Trooper fired for DUI is back on the job / B3
Program helps kids reach their fitness goals / B3
Plan to replace license plates won’t happen / B5

Get the ‘green’ light

Study to evaluate state school buildings friendly to environment

By Sarah Bowman  THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH
Ohio has more environmentally friendly school projects than any other state. But now the group that has defined “green” when it comes to architecture wants to know just how much it helps to build a school with the environment in mind. Ohio is the testing ground for a new study by the central Ohio chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, which created the certification program called Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED. The voluntary program certifies buildings based on how many green measures are incorporated.

OSU wants $100 million for in-state scholarships

By Encarnacion Pyle
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

To help make college more affordable for more students, Ohio State is challenging the community to help raise $100 million to pay for scholarships for needy and high-achieving students from all 88 Ohio counties.
Campus officials will unveil “The Ohio Scholarship Challenge” today at the trustees meeting. Head football coach Urban Meyer and head men’s basketball coach Thad Matta will co-chair the campaign.
“Our land-grant mission calls for us to be the front door to the American Dream for talented young people, regardless of their families’ financial circumstances,” OSU President E. Gordon Gee said.
“These scholarships will give students from all corners of our state a unique opportunity to realize their full promise and potential and contribute to Ohio’s future.”

Gov. Kasich loads up on cash: $2.1M so far for ’14

By Joe Vardon and Darrel Rowland
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Gov. John Kasich has a $2.1 million head start on the field for his 2014 re-election effort.
The Republican governor raised nearly $1 million and hosted two fundraisers last year for his eventual bid against a currently unknown challenger, according to annual campaign-finance reports that were due yesterday.

More congregations consider use of armed guards

By JoAnne Viviano
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

At St. John’s Evangelical Protestant Church, leaders take seriously their job of protecting the flock. Even before the shooting that left more than two dozen dead at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn., in Decem-
ber, surveillance cameras monitored the Downtown church’s grounds, visitors had to be buzzed into offices, and ushers were trained in how best to respond to emergencies. But the discomfort level rises when the discussion turns to the best way to handle a weapon-bearing intruder, said the Rev. Virginia Lohmann Bauman, senior pastor over the United Church of Christ community of about 350. Like people at many other worship places, St. John’s members don’t feel that armed security guards belong in the sanctuary.
“All of us are being challenged in the post-Sandy Hook world to evaluate how best we might protect our congregations and others, while at the same time living our faith, which is a faith of nonviolence,” Lohmann Bauman said.

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At St. John’s Evangelical Protestant Church, leaders take seriously their job of protecting the flock. Even before the shooting that left more than two dozen dead at an elementary school in Newton, Conn., in Decem-
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“Of us are being challenged in the post-Sandy Hook world to evaluate how best we might protect our congregations and others, while at the same time living our faith, which is a faith of nonviolence,” Lohmann Bauman said.
The rapid revival of traditional religious communities has shifted New York City's religious demographics and transformed Israel's political landscape. Hasidic Jews back from its near-death experience when millions of speakers died in the Holocaust. The New York-based weekly, launched in 1897 and transformed Israel's Jewish history of the last century and the Soviet period into Yiddish. The English-language weekly, launched in 1983 and launched an English-language weekly in 1990. The website is going for an international audience, "said associate editor Itzik Gottesman. The number of native speakers, mostly from Hasidic and yeshiva religious-school backgrounds, is now booming in the United States, Israel and other countries, Gottesman said. "Research in New York City said there are 80,000 Hasidim who speak Yiddish at home. That population is exploding," he said.

In Israel, Yiddish is the language of many Haredim ("those who tremble before God"), whose tradition of large families has propelled them from a tiny minority decades ago to a politically influential 10 percent bloc of the population.

About one-quarter of all Israeli first-grade pupils are now from Haredi or "ultra-Orthodox" families. In the New York area, more than one-third of all Jewish children are Hasidic. "We have a growing Hasidic audience," publisher Samuel Norich said by telephone from the paper's office in lower Manhattan. "In its pre-war heyday, more pious Jews saw Forverts as anti-religion and 'not kosher.' Although it covers religion, its editorial line is mostly secular and liberal. A vibrant German dialect peppered with Hebrew and Slavic words and written in Hebrew letters, Yiddish in the early 20th century was a major language in eastern Europe. After tens of thousands of Jews fled the Holocaust to the United States, and particularly to the East Coast, it became an important ingredient in the rich mix of the languages of New York City. Several words have been adopted into English such as chutzpah (brazen self-confidence) and shnimeil (chump).

The fastest-growing Hasidic groups in the New York borough of Brooklyn now are tightly knit communities with their own printed Yiddish weeklies. Many computers are equipped with filters to avoid criticism they use. But the authors will hide behind pseudonyms to publish their own Yiddish newspaper. Some will be offended by the photographs of women, Norich said. "There have always been some Hasidim and yeshiva people who read the Forverts, but usually they read it underneath their own Yiddish newspaper so nobody should know it. But on the Internet, where you can read it in the privacy of your own home or laptop, it's easier to do what is frowned upon in the community and consume forbidden fruit."

Forverts' Yiddish website will include blogs by Hasidic writers, retaining the slightly different spelling they use. But the authors will hide behind pseudonyms to publish their own Yiddish newspaper. Some will be offended by the photographs of women, Norich said. "There have always been some Hasidim and yeshiva people who read the Forverts, but usually they read it underneath their own Yiddish newspaper so nobody should know it. But on the Internet, where you can read it in the privacy of your own home or laptop, it's easier to do what is frowned upon in the community and consume forbidden fruit."

A growing number of security consultants are advising religious leaders to consider having armed guards at services. But it's a tough sell in communities that are lauded in the concept of "Thou shalt not kill.

Religious leaders need to consider the possibility that an armed response sometimes could be the only way to save congregants' lives, said Jim Irvine, the chairman of the Buckeye Firearms Association. "If Jesus and Satan are sitting together in your church, and Satan starts killing people, do you want Jesus to sit there and do nothing?"

At the Noor Islamic Cultural Center in Dublin, an armed police officer patrols near the mosque on Fridays, while an unarmed security team is on-site at certain other times, said Dr. Adil Katach, chairman of the church. A handful of other central Ohio religious leaders also contacted that armed security patrols are present during services or special events, but they declined to go on the record because of reluctance to reveal security policies.

"There is a wake-up call that's being heard," said Carl Chinn, a Columbus-based security professional and author of Evil Invasions: The Case for Faith-Based Organizations. "For many years, those of us faith-based leaders just didn't think anything would happen... We just thought we were immune." Since 1999, Chinn has recorded 39 deadly force incidents resulting in 427 deaths at faith-based organizations in the U.S., including 135 incidents and 75 deaths last year. The statistics include abductions, attacks, suicides and suspicious deaths, plus intervention/protection efforts. The top known causes were robbery and spillover from violent domestic relationships.

Religious leaders who are reluctant to add guards are starting to take other steps to increase security, such as installing cameras, said the Rev. Norman Brown, pastor of J. Jireh Ministries, a church of about 20 on the Near East Side. Religious leaders in the community "trust and believe God will protect and provide," but they also have the responsibility to do their part, Brown said. People with two-way radios monitor entrances at Grace Fellowship, a church of about 1,400 that meets in Pickerington. "If Jesus and Satan are sitting together in your church, and Satan starts killing people, do you want Jesus to sit there and do nothing?"

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Gun classes in the sanctuary? Some churches say ‘Amen!’

By JoAnne Viviano • THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

When members of his church use the sanctuary to teach concealed-carry handgun courses, Marengo Christian Church preacher Jeff Copley often stops by. • His advice: “When you put that gun on in the morning, the first thing you do is pray you will not have to use it.” • The Morrow County church of 40 to 50 members has been a concealed-carry-training site since at least 2004. Church members who have been certified as instructors by the National Rifle Association teach three or four sessions a year.

Each class attracts 15 to 40 people, most are from the Columbus area to the south or the Mansfield area to the north.

Although it’s still uncommon, more churches have begun offering concealed-carry courses over the past three or so years, said Jim Irvine, chairman of the Buckeye Firearms Association. Churches in rural communities are more likely to offer the courses, Irvine said, but he thinks other might as more churches hear about it.

“You may have a group of people who are curious about this and want this and are interested in it, … but they don’t feel comfortable going to a gun store taking a class,” Irvine said. “But if we can do it within our church, it’s comfortable.”

CrossRoads Baptist Church on the North Side has offered classes since 2009, as often as a couple of times a month, the Rev. Paul Gabriel said. Any church members interested in the course have taken it, so most current participants are from outside the congregation, he said. Attendance has been as high as 200, ebbing and flowing with the political climate.

Copley acknowledged that gun courses might not be appropriate for all worship places. But they make sense at the Marengo church, which is in a rural area about 2 miles from I-71.

Many members of his church hunt or fish, and the church sponsors an annual bus trip to a Cabela’s outdoor recreation store in Michigan or West Virginia, Copley said. It’s a congregation where members can show up in jeans or drive a truck with camouflage panels and not worry about being judged.

On a recent evening, paper targets were tacked onto green-backed chairs in the sanctuary to demonstrate a lesson in which participants learn to aim and shoot an unloaded gun. Per state regulations, the course includes 10 hours of classroom training and two hours of range training, usually at the private range of one of the instructors.

Some people enroll in the course because they feel it’s their constitutional right to carry a gun, instructors said. Others have been victims of crime, including a woman who was assaulted and a man who was robbed at a check-cashing location.

Deacon Emory Jones, a below-the-knee amputee, took the course because he knows his limitations if faced with a “fight or flight” situation.

“It was a matter of wanting to be able to defend myself,” he said. “I can’t flee. … So I have to be able to fight at that moment, should something occur.”

Copley pointed out that an advantage of taking a concealed-carry course at a church is being able to include the biblical aspect of self-defense. Among other Scripture verses, he referred to Luke 11:21, in which Jesus says: “When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe.”

“I believe in the Christian manifest. Our first response is to retreat, and that’s what we teach,” Copley said. “The idea of having to use a defensive weapon would be a mental tragedy in any of our lives.”

His motivation for offering the course largely comes down to the concept of “the one,” he said.

“If we can equip one lady with the ability to protect herself in the face of an attack; if we can equip one man to protect his children, his family and himself, then it’s all been worth it.”

Marengo Christian Church, about 35 miles northwest of Columbus at 3904 Rt. 229 in southern Morrow County, will offer its next concealed-carry course on March 2. Cost is $90 (free to the first 15 teachers or preachers who register). Visit www.marenchorg and click on “Events” for details.

jviviano@dispatch.com @JoAnneViviano

HOT TOPICS

Public-safety poll

A recent poll asked American adults to select the most important way to prevent mass shootings in the U.S. Here is how they responded:

- Better mental-health screening and support: 30 percent
- Stricter gun-control laws and enforcement: 25 percent
- More emphasis on God and morality in school and society: 20 percent
- Stricter security at public gatherings: 11 percent
- Fewer restrictions on private citizens carrying guns: 9 percent
- Other/don’t know: 5 percent

Source: January Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, designed and conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute. The telephone survey of 1,013 adults had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

BY THE NUMBERS

LifeWay Research twice asked Americans if they believed that homosexuality is a sin. The first survey was in September 2011, the second in November 2012. The results:

Yes: 2012 ..................37 percent
Yes: 2011 ..................44 percent
No: 2012 ......................45 percent
No: 2011 ......................43 percent

I don’t know: 2012 ............17 percent
I don’t know: 2011 ............13 percent

Sources: The November online survey of 1,191 people has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.0 percentage points.

RELIGION TRENDS

The pontiff via app

Pope Benedict XVI has launched an app to allow users to watch live papal events and video feeds from six Vatican webcams. The free Pope App also offers images and quotes from the pope and sends out news alerts and stories from the Vatican. The app is available in five languages for iPhone and iPad; an Android version is expected by the end of February.

EVENT LISTINGS

For a list of religious events in, visit dispatch.com/faith.

Send event listings to faithdispatch@dispatch.com or call 614-469-6064.

CONTACT US

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Bishop Frederick Campbell said he had to fire a gay teacher at Bishop Watterson High School because he has a “fundamental responsibility” to maintain the Catholic identity of institutions under his purview.

THE BISHOP’S STAND

Carla Hale, a physical education teacher at Bishop Watterson High School for 19 years

Bishop Frederick Campbell, Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus leader since 2005

A responsibility to uphold the integrity of the faith bound officials to fire a gay Catholic-school teacher who listed her partner’s name in an obituary. Columbus Bishop Frederick Campbell said yesterday. Also yesterday, the teacher — Carla Hale — filed a complaint with the city calling her dismissal from the Clintonville school a flagrant violation of Columbus’ anti-discrimination ordinance.

Hale, who taught physical education at Bishop Watterson High School, filed the complaint with the Columbus Community Relations Commission under a city code that makes it a misdemeanor for an employer to discriminate based on sexual orientation. Campbell said earlier in the day that Hale was not fired because of her sexual orientation but because her “quasi-spousal relationship” with another woman violates the church’s moral teaching. He said Hale violated a teacher contract and Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus policy that prohibits immoral behavior and requires employees to follow general church tenets.

In an exclusive interview with The Dispatch, the
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A8 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH | TODAY’S TOP STORIES | WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2011

Colleges
FROM PAGE A1

Ohio’s four-year public universities estimate they will lose $370 million next year just because they are being held to the same standards as in-state students. In-state students are also being held to the same standards as in-state students. In-state students are also being held to the same standards as in-state students.

Out-of-state public university students and tuition

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Source: Inter-University Council

Bills
FROM PAGE A1

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The 14 bills are: an agenda that’s moving through the legislature, and he continues.

To work on it.


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State website listed wrong tax figures / B2
Students flock back to OSU on move-in day / B5
Inmate captured two weeks after escape / B6

Metro & State
Section B • The Columbus Dispatch • Sunday, Aug. 18, 2013

Neighborhoods

Parkers find ways to avoid city tow
By Mark Ferenchik
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Greg Reed was tired of seeing the SUV parked on his Victorian Village street last fall. It had sat there for a long time; a long time. “Like an idiot, I wait five months,” Reed said. Then he filed an online complaint with Columbus’ 311 call center. Another month passed before the SUV was towed from Highland Street, even after the city marked its tires and ticketed it. Reed has a theory about what happened.

Pushing a car a few inches is enough to reset the clock on the 72-hour limit.

Lancaster student Dana Thompson, 15, left, gets advice from mom Lois Stewart and teacher Steven Spangler about her iPad.

TEXTBOOK TECH
By Charlie Boss
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Move from books to computers or tablets at school requires learning

The new iPads were getting the best of some of the Lancaster High School students. Many struggled to log in and create passwords for the devices that will connect them to their teachers and peers inside school and beyond this year. | See Learning Page B4

Prisons
Spiritual healing

Clergy help Death Row inmates find faith, peace
By JoAnne Viviano
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

CHILLICOTHE, Ohio — Gathered with fellow clergymen at a restaurant here, the Rev. Tom Razum shared a note he had received a few years back from one of the Ohio Death Row inmates he watched die.

“You helped me to get back on track, Tom. Your smile and warm heart gave me the strength to stop strugglin’ spiritually,” wrote Lawrence Reynolds, who was executed in 2010.

Razum choked up a bit as he reread the note, saying he would forever treasure the sentiment.

“Every time I look at this card, it brings me to tears because this man is no longer with us,” Razum said.

School safety

Districts find ways to screen out undesirable
By Collin Binkley
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Before they get past the front desk, visitors to Dublin schools will be required to swipe their driver’s licenses through a machine that searches for their information in a national database of sex offenders.

Hits will be handled case by case, a district spokesman said. The technology, which cost the district $34,000 and also prints visitor badges, is rarely used in central Ohio schools but is an example of new efforts to monitor who has access to students.

At a new Hilliard school building that will be open in the evenings, students will need to enter an identification code to get in.

In the Westerville school district, all students must carry

HAVING TROUBLE PAYING YOUR MORTGAGE?
WE’RE HERE TO HELP.

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Death Row

Because of his devotion to God, Mark Wiles asked the Rev. Lawrence Freeman, left, to pray for him on his birthday from the beginning of his journey as a death row inmate.

When Death Row inmate Mark Wiles asked the Rev. Lawrence Freeman to comfort him during his final days, the Catholic priest agreed.

"The only thing is, I'm a little bit afraid of seeking you because I've never done this before," Freeman told him.

Wiles reassured him, saying, "I've never done this before, either." Freeman, a priest for 40 years, has a contract to counsel Catholic inmates at the Chillicothe Correctional Institution. When Death Row moved to the prison in 2011, its role expanded to include men facing execution.

Hummer, the pastor at St. Mary Catholic Church, 5 miles away, visit each inmate Monday to say two Masses — one for the general population and the other for Death Row. About a dozen attend from Death Row.

Razum said. "That's what it means to me. I don't have to make a difference."

Hummer is an associate pastor at Doers of the Word Baptist Church in Noveltly in northeast Ohio. He drives 200 miles or so to the Chillicothe Correctional Institution every six weeks to help spiritually prepare Death Row inmates for execution.

He and other clergy members affiliated with What's Right, That'll always be the thing that reminds me that I'm doing the right thing for everyone. "I basically try to prepare them for death, to be with them in their last moments of their life, to assure them that their journey is supported ... and to make sure that they're at peace," he said. "That would be the bottom line."

Some volunteers have been ministering to Death Row inmates for decades, including the Rev. Ernie Sanders, who has watched several be put to death. Sanders, senior pastor at Doers of the Word, said What's Right, That's what's Left Ministries worked with Death Row inmates when they were housed at the Ohio State Penitentiary in Youngstown.

The group draws clergy members from all over the state. Many make a difference.

"The only thing is, I'm a little bit afraid of seeking you because I've never done this before," Freeman told him.

"I've never done this before, either," Hummer told him.

Hummer quickly learned that the men have done awful things. "The thing that reminds me that I'm doing the right thing for everyone."

"That's the wonderful thing, when men come to repentance," added the Rev. Ken Sundermeier, the pastor at Cleveland's Lutheran Church. "There's a real victory there."

The Rev. Lawrence Freeman, the full-time chaplain, has been at the Chillicothe prison for about 25 years and coordinates religious activities. Since Death Row moved to Chillicothe about 2½ years ago, he has been to four executions, which are held at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility near Lucasville, about 40 miles to the south.

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