

# DHS HOPES FOR BIG FINISH



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50 cents

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Defiance, Ohio

## New proposal for Napoleon Civic Center

By TIM McDONOUGH

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**NAPOLEON** — A new proposal by the Napoleon Civic Center Foundation and the five-year fiscal forecast were topics of discussion at the Napoleon Area Board of Education meeting Wednesday evening.

Superintendent Dr. Stephen

Fogo began the meeting by reading the new proposal by the NCC. "The Napoleon Civic Center Foundation would like to offer the following proposal to the Napoleon Area Schools for the acquisition of the Central School property," said Fogo. "The NCC will offer \$1 for the entire property and its current contents. The deal is for Napoleon Middle/Central Elementary, including

the John L. Johnson Auditorium. "The NCC will create a guaranteed escrow account for the possible demolition of the building, and keep this account active for a period of five years," continued Fogo. "We request that a purchase agreement be drawn up to show that the NCC will get the deed as soon as it is free and clear and can be transferred. This is important for any future NCC

fundraising.

"As previously agreed, the NCC will pay one-half the closing costs," added Fogo. "Once the NCC can show success and stability of their business within the five-year period, the part of the escrow account that would cover the demolition, would be transferred to the project fund."

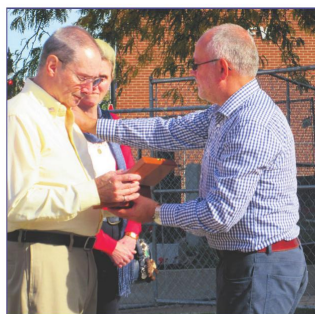
"Overall this would save the school district their part of the

demolition (estimated \$486,000) and the cost and trouble of staging a new auction," continued Fogo. "The community would benefit from the establishment of a civic center and a home for the performing arts. We present this with due consideration of the school district and the betterment of our community. Please feel free

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Placing a wreath in honor of U.S. Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Jennings Greuter on Wednesday was Greuter's son Larry (left) and Wim and Nadine Jacobs. Below, Wim Jacobs (right) hands Larry Greuter a stone which sat on his father's grave in Belgium. Greuter's father died in World War II.



## Ceremony honors WWII airman

By LISA NICELY

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More than 50 people turned out to honor a fallen Defiance County veteran on Wednesday.

A ceremony to honor U.S. Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Jennings Greuter, who died in World War II, as well as other Purple Heart veterans was held at the Defiance County War Memorial. "When our world was on the brink of disaster these brave men and women stepped forward," said Tanya

Brunner from the Defiance County Veterans Affairs Office about the World War II service members. "They traveled to foreign lands and many did not come back. We're here to celebrate freedom and that sacrifice."

The ceremony was attended by Greuter's son, Lawrence "Larry"; a Belgian couple, Wim and Nadine Jacobs, who care for Greuter's grave; and Beverly Stoller-Miller and Laura Edge, the daughters of two of Greuter's crew mates (Lloyd Stoller and Lawrence Wick).

• HONOR, Page A9

## City gives overview of water system

By TODD HELBERG

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The possibility of a new filtration system was one of several topics discussed in a comprehensive overview of Defiance's water treatment system during a townhall meeting Wednesday night.

Twenty-four persons attended the session at the Stroede Center for the Arts, 319 Wayne Ave., including a number of city officials and employees.

City water plant superintendent Adam McDowell explained that a carbon activated filtration (GAC) system is being studied as a way to reduce organics. Those include geosmin, an algae-related product that causes taste and odor problems with city water.

"We are seeing in most cases about 100 percent removal," said McDowell of the ongoing pilot study.

He noted that other communities, such as Celina — which had "legendary" taste and odor issues — have used the GAC system successfully. "It is a good fit for us," said McDowell, who added that it's "not a cheap system."

City finance director John Lehner explained Wednesday that it may cost \$6 million, but he said it could be offset by water plant debt that is due to

expire in the next few years.

While city council has not yet approved funds for the GAC system's installation, McDowell indicated that a zero interest loan from the EPA might be available to do so, thus reducing the long-term cost.

McDowell said the GAC system is one he's been looking forward to for the past five years, but cautioned that it's "not a silver bullet. There are none."

Earlier, McDowell shared some history of Defiance's water plant, noting that the first one was built in 1889 and operated privately, but was used only for fire protection and watering lawns. The city purchased the plant in 1916 and built a "state-of-the-art" facility in 1921.

The Greener water tower was added in 1936 followed by the Diehl tower in 1953 and Carpenter Road tower in 1976. The Greener and Diehl towers will be torn down next year, and replaced by a new tower that is under construction on Greener Street.

According to McDowell, the new tower will work in tandem with the Carpenter Road tower, and actually increase capacity — due to increased compatibility — from 1.3 million gallons to two million gallons.

Significant renovations to

• WATER, Page A9



Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump talks during a debate on Wednesday.

## Debate analysis

## Trump needed reset, instead riles GOP

By KATHLEEN HENNESSEY  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump needed a game changer. Instead, he landed a jaw dropper.

When the Republican nominee for president refused to say he would accept the results of the election, he rattled American democracy and openly flirted with the notion of a contested transition of power. He overshadowed an otherwise improved debate performance. And, with an almost-flip, five-word sentence, he created a headache for every Republican running for re-election who will be asked again and again to either defend or reject

their nominee.

"I'll keep you in suspense," Trump said, when asked at Wednesday night's third and final debate if he would vow to accept the results.

It was a moment that could have been expected but was stunning nonetheless. Trump has been railing for weeks about a "rigged" system tilted to favor Democrat Hillary Clinton. As he slips further behind Clinton in the polls, Trump has alternately blamed, with no evidence, a corrupt media, fraud at the polls and government officials trying to protect his rival.

The rhetoric has vexed a GOP already riven by his candidacy and fretting about its future. Before the

debate, Trump's vice presidential running mate, his campaign manager and his daughter all had said he would accept the election results. His effort to stir doubts about the outcome drew condemnation from President Barack Obama, who called it "unprecedented."

But under the bright lights of prime time, Trump showed he will not be clipped by criticism or convention from any corner. As he has throughout the campaign, Trump chose to channel the sort of loose talk and frustration of disaffected Americans, consequences aside.

"She shouldn't be allowed to

• DEBATE, Page A9



Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton listens to Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump during the third presidential debate.



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