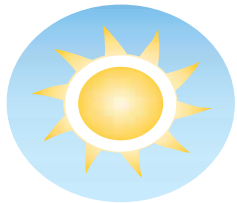


**TODAY'S WEATHER**

HIGH  
77  
LOW  
52



**TUESDAY'S WEATHER**

HIGH  
70  
LOW  
54



FORECAST PAGE 2

**INSIDE**



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A lesson in creating a sting of impropriety. Page 4



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Bishops held to less than 200 yards of offense in loss to Fighting Scots. Page 9

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**



If we would only give, just once, the same amount of reflection to what we want to get out of life that we give to the question of what to do with a two weeks' vacation, we would be startled at our false standards and the aimless procession of our busy days.

— Dorothy Canfield Fisher, American author and essayist (1879-1958).



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DELAWARE, OHIO  
188TH YEAR  
VOLUME No. 233



# The Delaware Gazette



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MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2006

50 CENTS



Gazette Amy Allan

## Picking the perfect pumpkins

Indian Springs kindergartener Rylee Bussen chose her favorite pumpkins at Saturday's annual Miller Farms Fall Festival. Luckily, parents Scott and Jessica were there to haul the loot. See Page 3 for more images from the weekend's fall festivals.

## Delaware kicks off fire safety month

By DON E. BRUCE  
Staff Writer

The sound of children's laughter filled the Wilbur Bills Fire Station Saturday as kids and parents were given a crash course in fire safety during the Delaware Fire Department's open house.

Children lined up to take their turn at a working fire hose. Firefighters provided some assistance telling the kids how to open the hose and teaching them to target the base of an orange traffic cone that served as a substitute for flames. "It is fire prevention month. I'm trying to teach them to be safe," Dave Clendineng, of Delaware, said of his three daughters, who had just finished a turn on the fire hose.

They also took their turns climbing aboard the bucket of one of the department's ladder trucks, which had its boom stretched out across the parking lot.

Fire Chief John Donahue said the open house was an important part of his department's operation.

"We want our community to know what our capabilities are, see the equipment that their money has paid for, meet the people of our department who will be serving them, but at the same time, we want to teach them about safety," Donahue said.

The open house also was the department's kick-off of



Gazette Amy Allan

Delaware firefighter Steve Leech demonstrates how to operate the Jaws of Life during the department's open house at the Wilbur Bills Fire Station.

Please see FIRE, Page 3



Gazette Amy Allan

Kate Bussey paints her own china and jewelry.

## Bussey gives her world a hand-crafted touch

By CONNIE E. CURRY  
Special to the Gazette

At 86, Katherine Bussey — fondly called Kate — is as agile as a 50-year-old and rarely bored.

Born Katherine Zschach (pronounced "shock," but sometimes mispronounced as "shack"), she has lived in Delaware County most of her life. "I'd rather be a shock than a shack," said the humorous Bussey.

Born in Columbus, her family moved to Jaycox Road when she was a toddler. Unbeknownst to Katherine, a boy named Frederick Bussey lived five blocks from her in Columbus. When her family moved to Jaycox Road, that same boy's family moved five miles from the Zschachs' new home. Katherine and Frederick eventually met and became childhood friends, as did their parents, who

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spent a few nights a week playing cards. The Busseys owned a farm, and Katherine worked for them stacking hay and driving horses during her youthful, carefree days.

Frederick and Katherine's friendship developed into a serious relationship, and they married in 1942. They raised two children, Donna and Ronald, on the 22-acre farm they bought on Jaycox Road. Later, they purchased 44 acres and farming became their life.

After the children were grown, Katherine Bussey developed an interest in china. She enrolled in an art class in Pataskala, where a

Please see BUSSEY, Page 3

## Fair board elections open until Nov. 1

By LIZ ROBERTSON  
Staff Writer

Many in Delaware County may believe that the county fairgrounds are a quiet place now that the fair is over for another year. They may imagine a fall wind scudding leaves across the quiet grounds as things settle down until next year.

But the fairgrounds are a busy place year round, with other events scheduled that include horse shows and sales, auctions, special events and a People In Need drive at Christmas, to name just a few. Then there are the 100 to 150 horses that are boarded there year round, not to forget the flea market and farmers' market.

The job of making sure that all the activity flows easily and without problems belongs to fairgrounds manager Gary Must. Must has been general manager for the past three years, after being chosen from 34 applicants.

"I had the opportunity to compete (for the position) with some very good individuals," he said.

Helping Must in his efforts is the duty of the board of the Delaware County Agricultural Society.

The board is made up of 18 people, with six elected every three years.

Those with terms expiring this year include Bill Millhoan, Larry Moreland, James Stimmel, Merlin Sheets, Diane Winters-Barker and the late Louis Huffman.

Elections for the fair board will be Nov. 14.

Must said he is "delighted that there is that much interest" in the fair board election this year. Nominations for those interested in serving are open until Nov. 1.

Must said in order to be a member of the board, individuals must be 16 years or older, a resident of Delaware County and be a member of agricultural society. To become a member of the society, one must purchase a membership for \$2 by Oct. 30 at the fair office.

If someone wants to run for the board, he or she needs to file a petition that certifies membership in the society and has 10 signatures of current members. The petition must be turned in to the fair office by 5 pm. on Nov. 1.

Must said general membership of the society varies from 225 to 1,300, with average membership between 225 to 400.

"It depends if there is a hot issue," he said.

Board meetings are open to the general public. Must encourages people to attend the monthly meetings. He said public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting in case those wanting to speak do not

Please see FAIR, Page 3

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## More fall fun



(Clockwise from top) Two families tried to keep in step Saturday by walking on boards with ropes during an unusual race at Preservation Parks' Fall Festival at Gallant Woods; John Lock, known as the Englishman abroad, captures the imagination of a group of children with one of his seasonal folk stories Sunday during the Oakland Nursery Fall Festival; Buckeye Valley freshman Amanda Roden paints a bat on the face of Madison Stout, a camper from New Washington, Saturday during the Alum Creek Fall Festival.

## Gazette photos Amy Allan



## BUSSEY

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

teacher worked with her on and off for four years. Her passion grew as she learned about different china shows across the United States and throughout the world.

She loved painting on items such as vases and plates. "I never painted on ceramic. It had to be china," she said. Each item on which she diligently worked wasn't completed until it was fired in a kiln. She even toted her kiln with her to Florida when she and Frederick sold the farm in 1990 and moved to South Venice. The kiln had to reach a temperature of 1,400 degrees; the china was placed in it for up to five hours to complete each piece. Each plate has an artist's five-digit number stamped on it after completion and fired to symbolize the work of each artist. Those numbers can be researched to give the history of each artist.

Bussey has also painted many beautiful designs on pendants. "I wear one every day," she said, holding up the necklace on her neck.

She has hand-painted 113 different styles of stationery, adding bold designs across the borders of paper. For years, she has generously given her personally designed stationery to others to use.

In 1960, Bussey started traveling to china shows, selling her elegant pieces and buying paints, brushes and more plain china. She'd transform the pieces with lively, colorful paints, making delicate flowers on each and transforming them into life. Although Bussey can design any kind of flower, roses are her favorite to create.

While she enjoyed traveling to the various china shows, she didn't like leaving her husband behind. One day, he had an idea.

"I'll sell the milk cows,

we'll get heifers and I'll be able to travel with you." They purchased a van and decided they would travel to various shows and always return home a different route. Their goal was to see all 50 states. "It took us 25 years and we did it. Our last states to travel to were Alaska and North Dakota," she said.

"We did about 10 shows a year, and were later able to buy a motor home," she continued, flipping through numerous scrapbooks showing something from each state and every china show they attended. "We had a neighbor girl that did chores for us and kept an eye on our home while we traveled. I couldn't have done all this without my husband."

Every year, different states hold china shows. The Busseys would choose a different one to visit each year. Every other year, they would travel to the international show and alternate going to the World China Show, which was held in a different country each year. They visited Germany, Japan and China and toured china factories in Switzerland, Germany and Australia. Bussey was asked to teach her special talent to others and for years taught seminars all over. "I was never in it to make money. I loved meeting people from all over and sharing my designs with them," Bussey said.

When they weren't busy traveling, Bussey stayed busy with a variety of clubs close to home. Ohio has 12 china clubs and Bussey was the president of the Columbus Porcelain Artist Club for two years.

Her work has been published in *The China Painter* magazine and the *International Porcelain Art Teachers* magazine, which is distributed to 27 countries. For years she designed the cover of her church's weekly bulletin. Bussey has kept many certificates and has letters of

appreciation from people all over the United States who have enjoyed her work.

After the death of her husband in 2001, Bussey moved into St. Michael's Community in Delaware, but she maintained her fast-paced life. She is still a member of the International Porcelain Art Teachers Association, and would probably still be dabbling in her china creations if the kiln was permitted at her residence. In lieu of a kiln, Bussey has turned to yarn.

"I knit and crochet a lot. I am making two (Ohio State) afghans for a friend for Christmas," she said.

Once, a huge bag of yarn remained after a yard sale at her church. The minister said, "Give that to Katherine. She will put it to good use."

And that she did. After seeing a picture in a magazine of an older woman with a lap robe, Bussey started knitting her own lap robes. To date, she has donated 92 of them to Wintersong Nursing Home and 24 to the Alzheimer's patients at The Arbors. The 93rd is in a bag and will find a home soon.

Last year, Bussey entered a contest for the National St. Michael's Community calendar. There were more than 100 entries and Bussey's drawings were chosen for the June 2006 page.

Bussey's daughter, Donna McNeal, has an artsy side, too. She started a quilting club in Delaware and it has approximately 20 members. Her son, Ronald Bussey, carves and makes elegant replicas of various animals.

Bussey is active with the Delaware Senior Citizens and is still able to drive. She has been blessed with good health and an alert mind.

"This world doesn't owe me a penny. Life has been good," Bussey said with a smile.

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## FAIR

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

want to stay for the entire meeting.

The duties of a board member extend beyond the county fair. There are monthly meetings and 12 standing committees on which to serve. The committees include education/agriculture, exhibits (both junior and senior fair), finance, hospitality, marketing, motorized events, maintenance, planning and development, racing, security/medical/parking, special events and sponsorships.

Among board topics Must sees taking precedence this year will be the infrastructure and long-range planning. He sees discussions focusing on "where we want to be in four to five years, in 10 years."

Must said handicapped parking in another topic that will be studied in the immediate future; he said he hopes to resolve any problems with handicapped parking by next year.

"On Jug Day, when you are filled, what you are you going to do? The idea may be drop-off locations," he said.

Must said over the past few years, many processes of the fair have become automated — such as junior fair payouts. He said the 4,000 junior fair entries had about \$15,000 paid in project awards.

"It's all paid by check now. It's a definite improvement."

Must said the talk about severing the ties between the junior and senior fair and the racing is just talk.

"They do that every year. Look at the history of fairs. Harness racing has always been a part of fairs. That's part of Americana. Of course, we've taken the racing to a worldwide status."

And for those wanting more of this past year's fair, Must said the Smithsonian Institute filmed portions of the final two days of the fair for a special that will air on the Showtime channel sometime in January.

Must has been involved with the fair since the mid-1970s.

"You have to have a love for the fair. It's like a family reunion."

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## FIRE

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Fire Safety Month," and Donahue said he wanted to bring awareness to the dangers of cooking fires.

"That is one of the largest dollar losses and threats to our community," he said. "So often people turn their backs to it."

He added that the desire to boost the heat to rush a meal can lead to disaster if an unforeseen mishap allows the flame from a gas stove to spread.

Donahue said the statistics regarding cooking fires speak for themselves:

— From 1999 to 2002, an average of 114,000 home fires associated with cooking equipment were reported per year, resulting in 290 deaths and 4,380 injuries annually.

— Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home-cooking fires.

— Three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen, more than any other place in the home.

— Two out of three reported home cooking fires start with the range or stove.

— Electric ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fires, injuries and property damage compared to gas ranges or stoves, but gas ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fire deaths.

Other counties' organizations came out to the event to introduce their groups to the public.

"We work a lot with the fire departments throughout all of Delaware County. We'd like to respond to any house fires they have because we provide that immediate help to the family: housing, clothing," Phil Packard, a Delaware resident and volunteer with the American Red Cross, said.

Donahue said beyond watching out for cooking mishaps, one of the key things families can do to save lives is have an escape plan.

"The greatest loss of life is in home fires," he said. "The more and more you practice it with children, if that event should end up happening, they know."

He added that having an escape plan while on vacation is also important.

"As firefighters, we are always aware of where that second exit is or how many doors down from our room the nearest exit is, so we can find it if the hallway is filled with smoke," Donahue said.

For more information on fire safety, visit the department's Web site at [www.delawareohio.net/departments/fire](http://www.delawareohio.net/departments/fire).

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