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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2008 | SECTION B

THE PLAIN DEALER

REGINA BRETT



'Big Chuck' fan gets inside look

My mom owes Big Chuck a big thank you. So does yours.

If you grew up in Northeast Ohio like me, chances are you spent every Friday night at a slumber party that started with these words:

"From the heart of Playhouse Square ... in downtown Cleveland ... high atop the Television 8 Building ... it's 'The Hoolihan and Big Chuck Show.'"

Think of all the money Chuck Schodowski saved our parents by baby-sitting us every weekend. It's probably more than he ever got paid for doing the show.



Schodowski

I never knew much about him until I read his new book, "Big Chuck! My Favorite Stories from 47 years on Cleveland TV." He wrote it with the help of Plain Dealer reporter Tom Feran and dedicated it to us: "All the wonderful people who watched and enjoyed what we did."

Kids from Parma to Ravenna. Kids who ran around in PJs pretending to shoot sausages like the Kielbasa Kid.

Kids who memorized the "Ben Crazy" intro: *Man. Woman. Birth. Death. Infinity.* Kids who quoted "Readings by Robert."

Kids who jumped from couch to couch like Guitarzan and ran through the living room in Under-

The politics of a murder case

It's an issue in Tuscarawas prosecutor race

PETER KROUSE
Plain Dealer Reporter

NEW PHILADELPHIA — Residents of this city south of Canton still wonder who killed 5-year-old Devan Duniver and why authorities tried to pin the crime on a 12-year-old neighbor.

Ryan Styer, a Republican running for Tuscarawas County prosecutor, has used fallout from the 10-year-old mystery — and millions of dollars paid out in court settlements for wrongful prosecution — against his opponent, incumbent Amanda Spies. Spies was in her first term when she successfully prose-

cutted Anthony Harris for the killing in juvenile court. Harris spent nearly two years in a detention center before an appeals court overturned the verdict and deemed the boy's confession to have been coerced. A prominent law school now uses the interrogation as an example of how not to question a juve-

nile suspect.

Harris, now a 22-year-old Marine, sued those responsible for his conviction and has reached settlements to get \$3.7 million



Devan

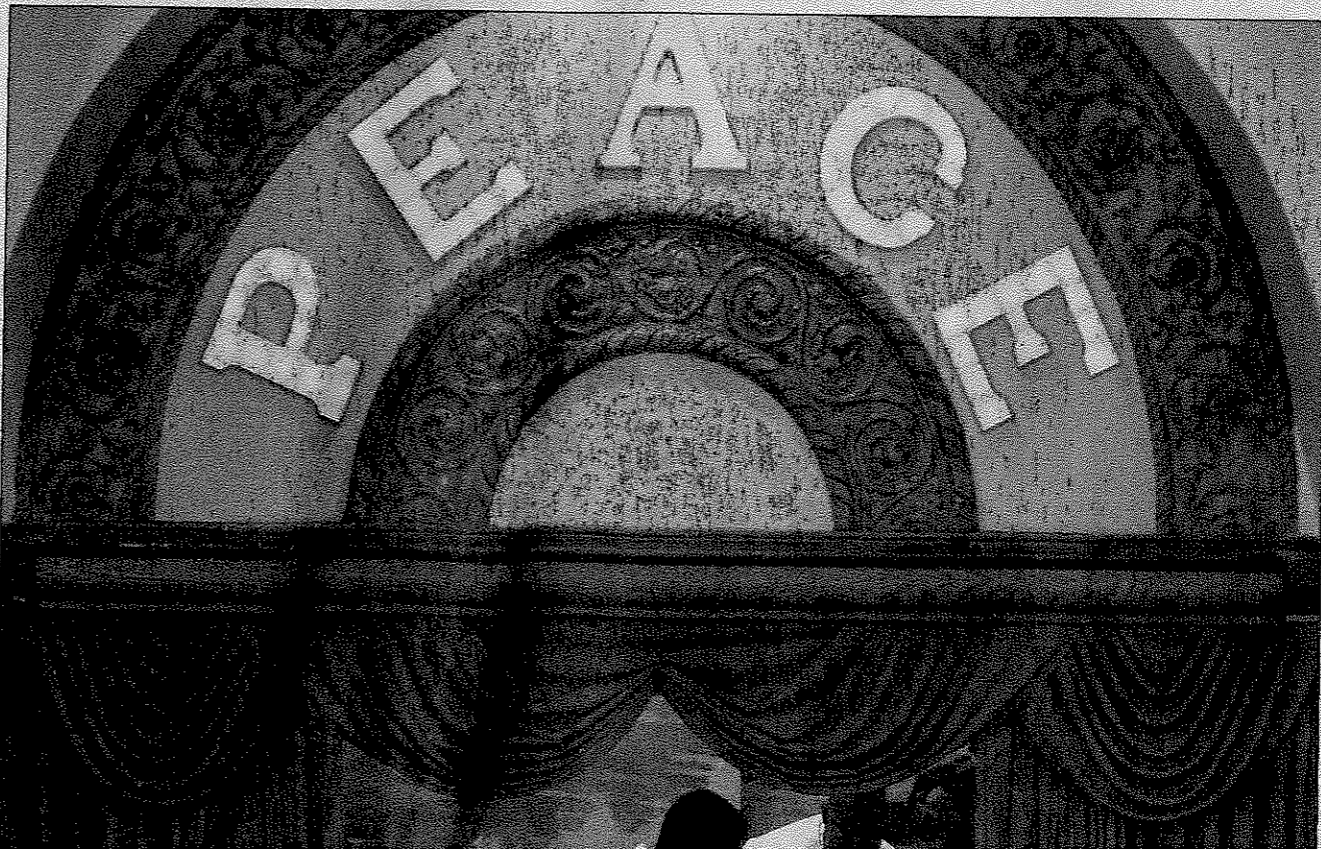
from Tuscarawas County and two police departments. He also got a letter of apology from

three officers involved in the case. "We acknowledge that there is no probable cause to demonstrate that you were responsible for the 1998 death of Devan Duniver," the letter states.

"We regret that you were wrongfully convicted of this crime. We apologize to you and your family for the events that led to your conviction."

SEE MURDER | B7

UPON THIS CORNER: THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE CITY



Christian right is more muted

Still 'values voters,' but agenda expands

KAREN SANDSTROM
Plain Dealer Reporter

When Democratic Sen. John Kerry's presidential campaign planned to swing through the liberal-leaning Kenyon College campus in 2004, the Republican club at nearby Mount Vernon Nazarene University organized a protest.

Emotions around politics were so high back then, says

CLEVELAND

Hansel and Gretel's a musical feast

SENBERG Reporter

Were all the opera tr children? Crying he reason, opening ra Cleveland's en- duction of Hum- Hansel and Gretel" Theatre drew only a ne. And this, even company offered \$15 tickets for the performance.

Although the production was sung in a badly rhymed English translation, the opera's en- chanting and whimsical aspects were conveyed to delightful ef- feet. Chuck Hudson's fluid stag- ing kept events moving along, with fine attention to charac- terization and atmosphere.

IT FOR THE GODS

music was the magical feast it has the potential to be when maestro and players share artis- tic goals. Williamson gave ex- pansive space to the rapturous lines, while emphasizing rhyth- mic buoyancy when the going gets mischievous or maniacal.

The company's orchestra has rarely sounded more cohesive, alert or colorful. The horns and bassoons made special work of the Act I prelude, and the Wag- nerian warmth that hovers over the score received loving, bal- anced treatment.

Even though the production was sung in a badly rhymed English translation, the opera's en- chanting and whimsical aspects were conveyed to delightful ef- feet. Chuck Hudson's fluid stag- ing kept events moving along, with fine attention to charac- terization and atmosphere.

Frank D. Murtaugh Jr., who died of complications of cardio-vascular disease Sept. 30 at age 64, served with the Cleveland Le- gal Aid Society team that took an antiracism housing ordinance to the Supreme Court and won.

Murtaugh was one of the Legal Aid law- yers who repre- sented Inez Moore in her fight against the city of East Cleveland in the 1970s.



In 1973, Moore was convicted of violating a zoning ordinance that prohibited certain extended family members from living to- gether in a single home. Her crime: Sharing a house with her son, his son and another grand- son. According to the ordinance, the four of them constituted more than one family.

"She tried to keep her family together," Murtaugh told The Plain Dealer 21 years ago. "And the city tried to keep her from doing that."

The 8th Ohio District Court of Appeals upheld the conviction handed down by East Cleveland Municipal Court. When the Ohio Supreme Court refused to con- sider the appeal, Murtaugh and company took it to the nation's highest court.

The Supreme Court heard Moore v. City of East Cleveland on Nov. 2, 1976, as American voters were electing a new presi- dent, but didn't rule on it until May 31, 1977. The court struck down the ordinance, calling it discriminatory and in violation of the due process clause of the 14th Amendment.

Murtaugh, the son of a Team- sters official, was born Francis D. Murtaugh in Cleveland. He lived in Newburgh Heights and Brook- lyn before moving with his fam- ily to Cleveland Heights.

He attended St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland before grad- uating from Cleveland Heights High School in 1962. He held de- grees from Kent State University and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

Murtaugh, who served as a Democratic committeeman in Lakewood, frequently attended Lakewood City Council meetings, where he voiced his opinion on such issues as recycling and us- ing union labor on city projects.

He also posted his views online on the Lakewood Observer Ob- servation Deck blog.

Murtaugh volunteered with the Lakewood Fire Department's Community Emergency Re- sponse Team. He served with the Marine Corps Reserve and be- longed to the Joint Veterans Council of Lakewood and Rocky River.

He donated his legal services and drafted wills for military per- sonnel being deployed to the Middle East.

McGorray-Hanna Funeral Home of Lakewood handled ar- rangements.

View this and other obituaries at www.cleveland.com/obituaries.



JOHN KONTZ / THE PLAIN DEALER

rice, a priest at Shiva Vishnu Temple in Parma, passes a flower necklace across dozens of plates of food being offered as of wealth, Maha Lakshmi, on Saturday. The Indian community prepared more than 150 dishes for the Diwali temple, a fall harvest celebration. After the food is offered to the goddess, people eat it as a blessing. Diwali lasts emphasizing the different relationships worshippers have with each other. Saturday's feast marked the start of the New Year for the congregation.

DEEDER

Killing

nuclear who killed why law enforce- after Harris in the Conti, a Cleveland ho helped defend the original charge, local police force, e summoned sea- side detectives from

Lori Duniver's letter were re- vealed to Harris' defense team at the criminal trial. His lawyers also were never made aware by prosecutors that the boyfriend had previously beaten Devan with a belt, according to the lawsuit.

Spies referred questions about the case to her attorney Thomas Amato.

Amato said that Spies did not purposely withhold information and that the defense team had enough information that it could have easily followed up on the boyfriend had it wanted to. The police did investigate the boyfriend, although Harris' ac- covered with brush. The area is

Solving the crime now could be difficult given the passage of time. A powerful storm the night before Devan's body was found also complicated the in- vestigation, washing away evi- dence.

Ten years later, the crime scene has changed.

Most of the trees in which Devan and Harris lived are gone. A neighbor, Mike Ivan, pointed to the area where the girl's body, clothed in red shorts and a green T-shirt with the Tasmanian Devil cartoon char- acter on it, was found, partially covered with brush. The area is

juvenile. Persistent and decep- tive tactics may be appropriate when dealing with an adult, said Steven Drizin, the center's legal director, but they are fraught with peril when used on a child, increasing the risk of a false confession.

Ruth Steadman, a retired schoolteacher, still lives in the small duplex development. She remembers Devan skipping around and singing Barney songs. She liked to tag along with the older children, includ- ing Harris, Steadman said, and sometimes they would get a- noyed.

But Steadman doesn't think

NOTABLE LOCAL DEATH

Frank Murtaugh, helped win high-court housing case

- Death Notice Index
- BAKER Thomas A.
 - BERANEK William E.
 - BEZAK Matthew D.
 - BIEDER Victor C.
 - BILLS Sarah A. (nee Atkins)
 - BRO Helen M.
 - BLAZUN Milan J.
 - BOHNAK Edith (nee Mattis)
 - BYARS Birdell (nee Roth)
 - CAMARATO See Picone Notice.
 - CANUENDO See Castellano Notice.
 - CARMEN See Castellano Notice.
 - CASTELLANO Anthony J.
 - CHANDLER Robert E.
 - CIESICKI Evelyn L. (nee James)
 - CLARK David Hathaway
 - CLEMONS Betty "JANIE"
 - CONRAD See Wancheck Notice.
 - DAVIS Ronald W.
 - DEGVANSKY William A.
 - DEVITT James W.
 - DISCH Edith C. (nee Bukur)
 - DOYLE Colleta M.
 - EATON Melvin E.
 - ELIEMANN Lois M. (nee Spisak)
 - ELLIOTT Wendell
 - FAHRLAND Albert
 - FELLER Ruth E.
 - FIGEELIST Dennis L.
 - FLORES Norberto "BERT"
 - FINZ David C.
 - GALATI Joseph C.
 - GALLAGHER See Lynn Notice.
 - GELIOFSACK See Picone Notice.
 - GEEZ Tommy H.
 - GRAHAM Marguerite B. (nee Michalbach)
 - GRANT Mervyn N.
 - HANNER Daniel J.
 - HEISS James T.
 - HIBINGER Tyler M.
 - HILL Mary Whitaker
 - HIRAMOTO Shizu (nee Ishikawa)
 - HOLMES William (teeny)
 - HOLSOPLE Charles F.
 - HRADER Frances (nee Stekaniec)
 - HUFFMAN Nora Mae
 - HUFFMAN See Toll Notice.
 - JACKSON George
 - JAMES See Ciesicki Notice.
 - JANERO See Beranek Notice.
 - JENNINGS See Wetzel Notice.
 - KAHOUN Leona (nee Edel)
 - KERESTES See Nagy Notice.
 - KOKLAUNER Henrietta R. (nee Wratna)
 - KRECEK John J.
 - KUHARY See Wancheck Notice.
 - LEAVENWORTH Ralph William
 - LEPAGE Thomas Earl
 - LEMBIRD William
 - LINDA Stanislaw "STELLA" (nee Paek)
 - LOLI James P.
 - LYNN Rudolph E.
 - MACKO See Nagy Notice.
 - MCGILIN See Zarour Notice.
 - MCNALLY Mary Ann (nee Clark)
 - MILLER See Degansky Notice.
 - MOLNAR Joanne Claire (neeaetie Main)
 - MONDIE Florence Ella
 - MONREAL David W.
 - MRAMOR Helen M. (nee Surgey)
 - MURPHY See Fedor Notice.
 - MURRAY See Serafino Notice.
 - MUSARA Rita (nee Williams)
 - NADOCK Cynthia "CYNDI" D. (nee Sopnick)
 - NEBESAR Robert J.
 - NORMAN Rev. Glen
 - PARADISE See Serafino Notice.
 - PAVLINSKY Paul A.
 - PAVLOWSKI Adele
 - PICONE Mary D. (nee Augustine)
 - POWERS Patricia B.
 - POSTERHOFF Ronald J.
 - RADWAY Olive
 - RAKOVAN Vivian E. (nee Paad)
 - REPASI Gizella R. (nee Sera)
 - ROCCO Raimondo
 - RYAN William J.
 - SAFOS See Degansky Notice.
 - SCAFARIA See Wetzel Notice.
 - SCHINNING Mary (nee Suma)
 - SCHULTE Richard O.
 - SERIK Dorothy L. (nee Mizak)
 - SERAFINO Josephine A. (nee Paradise)
 - SFORZO See Misarra Notice.
 - SLUKA Joyce K. (nee Trubiano)
 - SMLITH See Castellano Notice.
 - SMOLIK Ronald H.
 - STRONG Dorothy J. (nee Fischer)
 - SWIRSKO Ohiga
 - TAGG Debra
 - TELISMAN Vincent A.
 - TERBECK See Degansky Notice.
 - THUBERG See McNally Notice.
 - TOLL Bernice L. (nee Quinn)
 - TYBUSZEWSKI Tille Ann
 - UPSOM David R.
 - VANKR Eleanor A.
 - VESELY Judith A. (nee Jeffery)
 - WALISZWSKI John J.
 - WALKER Hattie
 - WANCHECK Emma Margaret (nee Dibble)
 - WAPSHOTT See Biro Notice.
 - WEICHEL Carmela E. (nee Scaleri)
 - WICHMANN Richard F.
 - WITTLINGER Jean W. (nee Hacker)
 - WRIGHT Marjorie B. (nee Ballantine)
 - WYAIT See Kereck Notice.
 - ZAROUR Gary