



It pays to learn good traits

STUDENTS, teachers, staff and administrators at Dobbins Elementary School in Poland received a Core Essentials Award Monday from Chick-Fil-A for the school's character essentials program. Above, kindergartner Nathan Tucker listens closely during the award presentation.

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Peacemakers vigil

WARREN POLICE and others urged an audience at a Monday night vigil to be peacemakers to help prevent violent acts such as the one that claimed the life of 11-year-old Lloyd McCoy Jr. in April.

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Stocks rally



Wall Street: Stock market begins June with wave of benign economic data. **B5**

WORLD

Search begins

AN AIR FRANCE JET with 228 people on a flight to Paris vanished over the Atlantic Ocean after flying into towering thunderstorms and sending an automated message that the electrical system had failed. A vast search began Monday, but all aboard were feared killed.

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SPORTS



Looking ahead

THE REALITY of the Cleveland Cavaliers' off-season began Monday, and it is going to be one of the most important in franchise history.

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COMING TOMORROW

FOOD: Although many people grill year-round, now is the start of the outdoor grilling season.



DOWN 2, IS IT OVER FOR PITTSBURGH?

The Vindicator

50¢

GENERAL MOTORS BANKRUPTCY

Lordstown spared, 17 sites to close

GM DISASSEMBLY LINE

- CLOSINGS:** GM will close or idle 17 factories and parts centers by the end of 2011. It will also cut 5,000 salaried jobs. Between 18,000 and 20,000 workers will be affected by the shutdowns.
- BANKRUPTCY:** GM will reorganize under Chapter 11 bankruptcy code, dividing the company into pieces, keeping the best assets (likely Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick, GMC), and idling or selling money-losing assets.
- FATES UNKNOWN:** GM has announced it will eliminate the Pontiac brand. Other GM brands that may be sold or eliminated include: Hummer, Saturn and Saab.
- GETTING BACK TO WORK:** The essence of the case should take 60 to 90 days. Contracts covering United Automobile Workers union and other unions will remain in force, unless the company asks the judge to void them.
- THE NEW OWNERS:** The federal government will act as "reluctant shareholder" when it assumes a 60 percent ownership of GM. Canada and Ontario are investing \$9.5 billion and will take an equity stake of about 12 percent in the restructured company.
- MORE FUNDS:** The U.S. Treasury plans to provide an additional \$30 billion to finance GM during its bankruptcy, on top of the more than \$19 billion already loaned to the company.

Source: Various wire sources

Officials optimistic about plans

GM plans to add a second shift to Lordstown and says a third shift is possible.

By DON SHILLING
VINDICATOR BUSINESS EDITOR

A BANKRUPTCY FILING HASN'T dampened General Motors' enthusiasm for its Lordstown complex.

A senior executive said the automaker plans to add a second shift to the complex to build the Chevrolet Cruze, which will be launched in April.

"We're very bullish on the Cruze," Tim Lee, GM's vice president of North American manufacturing, said in a conference call Monday with reporters.

Union leaders said a second shift would bring back about 1,500 workers who are laid off.

The optimism about Lordstown stood out in two conference calls that GM officials had after the bankruptcy filing Monday. Mostly, the calls were dominated with questions about GM's plans to cut jobs, eliminate brands and reduce output through a bankruptcy reorganization.

In addition to closing or idling 17 plants and parts centers, GM plans to inform more dealers this week that they will lose their franchises, said Fritz Henderson, chief executive. The company sent termination notices to 1,100 dealers two weeks ago. Late Monday, Judge Robert Gerber of U.S. Bankruptcy Court gave interim approval for the Detroit-based automaker's use of a total of \$33.3 billion in bankruptcy financing, with \$15 bil-

See Lordstown on Page A5

Government firmly behind wheel

By JIM KUHNHENN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama now owns General Motors, even though he insists he's taking it out only for a spin.

Hours after the government sent GM into court Monday to file for Chapter 11 protection, Obama declared, "What I have no interest in doing is running GM."

But with a 60 percent equity stake in the carmaker and \$50 billion in taxpayer money riding on GM's success, the

News Analysis federal government is far from a hands-off investor.

Obama and his economic team stress that the government's goal is to get GM back on its feet, maximize the return to taxpayers and exit quickly from its involvement.

But as one administration official put it, there is an inevitable tension between those objectives.

See Wheel on Page A4



2011 Chevy Cruze

Patrolman receives emotional welcome

Two of the three women hurt in the fire also have been released from the hospital.

By ED RUNYAN
VINDICATOR STAFF WRITER

WARREN — Doug Hipple, the city patrolman who entered a burning house trying to save three women at 368 Bonnie Brae Ave. N.E. in April, made a surprise return home from the hospital Sunday afternoon.

Hipple, 38, who had been hospitalized at Akron Children's Hospital Burn Center with burns to his lungs, arm, back and ear since the day of the fire, received an emotional welcome from friends, neighbors and fel-

low city employees about 1 p.m.

Patrolman Brian Crites said he learned only a couple of hours before Hipple returned home that he was going to be released Sunday.

Many of Hipple's fellow officers were at a motorcycle poker run that started and ended at the Powerhouse Bar And Grille on Mahoning Avenue when Hipple came home.

Officers did have time to arrange for a Warren firetruck and two police cars to greet Hipple in his neighborhood near North Road Elementary School off North Road, Crites said.

Hipple went back to the Akron hospital for

See Welcome on Page A3



Hipple

Asteroid named in honor of late YSU alumnus, planetarium producer

Asteroids are traditionally named after family members of the astronomers who find them.

By HAROLD GWIN
VINDICATOR EDUCATION WRITER

YOUNGSTOWN — Richard Pirko's name will live on forever in the skies he loved.

An asteroid has been named in honor of the late Youngstown State University alumnus and former show producer and technician of YSU's Ward Beecher Planetarium.

It's somewhat of a rare honor, said Warren Young, recent interim chairman of the YSU Physics and Astronomy Department.

Asteroids are traditionally named after family members of the astronomers who find them, he explained, adding that he doesn't



Pirko

know anyone else who's had an asteroid named for him.

Asteroids are planet-like bodies measuring between a fraction of a mile and 500 miles in diameter.

The asteroid named for Pirko is in the main asteroid belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter and was discovered at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., in June 2000, as part of an ongoing survey, Young said. Formerly known as Asteroid 2000 LS36, the International Astronomical Union has officially named it Asteroid Pirko.

See Asteroid on Page A3

Mayor: Waiting isn't a solution

The patrol union president doubts the two sides will meet again as buyout talks get tangled in stalemate.

By DAVID SKOLNICK
CITY HALL REPORTER

YOUNGSTOWN — The city administration is at a stalemate in negotiating an early-retirement buyout incentive with its patrol officers union, which could lead to layoffs at the police department.

The Youngstown Police Association union isn't interested in discussing a proposed buyout offer, said Edward Colon, its president, unless the deal is similar to the one given to the department's ranking officers union.

"I don't think we'll meet again," he said.

If no progress is made very soon, the administration would be left with no alternative but to lay off patrol officers, Mayor Jay Williams said. "Simply waiting and dragging this out isn't a solution," he said. "We don't want to reduce the number of officers. We don't want to lay off anyone, but this group needs to come to the table and continue to negotiate."

The city would save money by eliminating higher-paid officers, Williams said. Because of the city's financial situation, there is no guarantee that those leaving the force would be replaced.

The city cut \$665,000 from the police department's payroll budget this year. That is equivalent to 22 to 26 officers' losing their jobs.

Colon said the city has enough grant money coming in the next few months that there is no reason to lay off any officers this year. Williams said he strongly disagrees with that.

The patrol union's contract with the city expires Nov. 30. The two sides normally start negotiating three months before a contract expires.

Rather than going back and forth on this buyout, Colon said the union and city should start contract negotiations earlier than usual and include the issues related to the buyout in those discussions.

"By then, it might be too late to do anything" to avoid layoffs, said city Law Director Iris Torres Gugliucello. "I'm not opposed to negotiating early, but the last negotiations with the union took over a year. Also, we're negotiating contracts with other unions."

The patrol union rejected the buyout May 21 because it included two key provisions unfavorable to the membership, Colon said.

One was the reduction in entry-

See Buyout on Page A3



Williams

INSIDE

On B1

At the request of Mayor Jay Williams, city council will consider a resolution Wednesday to ask the state Legislature to pass a law reducing the number of the city's municipal court judges from 3 to 2 by the end of 2011.