

Elyria police search for "America's Most Wanted" fugitive | B4

Attorney returns to Legal Aid



Baggett

By ALEX M. PARKER
Morning Journal Writer

LORAIN — Funding cuts forced Jessica Baggett to leave the Legal Aid Society in 1995, but she said she's never lost her passion for serving the underprivileged in Ohio.

Now, after 12 years of working in the Lorain County Domestic Court, she's ready to bring her mix

of legal experience back to her life goal.

"I'm building on my experience with the courts and my experience with legal services," said Baggett, who was recently hired as the managing attorney for the Lorain County office of Legal Aid. "I've had the rare opportunity to do both."

The Legal Aid society came un-

der fire in the past few months after two Elyria Municipal Court judges claimed funding and staff cutbacks were leaving too many poor or indigent residents underrepresented in their court system.

Baggett was hired to replace David Taylor, who has left the organization late last year. A graduate of the Ohio Northern University's law school, she was born in Day-

ton, but has lived in the county since 1995.

David Dawson, deputy director of Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, has been serving as the office's managing attorney during the interim period.

While the society has promised to rebuild its office, Baggett ac-

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"We will have to find creative ways to serve the community."

Jessica Baggett, now managing attorney of Legal Aid's Lorain County office

12-year-old takes her grandma's car for ride

Morning Journal Staff

CLEVELAND — A 12-year-old Elyria girl took her grandmother's car and debit card yesterday morning, gassed up the car and drove to Cleveland before being stopped by police.

The girl was charged with theft and unauthorized use of a vehicle by Elyria police, according to a report.

The 70-year-old Elyria woman said when she went to bed about 2:20 a.m. Tuesday her granddaughter was talking on the phone, according to the report. The grandmother slept with the set of car keys and had hidden the other set, because the girl had taken the car before.

The woman was notified by Elyria police at 3:30 a.m. to call Cleveland police, who said they had detained her granddaughter in a traffic stop. Clark locked up the car and by 6:10 a.m. had given the girl to the Elyria Police Department, where she was taken to the detention home, the report said.

Cleveland police Sgt. Daniel Fay said that because the girl is a juvenile, she will probably be charged with delinquency in connection with receiving stolen property, he said.

According to the report, the girl said she went to Cleveland to visit a friend.

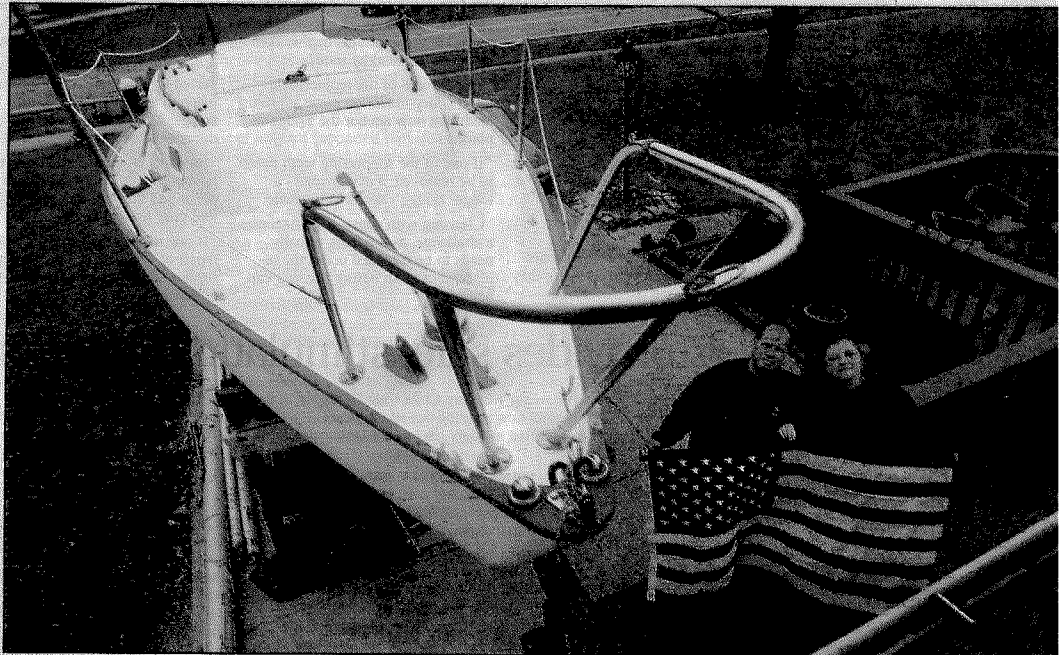
Test finds drugs after driver hits two fences

By JENNIFER BRACKEN
Morning Journal Writer

LORAIN — A Lorain woman was cited for leaving the scene and failure to control after the pickup she was driving hit two fences last Saturday had driving under the influence charges filed on Monday, according to a Lorain police report.

Police were called to the Shoreway place, 3945 W. Erie Ave., after a blue GMC Sierra pickup truck ran off the side of the road and into a fence. The driver, later identified as Debra Fitch, continued driving until she hit a wall ditch and smashed into a fence in front of Lake Motel, 3917 W. Erie, the report said. Despite the damage, Fitch continued driving, the

FLY IT HIGH



MORNING JOURNAL/BEN WIRTZ SIEGEL

Al and Beth Belmonte stand next to the 26-foot sailboat that they would like to bury in their backyard in North Ridgeville.

Family wants to bury boat in backyard, use mast as flagpole

By MEGAN KING
Morning Journal Writer

NORTH RIDGEVILLE — Al Belmonte's patriotism knows no bounds.

When he decided to put the tallest flagpole he could in his backyard so he could raise an American flag, Belmonte was told the tallest flagpole the law allowed was 35 feet.

"We were thinking of putting some type of flagpole and patio deck out past the house toward the middle of the yard, so we were just thinking of unusual ways to do it," Belmonte said.

The idea Belmonte and his wife, Beth, came up with was to sink a 26-foot boat into the ground in the backyard of their Root Road home. The boat's deck will become a patio and the mast will be their flagpole.

Their nautical flagpole will rise 32 feet above ground after Belmonte anchors the whole boat 7 feet into the ground.

The couple is applying for a variance from North Ridgeville's Board of Zoning and Build-

ing Appeals at the end of the month for approval of the project.

"Basically we want to dedicate it to all men and women who served our country in the city of North Ridgeville, and we want to put a plaque on it, so we decided to get something unusual," Belmonte said. "We decided to get a sailboat that's in good shape."

The American flag they plan to raise came from the office of Sen. Sherrod Brown and was flown above the U.S. Capitol, Belmonte said.

"Me and my wife are very imaginative people, and we do everything different than others. We're just hoping (the city) will let us do this," Belmonte said.

Belmonte said residents in the immediate area are open to the idea, with the exception of one neighbor who is still thinking about the request.

Belmonte said his neighbors know he will make sure the patio is tastefully done with sand and landscaping surrounding it. About

70 percent of the boat is enclosed.

He purchased the boat from a shipyard in Vermilion where it was close to being scrapped. Although the boat is old and no longer seaworthy, it will be a stable structure to use as a deck, Belmonte said.

He said he has been working to spray the bottom half with rust proofing, repairing the wood on the boat, and polishing the chrome.

"As soon as they say, 'Go' we hope to have it in the ground within a few weeks," said Belmonte. He hopes to have it finished by July 4.

If his variance is not approved, Belmonte said he will put a tall flagpole in the ground, but the boat would have to be scrapped.

He said the flag will be a patriotic reminder for all who drive near his home.

"It means to me that we truly do live in a free country and we do need to let people know when they see the flag, they need to know there's a reason why it's flying. There's people out there fighting every day so it can fly. That's what it means to us."

County submits proposal for federal economic development grant

By ALEX M. PARKER
Morning Journal Writer

ELYRIA — Lorain County is one step closer to nabbing \$5 million from the federal government for economic redevelopment.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services picked Lorain County's

proposal for economic redevelopment for Northeast Ohio to submit to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The grant proposal, titled Focusing on Unique Transformations Using Resources Effectively (FUTURE), covered not just Lorain County but 15 other counties including Cuyahoga, Summit

and Mahoning. The grant focuses on new technologies such as biofuel and alternative resources, as well as advanced manufacturing and biotechnology.

"We're not taking a back seat to anybody when it comes to economic development," Commissioner Ted Kalo said. "This is real life."

If awarded, the grant would fund regional training programs, business incubators and technology development, as well as government economic programs. The money would be awarded to the county's Workforce Investment

See GRANT, Page B4

ned pediatrician to speak at LCCC

Staff
y known pediatri-
tion will speak at
nity College at a
s and caregivers

parenthood and on helping parents nur-
ture and raise their children.
Tickets can be reserved by calling
(440) 366-4040.

Brazleton, one of the world's most
foremost experts on child development,
is an emeritus professor of pediatrics
from Harvard Medical School and pro-
fessor of psychiatry and human
development at Brown University. He is
the author of 40 books on child devel-
opment and pediatrics.

The event is part of a two-day event
that will include a professional seminar
for 300 health care, social service, edu-

cation and juvenile justice professionals
to help support the social and emotional
needs of parents and children. The
seminar is being held April 27 from 7:45
a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information,
professionals should contact Appewood
Centers Inc. at (440) 934-9930.

The seminars, which are being hosted
by Appewood Centers Inc., are made
possible through the support of the Hor-
ton Family Foundation and the
Carragher Family Foundation.

Lorain County Physician/Community
College CME Consortium is a cooperat-
ing partner for the professional seminar.

LEGAL AID

From Page B1

knowledge her office will have to
make the most of the funds avail-
able.

"We will have to find creative ways
to serve the community," said
Baggett.

One avenue being explored is to
find more local attorneys willing to
do pro bono work.

This summer, the office will begin
a program with the Lorain County
Bar Association to have volunteer
program which would help attor-

neys complete their continuing leg-
al education requirements.

Dawson said Baggett's 12 years of
experience as a magistrate for the
Lorain County Domestic Relations
Court has given her a network of
contacts with local attorneys.

"She knows a lot of people to call
for different cases," said Dawson.

Baggett said working as a magis-
trate gave her experience dealing
with the issues that arrive at Legal
Aid.

"I saw the same issues," said
Baggett. "Domestic violence, con-
sumer issues, the housing issues that
families would encounter — I've
never stopped dealing with that."

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Not to Bite, That is the Question

used the benefit of dental implant
those who are missing all of
r teeth. These people regain con-
fidence when they smile and how they
without fear or embarrassment. But
number of baby boomers and their
missing all of their teeth but have
or two teeth? These generations
worry and our current under-
stand or slow the progress of gum
What are their tooth replacement

jawbone, individual replacement teeth can be attached
to these implants. This allows the implant supported re-
placement teeth to function like your own natural teeth.
Just like natural teeth, they require daily cleaning and
brushing and regular dental hygiene visits. Unlike partial
dentures, they do not depend on a large metal scaffold
and plastic base for support. They do not clasp onto ad-
jacent natural teeth and most often are constructed as a
fixed - not removable - replacement.

Another benefit of implant supported replacement
teeth over partial dentures is that implants actually stimu-
late the supporting jawbone, which helps maintain the
amount of bone in that area. Partial dentures do not pro-
vide stimulation to bone and people gradually lose the
supporting bone and need continual adjustments or
modifications to the metal and plastic support base.

As baby boomers continue to age, there will be an in-
creasing need to replace teeth lost wear and tear, decay
and gum disease. Dental implant supported replacement
teeth provide a predictable, stable and attractive solution
to restore your bite and smile when natural teeth are
lost.

If you are missing many of your teeth and are unhappy
with the limitations that often accompany removable
partial denture replacement, please contact Dr. Jeffery J.
Becker, DDS, MSD, FAGD at the Becker Centre for
Dental Implants and Periodontics by calling (440) 934-
3910 to make a consultation appointment so that we can
talk about your specific needs.

ent for replacing multiple mis-
sionable partial denture. This
ade of metal and is covered by
te replacement teeth are secured,
connect all the spaces on one jaw
It is usually held in place by
around the adjacent remaining
teeth frequently need adjust-
ment fatigue with repeated use and
is often difficult to match the
natural teeth making these
tiring or laughing.

in dental healthcare have pro-
vided people missing multiple teeth
dental implants can be placed in
the missing teeth. Once the im-
plants are fused to the underlying

Good homecooking at Helen & Kal's

At Helen and Kal's you'll find good homecooking and a sincere welcome
from mother and son, Ilona "Helen" and Kalman Birkas in a family-friendly
atmosphere.

Helen and Kal's specializes in homemade and Hungarian specialties.

Some of Helen & Kal's most famous Hungarian dinners are Hearty Beef
Goulash with cubed beef in authentic Hungarian sauce served over home-
made dumplings; Chicken Paprikash with tender chicken cooked in savory
paprikash sauce served over dumplings; and Weiner Schnitzel, an interna-
tionally loved lightly breaded tender veal served with dumplings. They also
offer homemade soups and imported and domestic beers. For a limited time,
if you buy one dinner entree, you get the second half off with a the purchase
of a beverage.

Other dinners include Fresh Lake Perch, Prime Roast Beef, generous
slices of tender roasted beef served with mashed potatoes and homemade
gravy; Breaded Pork Chops served with mashed potatoes and gravy; and
Chicken Marsala, tender chicken breast lightly breaded and marinated in
wine served with sauteed onions, mushrooms and green peppers over a bed
of rice.

For lunch enjoy a variety of entrees including Open Face Sirloin Steak, a
six ounce sirloin steak served on toasted bread and a side of fries; and
Chicken Parmesan, breaded chicken breast topped with melted provolone
and spaghetti sauce on a toasted hoagie.

Children can choose from Chicken Strips and Fries, Grilled Cheese and
Fries and Spaghetti.

Helen and Kal's is located on 36795 Detroit Road in Avon. Call Helen
and Kal's at 440-934-5194. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11
a.m. to 8 p.m.

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W in Huron and can be
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