



Hammer sparks Ross to TRAC victory at St. John's

SPORTS, 1B

The News - Messenger

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



The Rev. Sheryl Seitz sits next to the 1872 church bell outside Clyde First United Methodist Church, which will celebrate its 200th anniversary on Oct. 10. SHERI TRUSTY/CORRESPONDENT

'This is where we belong' 'Piety Hill' is still home to 200-year-old Clyde UMC

Sheri Trusty Special to Fremont News-Messenger | USA TODAY NETWORK

CLYDE — Two hundred years ago, Jim Greenslade's ancestors hosted Clyde's first Methodist church in their home, the McMillan cabin. Today, Jim and his wife, Nancy Greenslade, still attend church on the same spot of land. Clyde First United Methodist Church now sits where the McMillan cabin once stood, on "Piety Hill" at the corner of Maple and Race streets.

On Oct. 10, Clyde First UMC will celebrate 200 years of ministry with an anniversary celebration featuring Bishop Tracy Malone and a catered luncheon.

Nancy Greenslade is also part of a line of multiple generations who attended the church. Her grandfather and great-grandfather were members of the church and eventually became Methodist ministers, serving in Vickery and Republic, respectively. Her grandmother was very active in the church's chapter of Woman's Christian Temperance Union, a national organization formed in 1874.

See 'PIETY HILL', Page 2A

"When we see a need, we do what we can to help."

The Rev. Sheryl Seitz
Pastor for Clyde First UMC

Diversity in policing starts at academy

Craig Shoup Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Editor's note: This is the second in a three-part series.

Larry Cunningham has seen a shift in the number of minorities he and other instructors teach at Terra State Community College's police academy.

Academies are at the forefront of training the country's newest police recruits.

"Our last few classes, we've had about 30 to 35% be women and minorities," Cunningham said.

Those percentages are up from years past, when many classes would have around 10% minority makeup.

Cunningham said he believes women and minorities in his classes are accepted well by their white male classmates.

As a veteran police academy commander and former Monroeville Police captain, Jim Bond has seen dozens of cadets come and go through the system.

For the past 11 years, Bond has been the commander of the police academy at Erie Huron Ottawa Vocational Education, EHOVE, in Milan. Prior to becoming commander, Bond served as an academy instructor in 2003 before becoming assistant commander in 2005.

Wanting more minority cadets

In his current class, Bond said there are three female cadets out of 11 students. That's a ratio that he would like to see increase, despite competition from other academies in Sandusky and around the Northwest Ohio area.

"It's really not the numbers we love to see," Bond said of women signing up to become police officers. "We need more women in law enforcement."

The most cadets in a class Bond has seen was around 17. Now, the classes are capped at 16 so the cadet to instructor ratio does not get too high.

See DIVERSITY, Page 2A

Roads, housing, economy are issues in Ward 2 race

Daniel Carson Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

FREMONT — Even though 2021 is a non-presidential election year, there are several contested races for Fremont City Council seats and a busy campaign season leading up to the Nov. 2 Election Day.

That includes the city's Second Ward, where incumbent Democrat Jim Sleek is in a re-election battle to with

Republican Andy Roberts for a city council seat.

Both men wear a lot of hats in the community.

Sleek drives a bus for Fremont City Schools, serves as a substitute teacher in the district and has performed for decades with Uptown Country Band and various other musical groups throughout the county.

Roberts works as a production operator at Whirlpool and is active in ministry

at his Fremont church.

He's been a pastor since 2001 and was installed as a bishop at the Church of God of the Apostolic Faith in 2015.

Sleek squeaked out a narrow win in his 2017 council race, edging out Republican Kathy Stout with almost 52% of the vote.

The Democrat is hoping for a similar result in November.

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Roberts



Sleek

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