

## LOCAL NEWS

## Blue &amp; Gray visits Sunbury

By Lenny C. Lepola  
News Assistant Managing Editor

Big Walnut area residents are familiar with Sunbury's Civil War reenactments. The events draw not only local families to view depictions of Civil War life, they are also popular with reenactors from outside of the area because of Sunbury Village Square's historic ambiance, especially the village's 1868 Town Hall.

Over the past several years, members of the Rosecrans Headquarters Unit and the Big Walnut Area Historical Society have been raising funds to place a monumental equestrian bronze statue of Major General William Starke Rosecrans on the northwest quadrant of Town Square. Rosecrans, born in Kingston Township near Sunbury, was a West Point graduate and Civil War general.

Word seems to be traveling about Sunbury's Civil War connections. On Monday, June 11, Blue & Gray Education Society Executive Director Len Riedel traveled from Chatam, Virginia, to visit Sunbury, the Rosecrans statue site and the Myers Inn Museum.

While in Sunbury, Riedel met with members of the Rosecrans Headquarters Unit and the historical society. While at the Rosecrans statue site, Riedel also met with Sunbury Mayor Tommy Hatfield, village administrator Dave Martin, village solicitor David Brehm and Myers Inn Curator Polly Horn.

Riedel said Blue & Gray Tours, part of the Blue & Gray Education Society, is considering doing an Ohio Civil War Bus Tour, and Sunbury would be an ideal stop on the tour route.

"Ohio was so important to the Civil War," Riedel said. "As we continue to evolve we also continue to fine tune our understanding of history; and this area is rich in Civil War era history."

The Blue & Gray Education Society also has a philanthropic arm, Horn said; and Riedel's visit to the statue site will hopefully result in some grant money to assist with the cost of the project.

While in town, Riedel was also treated to a mini-dinner theater experience at the Myers Inn Museum, complete with Civil War era costumed guests and servers.

Rosecrans' Headquarters Unit is a committee of the Big Walnut Area Historical Society.

*The Myers Inn Museum is open from 12 noon until 3 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Sunday; and from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturdays.*

*Visit the Rosecrans Headquarters Unit at < RosecransHeadquarters.org >.*

*The Myers Inn is located at 45 South Columbus Street facing Sunbury Square. For more information, call 740-965-3582; or go to < BigWalnutHistory.org >.*



News Lenny C. Lepola

On Monday, June 11, Blue & Gray Education Society Executive Director Len Riedel travelled from Chatam, Virginia, to visit Sunbury, the Rosecrans statue site and the Myers Inn Museum. From left are Sunbury Mayor Tommy Hatfield, Riedel, Myers Inn Museum Curator Polly Horn, Sunbury Village Solicitor David Brehm and Sunbury Village Administrator Dave Martin.

## Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame nominations due Saturday, June 30

Ohio veterans worthy of recognition for their civilian achievements can become members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame – and nominations for this year's class are due Saturday, June 30. Nomination packets must be postmarked on or before that day.

The Hall is dedicated to recognizing Ohio veterans who, after their military service, put their skills and abilities to work in their local communities – and by their continued service and positive accomplishments, inspired their fellow citizens.

"We're asking that anyone who knows a veteran who's made a real difference in their community to submit that person for nomination," said Tom Moe, Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services and a 2009 inductee of the Hall. "There are a lot of great Ohio veterans who

deserve recognition for what they've done at home after they completed their service to our country."

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was established in 1992 by former Gov. George Voinovich to recognize the post-military achievements of outstanding veterans. Charter members of the Hall's Class of 1993 included the six Ohio military veterans who were elected President of the United States and all Medal of Honor recipients from Ohio. Honorees of the past 17 years include astronauts, government officials, police officers, community leaders and veterans' advocates.

The Hall of Fame Executive Committee, a committee comprised of veterans, selects the class of inductees annually from the nominations submitted. Men and women chosen for induction into the Hall come from all eras, all branches of service and all walks of life. The members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame are honored in a permanent display on the second floor of the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus.

*Additional information, nomination guidelines and forms, as well stories of past inductees, are available at:*

<  
[http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans\\_hall\\_of\\_fame.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans_hall_of_fame.aspx)  
>

## DAN OTTO

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couldn't protect themselves. He stood in his room one day, hitting himself in the face to see what it would be like if the bullies started picking on him.

As a father, he was proud, often talking about his daughter, Mercedes and his son, Mason.

"He was proud to be a father," Meacham said. "He wanted to talk about being a father. He had plans for the future as a father."

Otto was destined for a law enforcement profession, one he took so seriously and did well, Meacham said.

The detective, who investigated the 2002 homicides of Jill Hand and Walter Welch in which Hand's husband was found guilty, was remembered by Hand's daughter, Lori Gonzalez.

Gonzalez said Otto was professional, focused, determined and organized. She recalled that Otto always made time for her family no matter how busy he was, remaining respectful throughout the process. He even asked that the Hand family periodically contact him just to let him know how they were doing.

"His compassion and level of integrity helped restore a level of faith, hope and trust that had been destroyed in the loss of our mom," Gonzalez said. "Detective Otto brought dignity to my mom, even in death."

Victim advocacy was a large part of Otto's life, one that he pushed for in high-heeled shoes, Delaware Police Department Det. Sgt. John Radabaugh said.

Otto walked all four years in the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event sponsored by the Delaware County Coalition of Victim Services, where men literally walk a mile in high-heeled shoes, a light-hearted way to raise awareness about the seriousness of sexual assault.

Otto brought his children along, setting an example to help others.

"He didn't just tell them what's right; he showed them what's



News Melissa Mackey

**A law enforcement officer salutes the hearse carrying Delaware County Sheriff's detective Dan Otto.**

right," Radabaugh said.

Radabaugh said that Otto's unit number will be added to the Walk a Mile banner, so that he will perpetually walk on year after year with the group.

Delaware County Sheriff Russ Martin was reminded of the brotherhood and sisterhood that law enforcement officers share as they gathered at the memorial service.

"It seems like a lonely road, but we do not walk alone," Martin said.

Even out west, the California Highway Patrol treated Otto with the ultimate respect by draping his body in the American flag when, following the car crash, they discovered that he was one of their own.

Otto was fondly remembered as a detective who loved his career.

"I challenge the detectives to do it the 'Dan Otto way'," Martin said. "I'm going to do it the 'Dan Otto way'. I'll work hard, and if I get tired, I'll work a little harder because I think that's what Dan would've done."

Even in death, the crowd could laugh, remembering how accident-prone Otto could be.

"It could be raining miniature marshmallows and feathers, and Dan could walk outside and get hit

with an anvil," said his father, Craig Otto.

"That's what Danny's whole life has been like, so you can imagine our shock when he came up to us and said he wanted to be a police officer ... The thing is, if we wouldn't have supported Danny, and he wouldn't have become a police officer, he never would have been good at anything else. You have to do what your heart's telling you to do."

Otto's father shared words of wisdom that he believed his son would offer the assembled crowd.

"Never compromise yourself, your beliefs or principles. Try to do the right thing all the time. Love one another, and if there's any way possible, every day you see somebody, make them laugh," he said.

Several sheriff's and police cruisers escorted Otto to Red Bank Cemetery on Red Bank Road. A graveside memorial was conducted at the cemetery with a gun salute followed by the playing of taps.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to Delaware County Coalition of Victim Services, c/o Victim Advocate Valerie Hooper, 149 North Sandusky Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

## Sunbury Chiropractic Center



Gabriel Mendenthal, D.C. Thomas Ernst, D.C.  
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## MIGRANES

Common migraines are disorders involving recurrent headaches, which may be accompanied by symptoms other than headache and may include a preliminary warning or aura.

They most commonly occur in women between the ages of 10 and 46. Migraines occur when blood vessels of the head and neck constrict and decrease blood flow to the brain. Minutes to hours later, the blood vessels enlarge and result in a severe headache. Chiropractic care works on correcting the underlying causes of headaches and relieving symptoms associated with migraines. To see if chiropractic may be able to help you call (740) (965-4301) today for a consultation.

www.sunburychiropractic.com

## GALENA

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Council members received a tour of the Galena Village Hall prior to the Council meeting to see the recent renovations and discuss future projects and their timing. Cabling the building and adding a sound/recording system will occur soon. The stage has been demolished and reconstruction will begin soon. Council voted to dispose

of the kitchen stove. BST&G personnel walked through the building to make recommendations. Burrell is moving forward with drawings for a fire exit and emergency lighting system update. She also has flooring estimates and is gathering estimates for additional maintenance projects. Council held a second

reading on a resolution of support for the Big Walnut Watershed Planning Partnership's Balanced Growth Plan. A Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission representative will attend the July 23 Council meeting to present the Plan's recommendations.

Council also held a second reading on an ordinance to declare a no parking zone and a parallel parking zone at South Walnut Street and Columbus Street. Parking there obscures the stop sign.

Council held a second reading on a resolution for a service agreement with Professional Package Plant Services (PPPS) to run the wastewater treatment system. PPPS is operating on a month-to-month basis.

Council voted to transfer \$50,000 into a fund to cover survey and design work for the Walnut Street Phases 3 and 4 reconstruction. Residents in the area were notified of the survey work that begins this week. A public meeting will be held July 16 at 7 p.m. for residents to learn more about the upcoming construction project.

Burrell reported that meetings are being held to update all involved parties on the SCADA and fine screen projects in the wastewater system.

Approximately 20 people attended the Osprey viewing event on the Boardwalk. Retired Big Walnut science teachers Dick Tuttle and Dick Phillips supplied binoculars and spotting scopes for people to view the

three baby Osprey or "fish hawks" as they are also known. The event was a success and included an eagle sighting as well. The Village thanks Tuttle and Phillips for sharing their expertise.

Mayor Hopper reported that the Zoar Development Plan amendments and conditions have been finalized. The Zoning and Planning Commission will review a lot split request at their June 20 meeting. Deputy Zoning Inspector Dave LaValle issued three new build zoning permits and two occupancy permits.

Hopper also reported that there have been issues with ballfield lights being turned on later than allowed and the ball field manager is working to correct the situation.

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