



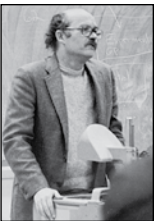
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• **Shane St. Julian**, manager of **St. Julian's Fitness Center at Kroger Plaza**, is signing up retirees for the **SilverSneakers** program.

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joined the BGSU Sociology Dept. faculty in 1959, died May 20. **DOROTHY LUEDTKE**, associate professor emeritus of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, died May 22. She was 84. **WILLIAM FICHTHORN**, 90, former chair of the Finance Dept., died May 5. **JEANETTE "NETTIE" PULTZ**, 80, who retired from the Custodial Dept. in 1989, died May 24. More on these retirees begins on 4-6

BGSURA Board to meet July 21

A BGSU Retirees Association Board meeting has been scheduled by Pres. Ramona Cormier for Wednesday, July 21. Results of the election for secretary and directors will be announced next week. Members are invited to attend the session, which will be held in the College Park Office Bldg.

BGSU retirees in the news



Ramona Cormier at Monday's utilities board meeting in Bowling Green

Leaving legacy of alternative energy

By **HAROLD BROWN**
Sentinel City Editor

Alternative energy projects were barely on the radar when Dr. Ramona Cormier was appointed to Bowling Green's Board of Public Utilities in the fall of 1994.

As Cormier nears the end of her time on the BPU, an average day finds about 20 percent of the city's electric demand covered by alternative sources.

Cormier was honored Monday night for her "tenacity of purpose" and "promotion of alternative energy" during her last scheduled meeting of the board.

She declined reappointment to a new term.

Board Chairperson John Mekus noted that Cormier was a "leader" in promoting wind and hydroelectric energy, solar and power panels on the roof of the Bowling Green State

University Ice Arena, load management and Green Power. She also served four years as BPU chairperson.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve," Cormier said. "It has been an education in itself. The wastewater, electric and water employees. I commend everyone who serves as an employee of the utilities of Bowling Green."

(See CORMIER on 5)



Gordon to join state's senior hall of fame

The Ohio Department of Aging and members of the Ohio General Assembly will induct Bowling Green resident Joan Gordon, along with 12 other exceptional older Ohioans, into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on May 24.

The ceremony will take place at the Capitol Theatre in Columbus from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

"Those inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame embody the productivity and enjoyment that should be a part of every person's older years," said Barbara E. Riley, director of the Ohio Department of Aging, in making the announcement this week. "Mrs. Gordon has had an impact on the past and she continues to



Joan Gordon

• **Ramona Cormier**, current BGSURA president; **Don Bright**, former BGSURA Board member; and **Joan Gordon**, board member and former BGSURA secretary, made headlines in local papers last month.

RAMONA CORMIER – Since 1994 a member of the City of Bowling Green Board of Public Utilities, Dr. Cormier received a farewell salute from the board at its May 24 meeting and a write-up the *Sentinel-Tribune* the next day. *Sentinel* City Editor Harold Brown wrote that the Board honored her for her "tenacity of purpose" and "promotion of alternative energy." A reception in her honor was held after the meeting. Dr. Cormier, BGSU Trustee Professor Emeritus, declined reappointment to another term.

Board chairman John Mekus noted that Dr. Cormier was a leader in promoting wind and hydroelectric energy, solar power panels on the roof of the BGSU Ice Arena, load management and Green Power. She served four years as board chairman. *Sentinel* staff photographer J.D. Pooley took the photo of Dr. Cormier.

DON BRIGHT – *The Blade* retired food editor Mary Alice Powell, who describes her new relationship with the *continued on page 2*

In the newspapers . . . continued

newspaper as being “just recycled for a time” while *The Blade* interviews for a new food editor, tracked down Don for a feature which appeared in the June 1 edition. Mary Alice and her dog Digby first met Don when Mary Alice was the speaker at the May 2007 BGSURA luncheon and Don’s crew cooked and served at First United Methodist Church. She recalled how “we were served ham loaf with mustard-brown sugar topping and squares of rainbow JELL-O.”



• *Mary Alice with her companion Digby in 2007.*

Mary Alice returned to Bowling Green with *Blade* staff photographer Dave Zapatosky to revisit Don’s cooking for the meeting last month of the Wood County Retired Teachers Association. Don, a former state president of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association, served “hot chicken salad crunchy with water chestnuts, plush green beans seasoned with just enough barbecue sauce, Don’s homemade French saladressing [which] gave ordinary head lettuce a welcome lift. He admits the pies were not homemade, but were baked fresh,” Mary Alice wrote.

JOAN GORDON – With 11 others statewide, Joan Gordon was inducted May 24 into the Ohio Department of Aging Senior Citizens Hall of Fame in a ceremony in the Capital Theater in Columbus.

Those inducted “embody the productivity and enjoyment that should be a part of every person’s older years,” said the ODA director, Barbara Riley. For more than 30 years, Gordon has been a member of the Wood County Committee on Aging (and a former president). She served as head of the planning committee for the 150th and 175th anniversaries of Bowling Green. For 15 years, she was executive director of the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce.

Gordon also is a recipient of a regional Jennie June Award for community service from the General Federation of Women’s Clubs. Her nomination noted that Gordon has served a diverse group of organizations from health care to literacy, from teens to senior citizens, from economic development to city government, and everything in between.



DAVID ROGERS, associate professor emeritus of music performance studies, won the flute-players competition at the Musical Echoes Competition held in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. The competition was held in conjunction with the Musical Echoes Native American Gathering and Cultural Event.

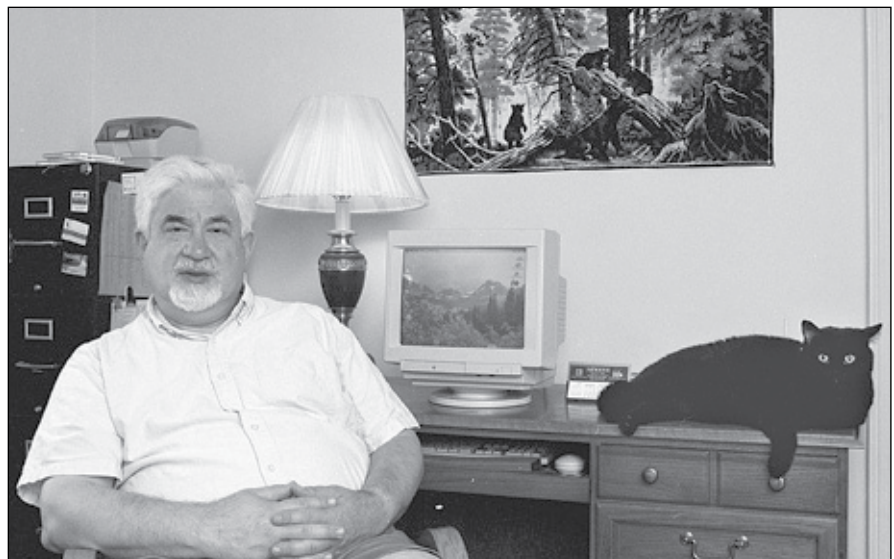
Rogers, who taught French horn, started playing the Native American flute about seven years ago because of its soothing qualities. He has devoted himself to the study and practice of music therapy. □

Computer aid for retirees

HE’s back for another year, beginning his 11th as BGSURA’s computer expert. Charlie Applebaum has been retained by the Chief Information Officer of BGSU as a resource person for any retired BGSU faculty or staff member who has a software or hardware problem. Dr. Applebaum, who took early retirement in 1998, has 49 years of experience in mainframe and personal computing.

Charlie is well versed in most versions of Macintosh and Windows operating systems and a large number of software packages for these computers. He is proficient in the use of e-mail and most other internet applications.

He offers this experience in helping you in your home or over the phone with software or hard-



• *Charlie Applebaum, associate professor emeritus of mathematics and statistics, began solving retiree computer problems on May 1, 2000. Computer cat buddy “Midnight” has since passed on, and the computers have changed, since this photo was taken in Charlie’s study 10 years ago.*

ware issues related to the setup, operation or maintenance of your computer systems.

Dr. Applebaum may be reached at home at 419-352-0777 or by e-mail at applebau@bgsu. □



• Left: Shane St. Julian, manager, St. Julian Fitness Center; Susie Bloom, instructor; and Ashley Christensen, St. Julian staffer. Right: BGSU retirees Dale Furbee, of Weston, and John Gresser, of McClure, are Silver Sneakers participants.

SilverSneakers for BOTH now sexes in BG

A “CO-ED” Healthways SilverSneakers program – for men and women retirees whose health insurance is with Aetna Medicare Advantage (STRS) or Humana Medicare Advantage (OPERS) – is now offered in Bowling Green at St. Julian’s Fitness Center, 1096 N. Main St. (Kroger Plaza).

Previously, the only Bowling Green SilverSneakers participant was Curves for Women, at 1204 W. Wooster St. (see Dawn McCaghy’s “review” in the May issue of the BGSURA Newsletter, on line at www.bgsu.edu/retirement). The Perrysburg YMCA-JCC, Eckel Junction Road, also is a participant.

Program equipment, including a SilverSneakers membership card scanner and exercise equipment, arrived earlier last week at St. Julian’s. Eligible retiree members are being signed over to SilverSneakers, said Shane St. Julian, fitness center manager.

As part of the SilverSneaker program, a certified instructor, BGSU graduate Susie Bloom, of Portage, has been hired to teach muscular strength and range-of-

motion classes to interested retirees. These classes are held Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Bloom also conducts spinning classes.

St. Julian’s is a family operation. It began in 1991 after Shane St. Julian’s father Tom took a buyout from Libby-Owens-Ford after 25 years and bought the former Hard Bodys gym (previously the Bowling Green Burger Chef) on E. Wooster Street across the tracks from Dairy Queen. Five years later, the fitness operation moved to Kroger Plaza with its new name, St. Julian’s Fitness Center.

Meanwhile, Shane worked in the family business while attending Plymouth (N.H.) State University, where he played hockey.

Today, Shane’s parents, Tom and Shirley, focus on a second fitness center at Levis Commons, Perrysburg, while Shane manages the Bowling Green center. Shirley St. Julian also manages Thin & Healthy’s Total Solution weight loss center at the Levis location.

For more information about the Bowling Green center: www.stjuliansfitnessbg.com/, 419-354-5060. For Perrysburg, www.stjuliansfitness.com, 419-931-3098. □

Retirement reception for Pat Fitzgerald

MEMBERS of the BGSU family are invited to a June 21 reception for Pat Fitzgerald, who is retiring as director of Television Services and General Manager of WBGU-PBS.

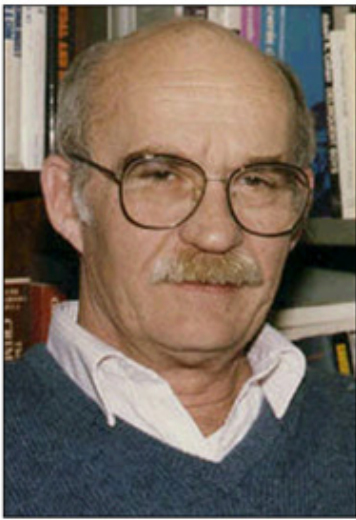
“Fitz” began his 37-year career with the television operation by starting with the Television Learning Services area, which provided video productions and support for classroom instruction through closed circuit TV and microwave to Firelands Campus. He became general manager

upon the retirement of Dr. Duane Tucker, for whom the Troup Street telecommunications center is named.

Recently Fitzgerald led the staff in the \$3.5 million conversion of all the WBGU-TV broadcast operations to HD and multicast broadcasting through grants and private funds without capital assistance from BGSU. Reception time is 4-6 p.m. with a brief program at 4:30. □



• One of the “dishes” behind the Tucker Telecommunications Center.



Meet Joe Perry

*Southern
gentleman,
leader, scholar*

BY JANIS L. PALLISTER

Désastre
parlez-moi du désastre
parlez-m'en
—Hoquet
Léon-G. Damas

A PROFESSOR who has been an outstanding leader of Faculty Senate and a member of many committees, Joe Perry needs little introduction to most retirees of BGSU. However, I suspect that few people have even the least inkling of his specialties and accomplishments in his field, which, as you know, is sociology. All are familiar, on the other hand, with his gracious Southern manner and soft accent.

And indeed, the South is in Joe's bones. He was born in 1930 in Dallas, Texas. He grew up there except for a short spell in Richmond, Va. — his mother's birthplace. He earned his B.S. at the University of North Texas, his M.A. from the University of Texas, and his Ph.D. from Washington State University. At 17 Joe joined the Naval Reserve, and as a Seaman Recruit he went on the Navy's Midshipman cruise of 1947. He saw a London in ruins. "Blocks upon blocks, upon blocks of nothing but cellars." This was Joe's first of many experiences with disasters. In marked contrast, on the same voyage he visited Gothenburg, Sweden, which was physically untouched by the war. Joe was also stationed in Japan during the Korean War and visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Joe's academic interest in disaster began during his first year as a graduate student at the University of Texas. He was hired to code questionnaire data collected from the victims of the May 11, 1953, tornadoes which struck Waco, Texas (114 dead), and San Angelo, Texas (19 dead).

THESE EXPERIENCES led Joe to a lifetime interest in disasters of all kinds, and in various forms of collective behavior, including mobs, crowds, revolution, social movements, panic, hysteria, and non-violent means of conflict resolution. Since 1953 he has been researching and teaching courses in Collective Behavior, Social Change, and the Sociology of Conflict. On the methodological side, he has dealt with Concept Formation, Methods of Research and Research Design. Disaster in all its forms has been his chief

concern. It is as if he had heard Damas saying, "Disaster; speak to me of disaster; speak to me of it."

Joe's teaching experiences are extremely rich: He spent Fall 1967, Spring 1968 and Fall 1968 in Uppsala, Sweden, on a Fulbright lectureship; this gave him a chance to see in operation the social experiment described by Marquis W. Childs in Sweden: *The Middle Way*. Joe taught social psychology, among other things, to English-speaking students in the Department of Sociology. And while there he and his wife Frances (who holds the Ph.D. from BGSU and has taught sociology and Women's Studies at the University of Toledo and at BGSU) took courses in Swedish. His son Joseph — then 8 — and his daughter Wynn — then 12 — went to Swedish schools. And Joe says his son, now a teacher of German history in Georgia, learned Swedish in about 20 minutes. Joe came to BGSU first in 1959-62 as an instructor, then taught at Louisiana State University and North Texas State University — where, as we noted above, he had received his B.S. in 1953, and more importantly, perhaps, had met his future wife, Frances. He then returned to BGSU in 1965, following his stint at L.S.U., and remained with us until 1994, when he retired. During this time, he gave many courses on many subjects and also directed Ph.D. dissertations.

AS FOR RESEARCH, Joe's study of disaster has continued well beyond his retirement., prior to which he had already authored or co-authored two books and dozens of articles and book reviews. In 1996, two years after he retired, he co-authored "Response to Severe Winter and Blizzard Conditions in Grundy and Buchanan County." Only this year he has presented two studies, one an article entitled "Crowds," for the *Encyclopedia of Community...* and another on Gustave LeBon (1841-1941), a French Social Theorist. At present Joe is — along with Art Neal, Richard Carpenter, and Norbert Wiley — writing a treatise on the uprising at BGSU (1961), remarkable by the fact that the "revolution" occurred in a small, non-elite school. The preliminary findings of this research were presented in 2002 at a conference of the American Sociological Association. In 2002 Joe also published an article entitled "Where Have All the Typewriters Gone: To the Junkyard Almost Every One." This treatment of new disasters, brought about by a fragile society, will be the basis of a book. And Joe projects, also, a history of Faculty Senate in collaboration with his colleagues Tom Kinney, Neocles Leontis, Benjamin Muego, and David Newman. (Those promise to be jewels, don't you think?)

DESPITE his usually gentle demeanor, Joe becomes angry over injustice and incompetence. On the personal side, in his 50s he developed a fear of flying that keeps him almost ever on terra firma. He's also the epitome of the absent-minded professor, claiming he has worked hard at developing that image. Joe is, moreover, the proud father of three accomplished offspring: Wynn, the curator of the new art gallery at Owens Tech, where she teaches drawing and history of art; Joe, the middle son, a teacher of German history in Georgia, and

Reprinted from the November 2003 BGSURA Newsletter

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• Dorothy M. Luedtke (in checkered jacket), at the October 2003 dedication of the Dorothy M. Luedtke Gymnasium in the Eppler Complex, is surrounded by BGSU alumnae. Making the presentation is Cheryl Renneckar (right), BS '68, ME '70, a retired Florida high school principal. Kneeling is Janet Fenwick Debeauclair, BS '59. The plaque, given by physical education

alumnae, describes Luedtke as "an outstanding educator who contributed to the national reputation of the BGSU women's physical education program, an exemplar of the principles and philosophy that guided women's physical education and sport, a dedicated administrator of a quality intramural program, and a pioneer in the development of women's intercollegiate athletics."

Dean, Debra M. '99, BGSU Department, Governance

Dorothy Luedtke: Pioneer in Women's Sports

By Jan Pallister

WELL, we have heard about quite a few of our retired colleagues through these little vignettes, but this is the first time we have heard about a woman professor who did many things for BGSU women students and who, moreover, has a gym named for her.

Dorothy Luedtke was raised in Sandusky, and even there she became interested in sports at Sandusky High School. She speaks with pride of the fact that there was some green grass in every area of the city, which also boasted many playgrounds and flower gardens. It was there that she became active in summer sports, accompanying the softball team to Huron and joining swimming contests. Indeed she learned to swim in order to be in contests (although her father told her she must learn to swim if she wanted to go fishing and sailing with the rest of the family in their sailboat).

The love of contest has probably determined many of Dorothy's accomplishments. When she entered BGSU in 1943, she noted that there were no extramural sports available for women: It seems that competition in those days was considered somewhat unladylike.

Dorothy, after graduating from BGSU in 1947, and, having taught for one year in Adrian (Mich.) Junior High as physical education director, returned to BGSU in 1948 as an "assistant instructor," a title which

permitted her to earn her MS in 1950. And she stayed on at BGSU until she retired in 1983!

Now, during those years Dorothy attended summer sessions at UCLA, and reached the all-but-dissertation level. But her true interest was always teaching, coaching and "organizing." No doubt you already know about the naming of the Dorothy M. Luedtke Gymnasium in Eppler Hall in 2003. What you may not know is that her many admiring students (alumnae) were behind this. They wrote many letters requesting this be done, and, with a committee of retired and active faculty, along with Sharon Hanna's help, got the petition through the Naming Committee of the Board of Trustees.

IT IS little wonder that Dorothy's students were grateful to her for all she had done for women's athletics through the years. The fact is she virtually started the athletic program for women. She notes that in the earlier history of athletics at BGSU, the basketball team was made up of women – there were not many men on campus around 1915. The sports for women took their names from literary clubs, and physicians thought competitive sports were too hard for or on women.

Those were the days when the woman's place was thought to be in the home. Florence Henderson demonstrated how to be a good housekeeper; how to keep your re-

frigerator and the like. Competitive sports for women did not conform to societal norms. To engage in them marked one as a tomboy. But with the advent of World War II women left the home. And it was in this environment that women's sports advanced at BGSU under Dorothy's arduous efforts. She organized and coached the women's field hockey team, basketball team, swim team and a volleyball team. At the same time she was the Women's Intramural Director. Of course, with the introduction of Title IX, there was even greater improvement of the situation.

LET me add that once Dorothy saw that the women students wanted to compete, she set up connections with other schools, including three Big 10 universities: Ohio State, Michigan and Michigan State.

Dorothy's service to the university and to her professionals has been virtually unsurpassed, and has continued into this year, when she was involved as a committee member in the organization of a Feb. 2005 banquet at which more than 200 pre-Title-IX women athletes from 20 different states were taken into the Varsity Club. She has also authored an Aquatics Guide and has given several invited papers at various professional meetings.

Dorothy has many more honors than the naming of a gym: To mention but a few,

Continued on page 6

Reprinted from the May 2005 BGSURA Newsletter

Meet Joe Perry • *continued*

Paul, a special ed teacher in Toledo. By Paul, Joe is twice a grandfather: Monica at 8 is “most perfect and most beautiful,” while Jasper, only one, has not yet manifested such perfection, but no doubt will.

JOE LIKES to garden. He raises okra, which few gardeners of this area succeed in doing. But he says he “always loses the battle of the weeds.” (Who doesn’t?) Joe and Frances have several cats; one — a marmalade cat — is a foundling who has discovered Southern Hospitality. Why are we not surprised? □

• Janis L. Pallister, Ph.D., L.D., is Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages. She may be reached at jpallis@dacor.net.

William Fichthorn

WILLIAM FICHTHORNE retired from BGSU in 1984 and served as Finance Dept. chairman from 1968 to 1975. a professor emeritus of finance, Dr. Fichthorn was a research associate at Harvard Business School in 1946 and 1947 and from 1953 to 1955, when he received a doctor of commercial science degree.

Born in Marshall, Mo., he earned a bachelor’s from Missouri Valley College and a master of business administration from Northwestern.

Dr. Fichthorn was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and served stateside.

He was on the faculty at Ohio University for 10 years, until he was hired by BGSU in 1965.

• Information from *The Blade*
May 8, 2010

Luedtke • *continued*

she was chair of the National Division of Girls and Women in Sport Aquatics Rules Committee in 1957-59. In 1966 she was appointed by the U.S. Olympic Development Committee as one of the four master teachers of basketball in Ohio. She directed the women’s intramural program from 1955-68, gaining national recognition for the high percentage of participation by BGSU students in intramural activities. She is also the first woman to be inducted into the Bowling Green State University Athletic Hall of Fame (1983); and in 2004 she received the Pathfinder Award for Ohio from the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport.

No doubt Dorothy would still be coaching somewhere if her health permitted. She has been obliged to give up gardening and fishing — two other favorite activities. However, she continues to staff the front desk as a volunteer at Wood County Hospital. Moreover, since retirement she has been teaching in Kenwood and Conneaut schools, where she helps the children with reading and math.

Whew! □

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Jeanette Pultz

JEANETTE “NETTIE” PULTZ was a 1948 graduate of Bowling Green High School and was employed at L&K Restaurant before joining the BGSU custodial staff.

BGSU employees who worked in University Hall, including members of the School of Journalism in the 1970s, remember Nettie’s friendliness while she worked throughout the building.

Nettie’s survivors include 21 grandchildren and 49 great-grandchildren.

• Information from the *Sentinel-Tribune*