

Harborcreek Historical Society gets new home

by Michael Frawley
managing editor

While Knowledge Park may seem to only have appeal for people majoring in Business and Engineering, there is something available there for Humanities majors as well. While many people on campus are aware that Alborg Industries and General Electric have moved into Knowledge Park, the Harborcreek Historical Society now also calls Knowledge Park home.

The Harborcreek Historical Society has always had a close connection to Behrend. When it was founded in 1994, Behrend gave them space on campus next to the Health and Wellness Center, and as soon as space was available, a new home at Knowledge Park.

The society works on various

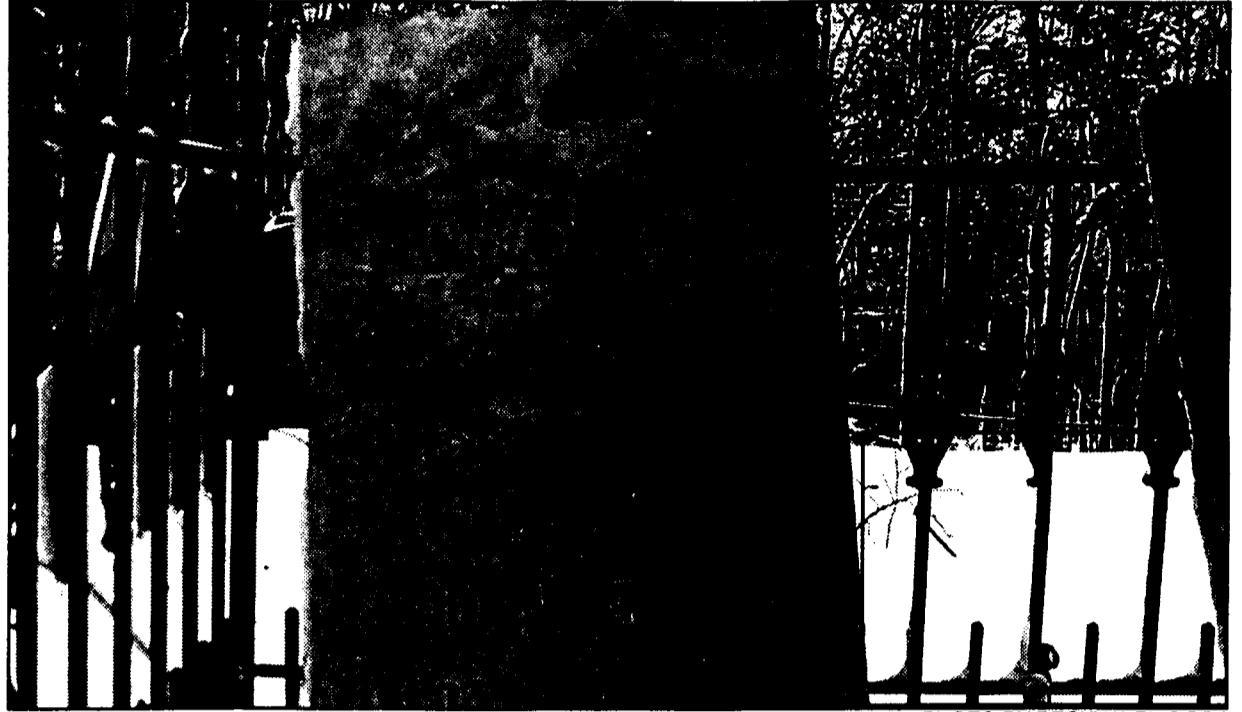
projects to help promote and preserve all portions of Harborcreek's history. One such project was the restoration of the Gospel Hill Burial Ground, located just north of the Station Road entrance to the school. The Gospel Hill Burial Ground is important to Harborcreek history because Thomas Rees, the man who originally pioneered Harborcreek for settlement, is buried there.

The society has also worked on researching and documenting one-room schoolhouses in Harborcreek. They have been gathering all available information on these schoolhouses and are working to preserve the few that still remain. They are currently working to save the Rose Construction one-room schoolhouse, which is located at the site of Stan's Garden Center. This land is the proposed site for the new eastside

Wal-Mart. The society is hoping that Wal-Mart will donate the school to them to keep it from being torn down.

The society also takes an active part in the local community, helping people to research their genealogy if they hail from Harborcreek. They also help at the annual Harborfest, setting up a display table for local residents to learn more about Harborcreek. At last year's Harborfest, they set up an 1865 map of Harborcreek Township and allowed residents to try to identify where they now live.

The Historical Society is open every Wednesday from 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm and on Saturdays from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. The society welcomes anyone interested in any learning more about Harborcreek to stop in.



Tombstone of Thomas Rees in the Gospel Hill Burial Ground.

PHOTO BY BECKY WEINDORF

Grand opening of Best Buy is sure to be a best bet for Erie Christmas Shoppers

by Bobby Crockett
staff writer

As Erie enters the winter season, upper Peach Street is slowly becoming a war zone as shoppers go from store to store trying to find the right price for the perfect gift for the many people on their Christmas shopping lists. This leads to stores being competitive with one another as they cut their prices in attempts to get the maximum number of shoppers in their stores. The level of competition has increased in recent years with the opening of such stores as Media Play, Circuit City, and Target. And with the recent opening of Best Buy in Erie, the level of competition will almost

surely be raised one or two more notches.

Located at 6650 Peach Street, Best Buy offers a wide variety of products, including everything from household appliances such as washers and dryers to television and stereo systems. Since their opening last Friday, they have had many sales that have been limited to their first week of being open. This includes such deals as \$9.99 for new CD releases like Limp Bizkit's "Chocolate Starfish and the Hot Dog Flavored Water" and 98 Degrees' "Revelation." Other values include the recent Jurassic Park DVD set for \$29.99 and recent critically acclaimed movies such as "American Beauty" and "The

Green Mile" on VHS for \$9.99. These are though just small samples of the values that one can find at Best Buy.

While not as much an "all-in-one" store as Target, Wal-Mart, or K-Mart, Best Buy definitely makes up for it with their prices on electronics. Their prices are definitely in the range that will lead to strong competition with other local electronic stores such as Media Play and Circuit City. The combination of the Christmas shopping season being in full bloom and the momentum that a store gains with their grand opening, it's a sure bet that Best Buy will be having a very merry Christmas season.



The new Best Buy on upper Peach street is open for business.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

Hey Dave, Play Something We Know!

Cruisin'4
CASH

This is the story of six friends (who by the end of the trip acted like strangers) that chose to get in a van and drive to Orchard Park, New York. Road Trip: Dave Matthews.

It started out as a rainy day in July. The van, affectionately named "the party bus," was stocked with beer, pizza, and a few umbrellas. The van comfortably seats four (Thanks Iron City).

We got to Ralph Wilson ("who's Ralph Wilson?") Stadium a little earlier than expected. Eagerly, we set up camp next to the road so we could make a quick exit in case things got ugly, but also to keep an eye on the scenic porta potties strategically placed at the entrance. The fun began after we unloaded the party bus and made friends with our neighbors, two girls from Syracuse whose food was a lot better than ours.

After a few hours of basking in the Buffalo sun (did we mention we were dressed for cold rain—thanks Erie), we decided to make friends with the local law enforcement agencies. A motorcycle officer graciously posed with us for a picture, but much to the dismay of our male friends, would not let any of us test-drive his Harley.

As we prepared to head into the stadium for the opening act, we noticed that our friend's prized football, a staple at every tailgating event, was being handed off by our other less intelligent friend to an innocent child collecting cans. Luckily, we were able to buy it back.

After nearly losing two of the gang in the sea of fans inside the stadium, we sat down to enjoy a little DMB. After the rain, the fight, and the fact they didn't play "Crash," we were all very tired and ready to go home.

Home... It seemed like such a simple request, but since you can only turn left out of Mr. Wilson's stadium, we had to blindly detour through all of western upstate New York to find I-90. Our party bus driver decided to pass the time by chit-chatting with the locals walking along the sides of the roads. He asked them if they liked the playst because he sure didn't. Did we mention they didn't play "Crash?"

The night soon turned into a sing-a-long to keep the pilot and co-pilot awake and after a long pit stop at a McDonalds somewhere off the highway, we swerved home to bed (Thanks, Dave).

Deanna Symoski COMBA
Ainsie Ulmer COMBA



Deanna Symoski and Ainsie Ulmer pose in the Parking lot of Ralph Wilson Stadium at a Dave Matthews Band concert

As Members of the of the Behrend Beacon editorial staff, Deanna Symoski and Ainsie Ulmer are disqualified from winning the contest.

Contest Rules
Any Behrend student can submit a 300-500 word story about a road trip they have taken since the end of the spring 2000 semester. The trip must be more than 150 miles from the original location. A photo must accompany entry with sufficient proof that the trip was made. Insufficient proof will lessen chances to win contest. If more than one student took part in the road trip, only the student submitting the story is eligible, unless all members send name in with entry. If more than one student name appears on entry, prize will be divided amongst the students who entered. Send in entries as soon as possible to ensure publication in the Beacon. Only entries appearing in the Beacon will be voted on. Beacon members are ineligible and will vote on the winner.

win
\$250

ATTENTION ALL CARTOONISTS:

