

What's for dinner on St. Paddy's Day?

FOOD, PAGE A-12



OSU gets No. 1 seed in March Madness

SPORTS, PAGE B-1

The Times-Reporter

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011 ■ DOVER-NEW PHILADELPHIA ■ TIMESREPORTER.COM ■ 75 CENTS

INSIDE TODAY



Dancing is fun, good for you

Gene Weiser of Springfield, Ill., believes he is an example of how dancing can benefit health. He started dancing in 2001 when he was invited to be someone's partner in a dance class. **HEALTH, PAGE A-11**

It's Sunshine Week in Ohio

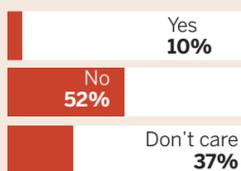
Lawmakers are increasingly conducting public business on their personal cell phones, through calls and text messages. Yet the numbers for those phones and the bills that show whom lawmakers called or texted and when are largely unavailable to the public for review. **OHIO, PAGE A-8**

GOP donors biding time

The 2012 Republican primary race has yet to begin in earnest because big donors aren't eager to shell out until the hopefuls prove they're credible candidates. **NATION, PAGE A-9**

WEB POLL

Sunday's reader poll: Do you think the NCAA should expand its men's basketball tournament field beyond the current 68?



Today's reader poll: Do you think Ohio State can win the NCAA tournament?

■ Visit TimesReporter.com to submit your answer.

DEATH NOTICES

John E. Bursee
Thelma Violet Cecil
John B. Dawson
Robert Lorenz
Brendan W. Milliken
James A. Runyon
Catherine Tyree
Gladys I. White
■ Full obituaries, Page A-5

FOLLOW US!



Get your news on the go. Follow The Times-Reporter on Twitter and on Facebook.

AREA POPULATION UP SLIGHTLY

BY JON BAKER
jon.baker@timesreporter.com

Tuscarawas County saw a modest increase in population during the last decade, according to 2010 census figures released last week, with nearly all of that growth occurring in the northern part of the county.

The population grew from 90,914 in 2000 to 92,582 in 2010, a 1.8 percent increase.

"This shows that Tuscarawas County is proving to be a place where people want to work and raise a family," said Commissioner Chris Abbuhl. "It's not a huge increase, but it's an increase."

2010 POPULATIONS

DENNISON	2,655
DOVER	12,826
NEW PHILADELPHIA	17,288
STRASBURG	2,608
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY	92,582
UHRICHSVILLE	5,413

Holmes County, meanwhile, increased in population by 8.7 percent, from 38,943 in 2000 to 42,366 in 2010, thanks, officials say, to an influx of people wanting to retire to Amish country.

The populations of Carroll, Harri-



First in Print

Published first in your daily newspaper. To appear later at TimesReporter.com.

son and Coshocton counties either held steady or posted small gains.

Dover experienced the greatest growth of any city in Tuscarawas County, increasing in population from 12,210 to 12,826 – a 5 percent increase from 2000 to 2010.

Mayor Richard Homrighausen attributed that growth to new housing developments in the city in recent years, including Becker Creek and

North Star, a complex for people over the age of 55.

"A lot of seniors are moving there, which creates vacant housing in town for younger families to move in," he said. "The new allotments and the availability of starter homes and medium-priced homes in the city are big factors of growth in the city."

New Philadelphia's population grew by 232 people, from 17,056 to 17,288, a 1.36 percent increase. Uhrichsville – like most communities in the southern part of the county – saw a decline in population, from 5,662 to 5,413, a

SEE POPULATION A-5

SOGGY TIMES IN VALLEY



TIMES-REPORTER JIM CUMMINGS

■ Near Zoar, Route 212 at Michael Lane was under water Sunday. Such conditions caused the closing of Tuscarawas Valley School District.

Tusky Valley could be closed most of week, due to flooding

BY LEE MORRISON
lee.morrison@timesreporter.com

ZOARVILLE With high water flooding many roads in the Tuscarawas Valley School District, classes were called off for today and until further notice, Superintendent Mark Murphy said.

Murphy drove throughout the district in northern Tuscarawas County for about three hours Sunday before making the decision.

Using a telephone notification system with a voice message at 6:45 Sunday night, he alerted students and staff that classes are called off until they hear from him again.

He explained that he will not call each day with the same message.

"It crushes me not to be in session, and I have a strong feeling that these high waters are going to keep

"We're already planning to use spring break to make up previous calamity days."

MARK MURPHY, SUPERINTENDENT, TUSCARAWAS VALLEY

us out of school for the majority of this week," he said. "Based on our past experience, once the water levels rise this much, it will be some time before they recede."

The district was closed for several days in 2005 and 2008 because of flooding in the region.

"Although the high water is a major inconvenience, just compare that to what's happening in Japan in

the aftermath of that massive earthquake and tsunami and loss of life," Murphy said.

"That gives me a proper perspective to how bad it could be, and I'm thankful that our folks' lives are not in jeopardy and for the most part there has been little property damage so far."

He said he will not risk the safety of students or staff.

"We did everything we could to reroute our 18 buses to reach all the students," he said. "The water is significantly higher since then. We're to the point where we can't safely or efficiently make more changes in the routes that would allow us to be in session."

Murphy said he and district

SEE FLOODING A-2

Dover native is safe in Tokyo

BY LEE ELLIOTT
news@timesreporter.com

DOVER The day of the earthquake in Japan, a former Dover resident, 19-year-old Alexis Altier, decided to go home after her classes at Tokyo's Temple University Branch, rather than stay at the library as she usually did.

"I'm very lucky I made that choice," she said. "If I had stayed, I would have been stranded across the city."

Altier moved to Japan last year, after graduation from Dover High School.

"The quake started out (Friday) like the kind you frequently feel here, but quickly picked up in intensity and



continued to accelerate. Things throughout my house were falling, so I went to the floor to avoid them. Every time the quake seemed to be slowing down, it would pick back up. After it finished, I turned on the news and saw the flooding and fires up north."

She related that, when she lived in Japan as an exchange student during her junior year in high school, her host family and school were in Sendai.

"I have been unable to reach my Japanese family or friends because phone service is inaccessible to the north," she said, and expressed much concern and fear for them.

"We also had communication problems in Tokyo, but I have been in contact with my

SEE TOKYO A-2

MORE ON JAPAN

■ At least 10,000 dead; fears of nuclear meltdown grow. **PAGE B-6**

Classified.....B-7 Lottery.....A-3
Comics.....B-4, 5 Obituaries.....A-5
Food.....A-12 Sports.....B-1 to 3
FYI.....A-2 Television.....B-4

Our 108th year, No. 257

For delivery or billing questions, call Customer Service: 330-364-8387; toll-free 877-580-8500

GATEHOUSE MEDIA INC., © 2011



FIRST IN PRINT

When it accompanies a story or column, this picture of a rolled-up newspaper means we have published it first in your daily newspaper. We'll publish the content later at our website, TimesReporter.com. TimesReporter.com still is first for all breaking news.



WEATHER

Partly sunny, then generally cloudy. HIGH TODAY 47 LOW TONIGHT 29

■ For details and 5-day forecast, turn to Page A-2 or visit our online weather center: TimesReporter.com/weather

GOOD MORNING, JAMES SCOTT

Thanks for subscribing!

"BEFORE YOU RENEW YOUR CD!"

"Call and check our rates!"



Joshua Fisher
Financial Advisor





Scott Luikart
Financial Advisor

800-203-4934 • 330-339-6669

250 2nd St. NW, New Philadelphia