



The Clyde ENTERPRISE

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ONE DOLLAR

News Briefs

Burroughs organizing PAC

to deal with dirt contamination

Civil Service

The Clyde Civil Service Commission cancelled their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 17, due to nothing on the agenda. The next regular monthly meeting will be on Monday, July 15, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Clyde Municipal Building at 4 p.m.

Special meeting

The Clyde-Green Springs Exempted Village Board of Education will meet for a special session meeting for the purpose of employing public employees, discussing instructional hardware purchases for the PARCC assessments, discussing curriculum purchases, and updating/adding policy on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the Clyde-Green Springs Board of Education office, 106 S. Main St.

By BECKY BROOKS
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Clyde businessman Steven Burroughs has presented his own theory on what issues are facing the Eastern Sandusky County region, and he openly rejects blaming Whirlpool Corporation and a chemical called Benzaldehyde for the cause behind the childhood cancer cluster.

He is adamant that attorneys who have filed two class action suits are all about the money involved and not about finding local solutions.

Burroughs is creating a Political Action Committee he calls Group 73, which he expects will work to debunk theories without scientific proof about why children in half of Sandusky County have shown a statistically high percentage of cancers

during the past decade than other areas of Ohio.

In the May 29 edition of The Clyde Enterprise he posted an advertisement to share the information he collected about Lead Arsonate - his bottom line boils down to "stay out of the dirt".

Before PCBs were discovered by the U.S. EPA at the former Whirlpool Park north of Green Springs, Burroughs said he offered his office at U.S. 20 and C.R. 260 to officials from the U.S. EPA as a work hub.

His own research into why this area had a cancer cluster began nearly two years ago, he said noting he had help as well.

"Dave Pollick has helped in more ways," Burroughs said sitting in his office at Specialty Framing on the east side of Clyde.

"This is no witch hunt.... We are here for solutions."

*Steven Burroughs
Local businessman*

Although a Clyde business owner, Burroughs lives in Bellevue.

The man who has indepth knowledge about construction said Pollick, the Sandusky County Health Commissioner, aided him in contacting the government agencies he needed to discuss "legacy chemicals".

Burroughs also secured assistance from Bowling Green State University and the EPA in his search for the affects of chemicals used on orchards prior to the introduction of

DDT as a pesticide decades ago.

"This is no witch hunt," he assured. Burroughs said he is not interested in suing anyone and has offered nearly half of his office space - a conference area and adjoining rooms to his Group 73 PAC to work to find and deal with issues facing the community.

"I am willing to stand up and take on Mr. (Allan) Mortensen and Mr. Warren Brown," he added. Mortensen is an attorney representing one group in

a class action filed in U.S. District Court of Toledo seeking \$5 million in damages against Whirlpool. Brown is one of the 27 plaintiffs in the suit.

Burroughs stressed that the one chemical listed in the class action is not a known carcinogen and the Ohio Department of Health has posted information on Benzaldehyde on its own website.

He commented the chemical is used in foods and other products. Burroughs, a contractor, also commented that the only way he believes that the chemical entered the attics areas of local homes is through venting - and most venting into attics - if not external is from the bathroom.

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Burroughs also commented that the attorneys in the two class actions against Whirlpool for multi-millions of dollars each appear to be working to create a panic in an effort to seek clients.

"My grandson was so scared when he came home from kindergarten," Burroughs said about what the boy who heard at school about something dangerous being in the attics of the Clyde community.

"I've been building for 40 years," Burroughs stated. He bluntly commented that with Benzaldehyde in so many products such as ice cream, he could explain how it is being released into attics.

"When you go into the bathroom where does the air go?" he said rhetorically about bathroom vents.

He called the claims against Whirlpool Corporation "far fetched".

He then returned to his own theory - which he can back up with U.S. EPA information and reports from other states concerning "legacy chemicals".

When the U.S. EPA was looking for "chemical dumps" in the Clyde region two years ago, Burroughs called their hot line.

The cases of pediatric cancers all seemed to occur in areas from Fremont to Bellevue in Sandusky and south to Tiffin,

he said.

"Right where the apple orchards were," he said about the history of the region.

Being old enough to remember and having old-time farmers as friends and acquaintances, Burroughs worked with the U.S. EPA to map some of the worst "hot spots" where orchards were planted prior to the 1970s and back as far as the 1890s.

No surprise - while the Ohio Department of Health has not conducted statistical surveys outside this region north, cases of childhood cancers for the past decade have also been reported in Ottawa County and Erie County toward Lake Erie. *The Clyde Enterprise* and its two sister publications have reported.

Burroughs pointed out that ODH did find a statistically higher percentage of cancer cases in southeast-

ern Ottawa County when it did its Sandusky County study.

The entire region for the past century has been known for its many orchards from apples to cherries, he noted.

Burroughs' own research has shown multiple states in the nation have battled the problem of "legacy chemicals".

On the web, articles and state reports abound for Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and even over seas. A paper presented at the 16th World Congress of Soil Science in France in 1998 detailed the history of the lead arsenate (LA) insecticides, soil contamination and implications for soil remediation. (<http://soils.tfrec.wsu.edu/leadhistory.htm>)

Burroughs said he has found other states have been learning to deal with LA for more than a

decade. After the chemicals were sprayed on trees and ran off - it did not drain away, he said.

From his research and recommendations from various documents on the topic - LA soil should not be disturbed.

Different states have been experimenting with growing specific plants that could aid in decontaminating the ground and a paper on the history of LA in Virginia Apple Production noted that soil could be removed totally and replaced.

Burroughs also claims there have been other cancer clusters in Sandusky County in the past - he also commented that there are statistical abnormalities in the adult populations.

"We are here for solutions," he said about the PAC he intends to establish, "not allegations."

Gregory R. Emanuele, 26, Boardman, speed 67-55, \$45.

Stephen E. Simpson, 35, Cleveland, traffic lane-line violation, \$25.

Eric Valdivia, 20, Chicago, Ill., speed 77-55, \$65.

David Maschari, Jr., 29, Castalia, speed 67-55, \$45.

Shayna D. Mills, 20, Fremont, (A) speed 72-55, \$55; (B) seat belt, \$30.

Krista R. Poole, 25,

Thomas J. Brajkovich, 59, Medina, speed 70-55, \$45.

Wilbur Lauzau, 84, Strongsville, speed 67-55, \$45.

Robert M. Hernandez, 58, 1243 N. Woodland Ave., speed 66-55, \$45.

Jamie R. Hiages, 21, Fremont, speed 73-55, \$55.

Thomas J. Nichols, 26, 236 S. Church St., seat belt, \$30.

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