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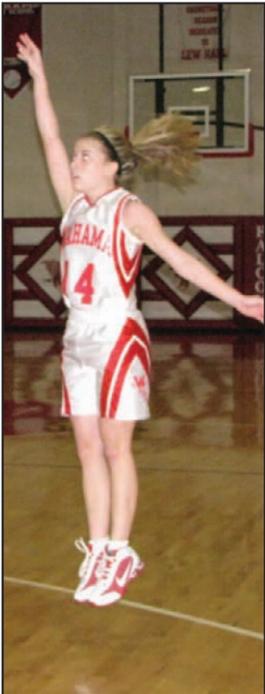
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U.S. Census Bureau to recruit part-time employees in state

BY HOPE ROUSH
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POINT PLEASANT — Those wishing to make some extra cash now have an opportunity to do so with the U.S. Census Bureau.

The bureau is currently recruiting part-time jobs in West Virginia. According to a news release, the job's hours are flexible and both training and mileage are paid. For more information on jobs with the census, call toll free (866) 861-2010.

According to the Web site, www.census.gov, the Census Bureau is hiring thousands of temporary employees to fill

a variety of positions across the country. The U.S. Census Bureau headquarters is in Suitland, Md., which is located just outside of the District of Columbia. The bureau currently operates 12 regional offices located in Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and Seattle.

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years. According to the census Web site, the 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for various things, including hospitals,

job training centers, schools, senior centers, bridges, tunnels and other public works projects as well as emergency services. In addition, data collected through the census helps to determine the number of seats that each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Census forms will be delivered in March to every residence in the United States as well as Puerto Rico. The form will consist of 10 short questions that must be mailed back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If forms are not mailed back, residents will receive a visit from a census taker. (On the Internet: U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov)

911 urges use of center number

BY HOPE ROUSH
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POINT PLEASANT — Residents who use cell phones are encouraged to program the Mason County 911 center's number into their phones. That number is 304-675-9911.

According to Jeff Sweeney, chairman of the Mason County 911 Board, the board along with the LEPC and Mason County Commission, are asking residents to use the phone number in order to reach 911 services in the event of an emergency.

Sweeney said that using the 10 digit number will send calls directly to the Mason County 911 Center, but simply dialing "911" may direct calls to a different call center, which results in delays of emergency services of police, fire department and emergency medical centers. According to Sweeney, if cell phones are used in certain areas of the county, calls may be directed to Gallia County or even Dayton, Ohio.

Although cell phone users are urged to use the 10-digit number, current Verizon cell phone customers may continue to dial 911 to reach emergency services.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Marla Nowlin — Point Pleasant High School

STORY AND PHOTO BY
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POINT PLEASANT — One senior at Point Pleasant High School has taken the word "involved" to a whole new level.

Marla Nowlin, 17, Apple Grove, might possibly be the most active senior of her graduating class. From class president to serving on numerous committees, Nowlin enjoys staying busy with school activities.

Nowlin has held a class officer position for the past four years. She was class secretary for two years, and for the past two years, she has been class president.

"The hardest thing about being president of my senior class is trying to get everyone involved and motivated," Nowlin said. "There are different groups of people and I have to unite everyone to get the job done."

Nowlin is a representative on Student Council. The group is in charge of planning events and fundraisers for the school, including prom and homecoming. They are responsible for planting the memorial trees that line the driveway of the high school.

During homecoming, Nowlin was voted Most Spirited and Most Honest. Two years ago, she was the student responsible for adding "Hobo Day" to spirit week. Nowlin stresses that this is not making fun of homeless people.

"If you decide to dress up as a hobo for the day,

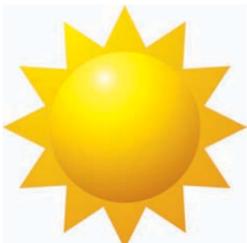
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Local pizza place provides work experience for students

BY DELYSSA HUFFMAN
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POINT PLEASANT — Three Point Pleasant High School students have traded in their textbooks for pizza boxes at Gino's in Point Pleasant.

Through the Community Based Work Experience (CBWE) Program, Dale Parsons, Jesse Walker and Brook Zink, have learned what working at the local pizza place is all about. Whether they are folding boxes or busing tables, these students are becoming educated outside of the classroom.

Instructor Barb Scarberry has been with the program for two and a half years.

The program provides students in the course an opportunity to get training outside of the classroom.

Gino's has been one of the businesses that has opened its doors to the students from the beginning.

Scarberry said Gino's Manager Roxanna McDade and employee Nikki Holcomb did an "excellent" job working with the students.

"Both Roxanna and Nikki are great with the students," Scarberry said. "They have been very supportive of this program."

All three students spend an hour each day at Gino's and stay busy with sweeping,

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Delyssa Huffman/photo

Three students at Point Pleasant High School are enjoying their semester by working at Gino's in Point Pleasant. Through the Community Based Work Experience Program, Dale Parsons, Jesse Walker and Brook Zink have all learned what it takes to work at the local pizza place. Back row, from left to right, Gino's employee Nikki Holcomb and Zink. Front row, from left to right, Parsons and Walker.

1092nd readies for deployment

Parade set for Feb. 19 in Point Pleasant

BY ANDREW CARTER
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POINT PLEASANT — Residents from Mason, Gallia and Meigs counties are encouraged to get out and support local military personnel who will soon be headed abroad.

Mason County residents Beckie Stein-Lambert, Donna Bachus and Janie Collins are joining forces with other residents to organize a parade for Field Service Company, 1092nd Engineer Battalion, based at the Point Pleasant National Guard Armory, whose members are scheduled for deployment to southwest Asia on Monday, Feb. 22. Stein-Lambert said the parade for the 1092nd is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19 in Point Pleasant.

Stein-Lambert, Bachus and Collins all work at ERA Town and Country Real Estate in Point Pleasant. She said she and her co-workers have been discussing what they could do to serve the community and thought honoring local soldiers would be a good place to start.

"We asked 1st Sgt. Ryan Powers from the Point Pleasant National Guard Armory what we could do for the soldiers and he told us that they would really like a parade," Stein-Lambert said.

She said she and her colleagues then recruited Point Pleasant Mayor Brian Billings and Mason County Schools Superintendent Dr. William Capehart to help organize the Feb. 19 parade. Both were more than willing to participate, according to Stein-Lambert.

Tentative plans include having marching bands

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