

WORTH NOTING

► **THE REAL DEAL:** AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — The auction house thought the portrait was a 17th century Rembrandt knockoff, and valued it at just \$3,100. But the British buyer apparently knew what he was doing. Experts have confirmed "Rembrandt Laughing" — bought for a bargain price of \$4.5 million at an English auction house in October — is a self-portrait by the Dutch master himself.



► **FRIDAY:** Council for Older Adults Summer Festival, 3 to 8 p.m., Delaware County Fairgrounds.

THE NOOZE

Half-ton of premium coffee beans stolen in Hawaii

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii — Police in Hawaii say a thief got his caffeine fix when he made off with more than 1,000 pounds of Kona coffee beans.

Police say the beans were taken from a home sometime between May 27 and May 29. The beans were in 100-pound burlap bags.

Police are asking the public to report anyone trying to sell green coffee beans.

The Kona area of Hawaii's Big Island is famous for its premium coffee beans.

Ex-parking meter worker charged with stealing \$30K

NEWARK, N.J. — New Jersey prosecutors say a former city worker whose job involved emptying parking meters stole more than \$30,000 in coins from the machines. That equals a stack of quarters about 700 feet high.

An indictment handed up Wednesday against Rodney Dennis charges him with official misconduct and theft.

Authorities say the 52-year-old was supposed to deposit the coins in an Irvington police department account after removing them from the meters. He's accused of putting them in his own bank account instead during most of 2006.

Officials say a bank investigator became suspicious and alerted police. Dennis was fired in February.

His lawyer, Rubin Sinins, says Dennis will plead not guilty, but declined to comment further.

— Associated Press

CORRECTIONS

The time and date for the American Red Cross blood drives at the Wal-Mart store at the Delaware Community Plaza and the Sunbury United Methodist Church are 1 to 7 p.m. on June 27.

Substantive mistakes normally are corrected in this space as quickly as possible. Readers who see errors should call 740-363-1161 and ask for the news room.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Powell resident asks for trustees' support

► **June 5 crash will cost couple more than \$50,000 in medical bills, vehicle damage**

By MARK A. CLAFFEY
Staff Writer

POWELL — George Haggard, husband of Dorothy Haggard, said the June 5 accident involving his wife and a Delaware County Sheriff's Deputy on Liberty Road will end up costing him more than \$50,000 for damage to his vehicle and trips to the hospital for his wife.

"We (the Haggard family) just ask for your help in the future," George Haggard said Monday while addressing the Liberty Township trustees. "I believe that deputy was reckless and was traveling at an unsafe speed."

According to a report from the Delaware Post of the Ohio Highway Patrol, Deputy Charles C. Gannon Jr., 33, was responding to an emergency call around 5:54 p.m. June 5 when he was involved in a five-vehicle accident on Liberty Road, north of Wild Cat Run Court, which included colliding with a Liberty Township medic vehicle.

The medic vehicle was declared inoperable after the collision by Liberty Township officials, and injuries were reported to drivers or passengers in three of the five vehicles, one of which was Dorothy Haggard.

George Haggard told the trustees that his wife is out of the hospital, but is still in pain. He said he has not contacted the sheriff's department about the accident, because he has yet to acquire legal representation.

Liberty Township trustee Curt Sybert said he didn't think Delaware County would have any problem paying Haggard's expenses from the accident since the deputy was the only individual charged in the accident.

Gannon was charged with operating a vehicle without reasonable control.

Delaware County Sheriff Walter Davis told the *Gazette* last week that Gannon Jr. has been reassigned to administrative duties since the incident.

"We have policies in place when crashes occur," Davis said on June 9.

Davis said Gannon would be undergoing some additional driver training to address some of his deficiencies.

The accident report, obtained from the Highway Patrol, states Gannon was traveling north on Liberty

“If they (Delaware County) don't support you, you will have this board's support.”

— Peggy Guzzo,
Liberty Township Trustee

Road with lights and siren activated. The report states that Gannon admitted in his statement that his vehicle was traveling between 50 and 70 mph and the posted speed limit on Liberty Road is 45 mph.

The Highway Patrol report indicates that Gannon applied his brakes after seeing the stopped traffic on the roadway and began to skid. The skid marks on Liberty Road indicate that Gannon swerved to the left across the roadway and center-line and sideswiped the Liberty Township medic vehicle. The contact caused the right rear tire of the medic vehicle to deflate.

Sgt. D. J. Smith, of the Delaware Post of the Highway Patrol, said he was not aware whether this was Gannon's first traffic-related crash. He said the operating without reasonable control is a minor misdemeanor and that the sheriff's office asked the Highway Patrol to investigate the accident.

Trustee Bob Mann advised George Haggard that it may be possible that the sheriff's department has been advised by legal counsel not to talk to him.

Trustee Peggy Guzzo agreed with Sybert and said she thinks Delaware County will step up to the plate on this issue.

"If they (Delaware County) don't support you, you will have this board's support," Guzzo said.

George Haggard said his wife returned to the emergency room a day after the accident because she was in so much pain.

"She's still in a great deal of pain," he said, adding that he still has a lot of questions about the accident, but said for now he will wait until the bills start coming in and attempt to find himself a lawyer who will take the case.

mclaffey@delgazette.com

Lawrence named chair of levy committee

Staff reports

Former State Representative and director of the Ohio Department of Aging Joan W. Lawrence of Galena will lead efforts to continue senior services in Delaware County. Lawrence will chair the Committee to Save Senior Services, which has been organized to promote the passage of the senior services levy that provides in-home services through Delaware County.

The current five-year levy expires at the end of the year and, by state law, must be taken back to voters for approval if levy services are to be continued. The senior services levy will be on the ballot on Aug. 5.

"Joan Lawrence has a lifelong history of service to others and she will bring both a tremendous understanding of the issues that face older adults and their families and great leadership to the campaign," said Bob Horrocks, director of the Council for Older Adults of Delaware County.

"I am very impressed by the quality of care and the system of services that have been developed in Delaware County as the result of our local senior service levy. I am proud to serve as chair to this important local campaign," Lawrence said.

Lawrence currently serves as a member of the executive council of AARP OHIO and as a member of the Equal Justice Foundation Board. She was the director of the Ohio Department of Aging from 1999 to 2005 and was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives serving Delaware County from 1983 to 1999. Additionally, Lawrence has also served as the president of the League of Women Voters of Ohio from 1975 to 1977 and on the Big Walnut Board of Education from 1970 to 1973.

In Delaware County, the senior services levy supports a variety of in-home and community services such as meals on wheels, personal care, transportation, adult day care, homemaking services, chore services, home repair, insurance counseling and more. By state law, senior service levies can last no longer than five years. The current senior services levy was approved by voters in 2003 and will expire at the end of this year. The levy request is for 0.9 mills and will cost property owners an additional \$9.95 per year for each \$100,000 of property valuation.

For more information concerning the senior services levy in Delaware County, visit www.saveseniorservices.org.

newsroom@delgazette.com

Applications being accepted for 2009 leadership program

Staff reports

Leadership Delaware County, a program of the Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce, is now accepting applications for the class of 2009. Deadline to apply is June 30 and applications are available by calling (740) 369-6221 or visiting www.delawareohiochamber.com.

Through Leadership Delaware County, class participants learn first-hand about the challenges and opportunities facing the community. The nine-month program, which convenes the second Tuesday each month September through

May, focuses on various topics, including:

- Team building and leadership/learning styles
- Delaware County history
- City, county and township governments
- Health care and human services
- Community trusteeship and service
- Economic development
- Educational system
- Law enforcement and the courts

Nearly 300 Delaware County professionals have graduated from Leadership Delaware County since its inception in 1992. These alumni serve on local boards and com-

mittees helping to shape the future of Delaware County.

Tuition for the program is \$750 for Delaware Chamber members and \$800 for non-members, and includes all materials and meals. Financial assistance is available, including the Rozella Miller Founders' Scholarship, the AEP Ohio Leadership scholarship and the United Way of Delaware County Scholarship.

All applicants will be notified as to their acceptance by late July. For more information, call program director Tracy Whited at the Delaware Chamber, 740-369-6221.

newsroom@delgazette.com

FDA OKs breathing device tested on Christopher Reeve

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday approved a medical device tested about five years ago on actor Christopher Reeve to help him breathe without a ventilator.

The implantable device, called NeuRx DPS RA/4 Respiratory Stimulation System and developed by Synapse Biomedical Inc. of Oberlin, electrically stimulates the muscles and nerves that run through the diaphragm. It allows some spinal cord injury patients to breathe for at least four hours a day without a mechanical ventilator.

Reeve was paralyzed from the neck down in a horseback riding accident in 1995. The "Superman" star received the experimental device in 2003, allowing him to breathe off a ventilator for about 15 minutes.

Reeve later used it eight hours at a time and eventually was able to go up to 20 hours off a ventilator, said Synapse president and CEO Anthony Ignagni. Reeve died in 2004.

The device does not cure paralysis of the diaphragm, but getting patients to be free from a ventilator may enhance their quality of life, said Dr. Daniel Schultz, director of the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

Spinal cord injuries can affect the muscles of the chest and abdomen, including the diaphragm, a lower abdominal muscle essential for breathing.

Normally, a person inhales when the diaphragm contracts and the lungs expand with air and a person exhales when the diaphragm relaxes and the air flows back out of the lungs.

The stimulation device uses four electrodes implanted in the muscle of the diaphragm to stimulate contraction.

WEATHER FORECAST

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81.

EXTENDED OUTLOOK

Friday night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Saturday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 10 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82.

Saturday night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 10 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Sunday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms after 10 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76.

SUNRISE, SUNSET

Sunrise today is at 9:03 p.m. Sunrise Friday is at 6:03 a.m.



TODAY'S ARTIST

Dane Kannaird was a fourth-grader at Conger Elementary School in Delaware when he drew this self-portrait and today's weather picture.



TRIMBLE INSURANCE
AGENCY, INC.
740-369-6711
www.trimbleins.com

STRAND THEATRE
GO-GREEN
Showing Movies in Downtown Delaware for 92 Years!
28 Winter St.
363-4914

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13)
THURS: 2:15, 5:00 & 7:30

KUNG FU PANDA (PG)
THURS: 2:00, 5:00 & 7:15

YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE ZOHAN (PG-13)
THURS: 2:15, 5:00 & 7:30
ENDS THURSDAY

STARTS FRIDAY, JUNE 20
GET SMART (PG-13)

Council for Older Adults
SUMMER FESTIVAL 2008
Friday, June 20th
3:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Delaware County Fairgrounds
Tickets on sale for:
The Annual Pig & Corn Roast
Advance purchase of Pig Roast Tickets available at these locations:
COA Office
Delaware Co. Fairgrounds
Sunbury Cleaners
Delaware Co. Bank!
\$6 Advance
\$7 Event Day
Call 740.363.6677 for more information!
800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware