



COMING TUESDAY



ART

Three Delaware Hayes' students will compete in New York in a regional art competition.

INSIDE TODAY



SPORTS

New England captured its third Super Bowl in four years with a 24-21 victory over Philadelphia. Page 9



WORLD

Vatican says pope will remain hospitalized a few more days as a precaution. Page 8



- ▶ **Perfect Road:** will be closed between Centerburg Road and N. Old 3C Highway through May 27.
- ▶ **Africa Road:** will be closed Monday through Feb. 16 between Plumb and Lewis Center roads.

WEATHER

HIGH 50  
LOW 35

FORECAST PAGE 2

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“A cruel story runs on wheels, and every hand oils the wheels they run.”  
— Ouida (Marie Louise de la Ramee), English writer (1839-1908)

# The Delaware Gazette

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## A small price for a friend

### Woman donates 14 inches of hair

By MARGO BARTLETT  
Senior Writer

“I took my hands down to the water running out of the faucet to wash the goop off and that was when reality hit me in the gut. I was molting like a duck.”

— Connie Curry, her description of losing her hair in her book *You Can Have My Hair; I'm Fighting to Keep My Headlights*

Connie Curry and Teresa Kelly have shared a workplace, many laughs and more than a few confidences.

After Curry was diagnosed with breast cancer in October, Kelly hoped they could share even more — her hair.

Curry lost her hair in January as a side effect of chemotherapy. Kelly, whose long blond hair

reached well past her shoulders, had 14 inches cut off to make a wig for her friend.

She acted impulsively — her hair was cut less than 24 hours after she had the idea — and without knowing that wigs require hair from at least three heads. But Kelly expressed no regrets as she sat in Curry's Coover Road kitchen last week, the shiny ponytail on the table in front of them.



Connie Curry, right, hugs her friend Teresa Kelly while holding a ponytail of Kelly's hair. Curry, of Delaware, was diagnosed with breast cancer last fall. Kelly had her hair cut, hoping it could be made into a wig for her friend.

Gazette  
Matt Emmons

Please see HAIR, Page 3



## Hundreds turn out for tasty event

By TIM PICARD  
Staff Writer

Visitors to the Strand on Saturday enjoyed barbecue and corn pudding, battered fried fish and seafood cakes along with silent films instead of popcorn, Snow Caps and Hollywood's latest release. The unique setting was the Arthritis Foundation's A Taste of Delaware fund-raiser.

Local restaurants and beverage distributors donated samplings for the nearly 200 attendees while public officials vied for the top dessert ribbon. Though the total funds raised have not been tallied yet, Delaware County Arthritis Foundation branch manager Mary Motz expressed satisfaction with the event and gratitude with for who participated.

“I was very pleased in the sense that I was overwhelmed by the participating restaurants, vendors and attendees in their support for the foundation,” she said.

Motz singled out The Strand's manager Kara McVay's willingness to forgo thousands of dollars of Saturday night ticket sales.

“It's hard to describe how important her support for the foundation was,” she said.

Motz, who hopes the fund-raiser becomes an annual event, said all proceeds will support Delaware County Arthritis Foundation programs. Anyone interested in more information about the branch's services and an upcoming Walk for Arthritis, may call 740-362-8400.

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Gazette photos Giles Clement

Gerard Fons, a chef at Willowbrook, makes grilled rosemary chicken with penne pasta and portabella mushrooms Saturday during the Arthritis Foundation's A Taste of Delaware fund-raiser.

## 'B.A.' Jones was a voice for civil rights

By TIM PICARD  
Staff Writer

A biography that reads more like a fictional novel is the life of Butler A. “B.A.” Jones. From a student in the segregated south of the early 1920s and 1930s, to a leading proponent of education and other civil rights, Jones' past deserves repeating during Black History Month.

A tribute written by Verne Edwards appeared in the *Gazette* following Jones' death May 9, 2003. Aspects of the tribute are contained herein. Some of Jones' recollections as told to Larry Harris, executive director of Willow Brooks Centrum, are also repeated.

In 1916, Nettie (Butler) Jones gave birth to Butler in Birmingham, Ala. before succumbing to influenza as did tens of millions who died in the mid- to late 1910s. His father, Roscoe C. Jones, then disappeared, leaving the boy and his sister in the care of their grandmother and grandfather, who had been a slave.

Jones was educated in segregated schools before graduating from Southeast Alabama High School, a parent-supported private school made necessary by the failure of local public schools to offer education beyond the sixth-grade for blacks.



Butler A. “B.A.” Jones was a civil rights activist who once had Martin Luther King Jr. as one of his students.

### Black History Month

• On Mondays throughout February, the *Gazette* will feature a prolific voice in the quest for civil rights. Today is Butler A. “B.A.” Jones. Next week we will profile Sarah W. Hurrigan.

Please see JONES, Page 3



Gazette Matt Emmons

Robert Nims, left, conductor of the Asbury United Methodist Church senior choir, and Asbury Director of Music Sally Casto are in charge of the Asbury Arts Series, featuring choral and chamber music programs at the West Lincoln Avenue church.

## Asbury Arts Series offers music mix

▶ Program featuring blend of choral and chamber music enters third year at church

By MARGO BARTLETT  
Senior Writer

The “major acoustical advantages” of the Asbury United Methodist Church sanctuary helped to bring about the Asbury Arts Series, now in its third year.

The Duvall Ensemble will enjoy those advantages when it presents the second program of the 2004-2005 series Feb. 19 at the church, 55 W. Lincoln Ave. The free concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Asbury Director of Music Sally Casto and

choir Conductor Robert Nims said the programs offer a mix of choral and chamber music.

The series was launched in 2002 when the Asbury adult choir presented a program with Cincinnati's Anderson High School a cappella chorus.

The church is primarily a place of worship, Nims said, “but it's a wonderful performance space” that puts performers close to the audience and with “major acoustical advantages” that rival any in Delaware.

Casto said the series offers good music that's both affordable and accessible.

Not everyone can afford to pay \$15 or more to attend a concert, she said. Anyone with an interest in music may attend the programs. In fact, she said, those who think they *might* have an interest may attend.

Please see ASBURY, Page 3

If you go:

The Asbury Arts Series will feature two more programs this year.

- The Duvall Ensemble 7:30 p.m., Feb. 19
- The Indianapolis Opera Ensemble 3 p.m., April 24

Both programs will be at Asbury United Methodist Church, 55 W. Lincoln Ave.

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▶ RMALLAH, WEST BANK

**Rice announces new aid program**

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Monday the United States will provide more than \$40 million in aid to the Palestinians during the next three months and also appoint a new "security coordinator" to help Palestinian forces.

Rice, at a news conference with the new Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, called the aid package a "quick action program" that would have an "immediate positive impact."

She said the money would be used to create jobs and improve infrastructure.

"This is a time of hope, a time we can hope for a better day for the Palestinian and Israeli people both," she said.

She also announced that the United States would appoint a coordinator to assist Palestinian security forces.

"It really is to provide a focal point" for training and equipping Palestinian forces monitoring the peace, she said.

Rice offered few details about the coordinator, but said they would be provided soon.

Rice has previously said the United States has no plans to appoint a high-level diplomatic envoy to represent the United States in the peace process.

▶ WASHINGTON

**Bush wants \$2.5 trillion budget**

President Bush is sending Congress a \$2.5 trillion spending plan, constrained by war and record deficits, that seeks to slash spending in a number of popular programs from farm subsidies to poor people's health care.

While calling it the tightest budget of Bush's presidency, Vice President Dick Cheney defended the spending blueprint against Democratic complaints that its austerity falls hardest on the poor.

"It's not something that we've done with a meat ax, nor are we suddenly turning our backs on the most needy people in our society," Cheney said on "Fox News Sunday."

The budget's arrival Monday on Capitol Hill sets off months of contentious debate, with lawmakers from both parties expected to fight to protect favorite programs.

Bush has targeted 150 programs for either outright elimination or severe cutbacks as part of an effort to meet his campaign pledge to cut the deficit in half by 2009, the year he leaves office.

For the 2006 budget year that begins next Oct. 1, he proposes spending \$2.5 trillion as he seeks to put the government on a path of declining deficits.

— Associated Press



**Little drummer boy**

Associated Press Lonnie Timmons III, The Plain Dealer

**Fifteen-year-old drumming sensation Steve Renko practices in the basement of his teacher, Bob McKee's home in Parma. Renko, a student at Cleveland's St. Ignatius High School, was among 29 American and Canadian high school musicians selected to participate in a series of jazz ensembles in Hollywood leading up to Sunday's Grammy Awards.**

**JONES**

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"In the deep south, you learned that there is that end of town and there is this end of town," he told Harris. "A white man would expect you to get off the sidewalk when he was walking. If you didn't like it, you went to see a white policeman. He would tell you, sometimes with a blackjack, that 'sidewalks weren't for niggers.'"

Jones graduated from Morehouse College at 21, majoring in history and minoring in political science and sociology. He then earned a master's degree in 1938 from Atlanta University then continued teaching in the college's "laboratory" high school. One of his students was Martin Luther King Jr. Jones later earned a doctorate from New York University.

He continued teaching for nine years at Talladega College before joining the Sociology Department at Ohio Wesleyan University in

1952. Jones worked with Thurgood Marshall, who in 1954 successfully argued before the Supreme Court, *Brown v. Board of Education*. The decision by the court, on which Marshall was later placed, eliminated separate, but equal treatment of blacks. Jones would collaborate on 10 briefs submitted to the Supreme Court regarding school and housing desegregation.

It was during this time at OWU that Jones met Everett Tilson, a professor at the Ohio Methodist Theological School. Tilson had recently left the Vanderbilt University Divinity School after nine years.

"I was disenchanted with the chancellor, who, if not a racist, pursued policies that were inimical to the liberation of blacks," Tilson said.

Jones and Tilson were of like minds. They were instrumental in the formation of the Delaware Council of Human Relations. The pair became close friends, as Jones spent 18 years at OWU,

eight as head of the sociology department.

"He was an outgoing, modest but strong person," Tilson said. "He didn't suffer fools gladly, which is to say that he and his first wife, Lillian, would not take lightly casual references to the racial problems."

In 1969, Jones was offered a similar post at Cleveland State University, which according to Jones, he accepted because OWU did not attempt to keep him in Delaware.

"He was missed," Tilson recalled. He was highly respected in the black community and very active while living here.

Jones retired from CSU in 1982 and returned to Delaware. In his last years, he was given the 1985 Lee-Founders Award, conferred by the Society for the Study of Social Problems. OWU and CSU established annual lecture series in his honor, and OWU named the Butler A. Jones House of Black Culture.

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**ASBURY**

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They don't have to spend \$20 to find out," Casto said.

No admission is charged, though a freewill offering is taken at intermission. Those offerings and an endowment arranged by the late Sherman Moist have so far covered the costs of the expenses.

"Sherman Moist wanted to make possible special music events in the life of Asbury church," Casto said, and his endowment is fulfilling that wish.

The series tends to feature Delaware area musicians, though others are invited to perform as opportunities arise. The Anderson choir was one such serendipitous opportunity; its conductor was Nims' son Anthony Nims. The Quintet of the Americas' performance in 2003 "dropped into our laps," Casto said, crediting church member and musician Carol Brulotte's friendship with helping to bring about that visit.

Nims said the concerts are attended by both church members and members of the community. Although series planners believe concert goers may find "a good church home" at Asbury, adding to the church membership is not the primary motivation.

"What pleases me is affirming the real interest in the arts in this community," Casto said.

The 2005 series opened in November with a program by the Asbury senior choir and the Hayes High School Hayes Singers.

The February performance will be devoted to the Duvall Ensemble, including Charles Wetherbee, violin; David Niwa, violin; Korine Fujiwara, viola; and Pei-Ann Chao, violoncello.

Charles Wetherbee has been concertmaster of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra since 1984 and

is a professor of violin at Ohio State University. Niwa has played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Columbus Symphony and the Symphony Orchestra of the Curtis Institute, among others.

Fujiwara, with the Columbus Symphony since 1992, frequently performs with the ProMusica Chamber Orchestra and is a member of the Duvall Trio, the ensemble in residence at Ohio Wesleyan University, where she is a violin and viola instructor.

Chao was born in Taiwan and moved to New York City in 1987 to study piano and cello at the Preparatory Division of Manhattan School of Music. Before joining the Columbus Symphony in 2000, she was a member of the New World Symphony in Florida.

The program will include Haydn's Quartet in B flat Major, "Sunrise," Op. 76, No. 4; Wolf's Italian Serenade for string quartet in G Major; and Mozart's Quartet in C Major, "Dissonant" K. 465.

The third program in Asbury's 2005 series will feature The Indianapolis Opera Ensemble, young artists from the Indianapolis Opera who will present opera and musical theater favorites on April 24 at 3 p.m. The ensemble also will visit Woodward Elementary School while in Delaware.

Nims and Casto praised all who contribute to the success of the annual series, including musicians, audience members, and artist Sara Stuntz, who produces fliers and posters.

The series' "underlying goal," Casto said, is to counter the belief that classical music is not a priority anymore.

"People assume it's not popular," but their experience has demonstrated just the opposite, she said. Asbury's efforts to offer accessible, affordable music have been both rewarding and successful.

"It's our calling," Casto said. mbarlett@delgazette.com

**HAIR**

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Does it still smell like my shampoo?" Kelly asked.

"Sure does," said Curry.

When Curry learned that Kelly's hair alone could not become a wig, and that the cost of having the hair woven into an otherwise synthetic wig would be sky high, she turned to Locks of Love, a nonprofit organization that provides hair pieces for financially disadvantaged children with long-term medical hair loss.

She now has a donation application, a profound empathy for children who suffer from the medical condition alopecia areata, and plans for a possible Locks of Love fundraiser.

She also has an enormous appreciation for Kelly's sacrifice, and for her way of going about it.

"She's spontaneous; you have to be spontaneous in EMS," Curry said.

"Do it first and think later," Kelly said, smiling.

The two met about 10 years ago when they both worked for Delaware County Emergency Medical Services. Kelly, a full-time Marion firefighter, continues to go on both Delaware County and Marion County EMS runs.

Curry now works part time for Miller Medical and is a free-lance writer whose stories have been published in magazines and elsewhere. Although humor is her primary genre, Curry has found it difficult to be funny about hair loss.

Patients undergoing chemotherapy lose their hair three weeks into treatment, she said. When her hair began to fall out in clumps, she gathered family and friends for a head-shaving party. Curry and her husband Dave are the parents of three children: Amber, 24, Ryan, 23 and Katie, 16. Amber, Curry said, volunteered to buzz her mom's head.

"You just want to pay me back for all those times I cut your bangs crooked," Curry told her.

The gathering was light-hearted — Curry was determined to make it light-hearted — but living without hair is hard, she said. She wears one of two "Survivor" buffs Dave gave her or a wig from the James Cancer Center's Hope Boutique. When her head isn't covered, she avoids mirrors.

"I just don't want to be seeing me" without hair, she said.

Curry told no one, not even Dave, when she first received the bad news. She had had a recurring lump in one breast, but had been reassured by her doctor that it was fibrocystic disease. When the lump returned and didn't go away, she had a lumpectomy.

"Things kind of went to hell after that," she said. "... I just wanted to die."

When the news did get out, she said, BV basketball coach Landon Fraker called Katie, a multi-sport athlete currently

playing on the varsity basketball team, into his office. He told her she could miss practice whenever she needed to and showed her what he was about to give to the team and the coaching staff: pink breast cancer awareness wrist bands.

Soon after that, the team played in a scrimmage. Curry was in the stands to see the players and the coaches run onto the floor, each wearing a pink band. She started to cry.

"That's why I did pick myself back up," she said.

Writing also helps. The steroids she's taking keep her awake, so she sometimes works most of the night.

"That's when I do my writing; I'm just typing away on my book," she said, drumming her fingers on her kitchen table.

The book will include information about the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, describe the outpouring of support she's received and look with unflinching honesty at painful truths.

Hair loss, for one. The looming possibility of a mastectomy, for another.

Curry said talking to the other "cancer soldiers" receiving treatment at the James has revealed a telling truth: Facing cancer is devastating, but "the biggest emotional turmoil" is the loss of hair.

"We all know it's going to grow back, but it's getting to that," she said. "... A bad hair day is bad enough. And now look at me; Lord have mercy."

In her book, Curry writes about her last days with her hair.

She describes being afraid to wash her hair, about using a lint brush on her clothes, about waking up to find clumps of hair on her pillow.

She writes about Tuesday, Jan. 4, when she dressed for work and spiked her hair:

"I took my hands down to the water running out of the faucet to wash the goop off and that was when reality hit me in the gut. I was molting like a duck," she wrote.

Her book's working title is *You Can Have My Hair; I'm Fighting to Keep My Headlights*. Friends and family are arguing for different, perhaps more direct, wording. Curry's still thinking about it.

Meanwhile, she has one more chemo session before undergoing an MRI. The magnetic resonance imaging will tell her the next step: 35 doses of radiation or a mastectomy.

"I'm not out of the woods yet," she said.

But Curry refuses to yield to fear.

"Mine was found early enough and I'm optimistic that I'll be OK," she said.

Furthermore, she said, she intends to join the BV softball team for its annual trip to Cocoa Beach, Fla.

"I'm going to Florida over spring break, come hell or high water," she said. "... This is the toughest road I've ever traveled, but I'm climbing the hills."

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