

Have a news tip?

If you see news happening, call The Chronicle newsroom at (440) 329-7155.

LOCAL & STATE

WWW.CHRONICLET.COM

Section

B

Tuesday,
June 12,
2007

Lawyers get nudge to help Legal Aid

Brad Dicken

The Chronicle-Telegram

ELYRIA — The Legal Aid Society of Greater Cleveland can't help all of the low-income clients from Lorain County that come through its doors, so the group is turning to local attorneys for help.

To the rescue comes the Lorain County Bar Association,

which is trying to recruit attorneys to help take on a few cases each year free of charge to help Legal Aid.

In an effort to get attorneys on board, the bar association is offering a free class to attorneys who agree to take on at least one case pro bono for Legal Aid in the next year.

The class, which will give attorneys 5.5 continuing legal

education units, will focus on just the types of issues they'll have to address when they do pro bono work, Kreig Brusnahan, president of the bar association.

"I'm optimistic that we'll have at least 50 attorneys at the seminar," Brusnahan said.

Jessica Baggett, head of Legal Aid's Lorain County office, said the course, which

will be July 13 at Lorain County Community College, will help ease the burden on her staff.

"It'll be a tremendous help because there's just more than we can do," she said.

Legal Aid came under fire late last year when Elyria Municipal Court judges John Musson and Lisa Locke Graves

sent a letter to the society complaining that they were seeing far too many indigent clients trying to navigate the legal system on their own because Legal Aid couldn't help.

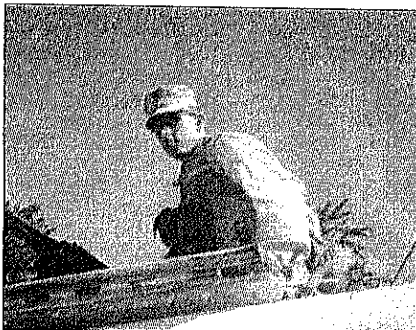
Since then, Legal Aid has hired new staff, including Baggett, and has worked closely with the bar association's newly formed pro bono com-

mittee to get more local attorneys volunteering.

Brusnahan said the committee will continue to encourage attorneys to volunteer even after the seminar.

"Lorain County attorneys have a tradition of giving back to the community," he said.

Contact Brad Dicken at 329-7147 or bdicken@chroniclet.com.



COURTESY OF LINDA GATTON

Pfc. Bob Cook of Grafton is a Marine serving in Iraq.

Grandmother

Health officials testing the waters

Ben Norris

The Chronicle-Telegram

The Ohio Department of Health began testing the water at Lakeview and Century parks Monday to determine whether E. coli levels were high.

Results are expected to be available this afternoon, said Steve Binns, administrator of public programs for the Ohio Department of Health.

"You have to remember that this is raw, untreated water, not a swimming pool," Binns said. "Don't put

"You have to remember that this is raw, untreated water, not a swimming pool. Don't put your face in the water, and remember to shower shortly after swimming. If the water doesn't look good, don't go in."

Steve Binns,

administrator of public programs for the Ohio Department of Health.

