Christ did and he made the ultimate sacrifice and we try to live that," Glockner said. "We're not embraced about our faith and we want to share the gospel message, but learn more about our culture while emulating the perfect life of Jesus."

The Glockner name has become synonymous with quality services, car sales and maintenance.

"We've got this slogan, we make it easy. When we first came up with this slogan it sounded great and then we started asking ourselves how we are going to make it easy," Glockner said. "It was then we came up with this idea of live market pricing. We're going to cut to the chase and price all of our cars online and on the lot for what people are paying for a similar car on the market. People like that approach, people just want transparency and they all of the information they can get before they come into the dealership. When they come to our dealership they are transaction ready."

He said that's a good example of how the industry has changed over the years. Now people have the ability to search for the car they want and compare different dealerships.

"They don't come to us because we have the highest price, they come to us because we have the car they want, for the price they want. That's why we sell between 500 and 600 cars a month, it's a fantastic way of doing business," Glockner said.

Glockner said since this way of doing business is successful; it could be the way of the future.

"Right now surveys are showing that about 30 percent of people would buy a car completely online, if they could," Glockner said. "I don't think it will ever get to 100 percent. Buying a car is an emotional purchase and people are not going to buy a $30,000 without touching or seeing it first,"

He predicts, within two or three years people will be able to sign the necessary documents online and go to the dealership to pick up your car or have your care delivered.

Glockner also has a close working relationship with his brothers, who manage other aspects of the business.

Tim Glockner manages the sales and marketing side of the business, Mike Glockner manages the parts a service side of the business and Joe Glockner manages the finance and insurance side of the business.

"We get along super well and we have our own area of responsibility. We have never had tensions because we have our areas of responsibility and our interests are aligned, which is a fantastic thing," Glockner said.

When asked what the future may hold for Glockner Enterprises he said, "I think there's a good possibility that we'll acquire another store in the future.

Glockner hops his kids will one day take over the business from him.

"They are all young, my daughter is the oldest and she's 14. I'm the sixth oldest son in my family to do business in Portsmouth and we've grown with each generation. I don't know how much luckier we can get. I don't know if it's God's will, but they say 90 percent of startup businesses fail and five percent goes to a third generation. Here we are in sixth generation and talking about the seventh, we're hopeful that someone step's up and takes it on."

In his free time, Glockner watches his daughter play volleyball and softball at Notre Dame. He also serves as board president for Notre Dame Schools.

He's also a cyclist and enjoys ride bikes long distances and he just picked up swimming and is training for a triathlon.

For more information about Glockner Enterprises, visit www.glockner.com.

Wayne Allen can be reached at 740-353-3101, ext. 1933 or on Twitter @WayneallenPDT

Detective Sergeant Jim Charles of the Portsmouth Police Department goes over work with secretary Val Pinson in the detective bureau.

Sergeant

From page 2A

to the grand jury. That's typically what these guys (detectives) do every day."

Charles said he leaves the office and does follow up interviews. He may go to a house that has been burglarized, and he will look for some type of physical evidence.

He said the new world of digital police work has made his job easier - the photographs, medical records, and the rest of the evidence is all assembled electronically and submitted to the prosecutor's office.

"It's interesting how much has changed in the 20 years I've been a detective," Charles said. "I remember taking pictures with a 45 millimeter camera, then taking the roll of film up to Walmart and doing one-hour processing on the photographs. It is amazing in the last 20 years how much has changed."

Charles has the respect of his fellow police officers including Sergeant Andy Dawes.

"He is a legacy and represents the Portsmouth Police Department better than any officer here. He has an incredible work ethic and a great knowledge of the job. When I hear the word detective, I automatically think of Jimmy," Dawes said. "There is no one in the area who can work a crime scene like him. He has worked a vast array of different and interesting cases. I truly enjoyed working with Jimmy during my tenure as a detective. I learned so much by watching and working with him. Also, he was a fantastic supervisor. He always put his guys first and was never afraid to lead the way."

Modesty still rules in the way Jim Charles does his job every day. He says there is a simple formula.

"You have to know how and where to look to try to find information," Charles said.

That formula has worked for Jim Charles and will most likely work for those who follow in his footsteps.

Reach Frank Lewis at 740-353-3101, ext. 1928, or on Twitter @ franklewis.

She prepares to face possible disasters

By Frank Lewis
flewis@civitasmedia.com

Kim Carver's days are rarely routine. However, there is one routine that is an integral part of how she prepares to face possible disasters.

"The first thing I do when I hit the floor in the morning is I say, 'Dear Lord, watch over the people here and help them to make smart decisions and us to be able to survive whatever happens,'" Carver relates. "'and maybe if we could just miss this big storm that's coming.'"

Carver heads up the Scioto County Emergency Management Agency, but she says that is not a one person job.

"Emergency management is a team approach to prepare communities for crises of various kinds that could come, emergency situations," Carver said. "It's all one team. Emergency Management is not one agency. It's not one person. It's the emergency management team and together, if we keep each other informed and have our plans on what we're going to do in place, and everybody is singing off the same page in the hymnal, we're going to be so much farther ahead of the game."

The team consists of law enforcement, agencies such as the Red Cross, hospitals, shelters, fire departments, the Salvation Army, haz mat teams, church organizations, volunteer organizations, governments, state resources, local businesses, Amateur Radio, federal agencies, funeral homes, ambulance services and regional industries to name a few.

Carver said EMA is comprised of four different components - a mitigation aspect where they look to try to mitigate future losses including what kind of laws can be enacted to protect people; a preparedness component which includes the type of training first responders can get that is going to help them be better prepared for varying kinds of responses and what steps people can take to protect their lives and their property. Recovery is the fourth phase - dealing with how to get life back to normal after a disaster.

"Emergency management is a team approach to prepare communities for crises of various kinds that could come, emergency situations." Kim Carver, director of the Scioto County Emergency Management Agency

"It starts with a risk analysis where we look at every potential threat that our community has that we could face," Carver said. "And then, what we do is try to identify our gaps in our ability to respond to those events and recover from those events. That's where we fill in resources and training so that we can be sure that we have a response that will enable us to protect the lives and property of the citizens of our jurisdiction."

The Ema evolved from the old original organization - Civil Defense to Disaster Services in the 80s to Emergency Management in the 90s. In all Carver has been a part of it for 30 years. Now it is known as EMA and Homeland Security.

After the prayer that starts her day, the next thing Carver does each morning is check the hazardous weather outlook from the National Weather Service.

"If there is a significant weather event on the horizon I will begin tracking and start monitoring and working with the National Weather Service," Carver said. "They have a chat group that we can get involved with on an all-day basis whenever severe weather is approaching."

Carver said the newest tool of the emergency management system is social media. She said she can send out a message and hear back from the various agencies in an instant.

Carver said the list of possible emergencies is large.

"Obviously we could have a hazardous material event occur anytime at the railroad, the river or the highway," Carver said. "We work very closely to have a good relationship with the chemical facilities here in the community and the transportation folks, the railroad, the U.S. Coast Guard and the barge community, so that we can be as prepared as possible if we would have a hazardous material event."

Scioto County EMA Director Kim Carver looks over a map at the Emergency Control Center.

Carver said her agency works closely with Homeland Security for the state of Ohio and the federal government.

"We look at risks and things that they might have on their radar," Carver said. "so that we could kind of give a heads-up to the law enforcement community and the folks who might have a role in that type of response if something was significant."

Carver said, by and large the most important job for her is emergency public information. She said people know what they have to do to protect themselves and stay out of harms way, but they have to be armed with good information to help them make the necessary decisions.

"I'm a broker of information," Carver said. "All day long I broker information to the different agencies. Sometimes it's health department related; sometimes it's law enforcement, terrorism or that type of a thrust related. Sometimes it's shipments of hazardous material coming through and it's fire department related."

Carver said exercises are held several times a year and the protocol is to reach out to all the partners who might have a role in that particular scenario.

"Each of those players come to the emergency center and sits down and we go through a mock scenario," Carver said. "It's, what if? What if? Let's do this, let's do that and we actually look at what they can bring to the table, wheter it's the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, even your civic organizations have a role in helping us with donated goods that come in if we have a large scale event," Carver said. "There's a role for everyone to play. Actually the most important role is that of the individual himself. He's all part of this emergency management team too because if he can protect himself and his family for that period of time that that emergency is underway, they take a lot of weight off the first response community."

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Small beginnings, working towards greater purpose

Submitted photos

Left to right: Zach Conley (youngest member of worship team at VLWC, Jesse Bockway (worship leader) during the worship at Victorious Life Worship Center in New Boston. (other worship team members not pictured).

By Portia Williams
portiawilliams@civitasmedia.com

NEW BOSTON — Victorious Life Worship Center (VLWC), 4029 Gallia Street in New Boston may be a small congregation, but it is a congregation with loving people who seek to worship God with all of their hearts.

Vicki Bays, Pastor of VLWC, begins her day in prayer each morning before setting out to assist with her grandchildren.

"I set my alarm clock for 4 a.m., and sometimes get up before that time. I start out with prayer and meditation, just seeking the Lord and spending time in his presence to start my day," Bays said."I put my grandchildren on the bus each morning, so I am usually at my daughter's house between 5:30 and six in the morning. So, that is my morning each Monday through Friday."

Her days also include studying the Bible as well as sermon preparation, hospital visits, visiting members of her church, counseling with, and attending appointments with members of her church.

"I am a very hands-on pastor, of course I have a small flock, so I can do that," she said. "I have lives that I am responsible for, and sometimes it is a serious situation where someone is in the hospital, and then I go to be with them because they need me. When you are a pastor, your flock is on your heart all of the time, and when you know that they are going through something, it is as if you are going through it with them because your lives are so closely connected."

Simply being there for support for members of her church is vital.

"There are times when people have problems, and need help navigating their problems. I don't think that they are to navigate it by themselves, I think that I should take their hand, and help them navigate it, whether that be through sickness, family problems, issues with their children," she said. "Mothers need help mothering. Fathers need help fathering, sometimes children need help being children to the parent."

Versatility is imperative in the role of a pastor, according to Bays.

"We have a youth pastor, Andy Messer. He stays extremely busy, his work starts very early in the morning, so there are times when I am available to help with the youth when he is not," she said. "If one of the youth is struggling, and in need of counseling, I will help with. Being a pastor is not in a box, your whole church is your church. At the end of the day, you just have to be versatile, and be there in whatever capacity is needed."

Text messaging is one of the methods Bays utilizes to stay connected to members of VLWC.

"The wonderful thing in today's time, is that you can stay connected to people through text messaging," she said. "Sometimes they would rather you text them than to call or show up at their door. We have a young lady at our church who just had a baby, and she has been keeping me updated through texting."

"When you are a pastor, your flock is on your heart all of the time, and when you know that they are going through something, it is as if you are going through it with them because your lives are so closely connected." - Vicky Bays, Pastor of Victorious Life Church.

Send out text messages with biblical scriptures and encouraging words in something she does on a regular basis.

"One of the main things that I do throughout my day is send out encouragement," she said. "I send out text messages with scriptures, and words that encourage. I don't do the same thing every day, I just let the Lord show what to send."

As it pertains to ministries, the focus right now at VLWC is youth.

"Being a small church, it can be a challenge establishing a lot, so you just try to aim at one thing and do one thing at a time is what we have done," she said. "So our youth pastor, Andy Messer took the AWANA Program and he modified it. It is wonderful, the kids will have their game time, games that are orchestrated to cause them to work together and are faith oriented. They will divide up and how their devotions and then they have class time."

She said they also have an AWANA store

"With the AWANA store they do their Bible verses, and earn Bible bucks through memorization of the verses," she said. "On Sundays at the end of the service it is really nice because the kids are all excited at because they are able to go down to the AWANA store and come out and show what ever treat or nice item they were able to get. They are so excited to have it, because they got it through what they've learned. This has really been a blessing and our kids love it. With our youth ministry we are just trying to impact the lives of children in a positive way. We want to help them to be carriers of truth, to be witnesses of God's spirit."

The name VLWC is about living a lifestyle of worship in one's every day life.

"The mandate upon our church is to bring worship. Not just a song, but worship with your entire life," she said. "Victorious life is a life that incorporates worshiping God in spirit and in truth. If you begin to embrace truth, and to worship God in truth, it is going to change your life. And that is why we are here."

They are in the process of starting a church food pantry.

"We are getting ready to start a small food pantry. We have a room established for it, and we also have a person that has taken it upon her heart and is working on getting it established," she said.

Bays also spends time with recovery programs, something she believes is very important.

"I have spent some time working with people with drug addictions. There is Hand of Hope in Ashland, Kentucky and I do a Bible study there, and just to encourage and to offer hope," she said. "I have been going to New Beginnings in Piketon, but that is kind of hold right now. I just had some challenges with Saturdays, which is the day that I was scheduled to go there. I believe that we have got to reach out to those who struggle with drug addiction, and stop making them feel as if they are a separation population from everyone else."

Services at VLWC include the following:

Morning Worship Service is 10 a.m. on Sunday morning and at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Services also convene on Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information regarding VLWC, call 740-876-4339.

Reach Portia Williams at 740-353-3101, ext. 1929, or on Twitter @PortiaWillPDT.

Trinity

From page 2A

Now Trinity has a goal of where we want to take these conferences, it might be small steps, we have a progress goal of how we're going to get from where we started and the first conference, are working towards huge conference. We are not sure when that big event is going to be, but we already have the next BE Conference for this year in the works, and so we are very excited about that."

Membership of TBG consists of either In-house, or Flex members.

"Our In-house members of Trinity have 24 hour access to the building, they have electronic keys, and security cameras, and security systems and you pretty much can't walk through the building without someone realizing you are there," he said. "Our flex members have access from nine to five, they use the facility when the receptionist is in the building, are sort of 'back pack members, they come in, use their laptops and cellphones, and use the WIFI and have access to the conference rooms.

With the a new building purchase, TBG is in the currently in the process of expanding.

"We have purchased the building adjacent to us, and we are adding another smaller conference room, we're adding more offices, and we are expanding," he said. "I went and visited some other shared service buildings, and one of them is called the Work Bar and is in Boston, Massachusetts big major metro. I went there just to kind of get an idea of what they did differently, which honestly they do very little differently. The only thing that they really do differently is scale, they have more members than we do. They are 11, 000 square feet, and when we get done with our expansion we will be nine, and will be able to have more flex members, and those are the ones that have one person that is running a small business, or they are a student and they just want the space. We hope to have the expansion completed by the end of this year."

To say that Boldman is excited and passionate about the community within a community that has been created out TBG's foundation would be an understatement. His dedication to help local businesses connect continues to be displayed by the projects and events, and access to the facility that he offers to the community.

For more information regarding TBG, LLC, visit the website at: www.trinitybusinessgroupllc.com, or visit the Trinity Business Group Facebook page.

Reach Portia Williams at 740-353-3101, ext. 1929, or on Twitter @PortiaWillPDT.

Sean Boldman, President/CEO of Trinity Business Group, LLC in Portsmouth.

Lemons trying to break the cycle

By Frank Lewis
flewis@civitasmedia.com

Before day breaks over Scioto County, Juvenile/Probate Judge Alan Lemons is at his desk. He is still there when the sun goes down.

"It's dark when he comes to work," Court Administrator Dawn Keller said. "and it's dark when he leaves. He loves these kids and I have grown to respect him. I love working with him."

It seems Lemons just sets the tone and others follow.

"When I walked in the door this morning four of my probation staff were here before 8 o'clock on a snowy day," Lemons said. "And there were other staff members here. They show up early and they stay late and they do whatever they can do to help."

On Tuesday morning, young women, some with their children, come into his court to talk about progress in their attempt to get off drugs. One was "clean" for 206 days. Another for 201 days and yet another, who had gone 197 days, but had just tested positive.

Jay Hash of Hope Source asked questions and offered a warning.

"Your addiction wants you back," Hash said, in urging the young women to continue counseling.

"At least one of them was (the case of) a substance exposed baby," Lemons said. "That's what that drug court does. We get involved in the families, hand-in-hand with Children Services and the goal is that we want the kids to be back with the family more quickly."

That particular drug court involves substance abuse by at least one parent and sometimes both parents.

"We have a situation in this county where someone has a substance exposed baby," Lemons said. "If you think about it, they're born high and when they come down from that they go through withdrawal symptoms and they are very severe."

Lemons went out and purchased a doll that cries and shakes uncontrollably, mimicking a real-life baby born to an addicted mother. He said he plans to take it to area schools to help explain the consequences.

"You can break the cycle, but it takes a lot of hard work." - Scioto County Juvenile/Probate Judge Alan Lemons

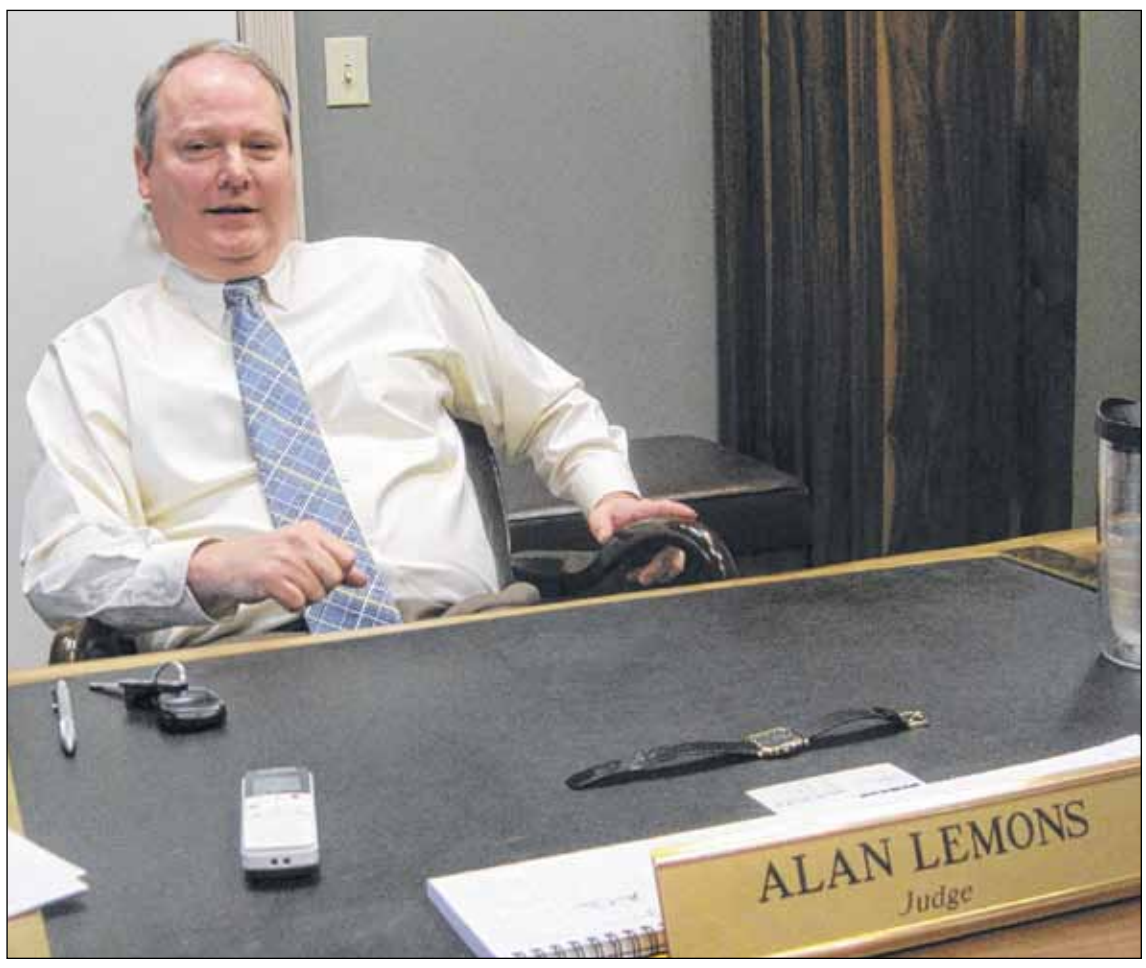
"I haven't done it yet but I have talked to the schools and the people that I talked to thought it would be a good idea," Lemons said. "I want to talk to the junior high aged kids and kind of just talk to them about drug abuse and what that can lead to and early pregnancy combined with drug abuse, what that can lead to and show them the baby."

Lemons said he works on a variety of cases.

"We have moms that have a baby and that baby is taken and sometimes permanently taken," Lemons said. "And then, that same mother will continue her addiction and become pregnant again. I have had people who lost one child and are already pregnant with the other."

Lemons said one of the goals of his court is to break that cycle.

"The world will go broke if we don't," Lemons said. "Not just this county. Not just this court. We're all going to go broke if we keep this rather severe trend. This court has a front row seat to what's coming and it doesn't look good. we see the babies that are born addicted. We see the young children that aren't cared for because mom and dad are manufacturing meth in their homes."



Photos / Frank Lewis

Scioto County Jevenile/Probate Judge Alan Lemons explains the workings of his court in his office.

"We do tons of stuff in this court," Lemons said. "Custody is a lot of what we do. Children Services is involved in a lot of those custody cases, but we also do private custody cases - parents who have never been married. Every once in a while we have a married couple that doesn't go to Domestic Court and they do a custody matter. There's certain situations in which I would have jurisdiction. I have jurisdiction over unmarried folks to try to determine who gets custody, who gets visitation."

Lemons summed up his court's role in the community.

"As far as my court is concerned the single issue is the lack of good parenting," Lemons said. "We have parenting classes, but lots of people have parenting classes. (Scioto County) Domestic Court has parenting classes. Children Services has parenting classes. I have had people say to me in my court when the child is not behaving, 'I don't know how to handle this child. I can't get this child to get on the school bus in the morning.' And they will say - 'I don't believe in paddling.' and my answer has been - I do."

Lemons said his staff is not looking for rewards for their efforts.

"We know there's a job to do and we are making some headway and we work it everyday," Lemons said.

Is it possible to change the currernt trends?

"You can break the cycle, but it takes a lot of hard work," Lemons said.

Minutes later he is headed back into another session of Juvenile Court, his second of the day, and he won't be clocking out a five. He will still be working on individual cases and attempting to reverse what appears to be spiriling out of control.

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Community Reflections 2016 | March 26 | Section B

Buckler serving Court with zeal

By Portia Williams
portiawilliams@civitasmedia.com

Judge Jerry Buckler standing in his office at the Scioto County Court of Common Pleas

Portia Williams | Daily Times

PORTSMOUTH — The Honorable Judge Jerry Buckler of the Scioto Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division accomplishes much in a day's time.

"My staff reports at 8:30 a.m. I am usually here after that. My day starts at nine, depending upon what happens," he said. "Today was just a one paged docket because they were more along the lines of certain hearings, so we know that we have to schedule time for them. But there are times when I have a four page docket, where we have one disillusion after another, and we just have to go through them because there are so many cases.

Judge Jerry Buckler, Scioto County Court of Common Plea, Domestic Relations Division.

He said divorce cases for the most part go quicker when uncontested.

"If it is divorce disillusion day it tends to go a little quicker because typically, a docket is like that is because they have reached an agreement, or it's a non-contested divorce," he said. "A day like today is when everything was contested, so I couldn't have a bigger docket because I had to make it smaller to get the hearings in."

"We have a staff of seven, including myself. I have a magistrate who wears a robe also. He is an attorney who handles my child support issues, so that is one of his singular jobs that he gets to do," he said. "I have a court administrator who has been with me for about 13 years, and she is my right and left arm. I have my bailiff who is in the court room with me at all times. He wears a gun, and is there to protect me as well, and is very good with people. I have a receptionist who also works as a court reporter and transcribes cases that need to be transcribed. There is another bailiff is a part of the staff team whose job is to protect the magistrate, and a secretary who runs the magistrate side."

The court of the magistrate is separate from that of Buckler's.

"The magistrate's court is a separate court from mine. He has trials as well, and makes decisions," he said. "When he makes decisions, if someone wants to appeal his decisions they appeal it to me, and I rule whether he made the right decision or not. If they don't like my decision then they can appeal me to the Court of Appeals to determine whether or not I made the right decision. Everyone has someone looking over us basically."

He said his access to the magistrate is limited on Wednesdays and Thursdays due to his work with child support.

On my magistrate side, Wednesdays and Thursdays are what we call child support days, with six page dockets each day they are bringing them in," he said. "These are people who are not paying their child support. I am a big proponent of taking care of your children, and if you don't have a good reason, being lazy and not trying to find a job is not a good reason, and you're going to go to jail."

Concessions are made for individuals with extenuating circumstances who are required to pay child support.

"If you are trying hard, and you just can't keep up with it, or have lost your job because of an injury, or your business failed, that is another situation, I understand that," he said. "So we work with those individuals to try to see if there are other ways of either finding a job or reassessing your child support order, maybe it is too high. On Wednesdays and Thursdays I never see the magistrate because he is too busy."

"I am so proud of our application, it was written in such a great way and I hope that we get it. If we don't get it, I am still going to get my visitation center some how."

Buckler is a native of Lucasville, and graduate of Valley High School in 1983. He graduated from the University of Rio Grande. He actually began working first as a teacher.

"I decided to apply for law school, so I applied to Capital University in Columbus and get accepted," he said. "So three nights a week a week for four years I drove to Columbus from Portsmouth up and back to the evening program, and I graduated from Capital in 1996."

"I went to Rio Grande solely to become a teacher, and I graduated and became a high school math teacher, which is so weird because people mathematics, then an attorney and now you are a judge," Buckler said. "I taught two years in Wilmington, Ohio, so I had to move away, but I always wanted to come back home. So I came back and I taught eight more years at Clay High School.

From there Buckler went on to obtain a masters degree from Ohio University to become a high school principal.

"All of a sudden, and I think it is because I am an education nerd, I decided to go back to school and get my law degree. I had no connections with law, no family no one involved with law. My sister who is one year younger than me, and a high school teacher, we so competitive because we were so close in age. One day she called me up years ago and said, "Jerry, I think I'm going to take the LSAT, the test you take to go to law school. I kept thinking in my mind, she is going to take the LSAT, I can't let my sister take the LSAT, and me not take the LSAT. So I decided to take the LSAT out of the blue, so I took it, if you are mathematically based you do well on these kind of tests.

His next move at the time was to apply for law school, and was accepted to Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

"I decided to apply for law school, so I applied to Capital University in Columbus and get accepted," he said. "So three nights a week for four years I drove to Columbus from Portsmouth up and back to the evening program, and I graduated from Capital in 1996.

Buckler has been married to his wife Lisa Buckler for 27 years, together they have two children, daughter Adrienne

"Adrienne just graduated law school and passed the bar exam. So she is a new attorney and she just took over my old building, my own law practice that I own," he said. "I have a son who is a senior at Ohio State and he just got accepted into dental school, and is going to be a dentist. We are very proud of our kids. My wife also has multiple college degrees, and she works for the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation here in Portsmouth, she is a supervisor.""

Buckler's office recently applied for a $500,000 grant which would enable him to open a supervised visitation and exchange center.

"I Just applied for a grant, I believe this is the first time that our court has done this, but it is a federal grant, and it is worth a half a million dollars," he said. "We have worked so hard on this, my court administrator, and I had another person helping out as well. My whole reason for doing this is that I want to establish in Scioto County a supervised visitation and exchange center. We have called it K.I.D.S, and that stands for Kids In Domestic Situations.

He said he was inspired by the center he visited when in Marion County.

"I visited Marion county, and I am friends with the judge up there, and she has one, I desired to get one, and said I would get one here some how," he said. "She had a situation up there where a mom was just having some issues that people have that we have to get through, but it had gotten to the point that it was so bad that she couldn't control herself, and she has a little and one day she just let go one day and beat the little girl badly.

Buckler's office recently applied for a $500,000 grant which would enable him to open a supervised visitation and exchange center... Ensuring the safety of children is his main goal in establishing a center..."There is a psychological affect on the child because they still want to see their parent..."

Ensuring the safety of children is his main goal in establishing a center.

"As a judge I cannot send that child to the mother's house for a visitation because I need to protect the child. But the child, and I could see this in Scioto County too, the child is sad because the child loves mom, and thinks that the beating is just something that just happens to kids, and didn't recognize it as something that moms are not supposed to do. There is a psychological affect on the child because they still want to see their parent, and luckily for Marion County they have a supervised visitation center where I can order that the child can get to visit with the mom, but the mom is going to have to come to us. It's going to be in a facility that we are going to open here where there are going to be cameras in the rooms, and security to get in, and we are going to monitor the situation and we're going to hope that the counseling that we order is to help.

The composition of his grant application was strategic, and is designed to be renewed after three years.

"We will find out if we got the grant in September. I have written the grant in such a way that it is supposed to get us going, and get us established," he said. "So I have made it in a way that the county doesn't have to struggle with requesting new positions in a new facility. I have met with the County Commissioners, and they have signed off on my grant application so they are helping, and have been very good to work with. It is a three-year grant, and after three years I can ask for renewal and potentially get it renewed, which would be wonderful, that would take more money off of the county. Let's say that it didn't get renewed. I have written it in a way that my staff can still cover that, or a couple of other people that I may hire, but my court fees and I have what is called a discretionary budget that is just for the court. It is fees such as a divorce case, out of the $250 filing fee, $50 goes into my discretionary fund, and every year that happens. But this grant gets me started, and pays for all of the equipment, it pays for me to hire for the positions right away, and takes care of it for three years, including training.

The grant would accommodate the Southern Ohio Domestic Violence Shelter. He is determined to get the visitation center no matter what.

"I have gone hand in hand with the Southern Ohio Domestic Violence Shelter on this," he said. "They have been working with me on it because it is a domestic violence grant, and it is from the Federal Government, from the office of the Attorney General Department of Justice Violence Against Women Act, and that's where the funds are. I am just excited about applying. We applied, and this has never happened here. If you don't apply, you know you're not going to get it. I am so proud of our application, it was written in such a great way and I hope that we get it. If we don't get it, I am still going to get my visitation center some how."

His days start early and are busy

By Frank Lewis
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Photo / Frank Lewis

Portsmouth City Solicitor John Haas goes over the days itinerary in his office.

In an hour, in which many of us are pulling through the drive-thru to pick up a cup of coffee, Portsmouth Solicitor John Haas and his staff have already done that and are triaging their busy schedule for the day.

Sipping on his cup of joe on a Thursday morning at 8:45, Haas is already in the process of deciding how he and his staff will spend their day.

"This morning we actually have a jury trial," Haas said. "David Beck is trying a case this morning. and Chris Gerard has arraignments in Judge (Steve) Mowery's court."

Haas will start out with a meeting with Portsmouth City Manager Derek K. Allen, who, like Haas, is an early riser. They are both going to head out soon for a meeting to discuss the land bank.

"We're going to set up a land bank here in the county to bank land to use it for industrial or other developmental purposes," Haas said. That meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., but it is just the start of his day.

"There's a SOPA (Southern Ohio Port Authroity) meeting following that," Haas said. "Following that, with respect to that fire that occurred down on Market Street, there's some concern about the two buildings that were damaged and making sure that we don't lose them."

Haas said Market Street is one of the most attractive streets in the city and the last thing the city wants to do is lose those structures that are a key part of the unique downtown area.

"We're going to see what the plans are with respect to rehabbing those or saving them anyway," Haas said. "We just don't need another building to come down. One of the things we're going to discuss is that, if one of them goes down, are the rest of them in trouble because they're all tied together."

Haas, like the members of Portsmouth City Council, and the community in general, has much praise for the way Portsmouth Fire Department personnel attacked the fire and got it under control.

"That morning I woke up and saw the pictures on Facebook. And when I saw those pictures, my first reaction was - we're going to lose the whole block," Haas said. "Then I got a call from Derek Allen, the city manager, saying, 'hey, you need to come down,' because he had gotten a call and he was coming back into town to survey the damage and I think his initial impression was the same as mine. We thought we were going to be discussing demolition of the buildings, whether it's an emergency and we can do it right then. That's the kind of issues I thought we were going to be addressing."

Turns out, quick work and knowledge of how to deal with major structure fires by Portsmouth Fire Department personnel, kept damages to a minimum.

"They did a great job," Haas said. "From the pictures that I saw I was amazed at how little damage there appears to be on the outside anyway."

It gave Haas some momentary personal satisfaction to see the ladder truck he supported purchasing while he was Fifth Ward councilman, used in fighting the fire. He took the opportunity to mention the personnel at Market Street Cafe, who, while without power, still prepared food for those working at the scene of the fire.

Haas acknowledged that the Thursday schedule was unusual. He said he usually doesn't have three scheduled meetings in a day's time.

"Things come up all day long," Haas said. "I probably confer with the city manager over some issue or another three or four times a day."

Haas said Allen has changed the process of city government. He said early on he did not get involved in the day-to-day operations of the city.

"The city manager is more aggressive in getting legal opinions on just about everything to make sure it gets done right the first time," Haas said. "That's the way it should be. We've avoided a lot of problems."

Haas said, other than one small case, this is the first time he can remember in recent years in which the city is not involved in any litigation.

Haas gets ready to step out of his office and into a busy day.

"The morale among city employees is a lot better now," Haas said. "I think there's a level of trust that's here now with the city manager that helps." Some believe Haas also has contributed to that existing morale.

Reach Frank Lewis at 740-353-3101, ext. 1928, or on Twitter @franklewis.

Kester putting southern Ohio on the map

By Wayne Allen
tallen@civitasmedia.com

Since Jason Kester was hired as the Executive Director of the Southern Ohio Port Authority (SOPA) he and his staff have worked hard to put Scioto County and southern Ohio on the map for possible economic development possibilities.

Before Kester was put in this position, Scioto County and southern Ohio worked hard to bring jobs to the area and in many cases counties were competing against each other for possible development projects.

At a recent SOPA Board of Directors meeting Kester said regional cooperativeness is at an all time high. People are working together rather than apart and that's bringing some attention to the area, from around the globe.

Kester

The things that led Kester to become Executive Director of SOPA include receiving a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Miami of Ohio, an environmental law degree from Capital University.

Just prior to accepting the job he worked in the Franklin County Prosecutor's office. He went to Afghanistan as a member of the military, 10 years after Sept. 11, 2001. He came back in October of 2012.

He said while in Afghanistan a couple of his friends got killed and that made him realize he wanted to do something more with his life.

It was at that time the Executive Director job at SOPA opened up and the rest is history.

"We're working with some of the local companies looking to expand."
- Jason Kester

Kester is a member of the Minford Volunteer Fire Department; he helps coach basketball at Minford Schools and is still a member of the Ohio National Guard.

As the Executive Director of SOPA Kester is considered the Economic Development Director for Scioto County while also working with the city of Portsmouth, village of New Boston and all other villages and townships in the county to bring economic development to the community.

Kester said there is no such thing as a typical day when it comes to his job.

"One thing I've been able to determine is that everyone loves meetings, it does not matter if you in the Army or doing economic development," Kester said. "Meetings and administrative tasks, take up the vast majority of my time. The other small part of my time I'm actually doing economic development."

He said because the community had not addressed a number of things that could lead to economic development in the future, he has to find ways to address those issues.

"This morning in had a meeting with

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Egbert manages Shawnee State Forest

By Wayne Allen
tallen@civitasmedia.com

Scioto County is known for several things, be it the murals in Portsmouth, Roy Rogers Boyhood Home in Lucasville, Shawnee State University and many other things. One place that's on the list for a lot of people is Shawnee State Forest.

The forest draws hundreds of people to the area every year for a number of reasons. One of the people that are in charge of managing operations is Dale Egbert Shawnee State Forest Manager.

"I was hired (by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources) in 2010 as an interim land management forester at Shawnee State Forest," Egbert said.

He said, when he was hired it was only temporary, but lead to a full time position for him. In 2012 he was hired as forest manager.

Some of the things that lead Egbert to the position of Shawnee State Forest Manager include, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Science and Forestry from The Ohio State University in 1985. He received a Master's Degree in Forestry from Clemson University and has been working as a forester for roughly 30 years.

Throughout his career as a forester he's worked in South Carolina and Brazil for three years.

Egbert said there is never really a typical day when it comes to his job.

"A number of things we do at the state forest are resource management. That has to do with preparing timber sales and administering sales," Egbert said. "We maintain our boundaries, we're always monitoring for insects and disease."

He said the overall size of the Shawnee State Forest makes these and other activities a full time job for seven people.

The Shawnee State Forest includes 70 miles of forest roads, with a number of bridges and culverts. Workers are charged with maintain those roadways and addressing all of the normal maintenance issues, with the exception of snow plowing.

The forest includes five lakes and dams.

According to http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/shawnee, "Shawnee State Forest has developed into the largest of Ohio's state forests with over 60,000 acres. This working forest is managed to provide a variety of multiple uses on a sustained yield basis: Timber harvesting, tree planting, wildlife habitat, forestry research, watershed and soil protection, and production of tree seeds.

File Photo | Daily Times

Shawnee State Forestry officials recently heald a presentation at Washington-Nile School District. where the district was presented with a check from the Trees to Textbooks program.

During the spring and fall forest fire danger periods, state forest crews detect and suppress wildfires that occur on state and private lands within the surrounding protection area.

The 63,747 acres of Shawnee State Forest is in Scioto and Adams counties include 60 miles of bridle and hiking trails; 60 miles of backpacking trails; 58 horse camp sites; 8,000-acre wilderness; state park within the forest; fire tower."

When asked what the best part of his job was Egbert said, "I've always loved being outside and being in nature."

He said it was the desire to be outside that got him into the field of forestry.

For more information about Shawnee State Forest visit,forestry.ohiodnr.gov/Shawnee.

Reach Wayne Allen at 740-353-3101 ext. 1993 or @WayneallenPDT.

All in the family

By Wayne Allen
tallen@civitasmedia.com

Anyone familiar with or works in the construction industry can tell you, sometimes it's not easy to find work close to home.

For Jimmy, Jon and Jim Howell of West Portsmouth, they've found work really close to home and the opportunity to work together in the construction of the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway.

Jim Howell has been a member of the local 83 for 27 years, his dad retired from working out of the local 83. Jimmy and Jon Howell, sons of Jim Howell are now working out of local 83 under their dads supervision.

Jim Howell said one of the advantages to the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway, is getting the opportunity to work close to home.

"I've been in the laborers for 27 years, this is the closest I've been. These guys (Jon and Jimmy Howell) just got into the laborers last year and they are getting to work close to home," Jim Howell said. "It's really nice to go home every night and there is a lot of people from this area here working and we don't get this very often here."

Wayne Allen | Daily Times

Jim, Jimmy and Jon Howell are some of the many people working to construct the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway.

Jim Howell said working with his sons has been a learning experience for everyone.

"It's really nice to see them learning and watching them work. They work around the whole job, so they work with everyone here at one point or another," Jim Howell said.

Jim Howell said this project while being constructed and when complete will be of benefit to the area.

When asked if there was such a thing as a typical day, Jim Howell said, no.

"Everyone (workday) is unique, similar but not two the same," Jim Howell said. He said one of the factors that don't make his days typical is the weather.

Jim Howell said on one day he and his crew may be doing temporary seeding with a hydroseeder for strawberry mulch, covering barin ground to protect it from erosion.

Another day, he and his crew might be installing stream crossings, so the streams don't get damaged by crews using machinery trying to cross it.

Jim Howell said one of the many reasons why he loves is job is because, it's different every day.

Jim Howell said he and his crews oversee environmental erosion controls.

"Our purpose is to control the onsite storm water runoff, so when it leaves the project, it's been treated and cleaned. We have the least impact to the environment possible," Jim Howell said. "We protect all of the streams we (construction crews cross by different means. We have a lot of different controls in place to project the environment, that's our job," Jim Howell said.

For more information about the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway visit, www.pgg823.com.

Reach Wayne Allen at 740-353-3101 ext. 1933 or @WayneAllenPDT

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60641540

Far more than just a reporter

This reporter/photographer wears many hats in a day and loves them all!

By Fred Pace
fpace@civitasmedia.com

File photos

Wallen Allen, right, interviews The Howell boys - Jimmy, Jon and Jim - of West Portsmouth while the guys took a break from their busy schedule at the S.R. 823 project in Scioto County. Members of Laborers Local #83, the father-son team are working on the #SOVMH for Beaver Excavating, and they will be one of the many features in the paper's upcoming Progress edition due out next month. Also pictured (to the right of Jim Howell) is Todd Thatcher of Beaver Excavating.

PORTSMOUTH — Recently, CareerCast put out an annual ranking of 200 common jobs. This year, "newspaper reporter" finished 200 out of 200 — dead last.

Here's the CareerCast explanation: "Readership has steadily moved from print publications, whether they be newspapers or magazines, in favor of online outlets. The resulting decline in advertising revenue has left newspapers — and thus, newspaper reporters — feeling the pinch."

Wayne Allen is a reporter, photographer and content manager for the Daily Times and Community Common newspapers in Portsmouth.

And, just in case you are saying, "Well, sure, 'print reporter' might be a bad job, but almost no one does just that anymore."

These presumptions are both true and false. Almost no one does just reporting at a newspaper anymore, but Wayne Allen, a reporter/photographer and content manager at the *Daily Times* and *The Community Common* in Portsmouth says he loves his job.

"This list of things I do in a day at the newspaper may also seem overwhelming to some, but I love what I do and would not trade it for the world," Allen said.

Every morning when he arrives at work, the first thing he does is get a newspaper from the day before to look for evident errors and to see how the templates for each page were used.

"Once at my desk I will look through the paper while my computers are starting up," he explained. "Once clocked in, I will log into our computer systems to move the items not used from the day before to the next day. That will include stories and submitted items."

Allen helps the editor with managing content between editions of the *Daily Times*, which prints Monday through Saturday, as well as with *The Community Common* — the Sunday newspaper in Portsmouth.

Allen covers the Scioto County Commission beat for the newspaper.

"On Tuesdays and Thursdays I attend the Scioto Commissioners meeting at 9:30 a.m.," he said. "Depending on the topics on the agenda, those meetings could be completed quickly or could last an hour. At this meeting the commissioners will often go over the business of the county that needs completed and other things they may be working on."

Upon returning to the newsroom, Allen will check email and voicemails.

"Once complete I, begin uploading daily materials into our computer system for the next day's paper," he said. "Daily materials include a daily bible verse, weather graphic, history and TV Grids."

The day can also include staff meetings, team meetings, project meetings, training meeting and other types of meetings as well.

"We are always taking an inventory of what we can expect for the day from the writers, including photos and other graphic art that could be used with stories," he explained. "Things can change throughout the day. There are breaking news stories and new information is coming in to the newsroom constantly."

Allen assists with helping to get things to the newspaper's online edition of the newspaper at www.portsmouth-dailytimes.com and the newspaper's other digital media platforms, like Facebook and Twitter.

Allen has a degree in photography and helps to pick photos and graphics to go into the newspaper and online.

Allen says some days are slower news days than others, but normally there are at least four or five stories that are given front page consideration each day.

"Once the top story and the photo is chosen the remaining space on the front are filled with stories based on their impact on the community," he said. "The team of writers have been doing a lot more stories in the county that, some days, makes the choice of community impact more difficult."

Every Wednesday Allen is also responsible for budgeting content for the Community Common.

"That budgeting process starts just like the *Daily Times*," Allen said. "I go to content uploaded from the previous week to see what can be moved forward to the next week. I have to look at content moved forward, to make certain it can still be used. Once that's done I'll turn to email to start uploading content. I choose stories for the cover in order of impact to the community."

The majority of the content for the *Community Common* comes from emailed submissions, he added.

"Weekly features of the *Community Common* include a listing of church services, local briefs, columns and various other things," Allen said. "On Thursday, I have to make myself available for questions or issues with The *Community Common* budget. I also am responsible for updating the Community Common website. This task includes uploading material and managing breaking news for the website and social."

Allen also participates in a weekly call with the newspapers' pagination hub in North Carolina. Pagination is the process of layout and design of each of the newspaper's pages on a network computer system that Allen and *Daily Times* editors can see while the pages are being built.

"During the call we talk about issues we have with pagination over the last week," he said. "We also talk about upcoming special projects, ideas or adjustments we are requesting from the newspaper page templates."

The beats that Allen covers include, Scioto County government, coverage of the Scioto County Engineer (road projects), Scioto County Sanitary Engineer (sewer projects), Scioto County Auditor and Scioto County Treasurer.

"I also cover the Lawrence-Scioto Solid Waste Management District and the Ohio River Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross," he added.

Allen also covers economic development.

"As an off shoot of the Scioto County beat, I cover the Southern Ohio Port Authority, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG) and the Ohio River Valley Regional Development Commission," he said. "As well as the Rarden, Brush Creek, Union, Washington and Nile Townships."

Allen said all these

See ALLEN | 6B

Allen also participates in a weekly call with the newspapers' pagination hub in North Carolina. Pagination is the process of layout and design of each of the newspaper's pages on a network computer system that Allen and Daily Times editors can see while the pages are being built.

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Family Health
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Maddex leads bypass construction

By Wayne Allen
tallen@civitasmedia.com

Construction on the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway is well underway. Managing Ohio's biggest construction project takes a particular person; Bill Maddex, CEO of Portsmouth Gateway Group is just that person.

Maddex and his team have been in the area since last summer and he has been tasked with overseeing the construction on Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway.

He and his team has been in the area since 2015 and have made significant strides to bring the highway to life.

Life has taken Maddex, in a number of directions, but he said this project has particular interest.

"I was born in Ohio and lived the first ten year of my life in Bay Village, Ohio. I spent the second half of my formative years in Iowa. We moved west to Arizona, got a (in structural engineering and management) college degree there. I have a Master's Degree from Arizona State as well, from there I worked in a number of places," Maddex said.

With a desire to work in construction, contracting and engineering Maddex was able to travel.

"I've worked for some major construction companies; I've worked in almost every state (of the United States)," Maddex said.

His places of employment have included Canada and South America.

Prior to taking on the role of CEO for the Portsmouth Gateway Group, Maddex was working out of the San Francisco Bay area, for an international engineering consultancy by the name of Arup.

"There I established a cost schedule and risk consultancy within Arup, which is ongoing," Maddex said. "I've always been in heavy, civil and industrial highway construction. This project is really the columniation of all of my experience. I've consulted on over 35 Public, Private, Partnerships worth over $40 Billion Dollars in the last 10 years."

The Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway is the Ohio Department of Transportations (ODOT) first Public, Private, Partnership (P3) project.

Before construction on the highway began ODOT hired Portsmouth Gateway Group (PGG) to be the project developer.

When asked if there was such a thing as a typical day for him Maddex said, no and that's the way he likes it.

"This job is a challenge because Public, Private Partnerships are really the Vanguard of the way we build infrastructure in the United States. It's a new way to get things built and this is the first (P3) in Ohio. We (United States) have a shorter history (with P3) than they do in the United Kingdom of Australia," Maddex said.

When asked about managing a project like the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway, Maddex said, "all construction is challenging. This project is a Public, Private, Partnership, which is the most advanced way to deliver a job that addresses a reduction in risk and a certainty of cost, that's difficult to achieve when you build something. The way the funding mechanism is working here, really brings good value to the tax payers. I don't think there's a way you could get this job built for more bang for the buck."

With the P3 ODOT and the Portsmouth Gateway Group negotiated a cost for the project. The challenge for the Portsmouth Gateway Group is keeping the project within that budget, even if it takes years to construct the highway.

Wayne Allen | Daily Times

Bill Maddex, at work in his office managing various aspects of the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway.

The Portsmouth Gateway Group has a target substantial completion date for the project is December 2018 and final completion of April 2019. As a part of the P3, after the highway is constructed the Portsmouth Gateway Group will maintain the highway for 35 years.

Maddex said before his workday begins he anticipates receiving a phone call or email about an issue associated with the project, before he arrives at the office.

He said there are meeting with ODOT officials every Tuesday to coordinate all aspects of the project including schedule, cost and time.

He said Wednesday thru Monday, the work week is not typical

"I look forward to work day," Maddex said. "I enjoy my workday, I'm doing this on purpose and I enjoy working with the people."

Maddex said he and his wife of 40 years, have come to enjoy living in the area.

"We (Maddex and his wife) were ready to live in southern Ohio; we had not lived in the East for a long time. We're enjoying getting out and seeing the sights. It's easy to get to New York, it's easy to get to Florida, it's easy to get to all of those places, where my wife's never been," he said.

He has three adult children and enjoys visiting the airport in Minford because one of his many hobbies is flying airplanes.

For more information about the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway visit, www.pgg823.com.

Oliver talks about life of a ballplayer

By Michael Hamilton
mhamilton@civitasmedia.com

They're some of the most visible athletes in professional sports, but many fans have no idea what an average day in the life of a professional baseball player is like. Early mornings and late nights can be the norm, just as a relaxing day off with the family, but one thing is certain, it's nothing like is shown in during a highlight reel during the pregame show.

Al Oliver

Former Major League Baseball (MLB) player, and Portsmouth native, Al Oliver spent 18 years in "The Show", or the majors. His career sent him all over the country, playing for seven different MLB teams.

Throughout his career, Oliver had many different types of days, all of which were in no way typical of an average American's day. He played on Opening Day, at the All-Star Game, in multiple playoff games, and has even been a part of a World Series Champion squad.

All of these variations in days would strike awe in a baseball fan, but to Oliver, it was his career, and one he was very thankful to have.

Many baseball fans get excited when they realize the days until MLB's Spring Training quickly approaches zero. The preseason for professional baseball generates excitement for the fan-base, and an opportunity for players to get ready for the long, and often grueling baseball season.

Spring Training squads are full of savvy veterans, aspiring rookies, and niche players. Each team usually begins the preseason with a 40-man roster, which must then be cut to 25 by the beginning of the season.

"Naturally, everybody knows everyone isn't going to make it," Oliver said. "We usually start off the season with 25 players, and that depends on how many pitchers a team is going to carry."

A team will usually carry about 10 or 11 pitchers.

Oliver spent the majority of his career in the outfield, where there were usually an average of about five open spots for each team during his time in the league.

"The first Spring Training I went to there was so much talent there, that actually you could easily get lost in the shuffle," Oliver said. "They were always high on me, but I still needed to go out and perform. I couldn't take that for granted."

Nothing compares to Cincinnati's Opening Day celebrations. The day is treated like a holiday in the Queen City, and has more pageantry than a formal dinner at the White House. However, Oliver said that 1979 Opening Day with the Rangers was something special.

The teams will have various meetings as all the players report to camp in the latter part of the winter.

"The manager gets together and tells the team what he expects in Spring Training and the season to come," Oliver said. "We're sitting there listening and most managers will say the competition is tight."

There usually weren't many rules for the players during Spring Training, but punctuality, and showing hustle were two rules nearly every manager had.

Conditioning is key during the short preseason.

"We did a lot of running," Oliver said. "Outfielders did a lot of catching fly balls. Infielders took a lot of ground balls. It was work in Spring Training; it was a lot of work."

At the end of the morning practices, the players would line up at home plate. Each player would have to run out three singles, then three doubles, and three triples. After that, they had to run two inside the park home runs.

"By now, everybody is pretty much done, physically," Oliver said. "Bill Burton, who was a coach at that time, he was what we called the Liutenant, and he said on the last inside the park home run, if anyone is caught loafing, you have to run another one."

No one dared to loaf on that last run.

"It might have looked like they were loafing, because of tiredness," Oliver said. "I can still look and see (Willie) Stargell, on his last inside the park home run, he got to home plate, and just fell out. He gave it all he had."

While those drills were often times the toughest part of Spring Training, it put the team in great conditioning.

After a Spring Training practice the players were usually given the rest of the day off. A lot of the times, the players would meet up later in the day and share some fellowship.

While with the Pittsburgh Pirates, Oliver said a lot players would meet at Stargell's place near Bradenton, Florida. They would call a local butcher ahead of time to order the cuts of meat they wanted, and then would convene at Stargell's to grill out.

"We would sit around," Oliver said. "We all had fun, that was a typical Spring Training day. Practice in the morning, then out to eat, or whatever we wanted to do.

"Spring Training basically was an easy time, that we had some time to enjoy ourselves."

As Spring Training games would start, the competition would heat up to see who all would fill out the 25-man roster.

After Spring Training, the regular season begins for MLB. The long, 162-game season sees a lot of typical days for major leaguers.

During a typical night game at home, players would typically be required to be at the ballpark by 5:00 p.m.

"I was one of those guys that got there at about 2:00 or 3:00 p.m.," Oliver said. "What for, I still do not know to this day. I didn't play cards, but back then we had those boom boxes, and I liked music, so I just relaxed and listened to music."

Batting practice would begin shortly after 5:00 p.m., and would last approximately 45 minutes for each team, home then visitors.

"After that we would take infield and outfield practice," Oliver said. "That was a typical day prior to the game."

As the teams returned to the locker room to do final preparations before taking the field, many players would sit

See OLIVER | 7B

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Courtesy photo

Pictured are members of the SOMC Pediatric Guild with Maternity Services Clinical Manager Theresa Ruby (center, right), Maternity Services Nurse Manager Jone Stone (center), and newborn Lincoln Montgomery (wearing a sleep sack).

Promoting 'safe sleep' for babies

Sleep sacks given to mothers to ensure 'safe sleep'

Staff report

Members of the Pediatric Guild of Southern Ohio Medical Center recently made a donation of HALO-brand sleep sacks to benefit patients of SOMC Maternity Services.

The sleep sacks will be given to mothers who are unable to purchase the product on their own, and will be used as part of SOMC's "safe sleep" initiative to help improve the state of Ohio's infant mortality rate.

"Ohio ranks 46th out of all 50 states for infant mortality," Jone Stone, nurse manager of SOMC Maternity Services, said. "That's why we encourage the use of 'sleep sacks,' or wearable blankets that replace loose covers during sleep."

Sleep sacks ensure that a baby is safe throughout the night, eliminating the possibility of blanket entanglement, restricted breathing, and suffocation. Sleep sacks are also useful in keeping babies warm and comfortable because they can't be kicked off during sleep.

"Sleep sacks can be used until a baby starts to pull itself up; at that time, blanket sleepers are recommended until 18 months," Stone said. "After that, small blankets can be utilized."

Parents who are unable to purchase sleep sacks have to utilize small blankets. To use blankets properly, parents should swaddle the baby slightly below the shoulders in a secure manner as to not cover the head or face.

Creating a safe sleep environment means more than just using a sleep sack, however. Babies should always be placed alone, on their back, in a crib. Parents also should not put bumper pads, extra blankets, pillows, toys or stuffed animals in the baby's crib, and should not fall asleep with a baby in their arms or in their bed.

"Safe sleep environments for newborns save lives, and providing free sleep sacks to needy mothers sends a message about this initiative's importance," Stone added. "Anything we can do to educate and help a mom provide her baby with a safe-sleep environment is a priority, and we greatly appreciate the Pediatric Guild for their support in meeting the needs of our patients."

For more information about SOMC Maternity Services, please visit somc.org/programs/maternity.

Allen

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responsibilities may seem overwhelming, but while doing this he is able to maintain a volunteer relationship with his church Community of Christ.

"I am an ordained minister in my church and maintain an aggressive preaching schedule that schedule has me preaching as far away as Parkersburg, W.Va., a four hour round trip," he said. "In my church, I also serve as a youth minister that oversees youth ministry in five branches in Scioto and Lawrence counties. I have sat on the Board of Directors of my churches campground. I have been involved with this camp for the last 26 years and have spent the last 15 as a member of the board of directors. Every summer, I spend every allotted minute of vacation time volunteering at youth camps."

Allen says sometimes he is asked to travel to other areas of the state to help with a youth event they are having.

"I spent a recent weekend sleeping in a church pew at a youth lock-in," he said.

Allen is a past president of Scioto County Habitat For Humanity and current board member.

Allen is the vice president of Choice Housing.

"Choice Housing is an organization under the umbrella of the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities," he explained. "The organization provides and maintains residential property for those with developmental disabilities."

He is also a past president of Main Street Portsmouth and a past Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year.

"I love my community and I love working at the newspaper," he said. "I wouldn't trade it for the world."

Reach Fred Pace at 740-353-3101, ext. 1927, or follow him on Twitter @fcpace62.

Oliver

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around and converse and prepare for the game.

"On our ball club, we had a lot of clubhouse lawyers, and of course Dock Ellis was probably our best clubhouse lawyer we had, and then Dave Parker was to follow in some four or five years."

The purpose of the clubhouse lawyer was to keep the players loose and stir up some stuff in the clubhouse.

"I was always one of those guys who would sit by my locker and just laugh," Oliver said. "I really enjoyed it. I'd have my Diet Coke, or coffee, and sit back and watch these guys."

During afternoon games, especially those on the road in Chicago, everything happened much earlier.

"The bus would pick us up from the hotel at 11:00 a.m.," Oliver said.

From there pregame rituals would begin, until the approximate 1:00 p.m. start time.

In December of 1977, Oliver was traded to the Texas Rangers as a part of a four team trade. For the first time in his major league career, Oliver would not be wearing the yellow and black of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and would start on Opening Day in an unfamiliar location.

Nothing compares to Cincinnati's Opening Day celebrations. The day is treated like a holiday in the Queen City, and has more pageantry than a formal dinner at the White House. However, Oliver said that 1979 Opening Day with the Rangers was something special.

"People were ready, and the reason people were ready, because the year before, the Rangers had a real good year," Oliver said. "Now here come guys like Richie Zisk, and here come guys like myself to add on to that previous year."

Oliver said the Opening Day crowd was pumped. They had high expectations, and were ready to capitalize on last season's gains.

Oliver and the Rangers would face off against the New York Yankees, who sent their ace pitcher, Ron "Louisiana Lightning" Guidry to the mound. Guidry had won the American League's Cy Young award the previous season, and was expected to be just as dominant in 1979.

"My first time up, I got a base hit," Oliver said.

Later in the game, Oliver would get an at-bat in the 9th inning against Yankee reliever "Goose" Gossage.

"I singled off of him, and Richie Zisk hit a home run, and we beat the Yankees," Oliver said. "It was the game of the week as a matter of fact. So we were off to a good start, an awfully good start."

Oliver has fond memories of the reception the Rangers fans gave him on his arrival in Texas.

"The fans in Texas treated me like a king," Oliver said.

While in Pittsburgh, there was a fan section known as, "Scoops Group," and the Texas fans honored their recently acquired All-Star with a fan section as well, known as, "Al's Pals."

"The fans were great to me in Texas," Oliver said.

During his career, Oliver was involved in seven MLB All-Star Games. None of them were as memorable as the 1972 All-Star Game played in Atlanta, Georgia.

According to Oliver, every All-Star game was tough, and not just because you're playing against the best players in the league.

"You cannot have much breathing room in an All-Star Game," Oliver said. "You get there and the first thing you see is at least 20 dozen baseballs, and you have to sign all of them."

Oliver further explained if you missed even one ball, someone would find you and make sure you sign it.

Other than signing a massive amount of balls, there were numerous other things each player had to do, including attending special lunches.

"Before you know it, now you have to go take batting practice at the stadium," Oliver said. "You also have to deal with a lot of media. When you leave an All-Star Game, you're exhausted."

The 1972 game was Oliver's first, in Atlanta, home of the Braves, and home run icon Hank Aaron.

"When I looked at the players that were there, and I saw Aaron, (Willie) Mays, and (Roberto) Clemente, I knew I wasn't playing that night," Oliver said with a laugh. "I thought to myself, you might as well just take a seat and enjoy this All-Star Game."

Aaron started right field for the National League in the 1972 All-Star Game, and Danny Murtaugh was the NL Manager. Murtaugh was also the manager of the Pirates at that time.

"He (Murtaugh) said, 'Scoop, get your glove, and what I want you to do, is when Hank goes out to right field, and he gets out there, I want you to go replace him,'" Oliver said. "I come flying out there, and he (Aaron) got his ovation."

Oliver mentioned many times, the African-American players were unable to check into hotels, and were forced to stay in the private homes of known citizens willing to house the African-American players.

The feeling from the crowd's response when Oliver replaced Aaron was one Oliver says he will never forget, as the Atlanta crowd cheered on their favorite slugger as he exited the game.

"I tell people all the time, that was the only time I ever felt good about replacing someone," Oliver said. "That will always stand out."

The previous year, Oliver reached a milestone many professional ballplayers only dream of, he became a world champion, as the Pittsburgh Pirates defeated the Baltimore Orioles in the 1971 World Series. The series went seven games, in which the Pirates clinched at Memorial Field in Baltimore, Maryland.

Despite playing for the championship, the Pirates kept their normal day-to-day routines.

"Believe it or not, everything was the same, except there was more news media we had to deal with," Oliver said. "As far as what was going on, on the field, everything else was the same."

Media was everywhere during the World Series according to Oliver.

"They were there before the game, during batting practice, and then of course after the game," Oliver said. "That was a difference, more media, a lot of media."

The series was going to be decided by the seventh game, which was played in Baltimore. Pittsburgh lost the first two games, then won the next three, before Baltimore tied the series 3-3, after winning Game Six.

Pittsburgh went into Game Seven with a lot of confidence, and the belief they would walk out World Series Champions.

"The reason we had that confidence, was because we knew Roberto (Clemente) was not going to let us lose," Oliver said. "The only thing he wanted from us throughout that World Series was to contribute a little bit, and he would do the rest, and he did.

"I look back at each game that we played during the World Series, and each one of us made some type of contribution toward winning, and he just put the climax on winning the whole series."

One of Oliver's biggest highlights during the series came during Game Four. Trailing by three runs going into the bottom half of the first inning, Oliver, along with Stargell hit back-to-back RBI doubles to cut the deficit to a single run, 3-2. Oliver would later tie the game 3-3 in the third inning, with an RBI single.

Oliver has done it all in baseball. He has experienced Spring Training, Opening Day celebrations, All-Star Game appearances, as well as being a World Series Champion. However, Oliver also experienced a sour note in the history of baseball and of the country, segregation.

Before being called up to the majors, Oliver, like nearly every other professional baseball player at some point, played in the Minor Leagues.

Playing for his first professional baseball coach Clyde Sukeforth, Oliver recalled several times he witnessed blatant segregation in the South. Sukeforth was familiar with segregation, and what African-American ballplayers had to endure, as he was the scout sent by Branch Rickey to scout Jackie Robinson.

In 1965, Oliver's minor league team was leaving Daytona Beach, Florida, heading to Gastonia, North Carolina.

"We stopped at a few restaurants that didn't serve blacks, so we got right back on the bus," Oliver said. "Naturally, he (Sukeforth) had already gone through the racial part of baseball and life, so he didn't hesitate in telling us to get back on the bus."

Oliver mentioned many times, the African-American players were unable to check into hotels, and were forced to stay in the private homes of known citizens willing to house the African-American players.

"When I was in Raleigh, I had heard they would have (Ku Klux) Klan rallies, and I just thought to myself, oh Lord," Oliver said. "These are things that you hear about, and don't see. I realized Portsmouth was somewhat segregated, but when I was in the Minors, you could see what you really didn't see growing up here first hand."

In 1965, Oliver was playing in the Minor League All-Star Game in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

"Sparky Anderson was the manager, he was with the Cardinal organization then, but I remember they didn't have restrooms in the dugouts back then," Oliver said. "You had to go up a hill, and so I went up the hill, and I saw signs that said 'colored' and 'white'. I thought to myself, it (segregation) does exist."

That was the first time Oliver remembers seeing a sign explicitly prohibiting an African-American from using a facility. Oliver said he doesn't remember which one he used.

"I don't know what it said, but I knew I needed to go pay a water bill," Oliver said jokingly. "I can't tell you which one I went into, but I came out alright."

The Portsmouth native had a remarkably successful baseball career. He finished his career with a .303 career batting average. He is number 56 on the all-time hit list, with 2,743, and number 100 on the all-time RBI list.

He appeared in seven MLB All-Star Games, won three Silver Slugger awards, and won the National League Batting Champion, and RBI leader in 1982.

Kester

From page 2B

the city manager (of Portsmouth) and we talked about everything from Section 8 housing, to making sure we apply to a grant program to maybe get some of the abandoned gas stations torn down," Kester said.

When asked how he is able to balance everything Kester said, "I worked 2,800 hours for SOPA last year, which works out to over 53-hour work weeks."

He said SOPA is working hard to bring opportunities to the area and is working to prioritize what's important.

"Right now we're going a lot with Brown Fields, looking at abandoned gas stations, looking to establish a county land bank that would address some of the abandoned houses in the area. Pretty much environmental stuff and regional marketing is taking up most of my time," Kester said.

SOPA is also spending time to prepare for the America's Best Communities Grant presentation in April.

In January, SOPA learned that Portsmouth had advanced to the top 15 communities in the America's Best Communities Competition.

The Southern Ohio Port Authority, Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Portsmouth teamed up for this competition.

When the competition was first announced there were roughly 400 communities throughout the United States involved. That pool of communities was narrowed to 50 and in January that pool was narrowed to 15 communities.

The next step of the competition will have community representatives present on the revitalization strategy at the America's Best Communities Summit in Durham, North Carolina on April 26 and 27.

According to information about the competition, at the end of the summit, eight communities will be named finalists and awarded $100,000 to bring their plans to life. They will have one year to implement their strategies, and the top three communities that make the largest impact and show the greatest potential for achieving sustainable revitalization will be selected as the grand prize winners. The top community will receive $3 million, with second place earning $2 million and $1 million for third.

Kester along with three others will be traveling to present at the summit in April and represent the community.

When asked what's on the horizon Kester said, "We want to get the land bank setup, so we don't miss out on an opportunity for a few million dollars in grant funding, which is really the pressing issue right now."

He said there are still a couple of projects that could bring jobs to the area.

"I can't talk about specifics, but we have a couple promising leads we're working on right now," Kester said. "We're working with some of the local companies looking to expand."

For more information about the work SOPA is involved in visit www.sohpa.org.

Reach Wayne Allen at 740-353-3101 ext. 1933 or @WayneAllenPDT

King's Daughter Medical Center's mobile mammography was recently renovated.

Submitted photo

Mammography unit renovated

ASHLAND, Ky. — The King's Daughters Medical Center (KDMC) mammography unit could be coming to your community.

The unit has recently undergone renovations to enhance the quality of services that it provides in counties in Kentucky and Ohio.

The KDMC mobile mammography unit is the only one of its kind in eastern Kentucky.

The newly renovated unit travels throughout eight Kentucky counties and four counties in southern Ohio, providing access to digital mammography at our Family Care Centers, physician offices, workplaces, schools and more locations.

New additions to the mammography unit include two new dressing rooms and an extended waiting area, allow women to receive quick and convenient testing without traveling.

The mobile mammography serves patients five to six days a week in Boyd, Greenup, Carter, Elliott, Lewis, Johnson, Martin and Floyd counties in Kentucky; Lawrence, Scioto, Pike and Jackson counties in Ohio.

Doretha Pridemore, breast care center clinical supervisor, said mobile mammography is beneficial to women who may lack transportation.

"Some women don't have access to transportation to visit King's Daughters," Pridemore said. "Mobile mammography provides care where it's needed — and women appreciate it."

KDMC staff said mobile mammography began serving patients in 1997. Through the generosity of sponsors including King's Daughters Auxiliary and Rocky Adkins Golf Tournament, the most current unit was purchased in 2009.

Shawn Boggs, executive director of diagnostic services at King's Daughters, said it is with pride that KDMC serves patients in their community.

"We are proud to serve patients at King's Daughters and in our communities," Boggs said.

Through a partnership with Susan G. Komen organization, we are able to provide free or reduced cost mammograms, advanced diagnostic and treatment services to eligible women residing in Ohio and Kentucky. For more information about this program call 606-408-2650.

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Anne Caudill assisting student with art project.

Photos / Ciara Williams-Conley

Students working on their art.

Helping students tap into their creativity

Anne Caudill has been the art teacher at Minford High School for the past five years.

Caudill teaches three sections for Art I, two sections of Art II, and one Art III & IV class, each of which last 50 minutes.

For Anne or Mrs. Caudill as her students call her, a typical day includes helping students tap into their creativity, and learn how to express themselves through art.

She monitors the students, making sure that they are following routines, and staying on task with the current project.

"My classroom is very student centered. I facilitate by assigning a project but it is up to the student to process the information and complete the assignment in their own unique way," said Caudill.

Each day is very busy and presents new opportunities for problem solving, exploration, and experimentation with different materials and mediums.

"I try to offer insight and suggestions as students work while allowing them freedom to make their own decisions and choices. Sometimes their projects are successful and sometimes they make mistakes," Caudill said.

"We try to look at mistakes as opportunities in which to learn from. I always try to tell them that there are no mistakes in art, and that a mistake can be transformed into something beautiful."

"I always tell my students that art...provides opportunities for students to invent, take risks, explore, and experiment. All of which are common traits of some of the most successful individuals."
- Anne Caudill

Over the years, there have been cuts to programs such as art, but Caudill is grateful that the Minford School District does the best that it can for the students.

"The district provides me with a pretty good budget but despite the fact, there will always be extra items that need to be purchased above and beyond what is covered. In order to try and accomplish every project that I plan on finishing within a school year I typically have the students do several fundraisers throughout the year to supplement the program," said Caudill.

Caudill believes that art education is an important part of the student curriculum, as it provides students with a creative outlet to express themselves.

"I always tell my students that art is important because it encompasses many aspects of life. It allows you to see the world through a different perspective. To observe your surroundings more closely. It provides opportunities for students to invent, take risks, explore, and experiment. All of which are common traits of some of the most successful individuals."

Caudill always has something for her students to work on, and challenges them to go above and beyond her expectations.

"The most rewarding part about my job is watching a student who has been struggling with a technique or a concept finally get it. To see a student's work evolve from nothing into something is a pretty awesome feeling."

Reach Ciara Williams-Conley at 740-353-3101 Ext 1924 or via Twitter @PDT_Ciara

Students at MHS working on their ceramics projects.

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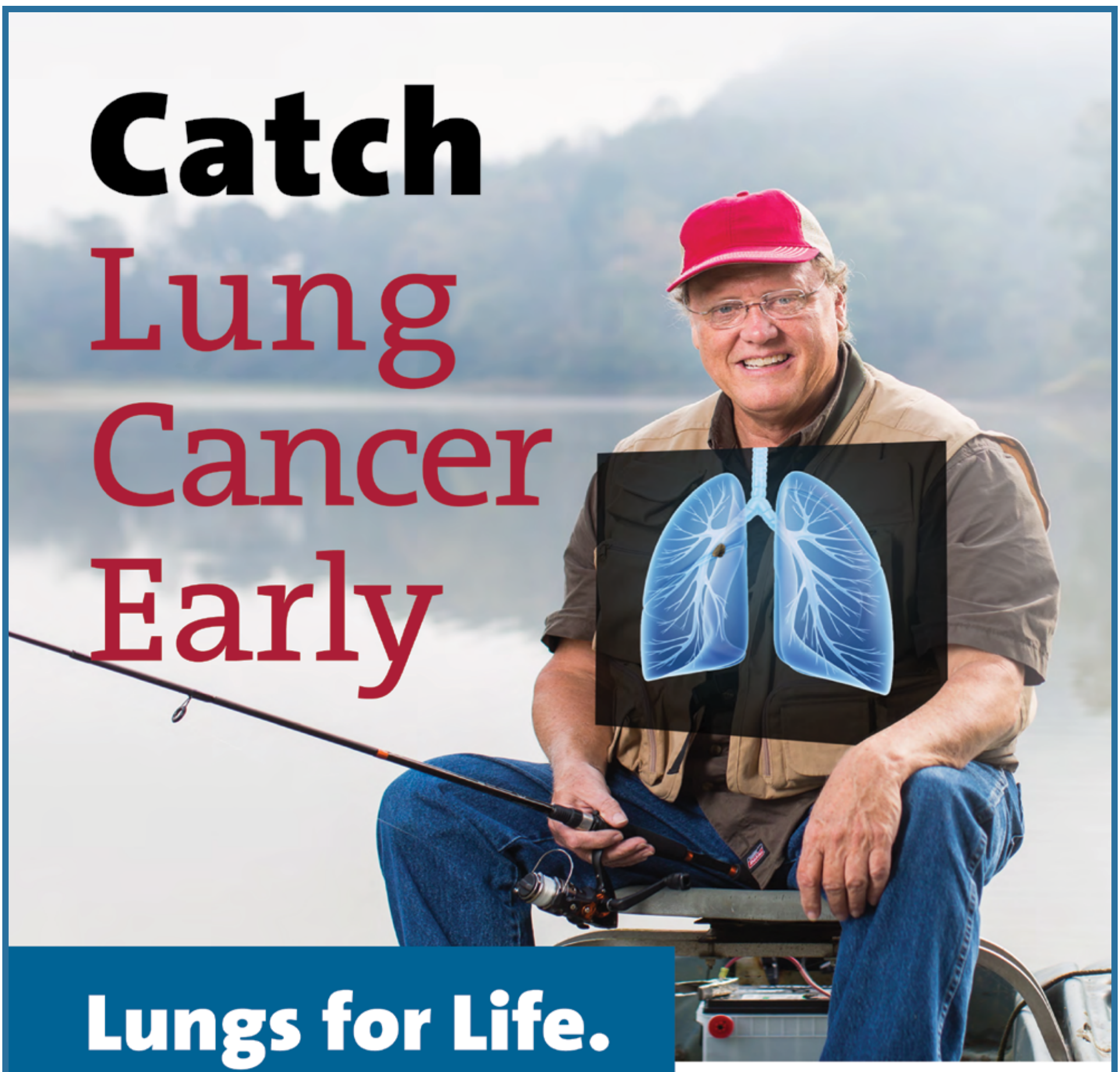

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