

## STATE/LOCAL

## Memorials

## Bebe F. Lavin

Bebe F. Lavin died on Monday, April 21, 2008, at the age of 85, at the Visiting Nurse Hospice Care Center in Akron, Ohio.

Beloved wife for 58 years of the late Alfred B. Lavin. Devoted mother of James (Cindy) of Knoxville, TN and Andrew (Ann) of Tucson, AZ, special grandmother for Evan, Matthew (Linda), and Aaron (Amy), and special great grandmother of Allyson and Mari. She was also proud of her extended family of nieces, nephews, and cousins who shared time and their achievements with her.

Born in Canton, Ohio on April 3, 1923 to the late Simon and Rhea Fischgrund, Bebe spent her life setting and achieving goals and helping others. Her life was filled with many friends, wonderful accomplishments, loving family, students, and colleagues.

After graduating from Mount Marie Academy in Canton, she attended Wellesley College. Upon graduation, she was accepted to The University of Chicago and pursued her masters in child psychology. Before completing her master's degree, she married and started a family. However, this did not keep her from contributing to her community.

Bebe led and served on several, high profile, community projects, such as; Planned Parenthood services in Stark County, regional chairperson of the Governors Council on Vocational Rehabilitation, and establishing Canton Public School's first special program for high achieving students. She was named the Woman of the Year in 1966 by the Junior League of Canton, Ohio. She continued to be an admired community leader for many years.

After her sons finished high school, Bebe set her sights on another passion in her life, teaching. She received her masters in sociology from Kent State University, completed her doctorate from Case Western Reserve University, and began teaching at Kent State.

She touched thousands of young minds through her teaching of sociology from introductory courses to graduate studies in statistics. After many successful years instructing and mentoring students, she was appointed chairperson of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Kent State.

Bebe's managerial talent, passion for people, and desire to achieve blossomed in her new role as administrator and leader. After retiring from Kent State at the age of 75, she continued to work as a consultant for senior administrators to improve her beloved Kent State.

Though she led a very busy professional life, Bebe found the time and energy to listen and comfort others. It made no difference to her what station in life a person may be, she always was willing to help. No strings were ever attached to her generosity.

She will be missed by all of us who were so privileged to know her. Her legacy will be her admiring friends, family, students, colleagues, and all those who have met her.

A memorial service will be held at Temple Israel located at 333-25th St. N.W., Canton, OH, 44709 on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 2:00 PM with Rabbi John Spitzer officiating. The family will receive friends following the services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Temple Israel Youth Group Program c/o Temple Israel or to the Hospice Care Center, 3358 Ridgewood Rd., Akron, OH 44333. (Arnold, Canton 330-456-7291 RC 4-23-2008) www.arnoldfuneralhome.com

## Audrey M. O'Connor



GARRETTSVILLE. Audrey M. O'Connor, 84 years of age, passed away Monday April 21, 2008 at UHHS Geauga Regional Hospital in Claridon Township. Mrs. O'Connor was born February 11, 1924 in Cleveland, Ohio the daughter of the late William F. Brandow (Leola M. Shaw) Riter. A resident of the Garrettsville-Nelson areas beginning in 1950, she later moved to Windham in 1981. A U.S. Army Veteran of World War II, she obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant. She then was employed by the Pentagon for 2 years in the Military Intelligence Division. Mrs. O'Connor was employed for several years at the Hattie Larham Foundation as an aid, as a bus driver for Happy Day School and from 1987 until her retirement in 2003 as a teacher at the Garrettsville Christian School. Audrey had a gift for writing poems and for recycling anything and everything.

Survivors include her children Patrick W. O'Connor of Braceville, Michael (Peggy) O'Connor, Sr. both of Freedom Twp., Kevin O'Connor, Noreen (Bill) Siegner, Colleen (Paul) Bartlam and Maureen (Dan) Brawn all of Windham and Michelle Schell of Georgia, 29 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren also survive. She was preceded in death in 1990 by her husband Patrick O'Connor whom she had married on January 19, 1946 and by 1 brother, 1 sister and 1 granddaughter.

Calling hours will be Thursday from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at the Green Family Funeral Home & Crematory Service in Mantua where Preacher Woody Biggs of the Church of Christ in Byesville, Ohio will officiate at the 11:00 A.M. funeral service at the funeral home on Friday April 25, 2008. Mrs. O'Connor's final resting place will follow at Park Cemetery. Garrettsville where she will receive full military honors. Pallbearers will be Patrick C. O'Connor, Howard A. Moore, III, K. Larry Folger, Michael Bartlam, Timothy J. O'Connor, Jr., Adam T. O'Connor, Daniel Cartwright, Jeremiah Cartwright, Luke Brawn, Noah Siegner and Michael T. O'Connor. www.greenfamilyfuneralhome.com (Green Family Funeral Home (330) 274-3145 RC 4/23/08)

## David Alan Brokaw



David Alan Brokaw, Sr., age 67 of Palmyra, passed away on Sunday, April 20, 2008, at Akron City Hospital.

He was born on August 22, 1940, in Flushing, Ohio, and was the son of Clyde "Hal" and Frances "Peg" Brokaw.

A resident of Palmyra for 56 years and was a member of the Palmyra United Methodist Church. He worked at Evenflo Products for 26 years and was an avid wood-crafter, loved hunting, fishing, farming, and just spending time outdoors as well as being with his children and grandchildren, and his many friends.

His survivors include his wife of 49 years Alma (Rogers) Brokaw; sons: David A. (Mickey) Brokaw II of Austintown, Ray H. (Theresa) Brokaw of Palmyra; daughter: Bonnie K. (Tim) Etling of Massillon; grandchildren: David III, Jonathan, Jessie, Michael, Tylor, Angie, Marge, Niaja, and Moriah Brokaw, Heather and Krystle Etling; great-granddaughter: Tara J. Haser; foster grandchildren: Crystal and Josh Messinger; brother: Kenneth W. (Annabelle) Brokaw of Flushing; sisters: Sharon Jordan of Millersport, Cathy (Bob) Ruppensburg of Millersport; as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his son Ronald Brokaw.

Friends will be received Friday, April 25, 2008, from 4:00 PM until the 7:00 PM funeral service officiated by Reverend Joyce A. Fast at the Wood-Kortright-Borkoski Funeral Home, 703 E. Main St., Ravenna.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to: Palliative Care and Hospice Service, St. Thomas Hospital, P.O. Box 2090, Akron, OH 44309.

Please share your memories at www.mem.com. (Wood-Kortright-Borkoski 330-296-6436 RC 4/23 & 4/24/08)

## IN MEMORIAM DEADLINES

Day to Appear	Deadline
Mon.....	Thurs. 3pm
Tues.....	Fri. 3pm
Wed.....	Mon. 3pm
Thurs.....	Tues. 3pm
Fri.....	Wed. 3pm
Sat. or Sun.....	Thurs. 3pm

Watch for early deadlines for Holiday memorials.

For more information contact THE CLASSIFIED DEPT. 330-673-3500

## Shirley June Jacobsen



Shirley June Jacobsen, age 74 of Atwater, passed away Sunday, April 20, 2008, at Akron City Hospital.

Born June 28, 1933, in Rockwood, Pennsylvania, a daughter of the late Harold and Maggie (Sanner) Colegrove, Shirley worked in the record department of Children's Hospital and the Ulrich Professional Group for over 35 years. She enjoyed tending to her flower gardens, crocheting, and reading. Survivors include her husband of 45 years George A. Jacobsen; son: James Jacobson of Iraq; daughter: Judy (Brian) Collins of Akron; grandchildren: Cortney, Cory, and Katrina Stevens; brothers: Terry (Sharon) Colegrove of St. Charles, IL, Jon (May) Colegrove of Roswell, GA; sister: Mary Sullivan of Sulfur, LA; step-children: Conroy Jacobson of Akron, and Cora Stott of Akron.

In addition to her parents, Shirley was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters.

Cremation has taken place, and the family will receive friends on Saturday, April 26, 2008, from 2-4 PM at the family's home. Arrangements are under the direction of Wood-Kortright-Borkoski Funeral Home. Please share your memories at www.mem.com. (Wood-Kortright-Borkoski 330-296-6436, RC 4/23/2008)

## ROOTSTOWN

## Fees for outdoor furnace permits waived for 30 days

By Diane Smith  
Record-Courier staff writer

ROOTSTOWN — Township residents who have outdoor furnaces will have to get permits for their "non-conforming use" but will not have to pay for them if they obtain the permit within 30 days.

That was the decision of township trustees, who agreed Tuesday to uphold part of the recommendation the township's zoning commission had made the day before on the wood burners.

The panel also had recommended that the burners be "grandfathered" but Trustee

## COLUMBUS

No charges for Dann aide over complaint  
Woman alleged harassment by attorney general staffer

Associated Press

COLUMBUS — No criminal charges will be filed against an aide in the Attorney General's office over a junior staff member's allegation that he sexually harassed her, Columbus police said Tuesday.

An interview with Cindy Stankoski, who alleged harassment by her boss Anthony Gutierrez, did not yield enough evidence to proceed with such charges, police said in a brief statement.

Stankoski asked police to investigate the conduct of Gutierrez, the general service supervisor for Attorney General Marc Dann, on Sept. 10 while she was at an apartment where he lived with Dann and a third man.

Gutierrez took her to the apartment near Columbus for pizza with Dann, she said. Feeling drunk, she says she asked to lie down and awoke to find her pants undone and Gutierrez lying beside her on the bed in his underwear.

Stankoski, 26, also filed sexual harassment claims with Dann's office and the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that detail the incident. A second office employee, Vanessa Stout, also 26, has also filed claims against Gutierrez, alleging that he pressed her with unwanted sexual advances and

suggested she owed him for helping her get a state job.

Sgt. Rich Weiner, a police spokesman, said Stankoski's story and the evidence that she presented were reviewed by several levels of supervisors above the department's sexual assault unit because the case was high-profile to determine whether any criminal act had occurred.

"Whether it be ranging from rape to sexual imposition, there was nothing there," he said.

Gutierrez's attorney, Sam Amendolara, declined comment when reached Tuesday.

Mark Collins, an attorney for Stankoski, said he respects the decision of the police.

"This was just that my client felt, and her family felt, it was her obligation to go forward with a criminal complaint," he said. "We respect their decision not to file charges at this point in time."

The decision has no bearing on the ongoing harassment probe at Dann's office, he said.

Both women met for two and a half hours Tuesday with Ben Espy, the assistant to Dann who is leading the investigation. Their attorney in that matter, Rex Elliott, has said the questioning is wrapping up and a decision is expected soon.

## HIRAM COLLEGE

## Speaker discusses media consumption

Overholser says it gives ability to govern self, but also contributes to shallow minds

By Dave O'Brien  
Record-Courier staff writer

HIRAM — Should we blame the media for a lack of public discourse in the United States? For failing to inform and educate us? For the decline in our ability to deliberate seriously?

Yes, but as consumers with many different choices for media consumption, we should also blame ourselves, according to Geneva Overholser, a longtime journalist and editorial writer for some of the nation's foremost newspapers.

A journalism professor at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Overholser told a Hiram College audience Tuesday

that while we might be better off without people telling us what to think, the media also "enables us to govern ourselves" and "contributes to shallow mindsets."

"The commentary we see on cable TV is dispiriting," Overholser said. "It is self-referential, callous and heartless" and causes us to create new words to describe it such as "info-tainment" and "celebrification."

Because Americans don't fully trust their media, they have been turning to other sources. The Guardian newspaper in the United Kingdom has seen an increase, to 6 million per month, the number of "unique" visitors to its Web site from the United States, she said, while the

government-supported BBC is gaining American listeners and viewers.

Overholser said that during her time as ombudsman, or reader's advocate, at the Washington Post, a reader called her with a question that stuck in her mind:

"'Could you just give us the news?'" she said the man asked her. "'We (the readers) can supply the cynicism.'"

And journalists, she said, "don't do nuance."

"A friend told me says if we were reporting 2,000 years ago, we would have covered the (heck) out of the crucifixion (of Jesus Christ) but missed the part about Christianity," Overholser said.

And though "a lot of our media bring us down" there is hope, Overholser said. Dana Priest and Anne Hull of the Washington Post recently won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for reporting on poor conditions at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington D.C., while alternative press such as MinnPost in the two-paper Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul is redefining competition.

Media accountability and

responsibility are "absolutely key," Overholser said, saying she believes the future of the media will be determined by its consumers.

"I don't think we can be a nation by or for the people if the people aren't informed," she said. "If you think your media are lying to you, change your media and speak out."

Overholser's speech was part of the Garfield Institute for Public Leadership's 2008 spring seminar.

## DEATH NOTICES

The Record-Courier publishes extended death notices for \$8 per column inch and will republish the same notice a second day for half the price.

An abbreviated free notice that includes the name of the deceased and the funeral home handling the arrangements is available also.

Paid death notices can be e-mailed to [recobits@recordpub.com](mailto:recobits@recordpub.com) or faxed to 330-673-6363. Abbreviated free notices should be sent to [editor@recordpub.com](mailto:editor@recordpub.com).  
Deadline: 5 P.M. daily

## Standing Rock raises grave prices

The Board of Trustees of Standing Rock Cemetery in Kent has approved a price increase for graves and services, effective June 1.

Rates will increase by

about \$100, on average, for goods and services.

The cemetery generally re-evaluates rates every two years. The last rate increase took place in January 2006.

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