

The Beacon

Positively Coshocton County



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*This edition
of The Beacon
published in
memory of
Bob Zanella.*

*"Shining a
Positive Light on
Coshocton County"*



HOPE CLINIC GRAND OPENING HELD | As applause rang out, Hope Clinic board members and local dignitaries cut the ribbon marking the official opening and dedication on Saturday, June 4. The clinic is located in the former Davis Dry Cleaners at 131 South Sixth Street in Coshocton. Pictured l - r: Deborah Strasser, Janet Miller, Maureen Karl, Dr. Kevin Doherty, Coshocton City Mayor Steve Mercer, Dr. Kent Doherty, Jeanne Davis Callahan, Rick Merrell and Pastor Mark Granger. Board members not pictured: Dr. Jerold Meyer and Dave Lanning. | BEACON PHOTO BY MARK FORTUNE

So much to write about, so little space. I imagine you have grown weary of the Jim Tressel saga. Our take on this is that we have not heard the last of this story, and there will be other casualties at The Ohio State University. Personally, I think that Pryor should have played his last game for the Buckeyes.

The quarterback is expected to be the leader of the team, not only on the field, but off. This expectation should not come as a surprise to anyone – it's that way in high school, college and the NFL. The Buckeye nation has been sullied and our reputation tarnished by this incident. Those that helped in that do not deserve to wear the scarlet and gray. That is, of course, just my opinion. I am open to hearing your voice. You may think this is all overblown.

Our community is once again in the full blown midst of early summer activities – lest you think there is “nothing to do in little ‘ol Coshocton”. Oh sure, it may not be downtown Cleveland on a Saturday night, and that's okay by me. And probably many of you. Unless, of course, you're at an Indians game or rooting on the Dallas Mavericks against our now number two enemy, LeBron James and the Heat. The number one enemy in our opinion is the reporter that wrote the story about OSU in Sports Illustrated. I'm actually surprised that it wasn't our broadcasting buddy and a guy always friendly to the Buckeyes, Brent Musberger. There I go again, writing about the OSU saga. Dang it, I can't help it!

Getting back to our community, a truly wonderful event was held this past Saturday with the grand opening and dedication of the Hope Clinic

**MARK FORTUNE**

in its new location at 131 South Sixth Street. The site of the former Davis Dry Cleaners, this facility has had a total facelift on the first floor, signage, paved parking lot, private exam rooms, comfortable waiting area, conference and training area and much more. No amount of space in this column

could even begin to give the proper recognition that the many volunteers and community contributors so richly deserve. But what's so great about this story is that they didn't do it for the recognition. And that makes it all the more deserving. Nice job, Hope Clinic. You do our community proud.

This weekend delivers the balloon festival and you'll find the program with schedule of events, balloon pilots and sponsors, entertainment and more inside this edition of The Beacon. Remember the balloons need ideal conditions to launch, and they take flight early in the morning and then again in early evening. All weather dependent of course. So let's hope for clear, calm skies with just the right breeze. The Hot Air Balloon Festival is a great tradition here in Coshocton County and the folks at Frontier Power deserve much appreciation for continuing to be the main sponsor.

If you didn't make it to downtown Coshocton last Friday for the June version of First Friday, you missed some unique and special treats. A colorful train hurtling down the center of Main Street is not something you see every day – nor are three local celebrities in the stocks. That was worth the price of admission – which was free. And so is the Balloon Festival. Go. Take the kids. You'll enjoy it.

A-8 Hope Clinic celebrates with community

BY MARK FORTUNE

Community

JUNE 8, 2011

THE BEACON

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Volunteers, board members, representatives of the Callahan family and community supporters applauded as the red ribbon was cut marking the official opening of the Hope Clinic at its new location; 131 South Sixth Street in Coshocton, this past Saturday.

Dr. Kent Doherty, who along with his brother Dr. Kevin Doherty, had the vision to establish a clinic in Coshocton, said, "This is wonderful. It's the culmination of hours and hours of dreaming on not just my part, but Kevin's part, and all the people here. We are just so thrilled to be a small part of it. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to be able to help. The vision for the Hope Clinic is to use medicine as a vehicle to share the hope we have in Jesus and that's it. We hope to give good medical care to people who are in between medical insurances so there is a place for them to come and get good care, pray with someone if they want to, and just be loved.

"It's a miracle how the dry cleaners had a fire in it, I looked in it in the beginning and

thought, "Oh, wow, we have a lot of work", but God came through with the many hours of people giving of their time, talent and treasures. It's just so wonderful to be a part of it.

"The community has been supportive in so many ways. I won't know this side of heaven how many volunteer hours and effort and sweat has went into it. It's incredible and a fun, fun day."

Dr. Kevin Doherty, said about the day, "It's just a wonderful event. It's just such a privilege to be a part and see how this community came together and the way God raised up individuals. We had no idea that would allow something like this to take place. To give back to the community, I just feel fortunate.

When asked about the renovation of the former dry cleaners into the various spaces and examination rooms that now house the Hope Clinic, Dr. Doherty said, "The transformation has been very moving for the Callahan family, and I'm sure the people that come here will feel similar. Kent and I saw this building when it was abandoned and never in my wildest dreams did I think it would be this fast. I thought it would be years. All the volunteer hours, the money, the time, talent and treasures that people put into this, what a testament to this community. They should be extremely proud of what they've accomplished. It's truly a community effort."

Jeanne Davis Callahan, who donated the building to the Hope Clinic, said, "Several years ago when it became vacant, and my son became ill, we decided to close it (Davis Dry Cleaners) down. I thought there must be a good purpose for it. I listed it with a Realtor, they brought me back an offer and I kept thinking, I had this nagging feeling, so I called around to see if anyone needed it. I thought it might become a church; I had it earmarked for a church, then Rick (Merrell) called me one afternoon and asked if I would consider selling the building. I asked, "What is this for?" He said, "It's for Hope Clinic", and I said, "If it's for Hope Clinic, it's a deal. But I'm not going to sell it, it's theirs.

"It makes me feel that there has been a miracle wrought by a lot of wonderful people

who walked in here cold and they saw what had to be done, they set about it and they did it. They are the ones who created the miracle. It's been a miracle, simple as that."

Following a prayer of dedication by Pastor Mark Granger, comments from board President Maureen Karl, board Vice President Rick Merrell, and Dr.'s Kevin and Kent Doherty, Coshocton City Mayor Steve Mercer read a proclamation. Granger prayed, "Father, we just thank you today for people with vision that could see beyond themselves that God has a vision to help others . . . Father, thank you most of all for making a way where there sometimes seemed to be no way."

A plaque on the outside wall of the building reads, "In memory of Shawn Callahan". In a fitting tribute, the building is dedicated to the daughter of Jeanne Davis Callahan. Callahan's grandson, Patrick Unger, Shawn's son, said about the plaque and the day itself, "It's just an awesome feeling. So much has been done to this building. It's amazing. I'm glad that everyone got together to make this happen."

Board President Maureen Karl, said, "This is overwhelming. This is a culmination of everyone's hopes and dreams that have come true. We couldn't thank our volunteers enough who have come and joined us today and made this dream a reality. We have been truly blessed." Sharon Doherty, mother of Dr. Kent and Dr. Kevin Doherty, said about the day, "Today my feeling in my heart is that God is working a wonder. He's gathering his people together. The boys' whole goal was to bring Christ to people through medicine. I'm so proud of them because they're so sincere. I feel blessed to be their mother. I thank God for it."

The Hope Clinic is located at 131 South Sixth Street in Coshocton. Registration begins each Thursday at 5 p.m. with patients being seen at 6 p.m.

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Museum.....
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