



Saturday, June 14, 2008

# The Lima News



High 81  
Low 61  
Page A7

50 CENTS DAILY • \$1.50 SUNDAY



87,500 daily/107,000 Sunday readers

## Friday at Lima's Forget Me Not



KELLI CARDINAL • The Lima News

Greg Austin, an owner of Forget Me Not Garden Center, waters large hanging baskets Friday in the greenhouse on Bluelick Road in Lima. Information included with a story about Russell and Nancy Loescher, published in Friday's paper, reported incorrectly that Nancy Loescher was a co-owner of Forget Me Not Garden Center. The Loeschers once owned a greenhouse at that location, but sold it in the early '80s. They have never owned Forget Me Not Garden Center. It is owned by Jackie and Gary Austin, their son, Greg Austin, and daughter, Kelli Cosart. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

## Kids clinic opens

### Lima Memorial plugs Allen County void

By KATE LOHNES  
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LIMA — A new children's health clinic at Lima Memorial Health System will provide care to children displaced by a clinic's closure last month at the Allen County Health Department, according to the clinic's attending doctor.

Board member and physician Dr. Wilfred Ellis announced the formation of the Pediatric Clinic and Child Health Center during the monthly Allen County Board of Health meeting on Friday.

Ellis said he approached Lima Memorial about creating the permanent clinic to service patients previously cared for by the Child Health Clinic at the health department, which closed in May. The new clinic has been operational for nearly

a month.

"We're going to re-establish the clinic for pediatrics for the population that was previously served at the health department," he said. "The purpose is to make sure that all children in the area have access to health care."

During the board meeting, health department director of nursing Becky Dershem said the health department has processed more than 80 patient charts from the closed clinic to be sent to other healthcare providers. Dershem also said there have been some reports that patients have had trouble making the switch to other providers — particularly newborn infants who have been discharged early from hospitals who must see a doctor within 48 hours.

See CLINIC • A7

## Flag more than fabric

How and why we celebrate this day

By RACHELLE PAVELKO  
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LIMA — Flag Day is a day to honor our country and remember what each star and stripe stands for.

"So many of us forget what the flag stands for and what our servicemen have done for us," said Rebecca Rogers, a secretary at the national headquarters of the American Legion. "Flag Day is a reminder to citizens that it isn't just a piece of fabric."

A common American tradition is that families place or raise the country's flag at their

homes during the June 14 holiday. Rogers explained the proper way to go about this process.

Rogers said that the American flag should fly from sunrise to sunset, and should be displayed after dark only if there is proper illumination on the flag. It should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

The flag should not fly during inclement weather unless an all-weather flag has been purchased. Flags should be displayed on all major holidays to honor our country.

See FLAG DAY • A7



BRYNN ANDERSON • The Lima News

Don Groman, of Bluffton, mounts speaker cords Friday in preparation for the 41st annual Bluffton Festival of Wheels.

### KNOW & GO

**WHAT:** 102nd Flag Day Ceremony

**WHEN:** 2 p.m. today

**WHERE:** Lima Elks Lodge 54, 302 W. North St., upstairs

Major holidays during which the flag should be displayed: New Year's Day, Inauguration Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's birthday, Washington's birthday, Easter, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Navy Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, state holidays, and any other day the President proclaims

Source: www.legion.org

### An institution in news and politics

Tim Russert, NBC's Washington bureau chief and moderator of "Meet the Press" died Friday of an apparent heart attack. He was 58.

**BORN:** May 7, 1950, in Buffalo, N.Y.

**FAMILY:** Wife, Maureen Orth; son, Luke.

**CAREER:** Moderator, NBC News' "Meet the Press," 1991-2008; Washington bureau chief, NBC News, 1988-2008; reporter, NBC News, 1984-88; counselor, New York Governor's office in Albany, N.Y., 1983-84; special counsel, U.S. Senate, 1977-82.

"I know what the conservatives think, what the liberals think, what the Democrats think, what the Republicans think, and I try to master both sides of an issue to a point where I'm totally confused as to what I think."

— Russert, in a 2004 interview with CNN.



## Tim Russert dies at 58

Heart attack kills TV icon

By DAVID ESPO  
And LAURIE KELLMAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tim Russert, a political lifer who made a TV career of his passion with unrelenting questioning of the powerful and influential, died of a heart attack Friday in the midst of a presidential campaign he'd covered with trademark intensity. Praise poured in from the biggest names in politics, some recalling their own meltdown moments on his hot seat.

Russert, 58, was a political operative before he was a journalist. He joined NBC a quarter century ago and ended up as the longest-tenured host of the Sunday talk show "Meet the Press."

He was an election-night fixture, with his whiteboard and scribbled figures, and was moderator for numerous political debates. He wrote two best-selling books, including the much-loved "Big Russ and Me" about his relationship with his father. He was NBC's Washington bureau chief.

President Bush, informed of Russert's death while at dinner in Paris, saluted him as "a tough and hardworking newsman. He was always well-informed and thorough in his interviews. And he was as gregarious off the set as he was prepared on it."

NBC interrupted its regular programming with news of Russert's death and continued

See RUSSERT • A7

## Afghanistan deaths top Iraq's

Bloody May draws attention to America's other war

By ROBERT BURNS  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — It's a grim gauge of U.S. wars going in opposite directions: American and allied combat deaths in Afghanistan in May passed the monthly toll in Iraq for the first time.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates used the statistical comparison to dramatize his point to NATO defense ministers that they need to do more to get Afghanistan moving in a better direction. He wants more allied combat troops, more trainers and more public commitment. More positively, the May death totals point to

security improvements in Iraq that few thought likely a year ago.

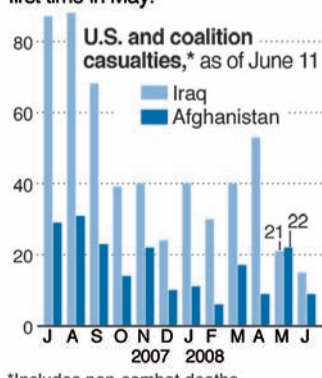
But the deterioration in Afghanistan suggests a troubling additional possibility: a widening of the war to Pakistan, where the Taliban and al-Qaida have found haven.

By the Pentagon's count, 15 U.S. and two allied troops were killed in action in Iraq last month, a total of 17. In Afghanistan it was 19, including 14 Americans and five coalition troops. One month does not make a trend, but in this case the statistics are so out of whack with perceptions of the two wars that Gates

See AFGHANISTAN • A7

### Shift in death toll

The number of U.S. and allied troops killed in Afghanistan exceeded the total in Iraq for the first time in May.



\*Includes non-combat deaths  
SOURCE: AP News Research Center AP

### 5 on the go

**1** R. Kelly was acquitted of all charges Friday after less than a day of deliberations in his child pornography trial, ending a six-year ordeal for the R&B superstar. /A2

**2** A Michigan 16-year-old girl was struck by lightning June 6. She wasn't badly injured. Her mother bought a lottery ticket for her the next day on a whim and won \$20.

**3** Two Navy jets collided Friday during a training mission in Nevada. Two pilots ejected out of one jet and were fine, but the pilot of the other jet was killed.

**4** TB patients must take a difficult, six-month regimen of multiple drugs, and researchers have found that enticing them with free cell phone minutes improves compliance. /A4

**5** For disobeying, a 13-year-old North Carolina boy was tied to a tree overnight two times this week. He was found dead Thursday, and his parents were charged with murder. /A4

