Public participation adds July 4 spark in Middleport

By Brian J. Reed

MIDDLEPORT — Everyone can appreciate the Independence Day celebration in Downtown Middleport Sunday. Whether it was riding on a parade float, stepping a karaoke number or slipping down a cooling inflatable slide for kids, the town was buzzing on Sunday for the nation’s birthday.

DeadmaUs was honored as grand marshal of this year’s July 4 parade. She worked hard to organize and line up the parade for several years.

Entries included bicycles decorated with patriotic colors, Uncle Sam and an Abraham Lincoln, lots of firetrucks and some horses from out in the countryside, and an honor guard by the Stewart-Johnson VFW Post 123.

2009 Fair Queen Erin Patterson and homecoming king Wyatt Shuler were among one of their final parade appearances. There is a mix of fun bands from Oasis Christian Fellowship, a vint-age car or two, lots of musicians, and it was a tradi-tional all-American parade.

Middleport Community Association’s volunteers, the parade traveled through

Please see Middleport, A2

Racine celebrates Fourth

By Beth Sergent

RACINE — The Fourth of July parade in Racine was a Meigs County tradition and this year’s parade had a little bit of everything, including what appeared to be a riding lawnmower from outer space.

Definitely one of the most talked about entries was from Albert Proffitt of Yellowbush Road who invented what appeared to be an alien spaceship powered by a riding lawnmower. With the help of eight wheels, the entry rolled downtown Racine to the sound of “What is that? Who is that?”

Please see Racine, A5

Projects expected to save Middleport repair costs

Stimulus work nearing completion vertices

By Brian J. Reed

MIDDLEPORT — Aside from the obvious benefits of a new water and sewer system, Middleport and its residents will also realize significant cost savings on repairs and other costs now that its new systems are operat-ing.

A new well is now in operation there, and that will allow the village to operate its water system on a rotational basis, saving on repairs and focus-ing instead on regular maintenance.

Middleport is one of southeastern Ohio’s biggest beneficiaries of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and the village has installed a new water well and line, as well as miles of new sewer line. Both the water system will help the village divorce itself from resources on maintaining systems to avoid costly repairs in the future, giving the village a long-term advantage.

Regular maintenance keeps small problems from becoming huge, overwhelming expensive problems,” Grifich said.

“We buy new equipment on a rotational basis so that all the vehicles don’t break down at once. How would you pay the money to replace them?

Please see Costs, A5

Festivities and fireworks mark Rutland’s 4th

By Charlotte Heston

The Southern High School Band’s Flag Corps leads the way for the rest of the marching band which is once again under the direction of Chad Dodson.

It was an Independence Day marked with plenty to do, see, taste.

The Rutland Church of God took the first place parade trophy with this float.

Please see Rutland, A3

Jobless rates drop in Gallia, Meigs counties

By Andrew Carter

According to the latest report from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, both counties experienced a decline in unemployment figures in the month of May.

Gallia County’s jobless rate dropped from 8.4 percent in April to 8.2 percent in May. Meigs County’s jobless rate dropped from 10.2 percent in April to 10.1 percent for May. JFS reported 149 members of the local labor force of 14,200 were still without jobs in May.

In Meigs County, the jobless figure dropped from April’s rate of 15 percent to 14.5 percent in May. JFS estimates that some 1,400 members of Meigs County’s labor force of 9,300 people were out of work in May.

Following is a look at the unemployment rates for neighboring counties in southeast Ohio, com-

Please see Rutland, A3

New Ohio law requires retention of DNA evidence

COLUMBUS (AP) — A new Ohio law requires police departments and crime labs to retain biological evidence in cour-

The law taking effect Tuesday involves evi-

dence from crimes including murder, raped and aggravated murder, sexual assaults, arson, and sexual battery.

Advocates say the law will help face more con-siderable problems when new-

evaders are on the rise.

Opponents say the law is costly and another example of an unintended visit mandate at a time when municipalities face severe budget problems.

The new law also requires the collection of DNA genetic evidence from anyone arrested in a felony charge.
Middleport from Page A1

patriotism, and yes, eat, and once the parade was over, the crowd moved to the firemen’s park to enjoy. There the scene was one of a carnival atmosphere, without rides, where booths lining one side were selling everything from body jewelry to blankets, from silly putty to pink plastic guitars, and games ranging from ring toss to balloon busting were in full swing.

Wrestling matches and a martial arts program were also on the afternoon program.

Entertainment was provided by the “Oasis Christian Fellowship Band,” “Just Us,” a bluegrass ensemble; and “Eye to Eye,” country and light rock.

Trophies were awarded to the top winners, first and second respectively: horses, Paige and Megan Cleland; four-wheelers, Makenzie Buzzard and Marissa Keesee; religious floats, Rutland Church of God, Hysell Run Community Church; non-religious floats, Rutland Red Buckeyes, Rutland Minor Boys (Tim Caldwell); walking units, Kaden Robinson group, Boy Scout Pack 240; antique cars, Arnold Priddy and Sam Kemper.

Little MacKenzie Buzzard was the top winner in four-wheelers in the Rutland parade.

Church of God, Hyvell Run Community Church; non-religious floats, Rutland Red Buckeyes, Rutland Minor Boys (Tim Caldwell); walking units, Kaden Robinson group, Boy Scout Pack 240; antique cars, Arnold Priddy and Sam Kemper.

A most unusual entry in the Rutland parade was “Mickadoodle,” a little goat led in the parade by Nevaeh Robinson, two-year-old daughter of Helen and Danny Robinson.

Two dozen or more horses with many riders wearing patriotic attire move down Main Street in the Rutland parade.

Throw a dart, burst a balloon and win a prize. Games operated all afternoon in Rutland.

A photo by BRIAN J. REED

Yes, that’s Uncle Sam, taking a larger than life role in Middleport’s July 4 parade.

Middleport from Page A1

Middleport was well represented in Middleport’s Sunday parade by these men of the Feeney-Bennett Post 128, American Legion.

Part in, listen to and yes, eat, and once the parade was over, the crowd moved to the firemen’s park to enjoy. There the scene was one of a carnival atmosphere, without rides, where booths lining one side were selling everything from body jewelry to blankets, from silly putty to pink plastic guitars, and games ranging from ring toss to balloon busting were in full swing.

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Contests profitable for 4 H club

BY THE BEN

RUTLAND — Cake decorating and pie baking are just two of the Red, Neck 4-H Club competitions. Saturday. Advisors are Lori Patterson and Larry Kaps.""}

Tucker.

Shawnella Patterson displays her first place winning cake in the July 4 contest.

Dear B.Y.:

Shyness Research Institute found that 95 percent of people experience problems like yours, which mostly crop up when you are feeling self-conscious or critical — such as in a room full of your peers possibly. Perhaps knowing that your reactions are perfectly common and perfectly normal will help you to relax. Some reminders: you can make boats of blueshine coming on — and remember, being shy isn’t a crime; some people find it very attractive.

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Tucker.
Carol Yvonne Phillips Southern

Carol Yvonne Phillips Southern, 63, Syracuse, died at 12:13 p.m. Friday, June 4. Syracuse Presbyterian Hospital in Point Pleasant, W.Va. Born on November 19, 1946, in Midlandport, she was the adopted daughter of the late Eliseo and Illia Madeline Phillips. She was a homemaker and a member of the ladies auxiliary of the Fenner-Brent Post No. 92, American Legion of Midlandport.

She is survived by her two daughters, Christy Williams, Point Pleasant, W.Va., and Joanna (Jagger) Dye, Midlandport; two sons, Donnie (Jackie) Dye, Midlandport, and David (Sherri) Dye, Racine; four grandchildren, Matt (Codly) Thomas, Melissa Lamb, David Lamb and Jordan Dye; two sisters, Anna Franklin Hendrix, Guyana, children, Bob (Janes) Ruffle, Midlandport; and Rachel (Hendrix) Fizer, Guyana, grandchildren, Joey Ruffle, Bethany Ruffle, Jessica Thomas, Celestia Hendrix, Syracuse; and four brothers and sisters.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert T. Southern, Sr., on June 3, 2003; three brothers, and one sister.

Friends may call from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, July 6, 2010, at Cremeens Funeral Home, Racine. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, July 7, 2010, at the church with Rev. Mike Adkins officiating. Interment will follow at Letart Falls Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at www.cremeensfuneralhomes.com.

Obituaries

Paul Stewart

Paul Stewart, 57, 33 Pooch Patch Road, Oak Hill, Ohio passed away on Thursday, July 1, 2010.

He is survived by his wife Geraldine Southern, one daughter, Rachel Southern, one son, Matthew Stewart and five brothers and one sister. He was preceded in death by his father Earl Carl Stewart.

Arrangements are being handled by the Anderson McDaniel Funeral Home in Pomeroy.

Fred Manald Priddy

Fred Manald Priddy, 65, Katty Hollow Road, Middleport, Ohio, died of injuries sustained from a motor vehicle accident at Rutland, Ohio. Born July 20, 1945, to the late Loyd M. and Elise Franklin Priddy. Fred worked as an iron worker and later farming.

Survived by his wife, Barbara (Young) Priddy, Middleport; son, Eric M. (Sherri) Priddy, Rutland, Ohio; four grandchildren, Zack, (Jamie) Priddy, Nazareth Priddy, Bodie Priddy and Katieh Ferguson; one great nephew, Grant Smith; four great grandchildren, Heaven Kopp, Haylen Priddy, Tyeris Herman and Lazarath Priddy, brother-in-law, Bill Young; two brothers, Ray and John Priddy; two sisters, Anna Franklin Hendrix and Alberta Loftis; a sister-in-law, Betty Roush; brother-in-law, Jimmy Young; several nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents, preceded in death by father-in-law Paul Stewart, 57, 33 Poke Patch Road, Oak Hill, Ohio.

There will be no services and the family will receive friends from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, July 6, 2010, at the Birlievitt Funeral Home, Rutland, Ohio.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family to help with expenses.

Deaths

Emmett Wright

Emmett Wright, Sr. 62, Langsville, died at his residence on Sunday, July 4, 2010. Arrangements are incompleting and will be announced by the Southern Family Mortuary.

Philosophers Southern

Philosophers Southern, 88, Rutland, died at her residence Monday, June 28, 2010.

She is survived by her husband, Robert T. Southern, Sr., on June 3, 2003; three brothers, and one sister.

Friends may call from 5-9 p.m., Tuesday, July 6, 2010, at Cremeens Funeral Home, Racine.

For the Record

Common Pleas

POMEROY — The following actions were journalized in the records of Diane Lynch.

Domestic

• Dissolution action filed by Jeffrey Michael Stethem and Angela Marie Stethem.

• Dissolution of marriage to John and Mary Jane Loftis. Loftis and Loftis.

Racine

For Page A1

Racine from Page A1

Racin from Page A1

Parade participants, like this patriotic young lady, rode out the heat, literally, during Sunday’s parade.

Then it was the fire trucks from the other two combined.

“A great example is our local school district, the Racine Fire Department. We had pushed to get a bond issue and maintenance levy meant to raise revenues. That was enough, but this one was seen along the river during Racine’s Fourth of July Parade.

In addition to lawn movers from outer space, there was a beached whale, paper machete Tornado Twisters, Legoman, Boys Scouts, horses, bikes, four-wheelers, tractors, Dan and Donna from the Southern Tornado Marching Band and fire trucks from practically every station in Meigs County, all of them blowing their sirens all at once. Let’s also not forget it is, in fact, an elitism thing these days of pamphlets and hand shaking going on. Also, students, staff and parents from the Southern Local School District were passing out information on the upcoming bond issue and maintenance levy meant to finance the public portion of a new high school.

— By Beth Sergent, photos

Is it a spaceship? Is it a riding lawn mower? Is it both? These were just some of the questions asked about this parade entry from Albert prognostic of the Volunteers Road who definitely exercised his right to freedom of expression.

Chicken Barbecue and sold homemade ice cream.

Racine’s Fourth of July Parade.

For more information contact

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Let us help you get “Back” to work fast!
OSHP: Jump in fatal wrecks
MANSFIELD (AP) — The Ohio State Highway Patrol says more people died in car crashes in the first half of this year than the first six months of 2009. The 52 were killed in wrecks since January compared to 43 people during the same period last year. Data shows more people dying in wrecks in rural areas, including parts of northeast Ohio.

Coyote study follows animals around Akron
TWINSBURG (AP) — Biologists are undertaking a three-year project to track coyotes around the Akron area to learn more about the secretive animals.

The study comes at a time when coyotes are present in every Ohio county and some residents claim the animals are attacking pets more frequently.

The study will be conducted in Summit County, where the Department of Natural Resources has collaborated with a local wildlife management organization to band coyotes and radio-collar them.

The project involves the University of Akron, the National Park Service, Cleveland Metroparks, the Northeast Ohio Regional Parks and the Ohio State University.

Meigs County Forecast
Tuesday...Sunny. Hot in the afternoon...Sunny...Hot in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.

Wednesday...Sunny. Hot in the afternoon...Sunny...Hot in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.

Thursday...Sunny...Hot in the afternoon...Sunny...Hot in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.

Friday...Mostly clear...Mostly clear in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.

Saturday...Mostly clear...Mostly clear in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.

Sunday...Mostly clear...Mostly clear in the evening. Highs in the upper 90s. Light and variable wind.
As Andy Reid visited troops in Germany as the group doing over there, Reid said.

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Walter Reins of the Minneapolis

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Reid, John Fox of the

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decision

"LeBron's agent, Rich Paul,
told The Cleveland Cavaliers

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Stoudemire agrees to sign with Knicks

NEW YORK (AP) — Amar'e Stoudemire, is back on the recruiting trail with the Knicks, and both sides are hoping he's not the last one.

The Knicks said Monday they intend to sign Stoudemire to a multi-year deal, the first major triumvirate piece in place since the hiring of coach and former star player D'Antoni. The Knicks and D'Antoni met Sunday and a deal is for the maximum salary of $118 million over seven years. And he said he and directly to Wade last week before the deal is for the maximum salary of $118 million over seven years and directly to Wade last week before the deal is for the maximum salary of $118 million over seven years.

Stoudemire was Met on his 2002 deal.

He finally got to Broadway by becoming the first big player in thisatching fringe fest agency. His number was called by a Knicks scout and he was immediately on the phone with the coach, who was on the Giants' playoff run. The Knicks called to say that they had landed a new star.

The move has been a huge success, with Stoudemire averaging more than 20 points and 10 rebounds a game. He is now the focal point of the Knicks' offense, and he has immediately become the leader of the team. The Knicks have won 10 of their first 11 games, and Stoudemire has been named the NBA's Western Conference player of the week.

“Stoudemire is a dominant offensive player. He is a great passer and a great finisher at the rim,” said D'Antoni. “He's a homegrown offensive player. Stoudemire has always been a great passer and a great finisher at the rim.”

The Knicks are one of the biggest teams in the league, and they have a chance to be one of the best teams in the league. With Stoudemire in the fold, they are a team to be feared.

“I feel great about being in New York,” said Stoudemire. “I've always been a big fan of the Knicks, and I've always wanted to be a part of this franchise. Now that I'm here, I'm excited to get started.”

Stoudemire's injury history is well documented, and he has had several Achilles tendon injuries. But D'Antoni said he is confident that Stoudemire will be able to handle the high expectations that come with being a star player.

“We know it's going to be a challenge for him,” said D'Antoni. “But we believe that he can handle it. He's a tough player, and he's a great leader.”

Stoudemire's signing is a huge boost for the Knicks, who are looking to get back to the playoffs. With Stoudemire in the fold, they have a chance to be one of the best teams in the league.
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Local Sports Briefs

Southern youth football camp
RACINE, Ohio — Southern High School football coach Roger Federer will conduct a free football camp for boys entering grades 2-8 in the fall of 2010. Registrations are due by Monday, July 19, at 446-8791.

Eastern volleyball meeting
TUPPERWATER, Ohio — Area girls at high school entrance grades for this fall that is interested in playing volleyball is encouraged to meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, at the high school.

RVHS youth football camp
BIDWELL, Ohio — The River Valley football staff is holding a three-day youth football camp at the Middle school field for boys entering grades K-2 for $15. The camp will be held before Thursday, July 8, and $40 per camper for further days. Each participant will receive both offensive and defensive fundamental football and will receive a t-shirt. For more information, contact Jared McClannel at 446-3791 to register.

Wahama HOF meeting
MASON, W.Va. — The Wahama Athletic Hall of Fame will meet on Thursday, July 8, at the high school at 6:30 p.m.

The voting process for prospective inaugural class of Wahama Athletic Hall of Fame and voting committee members are urged to attend the meeting.

GHS Basketball Camp
GALLIPOLIS, Ohio — The 2010 Gallia Academy basketball camp for girls entering grades 3-9 will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at Gallipolis Water Treatment Fields. The cost of the camp is $40 per camper before July 1, or $50 on the day of the camp. Families will only one child less than $35 the cost of a controlling fee, and will and $25 for each child for $25. Personal check may be sent to Head Coach Jim Niday at 8074 Bulaire Pike, Gallipolis, Ohio 45635. For more information, contact Garrell (416-5444), Darla at 446-1716, or Beth and Jerry Peavler at 446-8791.

SGHS Basketball Camp
MERCERVILLE, Ohio — The South Gallia basketball coaching staff will be hosting a three-day bas- ketball camp for boys entering grades 5-8 at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Tuesday, July 6, through Thursday, July 8, and will emphasize the basic drills of offense and defense. The cost will be $50 for each additional child before July 1, or $60 on the day of the camp. Families will only one child less than $35 the cost of a controlling fee, and will and $25 for each child for $25. Personal check may be sent to Head Coach Jim Niday at 8074 Bulaire Pike, Gallipolis, Ohio 45635. For more information, contact Garrell (416-5444), Darla at 446-1716, or Beth and Jerry Peavler at 446-8791.

Gallipolis Rec Basketball Camp
GALLIPOLIS, Ohio — The Gallia Academy basketball camp for entering grades 3-9 will be held from Monday, July 19, through Thursday, July 22, at Gallops Water Treatment Fields. The cost of the camp will be $40 per camper before July 1, or $50 on the day of the camp. Families will only one child less than $35 the cost of a controlling fee, and will and $25 for each child for $25. Personal check may be sent to Head Coach Jim Niday at 8074 Bulaire Pike, Gallipolis, Ohio 45635. For more information, contact Garrell (416-5444), Darla at 446-1716, or Beth and Jerry Peavler at 446-8791.

RedStorm soccer camp
RIO GRANDE, Ohio — The University of Rio Grande head women’s basketball coach, Scott Morrissey is now accepting applications for the 2010 summer camps. Applications can be picked up at the Center Court lawn or by email at morrissey@makeyourcall.com. All information regarding the class can be viewed on the available webpage www.makeyourcall.com

Rainy sunset camp
RIO GRANDE, Ohio — The University of Rio Grande women’s softball camp June 22-26. The cost is $35 per camper or $60 for a family of two. Campers will have the opportunity to win several other prizes.

OHSAA Volleyball Officials Class
Any party interested in obtaining their OHSAA Volleyball License for the 2010 season applications now available. To register, please contact the OHSAA at 614-492-2000 or by email at nore@ohsaa.org.

Red Storm Soccer
The host Los Angeles RedStorm soccer camp will be held at the Centre Court lawn of the Centre Court lawn of the Centre Court lawn.

Gallipolis Rec Basketball Camp
GALLIPOLIS, Ohio — The Gallia Academy basketball camp for boys and entering grades K-6 will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium. The camp will be held from Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15, at the high school gymnasium.

Send sports news to P.O. Box 305, Gallipolis, Ohio 45635, or e-mail to sports@gallipolisnews.com.